

# Annual Report



## Town of Hingham 2017

# Table of Contents

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## **GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

Selectmen .....	5
Town Administrator .....	8
Town Clerk	
Elected Officers and Appointees .....	10
Annual Town Meeting .....	26
Appropriations .....	48
Elections	
Town Election .....	55
Vital Statistics .....	57
Community Planning	
Building Department .....	58
Conservation Commission .....	59
Planning Board .....	61
Zoning Board of Appeals .....	63
Historic Districts Commission .....	66
Historical Commission .....	67
Personnel Board .....	70

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

Dept. of Public Works .....	72
Sewer Dept. ....	77
Sewer Commission .....	78
Municipal Light Plant .....	80

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Fire Department/Emergency Management .....	83
Police Department .....	86
Traffic Committee .....	88
Traffic Safety Division .....	89
Harbormaster .....	90

## **EDUCATION, HEALTH AND HUMAN CONCERNS**

Affordable Housing Trust .....	94
Audit Committee .....	96
Bare Cove Park Committee .....	97
Bathing Beach, Trustees of .....	100
Beautification Commission .....	101
Cable TV Advisory Committee .....	103
Community Preservation Committee .....	104
Country Club Management Committee .....	107

Development & Industrial Commission .....	110
Elder Services, Dept. of .....	112
Fire Station Building Committee .....	115
Fourth of July Parade .....	116
Grand Army Hall .....	120
Harbor Development Committee .....	122
Health, Board of .....	125
Herbert L. Foss Committee .....	127
Hingham Cultural Council .....	128
Hingham Housing Authority .....	129
Long Range Waste Disposal & Recycling Committee.....	131
Memorial Bell Tower Committee.....	135
Plymouth County Mosquito Control.....	136
Public Library .....	139
Public Schools.....	143
Recreation Commission .....	148
School Building Committee .....	151
Scholarship Fund Committee .....	153
Shade Tree Committee .....	156
Veterans' Services .....	157
Water Supply Committee .....	159
Weir River Estuary Committee .....	161

**FINANCES**

Accountant/Finance Director .....	164
Treasurer/Collector .....	171
Assessors .....	174
Contributory Retirement Board .....	175

Report compiled and edited by Sharon Perfetti  
Cover design by Kate Richardsson, IT  
Special thanks to Sally Sinclair

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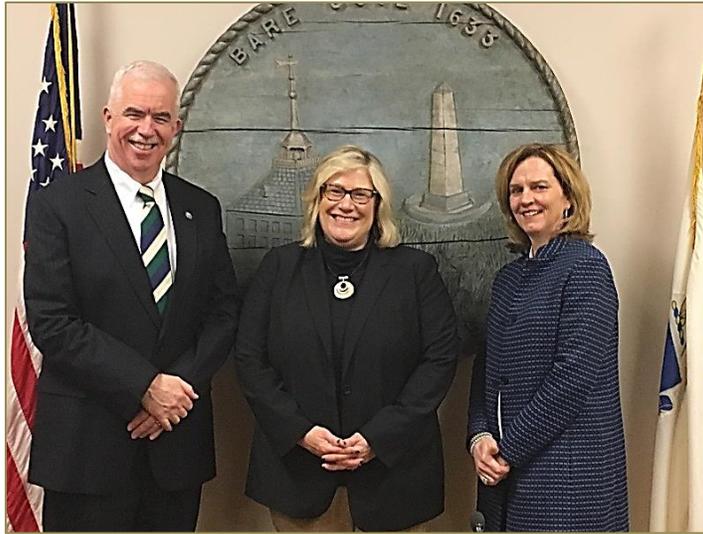
*Memorial Day at Hingham Town Hall*

Area	22.59 Square Miles
Shore Line	21 Miles
Population	23,055
Registered Voters	16,897
Dem. 3,867; Rep. 2,935; Un-enrolled, 9,928; Other, 132	
Number of Houses, including Condos	7476
Assessed Value	
Real Property	\$6,797,879,760
Personal Property	\$102,140,530
Tax Rate	\$11.77
Schools	6
Public School Children, K-12	4,233
Professional Staff	366
Support Staff	283
Total FY2018 Town Budget (includes Capital)	\$105,451,294
Total FY2018 School Budget (includes Capital)	\$50,613,514

**State Senator**  
Norfolk-Plymouth  
Patrick O'Connor  
State House,  
Rm. 520  
Boston, MA 02133  
617-722-1646

**State Rep.**  
Third Plymouth Dist.  
Precincts 1,3,4,5,5A,6  
Joan Meschino  
State House, Rm. 437  
Boston, MA 02133  
617-722-2425

**State Rep.**  
Fourth Norfolk Dist.  
Precinct 2  
James Murphy  
State House, Rm. 156  
Boston, MA 02133  
617-722-2240



*Paul Healey, Mary Power, Karen Johnson*

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## Board of Selectmen

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2017 was an eventful year for the Town of Hingham and for the Board of Selectmen. We thank our volunteers and dedicated employees for the superb work performed in service to our community. Our town is well served.

### **Financial Overview**

As outlined in the warrant, our Aaa bond rating is intact, due to the quality of our management, ongoing funding of our long-term liabilities, and our strong fund balance, which is in conformance with our Town Financial Policy. We continue to work to strike an appropriate balance between providing town services, maintaining and improving our assets, and managing residential property taxes. Our success migration to the GIC health care plan has helped us and our employees, who equally share in the cost of health care, to manage these fast growing costs.

### **Development and Growth**

Construction on Avalon II and Brio projects in the Hingham Shipyard continues. With the issuance of comprehensive permit of a 220-unit project at 230 Beal Street (the former Hingham Mutual Insurance site), the Town has achieved safe harbor status through June 2018. Should this be permitted and timely constructed, the town will achieve an uncontested

10% minimum subsidized housing inventory (SHI) figure with the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). Thereafter, the ZBA will have discretion to approve, deny or condition any future Chapter 40B submittals.

After holding numerous public meetings, and receiving input from many stakeholders, the South Hingham Study Group concluded its work and issued a report outlining opportunities and issues related to future development potential along the Derby Street Corridor. Our thanks to the committee, Town staff, and the interested citizens and business-owners who participated in this work.

### **New Initiatives**

In 2017, with the assistance of a financial model created by the Advisory Committee, we began exploring and communicating our ability to fund future large capital projects. We look to continue these conversations.

In response to citizen concern over a proposed natural-gas compressor station located on the Fore River, 2 miles from Hingham, The Compressor Station Task Force was formed. The task force is charged with outlining the anticipated public permitting and approval process, and alerting the Board for opportunities to engage in the permitting process.

Our Energy Action Committee investigated the possibility of Hingham becoming a Green Community, and proposed a warrant article for consideration by the 2018 Annual Town Meeting to adopt the Stretch Energy Code. Passage of this article moves the Town one step closer to this designation.

Other 2017 accomplishments include entering into a 30-year lease with the Hingham Maritime Center for the use of Barnes Wharf, improvements to our licensing process, and the implementation of an off-leash program at Bare Cove Park.

### **Ongoing initiatives**

Work continued on assessing our facility needs and understanding the financial implications. Our accelerated road-building program repaired and/or repaved nearly 7 miles of Hingham streets. Since beginning this program in 2009, 55 miles, or 50% of Hingham roads, have been improved.

Hingham's litigation effort to determine the price of the water company continues. As the time this report went to press, we await a decision from the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court relative to our request for further Appellate Review. Once a final decision as to the price has been determined by the court, the Town will have the opportunity to deliberate whether a purchase is in the Town's best interest. Any purchase would be the subject of future Town Meeting approval.

### **Leadership**

Our town department heads continue to serve with great professionalism. We saw the retirements of two highly respected leaders, Town Administrator Ted Alexiades and Fire Chief Robert Olsson. Combined, these two men served the Town of Hingham for over 60 years. Their dedication, loyalty, and forward thinking have left an indelible imprint on our community. We wish them well in their retirement and thank them for a job well done. We welcome Town Administrator Tom Mayo and Fire Chief Steve Murphy to their new roles.

Our Town Clerk, Eileen McCracken, was recognized as Hingham Citizen of the Year. To quote from our website, "a Town Clerk must be dedicated to the community, informative, patient, cheerful and compassionate". Eileen embodies all these qualities and more.

Finally, we thank the hundreds of citizen volunteers who generously give of their time and talents to work on behalf of the Town. This year alone, the Board appointed over 50 citizens to different committees and boards. Your willingness to contribute your time and talents to our community are very much appreciated. You are integral to making Hingham a great place to live.

Mary M. Power, Chair  
Paul K. Healey  
Karen A. Johnson

## Town Administrator

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I am pleased to submit my first annual report to the citizens of the Town of Hingham as the Town Administrator.

The past year has been one of transition. With the retirement of Ted Alexiades, Hingham's long time Town Administrator, in October, I assumed the role of Interim Town Administrator. Ted worked on behalf of the taxpayers of Hingham for 23 years, the last 7 as the Town Administrator. Ted standardized the Town's approach to municipal financing while working as the Town Accountant and Finance Director and continued that work through his time as Town Administrator. His contributions will be long felt as the Town continues to enjoy a Aaa bond rating and revels in yet another year with an award winning Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). Ted was a good steward of the Town's finances and was a strong advocate for all things Hingham. His leadership and talents will be missed.



The Town's financial position has continued to improve. As stated above, the Town has re-affirmed its Aaa rating. Fund Balance reserves have continued to surpass our financial objectives. While some of the one-time permit revenue resulting from large housing projects have passed, there was sufficient revenue remaining to once again remain in a strong financial position after balancing the budget. It is important to note that decelerated revenue growth is likely to pose some pressure on future budgets.

Other items of interest in 2017 include the implementation of a dog leashing regulation at Bare Cove Park. The Town completed construction of the re-furbished and re-invented Rec Barn (formerly the Cordage Factory) behind Cronin Field for use by the Recreation Department. Engineering and design is underway for the new Bathing Beach Bath House approved at Town Meeting and we continue to make progress on our accelerated road building schedule.

Facilitation of the Selectmen's agenda continues to be the main focus for our department. Beyond the daily activities of weekly meeting agendas, addressing citizen's concerns, personnel management, and budget and Town Meeting Warrant preparation, this includes implementing policy identified in the annual Goals and Objectives. This year the Selectmen identified many areas of focus, including an increased social media

presence, exploring south Hingham sewer solutions, expanded employee training, promoting environmental sustainability, assessing traffic concerns in the Downtown, seeing the Aquarion purchase price litigation through and continuing to research solutions for a new North Fire Station.

As I embark on my new role, I could not do so alone. I want to thank the Board of Selectmen for their support, the department heads and all Town employees and volunteers for their helpfulness and cooperation during this transition year. Specifically, I would like to thank our dedicated and highly professional staff in the Selectmen's office; Sharon Perfetti, Sally Sinclair and David Basler for their on-going commitment to the tasks at hand, whatever they may be. I would also like to thank Betty Foley. In the wake of Ted Alexiades's retirement, Betty once again postponed her retirement and agreed to come back on a part-time basis to help us through the interim months until a decision was made regarding the Town Administrator position and a new Assistant Town Administrator could be hired. Her dedication to Hingham knows no bounds and for that I am truly grateful.

Tom Mayo  
Town Administrator

## 2017 Elected Town Officers

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	Term Expires
<b>MODERATOR (1 Year Term)</b>	
Michael J. Puzo	2017
<b>BOARD OF SELECTMEN (3 Year Term)</b>	
Karen A. Johnson	2020
Paul K. Healey	2019
Mary M. Power	2018
<b>TOWN CLERK (3 Year Term)</b>	
Eileen A. McCracken	2018
<b>BOARD OF ASSESSORS (3 Year Term)</b>	
Stuart Gregory Hall, Chairman	2020
William M. Fennelly	2019
Michael P. Shaughnessy	2018
<b>BOARD OF HEALTH (3 Year Term)</b>	
Elizabeth Eldredge	2020
Kirk J. Shilts	2019
Peter B. Bickford	2018
<b>MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD (3 Year Term)</b>	
John Ryan	2020
Roger M. Freeman	2019
John A. Stoddard, Jr.	2018
<b>HOUSING AUTHORITY (5 Year Term)</b>	
Irma Lauter (Appointed by State)	2021
Davalene Cooper	2020
Robert D. Keyes	2019
James R. Watson	2018
Fifth member to be determined	
<b>SCHOOL COMMITTEE (3 Year Term)</b>	
Michelle Ayer	2020
Edward J. Schreier	2020
Elizabeth O'Reilly	2019
Carlos A. F. Da Silva	2019
Kay L. Praschma	2019

Aylene M. Calnan	2018
Cynthia W. Galko	2018

**PLANNING BOARD (5 Year Term)**

Gordon M. Carr	2022
Gary S. Tondorf-Dick	2021
William C. Ramsey	2020
Jennifer Gay Smith	2019
Sarah H. Corey	2018

**SEWER COMMISSION (3 Year Term)**

Kirk J. Shilts	2019
Robert M. Higgins	2018
Stephen Harold	2017

**RECREATION COMMISSION (5 Year Term)**

Nandita S. Scott	2022
Bruce Thompson	2021
Adrienne S. Ramsey	2020
Sarah J. Melia	2019
Vicki Donlan	2018

**COMMITTEE TO HAVE CHARGE OF THE INCOME OF  
THE HANNAH LINCOLN WHITING FUND (3 Year Term)**

Karen Sadlon	2020
Pauline Munroe	2019
Laurel H. Cosman	2018

**TRUSTEES OF THE BATHING BEACH  
(Elected at ATM, CH75, Acts of 1934)**

Edward Johnson
Alan Perrault
Christopher Daly

## 2017 Appointees

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Term Expires

**TOWN ACCOUNTANT**  
**(Appt. By Selectmen MGL C41 S55)**

Susan Nickerson

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**(Appt. by Moderator ART 13, 1924)**

Tom Belyea	2020
Dan Coughlin	2020
Libby Claypoole	2020
George Danis	2020
Evan Sheehan	2020
David Anderson	2019
Julie Strehle	2019
Eryn Kelley	2019
Donna Smallwood	2019
Robert Curley	2019
Victor Baltera	2018
Kristin LaCroix	2018
Eric Haskell	2018
Lucy Hancock	2018
Craig D. MacKay	2018

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST**  
**(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 21 ATM 2007) 2 Year Term**

Timothy White	2019
Michael McDonald	2109
Elizabeth von Pier	2019
Kathleen Amonte	2018
Aylene Calnan	2018
Anita Comerford	2018
Nancy Kerber	2018
Brittan duBose	2018
Al Chambers	2018
Mary Power (Selectmen's Rep)	

**APPEALS, ZONING BOARD OF**  
**(Appt. By Selectmen)**

Joseph M. Fisher, Chair	2019
Robyn Maguire	2018

**Associate Members (one year term)**

Alan Kearney	2018
Mario Romania, Jr.	2018
Michael Mercurio	2018
James Blakey	2018
Joseph Freeman	2018

**AUDIT COMMITTEE  
(ART 26, ATM 2010)**

Joshua Marine (Moderator Appt.)	2020
Leonette Scappini (Moderator Appt.)	2020
Doug Farrington (Selectmen Appt.)	2019
Rob Shickel (Moderator Appt.)	2019
Mike Dwyer (Selectmen Appt.)	2018
Ted C. Alexiades, Town Administrator, ex-officio	
Susan Nickerson, Town Accountant, ex-officio	

**BARE COVE PARK COMMITTEE  
(Appt. By Selectmen)**

Rikard Johnson	2020
Susan Kains	2020
Claudia Eaton	2020
Francis Rocket	2020
DeWitt DeLawter	2019
Tom Kenyon	2019
Edward Matthews, Chairman	2018

**BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION  
(Appt. By Selectmen, 6/15/04)**

Jennifer Sullivan	2020
Patricia Collins	2020
Suzanne M. Harnden	2020
Carolyn Aliski	2020
Diane Morrison	2020
Patricia Bray	2019
Margaret Coleman	2019
Laura Spaziani, Chairman	2019
Maura Graham	2018

**BOARD OF HEALTH MEDICAL DIRECTOR**

Elizabeth Eldredge, MD

**BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK  
ADVISORY COUNCIL (Appt. By Selectmen)**

William Reardon  
Chris Daly

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

**(Appt. by Town Administrator under MA State Bldg. Code 780 CMR 5105.1 (for ensuing year))**

Michael Clancy, Building Commissioner  
Robert Egan, Local Building Inspector  
John Hallin, Local Building Inspector  
Richard Wakem, Local Building Inspector  
William Nickerson, Inspector of Wires  
Donald Drew, Ass't. Inspector of Wires  
David Bennett, Ass't. Inspector of Wires  
Brian McPherson, Plumbing & Gas Inspector  
Jay Yetman, Ass't. Plumbing & Gas Inspector

**CABLE TV ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**(Appt. By Selectmen)**

John Rice	2020
Eric Connerly	2019
David Jones, Chairman	2019
Christopher Baron	2019
Phillip S. Thaxter	2018
Sandra S. Peavey	2018
Glenda Garland (School Rep)	

**CAPITAL OUTLAY COMMITTEE**

**(Appt. By Moderator, ART 32 ATM 1956, By-Law 14)**

Eric Valentine	2020
Tim Finnerty	2019
Brendan Kiernan	2018
Elizabeth Claypoole	2017
Harold F. Schlib, III	2017

**Appt. By Advisory Committee Chairman**

Craig MacKay  
Lucy Hancock

**Ex-Officio**

Treasurer (Non-voting member)

**COMPRESSOR STATION TASK FORCE**

**(Appt. by Selectmen)**

Turner Bledsoe  
Kristin Casey  
Mary Farringtono  
Richard Norman  
Joshua Ross

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE  
(ART38 ATM 2001)**

William Harrington	2020
Daniel White (Moderator Appt.)	2020
Sarah Corey (Planning Board Rep.)	2020
James Conroy, Vice Chair (Historical Comm. Rep)	2019
Larry Lindner (Selectmen Appt.)	2019
Robert Mosher (Conservation Comm. Rep.)	2019
James R. Watson (Housing Authority Rep.)	2019
Vicki Donlan (Recreation Commission Rep.)	2019
Carol Pyles (Moderator Appt.), Chairman	2018

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
(MGL, C40 S8C, ART 1 STM 1959)**

Frank Gaul	2020
Henry Hidell	2020
Robert Mosher	2020
Scott T. McIsaac, Chairman	2018
Laurie Freeman	2018

**CONSTABLE  
(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 64 ATM 1991)**

Kathleen Peloquin	2020
Jerold Loomis	2018

**CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT BOARD  
(MGL, C32 S20 4B)**

Robert Mansfield	2022
Jean M. Montgomery (Elected by Employees)	2021
Jim Costello (Retirement Board Appt.)	2018
Charlie Cristello (Appointed by Selectmen)	2018

**Ex-officio**

Susan Nickerson (Town Accountant)

**COUNCIL ON AGING  
(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 13, 17 ATM 1970)**

Linda Powers	2020
Chrissy Roberts	2020
Rebecca Moffitt	2020
Gail Faring	2020
Debra Hoffman	2020
David Alschuler	2019
Peter Nevins	2019
Kristin Arute	2019

Linda Hurley	2018
Beth Rouleau, Chairman	2018
Dawn Sibor	2018

**COUNTRY CLUB MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
(Appt. By Selectmen, ATM 1993 By-Law 37)**

William Friend, Chairman	2020
Roderick C. Gaskell	2020
Susan Sullivan	2020
Paul J. Casey	2018
John J. Bailey	2018

**CULTURAL COUNCIL  
(Appt. By Selectmen, MGL C10 S35C)**

Janine Bradley Suchecki, Chair	2020
Patti Coyle	2020
Patricia Byrnes	2020
Jane Shute	2019
Leah Godfrey	2018

**DEVELOPMENT & INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION  
(Appt. By Selectmen, 7 members, 5 Year Term)**

Michael Kranzley	2022
Nancy Wiley	2021
Brian Stack	2021
Kevin Ellis	2020
Susan L. Sullivan, Chair	2020
Shane Nolan	2020

**DISABILITY ISSUES, COMMISSION ON  
(MGL C40, S8J, ATM 1989, ART. 50)**

Michael Clancy, Building Commissioner  
John Pollick  
Susan Sommer

**EDUCATION/SCHOLARSHIP FUND  
(Appt. by Selectmen 11/15/05 MGL C60 S3C)**

Elizabeth Flynn  
Dorothy Galo  
Jennifer Henriksen  
Judith Rielly  
Patricia Tomecek

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DIRECTOR OF**

Chief Robert Olsson

**ENERGY ACTION COMMITTEE**

**(ART 41 ATM 2008)**

Scott Cyr, Selectmen Appt. 2019

Brad Moyer, Selectmen Appt., Chair 2019

Ben Kerman, M.D., Selectmen Appt. 2019

Kenneth Brown, Moderator Appt.

Otto Harling, Moderator Appt.

Tim Bankroff, Moderator Appt.

Paul Heanue, Light Plant Mgr.

**Ex-officio**

Town Accountant

School Business Manager

**FIRE CHIEF**

Robert Olsson

**FIRE STATION BUILDING COMMITTEE**

**(Appt. by Selectmen)**

Greg MacCune, Chairman

Al Kearney

Nancy MacDonald

**(Appt. by Moderator)**

Peter Boyle

Karen Griswold

Thomas Carey

**FISHERIES COMMITTEE**

**(Appt. By Selectmen, MGL 130 S93,94,95,96)**

See Conservation Commission

**FOSTER SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE**

**ART 19 ATM 2017**

**(Appt. by Selectmen)**

Linda Hill

Jennifer Murphy

**(Appt. by Moderator)**

Kevin Lynch

Raymond Estes

**(Appt. by School Committee)**

Edward Schrier

Timothy O'Neill

Chris Mercer

**FOURTH OF JULY PARADE COMMITTEE**

**(Appt. By Selectmen Annually)**

Jim Murphy, Chair	Jack Dean
Chief Glenn Olsson	Jeff Lally
George Ford	Lynn Rayburn
Monica Conyngham	Louis O'Dea
Mary Ellen Lahiff	Carrie Murphy
Dewitt DeLawter	Lynn Barclay
Tom Hoffman	John Monz
Gabrielle Roegner	Dan Lahiff
Cassie McDermott	Jason Caine
Mark Everett	Bill Fortune
Maura Richards	

**GAR HALL TRUSTEES**

**(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 40 ATM 1944)**

*Robert Beal, Jr.	2020
Scott McMillan	2019
Frank Sheelen	2019

**HARBOR DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 30 ATM 1971)**

Brian Knies	2020
Thomas Coveney	2020
Bruce MacAloney	2020
William S. Reardon, Chair	2019
Eric Kachel	2019
Deirdre Anderson	2018

**HARBORMASTER-CUSTODIAN OF THE ISLANDS**

Kenneth R. Corson, III

**Assistant Harbormasters (Annual Appt.)**

Raymond Abreu	Patrick C. Jackson
Matthew Chakalis	Connor Kennedy
Joseph P. Driscoll	Michael McCue
Daniel Goldstein	Kevin Nguyen
Max Goldstein	Michael Riley
Jake Handrahan	Danny Souza
Philip Holler	Robert Sullivan

**2015 HARBOR TASK FORCE**

**(Appt. by Selectmen, 2/26/15)**

Sarah Corey (Rep-Planning Board)  
Alan Perrault (Rep- Trustees of Bathing Beach)  
Kevin Ellis (Rep-Dev. & Industrial Comm.)  
Deirdre Anderson (Citizen at Large)  
Richard Cook (Citizen at Large)

**HAZARDOUS WASTE-MUNICIPAL COORDINATOR**

**(Appt. By Selectmen)**

Bruce T. Capman, Executive Health Officer

**HISTORIAN, TOWN**

**(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 2 ATM 1943)**

Alexander Macmillan

**HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION**

**(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 37 1966 ATM, ART 34 ATM 1967)**

Veronica Madden	2020
Virginia Tay	2019
Hans von der Luft (Resident in HD), Chairman	2019
Michael Collard (Architect)	2018

**Alternate Members**

Tomas Kindler	2020
Mackenzie Pratt, Alternate Architect	2020
Justin Aborn	2020
Ben Burnham, At-large	2018

**HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

**(Appt. By Selectmen, MGL C40 S8D, ART 21 1974)**

Stephen Dempsey	2020
Elizabeth Dings	2020
Sarah Carolan	2019
Kevin Burke	2019
Signe McCullough	2018
Jim Conroy	2018

**LIBRARY, HINGHAM PUBLIC, TRUSTEE OF**

Charles B. Abbott, Esq.  
Edward D. Boylan  
Thomas J. Carey, Jr.  
Edna English  
Arthur Garrity  
David Mehegan, Chairman

JoAnn Mitchell  
Edward Siegfried  
Tina Sherwood

**Appt. By Selectmen**

Elizabeth A. Eldredge	2020
Jeremy Parker	2019
Michael A. Spatola	2018

**Appt. By Moderator**

Lisa Tuite	2018
Michael Barclay	2019

**Ex-officio**

Rep. of Board of Selectmen  
Treasurer/Collector  
Superintendent of Schools

**LINCOLN APARTMENTS, LLC BOARD OF MANAGERS  
(ART 1 STM 2008)**

Greg Doble (Selectmen Appt.)	2020
Dave Ellison (Selectmen Appt.)	2018
Gretchen Condon (Moderator Appt.)	2018
(Affordable Housing Trust Appt.)	2020

**LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (L.E.P.C.)  
(Appt. By Selectmen)**

Tom Mayo, Selectmen Designee  
Glenn Olsson, Law Enforcement  
Bob Olsson, Civil Defense  
Lou LaChance, Firefighting  
Jim Sheard, First Aid  
Bruce Capman, Health  
Loni Fournier, Local Environmental  
Joan Cooper-Zach, Hospital  
John Ferris, Transportation Personnel  
Tom Mayo, Broadcast and Print Media  
Barbara Farnsworth, Community Groups  
Paul Heanue, Owners and Operators of Facilities  
Randy Sylvester, Department of Public Works  
Ken Corson, Other

**LONG RANGE WASTE DISPOSAL/RECYCLING COMMITTEE  
(Appt. By Moderator, ART 25 ATM 1974, 2 year term)**

Brian Cardarella	2019
Kathleen Puzo	2019
Brenda P. Black	2019

David P. White	2019
Diane Morrison	2019
Kimberly Juric	2018
Janicie McPhillips	2018
Peter Stathopoulos	2018

**Ex-officio**

Superintendent Public Works

**MBTA ADVISORY BOARD**

David Alschuler, Hingham Representative

**MASSPORT COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**(Appt. By Selectmen, 11/30/2000)**

Katie McBrine, Hingham Representative

**MEMORIAL BELL TOWER COMMITTEE**

**(Appt. By Selectmen Annually, ART 13 ATM 1975)\*Kenneth**

Drescher	2020
Joan Getto, Chair	2020
Martha Ryan	2020
Ann Shilhan	2020
Michael Shilhan	2020
Dorcas V. Wagner	2020

**METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL**

**(Appt. By Selectmen, MGL C161 S7, 3 Year Term)**

David Alschuler	2018
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**MUNICIPAL HEARINGS OFFICER**

**(Appt. By Selectmen)**

Eileen A. McCracken

**OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION COMMITTEE**

**(MGL C161 S7, ART 15 ATM 1997)**

Gerald Allen (Conservation Appt.), Chairman	2020
Carolyn Nieslen (Selectmen Appt.)	2019
Charles Barry (Planning Board Appt.)	2018

**PARKING CLERK**

**(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 13 STM 11/16/81)**

Eileen A. McCracken

**PERSONNEL BOARD  
(Appt. By Moderator, ART 4 ATM 1970)**

Russell Conn	2020
Jack Manning	2020
Smayra Million	2019
Marie Harris	2018
Davd Pace	2018

**PLANNING BOARD  
(Appt. By Selectmen)**

Ted Matthews (Associate Member)	2018
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**PLYMOUTH COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD REP.**

Mary Power

**POLICE CHIEF  
(Appt. By Selectmen)**

Glenn Olsson

**PUBLIC WORKS, SUPERINTENDENT OF  
(Appt. By Selectmen, MGL C41 S66)**

Randy Sylvester

**RECREATION & FIELDS MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE  
(Appt. by Selectmen 2/26/15)**

Vicki Donlan (Recreation)  
Mark Thorell (Recreation)  
William Friend, Jay McGrail (SSCC)  
Warren Pelissier (SNAP)  
Edward Healey (Soccer)  
Susan Rizzo (Football)  
Brian Hlidek (Lacrosse)  
Elliott Sherman (Babe Ruth)  
Timothy McGowan (Little League)

**REGISTRAR OF VOTERS  
(Appt. by Selectmen, MGL C51 S15, 18)**

Dawn Sibor	2020
Carlton Chambers	2020
Virginia Gray	2019
Eileen A. McCracken, Town Clerk	

**ROUTE 3A TASK FORCE**

**(Appt. by Selectmen)**

Deirdre Anderson  
Bryce Blair  
Paul Healey  
Alan Perrault  
Judith Sneath

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND COMMITTEE**

**(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 26 ATM 1975)**

Adam White	2020
Roger Nastou	2019
Matthew McGonagle (fill unexpired term)	2019
Francis Gaul	2019
John Fitzsimmons	2018
Jean Montgomery, Treasurer	Statutory

**SHADE TREE COMMITTEE**

**(Appt. By Selectmen)**

James R. Huse, Chairman  
Barbara Kardok  
Dorothy Manganaro  
Michael Studley

**SOUTH SHORE RECYCLING COOPERATIVE**

**(Appt. By Selectmen)**

Stephen Messinger  
Randy Sylvester

**SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS**

**(Appt. by Selectmen)**

Raymond Abreu	Michael Murray
Brian Aiguier	Michael Parker
Leslie Badger	Mitchell Powers
Mark Brennan	Michael Riley
Kenneth Corson	Charles Souther
Joseph Driscoll	James Taylor
Daniel Galvin	Russell Way
Maxwell Golstein	James Wells
Jake Handrahan	Brian Willard
Michael McCue	

**TAX CLASSIFICATION STUDY COMMITTEE**

**(Appt. By Selectmen)**

Benjamin P. Burnham  
Edward Colbert  
Michael Shaughnessy

**TAXATION AID FUND COMMITTEE**

**(Appt. by Selectmen, 11/15/05 MGL C60 S3D)**

Greg Hall, Assessors  
Jean Montgomery, Treasurer

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR/FINANCE DIRECTOR**

Ted C. Alexiades

**2012 TOWN HALL STUDY COMMITTEE**

**(Ad Hoc Appt. by Selectmen, 12/20/12)**

Charlie Cristello  
Tina Sherwood  
Thomas Carey, Jr.  
Ronnie Kirvin  
Jerry Seelen

**TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**(Appt. By Selectmen)**

Police Chief or Rep.  
Fire Chief or Rep.  
Planning Board Chairman or Rep.  
Dept. of Public Works Superintendent or Rep.

Francis Donlan 2018  
Richard Wehter 2020

**TREE WARDEN**

Randy Sylvester, Superintendent of Public Works

**VETERANS COUNCIL**

**(MGL Ch. 115, Sec. 12, Appt. by Selectmen)**

John G. Buckley 2020  
Jack Rayburn 2020  
Joseph Sweeney 2020  
Joseph Gragg 2019  
Thomas Burbank 2019  
Janine Suchecki 2019  
W. Paul Koenen 2018  
James Ippolito 2018

Hank Maude  
Scott McMillan  
Frank Curtis

2019

**WATER CO. ACQUISITION STUDY COMMITTEE  
(Appt. by Selectmen, 3/29/12)**

Jonathan Asher  
Joseph L. Bierwirth, Jr.  
Robert Higgins  
Joshua Krumholz  
Edward R. Siegfried

**WATER SUPPLY COMMITTEE  
(Appt. By Moderator, ART 11 ATM 1946)**

Maureen F. Doran  
Matthew H. Greene  
Ron Kirven  
Samuel S. Mullin, Chairman  
Kirk J. Shilts  
Adam C. S. White  
Melissa Bower Smith

**WEIGHTS & MEASURES INSPECTOR  
(Appt. By Selectmen, MGL C98 S34)**

Robert Egan

**WEIR RIVER ESTUARY PARK COMMITTEE**

Patricia Coyle, Hingham Representative  
David Sibor, Hingham Representative

**WHISTLEBLOWER COMMITTEE**

Dan Dwyer (Moderator Appt.)  
Chair of Audit Committee  
Chair of Personnel Board

# Annual Town Meeting

## April 24, 2017

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**Registered Voters: 17,138**

**Attendance: 817**

The Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Hingham, Massachusetts was held at the Hingham High School, 17 Union Street, on Monday, April 24, 2017. Michael J. Puzo, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m, a quorum being present. Scott Ford and Dan Dwyer were appointed to preside as Assistant Moderator. The invocation was given by Stephanie Shute Kelsch Minister of Second Parish Church. The Pledge of Allegiance lead by Keith Jermyn, the Director of Veteran's Service. Eileen A. McCracken, Town Clerk, read the call of the meeting. The following actions were taken on the articles contained in the warrant

### **ARTICLES INDEX**

1. Hannah Lincoln Whiting Fund
2. Assume Liability for DCR on Rivers, Harbors, etc.
3. Reports from Various Town Committees
4. Report of the Personnel Board
5. Salaries of Town Officers
6. Budgets
7. Transfer from the Stabilization Fund
8. Transfer from Meals Tax Stabilization
9. Disbursement of Electric Light Department Receipts
10. Building Department Revolving Fund
11. Department of Elder Services Revolving Fund
12. Transfer Funds to the Reserve Fund
13. Application of Bond Premium
14. Amendment to Veterans Home Act
15. Leashing Regulation at Bare Cove Park
16. Insurance Recovery – East School
17. Insurance Recovery – South School
18. Community Preservation Committee
19. 2017 School Building Committee
20. Foster Elementary School Feasibility Study
21. Library Grant
22. Town Hall Architectural Engineering
23. SSCC Golf Carts and Utility Vehicles
24. Harbor Improvements
25. Bathing Beach Bath House

26. Additional Road Building
27. Sewer Improvements I & I (Infiltration and Inflow)
28. Sewer Improvements
29. Change in Number of Selectmen
30. 6 Station Street Drainage Easement
31. Expenditure of Proceeds of Subdivision Bonds
32. Amend Zoning By-law re: Lot Area and Lot Line Definition
33. Amend Zoning By-law re: Lot Width to Create Uniformity in the Shape of Lots
34. Amend Zoning By-law re: Regulation of the Sale & Consumption of Marijuana (not medical)
35. Amend Zoning By-law re: Parking Design Standards
36. Disposal of Surplus supplies
37. Acceptance of Easements

#### **Article 1**

**VOTED:** 1. That Karen Sadlon, 33 South Pleasant Street, be elected a member of the Committee to have charge of the income of the Hannah Lincoln Whiting Fund for a term of three years.

#### **A Unanimous Vote**

#### **Article 2**

**VOTED:** That the Town, in accordance with, and to the extent only permitted by, Massachusetts General Laws chapter 91, section 29, as amended, assume liability for all damages that may be incurred by work to be performed by the Department of Conservation and Recreation of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the improvement, development, maintenance and protection of tidal and non-tidal rivers and streams, harbors, tide waters, foreshores and shores along a public beach within the Town, in accordance with section 11 of said chapter 91, and that the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to execute and deliver a bond of indemnity to the Commonwealth assuming such liability.

#### **A Unanimous Vote**

#### **Article 3**

**VOTED:** That the reports, if any, of the existing town Committees and Commissions and the town Historian be received; and that all of said bodies and posts of government be continued.

#### **A Unanimous Vote**

#### **Article 4**

**VOTED:** That the report of the Personnel Board, a copy of which is on file in the Town Clerk's Office, be accepted; that the amendments of the Personnel By-law, including the Classification and Salary Plan, and any Cost Item agreements reached by the Personnel Board in collective bargaining, which may be embodied or referred to in said report, be approved and adopted in their entirety, such approval and adoption to become effective July 1, 2017, or as otherwise specified in said report or agreements; that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$409,624 for the purpose of this vote; and that the Town Accountant is hereby authorized and instructed to allocate said sum to and among the several Personnel Services and Expense Accounts in such amounts, respectively, as are proper and required to meet such amendments and to comply with such collective bargaining agreements as may be entered into by the Board of Selectmen on behalf of the Town.

#### **A Unanimous Vote**

#### **Article 5**

**VOTED:** That, subject to the proviso below, the salary from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, for each of the following officers shall be at the rates below stated or provided after the name of the office.

Selectmen: at the annual rate of \$2,000 each, except that the Chair shall receive an annual rate of \$2,500 for the period of incumbency.

Assessors: at the annual rate of \$1,800 each, except that the Chair shall receive an annual rate of \$2,000 for the period of incumbency.

Town Clerk<sup>1</sup>: in accordance with the compensation rates established in Grade 15 of the Town of Hingham Classification and Salary Plan of the Personnel By-law.

Municipal Light Board: at the annual rate of \$214 each (to be paid from the receipts of the Electric Light Department).

Provided: that the salary of each such Officer except Selectman, Assessor, and Municipal Light Board Member shall be reduced by all retirement allowances and pensions received by such Officer from the Town of Hingham.

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<sup>1</sup> Town Clerk, when serving as a member of the Board of Registrars of Voters, shall be paid for such duties in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws chapter 41, section 19G.

#### **A Unanimous Vote**

## **Article 6**

**VOTED:** That the Town raise and appropriate for each of the following purposes, for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2017, the sum of money stated therefor, provided that, where a transfer appropriation is stated, the amount so indicated shall be transferred or specifically appropriated as stated; also that the authority is hereby given to turn in vehicles and equipment in partial payment for vehicles and equipment purchased in those cases where a turn-in is stated; and provided that any amount or portion thereof appropriated to a sub-account and included in a numbered account as set forth below may be transferred to another sub-account under the same numbered account with the approval of the Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee.

### **A Unanimous Vote**

## **Article 7**

**VOTED:** That the Town appropriate the sum of \$178,836 from the Stabilization Fund for the purpose of reducing the Fiscal Year 2018 tax rate.

### **A 2/3<sup>rd</sup> Vote Required**

### **A Unanimous Vote**

## **Article 8**

**VOTED:** That the Town appropriate the sum of \$450,000 from the Meals Tax Stabilization Fund for the purpose of reducing the Fiscal Year 2017 tax rate.

### **A 2/3<sup>rd</sup> Vote Required**

### **A Unanimous Vote**

## **Article 9**

**VOTED:** That, with the exception of \$500,000, which is hereby transferred to the General Fund to reduce the tax rate, all funds received by the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant during the fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2017, be appropriated to said Municipal Lighting Plant, the same to be expended by the Manager of Municipal Lighting under the control and direction of the Municipal Light Board for the expenses of the Plant for said Fiscal Year, as defined in sections 57 and 57A of chapter 164 of the Massachusetts General Laws, and, if there should be any unexpended

balance thereof at the end of said Fiscal Year, such amount as is deemed necessary shall be transferred to the Construction Fund of said plant and appropriated and used for such additions thereto as may be authorized by the Municipal Light Board during the next Fiscal Year.

### **A Unanimous Vote**

#### **Article 10**

**VOTED:** That the Town amend Hingham General By-laws article 18 by adding the following new paragraph at the end of said article 18:

In accordance with M.G.L. c. 44, s. 53E½, there is hereby established in the Building Department a Building Department Revolving Fund for the following purposes:

1. For the receipt of all fees from plumbing, gas, and electrical inspections performed by Inspectors.
2. For expenditures to pay wages, salaries, and fringe benefits (as applicable) for said Inspectors and their staff for performance of their services.

The Building Commissioner shall be authorized to expend from said Revolving Fund for said purposes in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44, s. 53E½. The Building Commissioner shall report all receipts and expenditures of said Revolving Fund to the Board of Selectmen at the end of each Fiscal Year.

And further, to establish said Building Department Revolving Fund for Fiscal Year 2018 in accordance with the above provisions and to limit the total amount that may be spent from said Building Department Revolving Fund to \$250,000 during Fiscal Year 2018.

### **A Unanimous Vote**

#### **Article 11**

**VOTED:** That the Town amend Hingham General By-laws article 16 by adding the following new section 7 at the end of said article 16:

SECTION 7 - In accordance with M.G.L. c. 44, s. 53E½, there is hereby established in the Department of Elder Services a Department of Elder Services Revolving Fund for the following purposes:

1. For the receipt of all fees and charges received from Senior Center Programs of the Department of Elder Services and/or the Council on Aging.
2. For expenditures to pay the costs and expenses of said Senior Center Programs.

The Director of Elder Services shall be authorized to expend from said Revolving Fund for said purposes in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44, s. 53E½. The Director of Elder Services shall report all receipts and expenditures of said Revolving Fund to the Board of Selectmen at the end of each Fiscal Year.

And further, to establish said Elder Services Revolving Fund for Fiscal Year 2018 in accordance with the above provisions and to limit the total amount that may be spent from said Elder Services Revolving Fund to \$60,000 during Fiscal Year 2018.

**A Unanimous Vote**

**Article 12**

**VOTED:** That the Town transfer from available funds the sum of \$532,746 to the town's Reserve Fund for use during Fiscal Year 2017.

**A Unanimous Vote**

**Article 13**

**VOTED:** That the Town vote to supplement each prior vote of the Town that authorized the borrowing of money to pay costs of capital projects to provide that, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws chapter 44, section 20, the premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes thereunder, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to pay project costs, and the amount authorized to be borrowed for each such project shall be reduced by the amount of any such premium so applied.

**A Unanimous Vote**

**Article 14**

**VOTED:** That the Town accept the provisions of M.G.L. c. 33, s. 59 (as amended by St.2016, c. 141, s. 6 to 8) known as An Act relative to

Housing, Operations, Military Service, and Enrichment (aka Veterans HOME Act), signed into law July 14, 2016.

**A Unanimous Vote**

**Article 15**

**VOTED:** That the Town authorize, but not require, the Board of Selectmen, acting as the Board of Park Commissioners under M.G.L. c 45 § 2, to adopt a park regulation pursuant to M.G.L. c 45 § 5 and all other applicable laws, to authorize the walking of dogs off-lease on odd number calendar days in Bare Cove Park in the Town of Hingham, as follows:

1. To authorize the walking of dogs off-leash in Bare Cove Park on odd number calendar days.
2. To establish an "off-leash walking permit" in accordance with terms and conditions to be determined by the Board of Selectmen.
3. To establish a fine in the amount of \$50.00 for any violation of any regulation adopted pursuant hereto, and
4. At their discretion, to review the effectiveness of the regulation twelve months or more after its effective date.

**A Standing Vote**

**Yes – 385**

**No – 292**

**Motion Adopted**

**Reconsideration requested and lost**

**Article 16**

**VOTED:** That the Town transfer \$24,022.00 from the Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Fund: Insurance Recovery in Excess of \$20,000 for use by the School Department in Fiscal Year 2017.

**A Unanimous Vote**

**Article 17**

**VOTED:** That the Town transfer \$43,534.61 from the Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Fund: Insurance Recovery in Excess of \$20,000 for use by the School Department in Fiscal Year 2017.

**A Unanimous Vote**

## **Article 18**

**VOTED:** That the Town appropriate or set aside for later spending funds as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee as follows:

- 1) Appropriate \$50,000 from the Community Preservation General Fund for addition to the Community Preservation Committee's Administrative Fund;
- 2) Appropriate \$118,011 from the Community Preservation Community Housing Reserve to be used by the Hingham Affordable Housing Trust for the HAHT Opportunity Funding Program;
- 3) Appropriate \$6,500 from the Community Preservation General Fund to be used by the Hingham Historical Commission for the Conservation of Historic Town records;
- 4) Appropriate \$41,103 from the Community Preservation General Fund to be used by the First Parish of Hingham Association for the Old Ship Meeting House Steeple Restoration located at 90 Main Street, Map 61/Lot 124;
- 5) Appropriate \$40,625 from the Community Preservation General Fund to be used by the High Street Cemetery Association for the restoration of the Whiting Memorial Chapel located at 19 High Street, Map 117/Lot 018;
- 6) Appropriate \$17,670 from the Community Preservation General Fund to be used by the Historical Commission for the repair of the New North Meeting House Tower Clock located at 1 Lincoln Street, Map 61/Lot 25;
- 7) Appropriate \$13,800 from the Community Preservation General Fund to be used by the Historical Commission for the repair of the Congregational Church Tower Clock located at 378 Main Street, Map 90/Lot 60;
- 8) Appropriate \$15,170 from the Community Preservation General Fund to be used by the Historical Commission for the repair of the William Fearing Building's Tower Clock located at 298 Main Street, Map 81/Lot 61;
- 9) Appropriate \$7,500 from the Community Preservation General Fund to be used by the Historical Commission for the repair of the Second Parish Church Tower Clock located at 687 Main Street, Map 126/Lot 47;
- 10) Appropriate \$30,000 from the Community Preservation General Fund for the deposit to the Town's Conservation Fund for purchase of land,

capital improvements and expenses related to such acquisitions, to make deposits or down payments toward acquisitions or creation of such interest in open space or otherwise preserve open space;

\*11) Appropriate \$144,000 from the Community Preservation General Fund to be used by the Trustees of the Hingham Bathing Beach for the Harbor Boardwalk Extension Project located at 0 Otis Street, Map 50/Lot 51;

12) Appropriate \$75,000 from the Community Preservation General Fund to be used by the South Shore Country Club for a Feasibility Study and Design Plans for possible replacement of the pool located at 274 South Street, Map 70/Lot 14.

**A Majority Vote**

**\*#11) Held for discussion**

**Standing Vote**

**Yes – 315**

**No – 132**

**A Majority Vote**

**Article 19**

**VOTED:** That the Town (1) establish the "2017 School Building Committee" which committee shall consist of a minimum of seven (7) voting citizens of the Town of Hingham appointed as follows: two members by the Moderator, two members by the Board of Selectmen, and three members by the School Committee, with the chair of said committee to be jointly designated by the appointing authorities; (2) in the event any additional members are required to serve on said committee by the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA") pursuant to 963 CMR 2.10(3), then such additional members shall be appointed by the School Committee; (3) authorize said committee to do everything necessary and appropriate to study, prepare, monitor, advise, and complete a feasibility study and other related projects for the Foster Elementary School which may include a renovation, remodeling, or new building project for the Foster Elementary School located at 55 Downer Avenue, Hingham, MA (Assessor's Map ID 38/0/1), including, but not limited to, the employment of professionals and the payment of any and all other costs incidental and related thereto as necessary to carry out said project; and (4) authorize said committee to expend up to \$750,000 for the foregoing purposes from an approved appropriation.

**A Unanimous Vote**

## **Article 20**

**VOTED:** That the Town of Hingham appropriate the amount of \$750,000 for the purpose of paying costs of a feasibility study for Foster Elementary School located at 55 Downer Ave (Assessor's Map ID 38/0/1), including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and for which the Town of Hingham may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the 2017 School Building Committee. To meet this appropriation the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow up to said amount under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 44, or pursuant to any other enabling authority. The Town of Hingham acknowledges that the MSBA has not yet invited the Town of Hingham into the Eligibility Period and that expenditures from this appropriation are subject to acceptance of the Town into said MSBA Eligibility Period. The Town of Hingham acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the Town of Hingham incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town of Hingham, and further provided that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Feasibility Study Agreement that may be executed between the Town of Hingham and the MSBA.

Any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, chapter 44, section 20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

**A 2/3<sup>rd</sup> Vote Required**  
**A Unanimous Vote**

## **Article 21**

**VOTED:** That the Town accept the preliminary design for the Hingham Public Library building, contingent on the receipt of a State grant, and authorize the Library Trustees and the Board of Selectmen to apply for, accept, and expend any State grants which may be available for the project.

**A 2/3<sup>rd</sup> Vote Required**  
**A Unanimous Vote**

## **Article 22**

**VOTED:** That the Town appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be expended at the direction of the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of studying space needs and operational requirements of Town departments, agencies, and committees, other than schools, evaluating the feasible options for addressing their infrastructure needs at Town Hall (or elsewhere), and reporting the results and recommendations to a future Town Meeting.

### **A Unanimous Vote**

## **Article 23**

**VOTED:** That the Town appropriate the sum of \$283,756 for the purchase of golf carts and utility vehicles for the South Shore Country Club. To meet said appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said sum under Massachusetts General Laws, chapter 44, section 7, or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor.

Any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, chapter 44, section 20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

### **A Unanimous Vote**

**Meeting Adjourned  
10:49 PM**

**Second Session  
April 25, 2017**

**Registered Voters 17,138  
Reconvened: 7:00 PM**

**Attendance 473**

**Article 24**

**VOTED:** That the Town transfer \$240,000 from available funds (accumulated mooring fees in the General Fund) for the purpose of completing Phase II of the development of detailed engineering drawings and permitting for repair and restoration of three Town-owned wharves, POW/MIA Park, the former Mobil Station Parcel, and Barnes I Wharf.

**A Majority Vote  
Article 25**

**VOTED:** That the Town appropriate \$350,000 from available reserves to be expended by the Trustees of the Bathing Beach to construct a new bathhouse / multi-purpose building located at 31 Otis Street, Hingham, MA, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a repayment agreement with the Trustees of the Bathing Beach for the concession facility and community function room which will provide payments to the Town in amounts to repay said aggregate appropriation on terms and conditions as determined by the Board of Selectmen.

**A Standing Vote  
Yes – 252  
No - 129**

**Article 26**

**VOTED:** That the Town appropriate \$590,000 to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of repairing and reconstructing two sections of roadway: the Downer Avenue seawall and the Martin's Lane seawall. To meet said appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said sum under Massachusetts General Laws chapter 44, section 7, or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor.

Any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Massachusetts

General Laws, chapter 44, section 20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

**A 2/3<sup>rd</sup> Vote Required**  
**A Unanimous Vote**

**Article 27**

**VOTED:** That \$200,000 be appropriated to be expended by the Sewer Commission for the purpose of financing sewer system improvements to prevent the infiltration of ground water or inflow of unauthorized water into the sewer system, including without limitation, the payment of all costs incidental thereto, as defined in Massachusetts General Laws chapter 29C, and, in connection therewith, the Sewer Commission is authorized to apply for grants or loans from the state or federal government for such purposes and to enter into a loan agreement, security agreement, or similar agreement under any state or federal program to fund or finance such project. To meet said appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said sum under Massachusetts General Laws chapter 44, section 7, or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds and notes of the Town therefor.

Any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, chapter 44, section 20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

**A 2/3<sup>rd</sup> Vote Required**  
**A Unanimous Vote**

**Article 28**

**VOTED:** That the Town (1) authorize and empower the Sewer Commission to renovate and / or replace the Route 3A force main and piping and the Stoddard's Neck sewer main and piping; and (2) appropriate \$353,000 for the purposes of this vote. To meet said appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said sum under Massachusetts General Laws chapter 44, section 7, or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds and notes of the Town therefor.

Any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, chapter 44, section 20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

**A 2/3<sup>rd</sup> Vote Required**  
**A Unanimous Vote**

**Article 29**

**VOTED:** That the Town establish a study committee consisting of a chairman and four additional members appointed by the Moderator for the purpose of considering whether the Town should increase the membership of the Board of Selectmen to five. The committee shall report the results of its review prior to the 2018 Annual Town Meeting, and, if the committee wishes to recommend a change in the number of selectmen, it should prepare an Article in time to present to the 2018 Annual Town Meeting.

**Motion Lost**

**Article 30**

**VOTED:** That the Town authorize, but not require, the Board of Selectmen, pursuant and subject to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 40, sections 3, 15, and 15A, as applicable, to grant, for the benefit of that certain parcel of land described below (the "Benefitted Parcel"), a subsurface easement for the purpose of storm water discharge through a pipe to a catch basin located on a parcel of land, known as Assessor Map 61, Parcel 91, owned by the Town of Hingham and under the care, custody, and control of the Board of Selectmen, for consideration of a minimum of \$1.00 and on such other terms and conditions as the Board deems in the best interest of the Town, the Benefitted Parcel being known as and numbered 6 Station Street (shown as Lot 79 on Assessor Map 61), and being particularly described in a deed, dated October 31, 2007, recorded with the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds in Book 35269, Page 271, and a deed dated May 21, 2015, and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 45607, Page 291.

**A Unanimous Vote**

**Article 31**

**VOTED:** That the Town accept paragraph 12 (being the second to last paragraph) of the current version of Massachusetts General Laws chapter 41, section 81U, which paragraph relates to the expenditure of subdivision bonds or security.

**A Unanimous Vote**

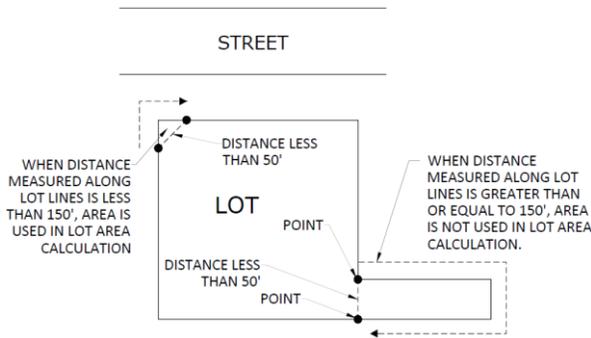
**Article 32**

**VOTED:** That the Town amend the Zoning By-law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, as follows:

Item 1. Insert the following definitions in Section VI:

**Lot area**

The total land area of a lot expressed in terms of square feet or acres. When the distance between any two (2) points on lot lines is less than fifty (50) feet, measured in a straight line, the smaller portion of the lot which is bounded by such line and lot lines shall only be considered in computing minimum lot area if the distance along such lot lines between such two points is less than one hundred and fifty (150) feet.



**Lot line, front**

The property line dividing a lot from a street right-of-way. In the case of a lot bounded by more than one street, the front lot line of greatest length shall be known as the primary front lot line. When a lot has front lot lines of equal length, the owner shall designate a single front lot line as the primary front lot line on the applicable plan and/or application.

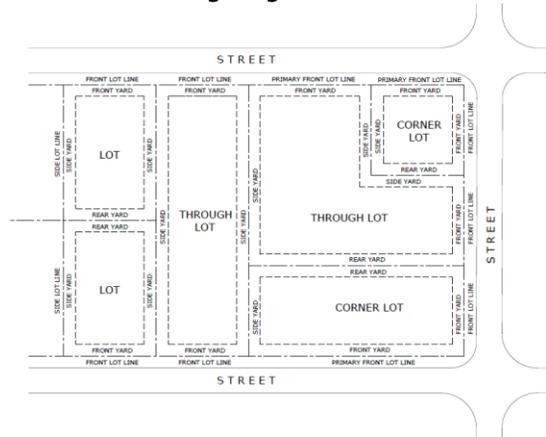
Lot line, rear

The property line most nearly opposite and furthest from the front lot line or primary front lot line in the case of lots bounded by more than one street. In some cases, there may be no rear lot line.

Lot line, side

Any property line not a front or rear lot line.

Item 2. Replace the "Yard" diagrams where they appear in Section VI with the following diagram



**A 2/3<sup>rd</sup> Vote Required  
A Unanimous Vote**

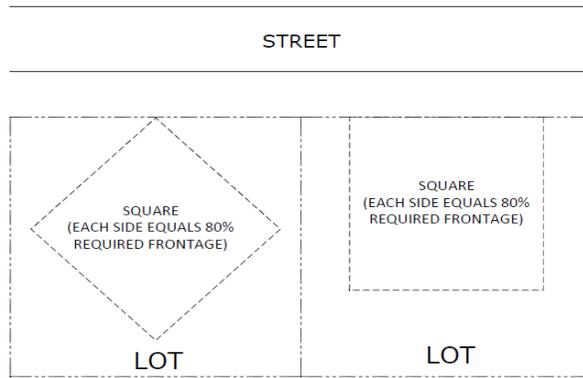
**Article 33**

**VOTED:** That the Town amend the Zoning By-law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, as follows:

By amending Section IV-C. 2 by deleting the existing text and inserting the following:

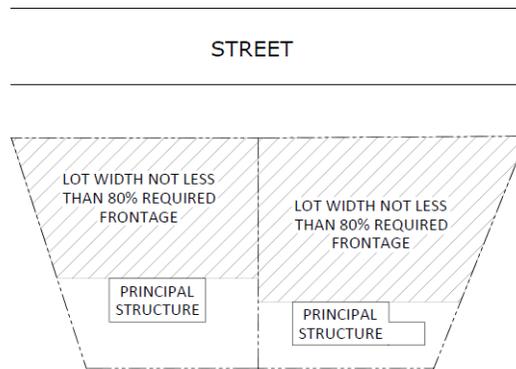
Lot Shape:

- a. In addition to the required frontage and area, each lot shall be laid out so that a square with each side equal to eighty (80) percent of the required frontage for the zoning district in which it is located can be placed within the lot lines with at least one point on the front lot line.



- b. In addition, at no point between the front lot line or primary front lot line and the front wall of the principal structure shall the lot have a width of less than eighty (80) percent of the required frontage. Lot width is the horizontal distance between side lot lines, measured parallel to the lot frontage.

c.



**A 2/3<sup>rd</sup> Vote Required  
A Unanimous Vote**

**Article 34**

**VOTED:** That the Town amend the Zoning By-law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, as follows:

Item 1: By amending Section V to insert a new subsection

V-J Regulation of the Sale and Consumption of Marijuana Not Medically

## Prescribed

### 1. Purpose

This Section is intended to provide restrictions that will allow the Town adequate time to consider where and under what conditions to allow the operation of marijuana establishments and the on-site consumption of marijuana and marijuana products, to the extent that such establishments and such consumption are permitted under state laws and regulations. *The Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act* (the "Act"), the purpose of which is to control the production and distribution of marijuana in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, went into effect on December 15, 2016. However, as the Cannabis Control Commission, to be formed under the Act, has until September 15, 2017 to adopt regulations consistent with the Act for the administration, clarification and enforcement of laws regulating and licensing marijuana establishments, a restriction on the location of such establishments in Hingham shall provide the opportunity to study their potential impacts on adjacent uses and on general public health, safety and welfare, and to develop zoning and other applicable regulations that appropriately address these considerations consistent with statewide regulations and permitting procedures. The moratorium, of a finite duration, will allow the Town to carefully study the potential impacts of such establishments and recommend zoning by-law amendments to address the Town's concerns in the context of Town planning goals and objectives.

### 2. Definitions

The capitalized terms used in this Section and not otherwise defined in this By-law shall have the meaning set forth in the Act.

### 3. Temporary Moratorium

For the reasons set forth above, and notwithstanding any other provision of the Zoning By-law to the contrary or any other uses permitted thereunder, Marijuana Establishments, excluding any one or combination of the uses which may constitute a Medical Marijuana Treatment Center, shall not be permitted in any zoning district in the Town of Hingham so long as this Section is effective. Use variances shall be strictly prohibited.

### 4. Expiration

This Section V-J moratorium shall be in effect through June 30, 2018.

**A 2/3<sup>rd</sup> Vote Required**  
**A Unanimous Vote**

### **Article 35**

**VOTED:** That the Town amend the Zoning By-law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, as follows:

Item 1: By amending Section V-A.5.l by inserting "The submittal should include information on the specific design proposed for pervious or porous pavement, and details of the required maintenance should be noted on the plans and incorporated as part of the submittal." at the end of the section after the word "Protection".

Item 2: By amending Section V-A.5.m by inserting "landscaped sections and islands in" after the word "within" in the first sentence.

Item 3: By amending Section V-A.5.m by inserting "and additional understory plantings" after "one live tree" in the first sentence, also inserting "designed" after "parking area" and deleting "so as" after "designed" in the first sentence.

Item 4: By amending Section V-A.5.m by inserting "large areas of hardscape and" after "visual impact of" in the first sentence.

Item 5: By amending Section V-A.5.m by inserting "All landscaped sections and islands shall contain a mix of evergreen shrubs, trees and plantings." after the word "possible."

Item 6: By amending Section V-A.5.m by deleting "Trees and" from the second sentence.

Item 7: By amending Section V-A.5.m by capitalizing "Landscaped" in the second sentence.

Item 8: By amending Section V-A.5.m by inserting "sections" and deleting "plots" in the second sentence.

Item 9: By amending Section V-A.5.m by inserting "Where landscaped sections abut a residential zone or use, the landscaping shall provide a year-round screening effect with plantings and berms to shield abutters from headlights. If parking areas are designed so as to face a public way, the landscaping shall provide a year-round screening effect to prevent headlight glare from shining into the way and soften the visual impact of the parking field." after the sentence ending in "adjoining properties."

Item 10: By amending Section V-A.5 by inserting a new subsection "n".

Shared Parking/Reduction in Parking Requirements - A reduction in the required number of off-street parking spaces may be granted by Special Permit A3. Parking areas serving a clearly defined mixture of uses that do not place coincident demands on the parking area may have the parking requirements reduced by 10 percent for a lot with 50-99 spaces, and by 15 percent if the lot size is 100 spaces or greater. Projects are encouraged to provide shared parking, cooperative parking, bicycle accommodations, landbanked parking spaces, consolidation of curb cuts and driveways, and other on-site amenities to alleviate the demand for parking and the adverse impact of impervious surfaces.

Requests for reductions in off-street parking space requirements shall be accompanied by an analysis of the demand for off-street parking, a parking management summary, other like use parking demand studies and/or reports, a summary of the parking plan to reduce parking demand, and any other documentation necessary to adequately review the request for the reduction of parking requirements, prepared in accordance with the standards promulgated by the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE), the Urban Land Institute (ULI) or other appropriate source."

Item 11: By amending Section V-A.5 by inserting a new subsection "o. Landbanked Off-Street Parking Areas - For projects requesting a reduced parking requirement, the Planning Board may require that an area equivalent to the total area of the reduced off-street parking spaces and related landscaped areas and driveways be preserved and identified on the Site Plan. Each landbanked parking space shall meet the dimensional requirements in the By-law. The landbanked parking spaces shall be designed as part of the overall parking development, and in no event shall any landbanked parking space be located within the front or side yard setbacks, unless specifically permitted within the Zoning District. At the request of the Planning Board, the Applicant may be required to provide a parking monitoring program at specified times from the issuance of the certificate of occupancy, in order to determine if and when the landbanked parking spaces are needed. If, after the issuance of a certificate of occupancy, the Planning Board or the Applicant finds that all or a portion of the landbanked parking spaces are needed, the Applicant shall submit a written request to the Planning Board, which states the need for the additional off-street parking spaces, and a revised site plan denoting the un-landbanked parking spaces. Frequent parking of vehicles on a street adjacent to the premises or in areas not designated as formal parking spaces shall be considered evidence of the inadequacy of the off-street spaces provided."

**A 2/3<sup>rd</sup> Vote Required**  
**A Unanimous Vote**

### **Article 36**

**Voted:** That the Town amend the General By-laws of the Town, adopted March 13, 1939, as heretofore amended, by striking article 5A, section 8, and inserting in its place the following:

SECTION 8 – (A) The Town’s Chief Procurement Officer shall be responsible for disposing of all tangible supplies that are no longer useful to the Town but that have a resale or salvage value of less than \$10,000. The term “supplies” includes motor vehicles, machinery, computer equipment, furniture, and other items of personal property, but does not include real property.

(B) Upon the request of any department head, board, or committee, the Chief Procurement Officer or his / her designee may declare supplies to be surplus, and may approve the supplies for disposition, if those supplies are no longer useful to the Town.

(C) Any supplies declared to be surplus and approved for disposition shall be disposed of in accordance with the following procedures, compliance with which shall be the responsibility of the Chief Procurement Officer:

(1) The Chief Procurement Officer or his / her designee shall circulate a list of the supplies to be disposed of to other Town departments, including the School Department, and shall convey the supplies to any department that wants them;

(2) In the event that no other Town department claims the supplies, the Chief Procurement Officer or his / her designee shall value the supplies in a commercially reasonable manner.

(3) (a) If the supplies are valued at \$10,000 or more, the Chief Procurement Officer shall comply with the requirements of Massachusetts General Laws chapter 30B, sections 15(b) through (d).

(b) If the supplies are valued at less than \$10,000 but more than \$100, the Chief Procurement Officer shall utilize any one or more of the following methods of disposition, with the intent of maximizing the return on revenue to the Town:

(i) Trade-in the supplies with the purchase of equipment;

(ii) Sell the supplies to another governmental unit that is known to be interested;

(iii) Sell the supplies to the highest bidder after advertising the supplies' availability on the Internet, at the Town Office Building, and / or in a newspaper published in the Town;

(iv) Sell the supplies at public auction, notice of which shall conform to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 30B, section 5(c); or

(v) Sell the supplies at private sale, except that no such private sale shall be made to any employee or elected or appointed official of the Town;

(c) If the supplies are valued at \$100 or less, the Chief Procurement Officer may utilize any one or more of the methods of disposition specified in the preceding subsection. Alternatively, the Chief Procurement Officer may recycle or trash the supplies or may donate them to a charitable organization that has received a tax exemption from the United States by reason of its charitable nature, as he / she deems appropriate.

(4) The Town shall reserve the right to accept or reject any or all offers to purchase surplus supplies. All surplus supplies shall be sold on an "as is / where is" basis, with no warranty of any kind, express or implied.

(5) All monies from the disposition of supplies under this procedure shall be payable to the Town. All revenue from the disposal of supplies under this procedure shall be deposited with the Town Treasurer for deposit in the General Fund.

(6) If the Town receives no offers for a surplus supply, the supply may be disposed of in any commercially reasonable manner.

#### **A Unanimous Vote**

#### **Article 37**

**Voted:** That the Town authorize, but not require, for a period through April 30, 2018, the Board of Selectmen to accept grants of easements for purposes of streets, sidewalks, or pedestrian walkways, or water, drainage, sewage, or utility facilities on terms and conditions that the Board deems in the best interests of the Town.

#### **A Majority Vote**

**Meeting Adjourned - 11:08 PM**

## FY 2018 Cash Appropriations

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ARTICLE 6	
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	
122 SELECTMEN	
Payroll	492,517
Expenses	94,090
Capital Outlay	0
132 RESERVE FUND	550,000
135 TOWN ACCOUNTANT	
Payroll	276,364
Expenses	12,555
Audit	61,500
137 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	
Payroll	171,681
Expenses	243,095
Capital Outlay	146,060
141 ASSESSORS	
Payroll	246,328
Expenses	11,510
Consulting	125,000
Map Maintenance	6,000
145 TREASURER/COLLECTOR	
Payroll	334,507
Expenses	46,554
Capital Outlay	0
Tax Titles	10,000
151 LEGAL SERVICES	232,000
159 TOWN MEETINGS	
Payroll	2,692
Expenses	29,000

161 TOWN CLERK	
Payroll	177,174
Expenses	7,866
Capital Outlay	0
162 ELECTIONS	
Payroll	6,850
Expenses	10,845
173 COMMUNITY PLANNING	
Payroll	744,614
Expenses	62,684
177 BARE COVE PARK	
Payroll	17,508
Expenses	7,370
192 TOWN HALL	
Payroll	214,822
Expenses	441,787
Capital Outlay	128,482
193 GRAND ARMY MEMORIAL HALL	14,500
Capital Outlay	
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	4,925,955
PUBLIC SAFETY	
210 POLICE DEPARTMENT	
Payroll (Overtime \$451,378)	5,217,118
Expenses	347,300
Capital Outlay (\$40,000 from Mooring Permits)	133,500
220 FIRE DEPARTMENT	
Payroll (Overtime \$450,990)	5,069,797
Expenses	399,810
Capital Outlay (\$32,000 from Mooring Permits)	157,000
230 DISPATCH SERVICES	
Expenses	817,586

292 ANIMAL CONTROL	
Payroll	62,974
Expenses	5,300
295 HARBORMASTER	
Payroll	173,992
Expenses	53,712
299 PUBLIC SAFETY UTILITIES	
Emergency Water	364,424
Street Lighting	183,274
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	12,985,787
EDUCATION	
300 SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	
Payroll	40,317,087
Expenses	9,445,607
Capital Outlay (\$837,000 from available reserves)	850,820
TOTAL EDUCATION	50,613,514
PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES	
405 TOWN ENGINEERING	
Payroll	251,342
Expenses	33,350
Capital Outlay	0
Road Building/Construction	300,000
420 HIGHWAY/RECREATION/TREE & PARK	
Payroll (Overtime \$55,300)	2,014,608
Expenses	438,950
Capital Outlay	466,600
Snow Removal	554,325
Road Maintenance	358,500
430 LANDFILL/RECYCLING	
Payroll (Overtime \$27,158)	520,559
Expenses	833,356
Capital Outlay	159,000

440 SEWER COMMISSION	
Payroll (Overtime \$22,708)	329,258
Expenses	285,419
Capital Outlay	145,000
Engineering	10,000
MWRA Charges	1,941,871
Hull Intermunicipal Agreement	298,240

\$2,827,696 shall be funded from Sewer revenue.

TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	8,940,378
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HUMAN SERVICES

510 HEALTH DEPARTMENT	
Payroll	308,871
Expenses	23,335

541 ELDER SERVICES	
Payroll	221,435
Expenses	19,933
Capital Outlay	0
Tax Work Off Program	0

543 VETERANS' SERVICES	
Payroll	100,246
Expenses	5,684
Benefits	259,449

545 WOMANSPLACE CRISIS CENTER	2,700
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546 SOUTH SHORE WOMEN'S CENTER	3,700
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TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES	945,353
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CULTURE AND RECREATION

610 LIBRARY	
Payroll	1,365,837
Expenses	330,862
Capital Outlay	40,000

630 RECREATION COMMISSION	
Payroll	93,202
650 TRUSTEES OF BATHING BEACH	
Payroll	18,447
Expenses	21,145
Capital Outlay	0
692 CELEBRATIONS	11,924
TOTAL CULTURE & RECREATION	1,881,417
ENTERPRISE FUND	
720 COUNTRY CLUB	2,192,765
2,103,614 shall be funded from Country Club revenue.	
TOTAL ENTERPRISE FUND	2,192,765
DEBT SERVICE	
710 DEBT SERVICE	9,208,170
(\$7,058,550 IS EXCLUDED FROM PROPOSITION 2 1/2)	
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	9,208,170
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	
900 GROUP INSURANCE	6,863,728
900 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS	814,175
910 CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT	4,221,102
912 WORKERS' COMPENSATION	330,000
913 UNEMPLOYMENT	30,000
914 EMPLOYER MEDICARE TAXES	852,750
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	13,111,755

UNCLASSIFIED

901 INSURANCE	
Fire, Public Liability, Property Damage, etc.	635,250
940 CLAIMS AND INCIDENTALS	
Claims and Incidentals	10,950
TOTAL UNCLASSIFIED	646,200
TOTAL ARTICLE 6	105,451,294
Article 7	
Reduce FY2018 tax rate	178,836
Article 8	
From Meals Tax Stabilization to reduce 2018 Tax Rate	450,000
Article 9	
From Municipal Light Plant to reduce 2018 Tax Rate	500,000
Article 12	
From Free Cash to FY16 Reserve Fund	532,746
Article 16	
Insurance recovery > \$20,000	24,022
School Dept	
Article 17	
Insurance recovery > \$20,000	43,535
School Dept	
Article 18	
CPC	
• General Reserve - Administrative Fund	50,000
• Historical Comm - Conserve Town Records	6,500
• 1st Parish-Restore Old Ship Steeple	41,103
• High St. Cemetery-Restoration Whiting Memorial Chapel	40,625
• Historical Comm - New No. Meeting House Tower Clock	17,670
• Historical Comm - Repair Congregational Church Tower Clock	13,800

• Historical Comm - Repair William Fearing Building Tower Clock	15,170
• Historical Comm - Repair 2nd Parish Church Tower Clock	7,500
• Town's Conservation Fund	30,000
• Trustees of the Bathing Beach - Harbor Boardwalk Ext.	144,000
• So Shore Country Club - Feasibility Study& Design for pool	75,000
• Housing Reserve - HAHT-Opportunity Funding Program	118,011
 Article 20	
Borrow/ 2017 School Building Committee Foster Elementary School	750,000
 Article 22	
From Free Cash to Board of Selectmen Studying space needs & operational requirements- Town Depts.	50,000
 Article 23	
Borrow/South Shore Country Club Purchase Golf Carts	283,756
 Article 24	
Mooring Fee/General Fund Phase II development for repair & restoration of 3 wharves.	240,000
 Article 25	
From Available Funds /Trustees of the Bathing Beach New bath house/ multi-purpose building	350,000

## Annual Town Election, April 29, 2017

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### Moderator

	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 5A	PR 6	TOTAL
Blanks	107	118	122	131	104	74	127	<b>783</b>
<b>Michael J. Puzo</b>	451	515	569	568	401	295	422	<b>3221</b>
Write-Ins	7	5	7	0	2	1	8	<b>30</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>4034</b>

### Selectman

	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 5A	PR 6	TOTAL
Blanks	10	14	7	6	6	7	8	<b>58</b>
<b>Eric Haskell</b>	118	163	132	147	177	107	229	<b>1073</b>
<b>Karen Johnson</b>	349	370	424	413	263	234	241	<b>2294</b>
<b>Andrew Shafter</b>	86	90	135	133	60	22	78	<b>604</b>
Write-Ins	2	1	0	0	1	0	1	<b>5</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>4034</b>

### Board Of Assessors

	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 5A	PR 6	TOTAL
Blanks	144	172	194	205	148	94	163	<b>1120</b>
<b>Stuart Gregory Hall</b>	419	461	503	491	358	276	390	<b>2898</b>
Write-Ins	2	5	1	3	1	0	4	<b>16</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>4034</b>

### Board Of Health

	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 5A	PR 6	TOTAL
Blanks	57	90	59	88	57	35	68	<b>454</b>
<b>Elizabeth Eldredge</b>	259	251	356	332	239	185	234	<b>1856</b>
<b>Kate McBrine</b>	248	295	282	278	209	150	255	<b>1717</b>
Write-Ins	1	2	1	1	2	0	0	<b>7</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>4034</b>

### Municipal Light Board

	PR1	PR2	PR3	PR4	PR5	PR 5A	PR 6	TOTAL
Blanks	50	84	79	94	65	48	56	<b>476</b>
<b>John P. Ryan</b>	290	333	374	385	302	195	316	<b>2195</b>
<b>Michael Mullaley</b>	225	220	245	219	139	127	185	<b>1360</b>
Write-ins	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	<b>3</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>4034</b>

**Housing Authority**

	<b>PR 1</b>	<b>PR 2</b>	<b>PR 3</b>	<b>PR 4</b>	<b>PR 5</b>	<b>PR 5A</b>	<b>PR 6</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Blanks	177	186	219	231	176	102	183	<b>1274</b>
<b>Davalene Cooper</b>	387	449	478	467	329	267	372	<b>2749</b>
Write-Ins	1	3	1	1	2	1	2	<b>11</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>4034</b>

**School Committee**

	<b>PR 1</b>	<b>PR 2</b>	<b>PR 3</b>	<b>PR 4</b>	<b>PR 5</b>	<b>PR 5A</b>	<b>PR 6</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Blanks	281	313	318	334	209	161	232	<b>1848</b>
<b>Edward Schreier</b>	189	266	291	257	213	183	276	<b>1675</b>
<b>Michelle Ayer</b>	334	373	378	392	278	220	283	<b>2258</b>
<b>Megan M. Buhr</b>	174	166	190	169	140	101	137	<b>1077</b>
<b>Evan Sheehan</b>	150	156	218	246	173	75	183	<b>1201</b>
Write-Ins	2	2	1	0	1	0	3	<b>9</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1130</b>	<b>1276</b>	<b>1396</b>	<b>1398</b>	<b>1014</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>1114</b>	<b>8068</b>

**Planning Board**

<b>For Five Years</b>	<b>PR1</b>	<b>PR2</b>	<b>PR3</b>	<b>PR4</b>	<b>PR5</b>	<b>PR 5A</b>	<b>PR 6</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Blanks	97	77	112	165	78	62	115	<b>706</b>
<b>Gordon M. Carr</b>	235	298	350	368	351	218	303	<b>2123</b>
<b>Edward Matthews</b>	230	263	235	166	74	90	137	<b>1195</b>
Write-Ins	3	0	1	0	4	0	2	<b>10</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>4034</b>

**Sewer Commission**

	<b>PR 1</b>	<b>PR 2</b>	<b>PR 3</b>	<b>PR 4</b>	<b>PR 5</b>	<b>PR 5A</b>	<b>PR 6</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Blanks	178	178	229	242	171	108	184	<b>1290</b>
<b>Stephen Harold</b>	387	456	466	456	334	262	371	<b>2732</b>
Write-Ins	0	4	3	1	2	0	2	<b>12</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>4034</b>

**Recreation Commission**

	<b>PR 1</b>	<b>PR 2</b>	<b>PR 3</b>	<b>PR 4</b>	<b>PR 5</b>	<b>PR 5A</b>	<b>PR 6</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Blanks	114	129	135	177	111	62	117	<b>845</b>
<b>Nandita S. Scott</b>	302	302	392	321	201	174	243	<b>1935</b>
<b>Benjamin Smith</b>	102	141	129	120	102	100	128	<b>822</b>
<b>Darin S. Souza</b>	47	65	41	81	90	34	65	<b>423</b>
Write-Ins	0	1	1	0	3	0	4	<b>9</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>4034</b>

## Vital Statistics

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017*</b>
Births	216	201	222	220	206
Marriages	80	85	84	78	74
Deaths	281	402	491	484	493

\*Received as of preparation of report. For verification of any individual record, call the Town Clerk's Office.



*Town Clerk staff (l to r): Liz MacVarish, Town Clerk Eileen McCracken and Jacquie Berard*

## Building Department

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The Building Department continues to see new construction and remodeling projects at a brisk rate. Linden Ponds is nearing the completion of 106 new apartments. Building 19 was demolished and Avalon has started construction of 180 apartments on the site. Seventy-seven condo units are under construction at 10 Shipyard Drive. The Lincoln building on the corner of Main and South Street has received a foundation permit. A new commercial building featuring a retail boat store and restaurant is also under construction on Lincoln Street. Early next year we are anticipating construction beginning on 220 apartments at the former Hingham Mutual Fire Insurance Company site on Beal Street.

We are now enforcing the Massachusetts 9th Edition of 780 CMR State Building Code, the Massachusetts State Electrical Code 527 CMR 12.00, the Massachusetts State 248 CMR Plumbing and Gas Code, along with the Town of Hingham General By-Law and the Zoning By-Law.

All permits are now applied for online. Homeowners and contractors may apply for permits from their home or office at [www.hingham-ma.gov](http://www.hingham-ma.gov).

The Building Department has issued a total of 4,257 permits and conducted 6,991 inspections in 2017.

		<u>Fees Collected</u>
1,201	Building Permits	\$1,068,538
45	Final Cost Affidavits	67,823
948	Plumbing Permits	124,340
599	Gas Permits	30,802
1152	Electrical Permits	117,505
88	Certificate of Inspection	11,194
92	Occupancy	3,325
24	Re-inspection	1800
108	Sheet Metal	17,480
<hr/>		
4,257		<u>\$1,442,807</u>

I would like to thank the staff of the Building Department for their continued professional manner in which they serve the various customer concerns and inspections that we address throughout the day.

We would like to thank all applicants, residents, businesses and town departments for their cooperation and support this past year. We look forward to serving you in 2018.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Clancy C.B.O., Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer

## Conservation Commission

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In 2017, the Conservation Commission supported multiple projects related to natural resource protection and open space management.

The Commission continued to evaluate projects subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Hingham Wetland Regulations. It acted on 140 applications and projects during 2017, including:

- 2 Orders of Resource Area Delineation
- 1 Emergency Certification
- 6 Stop Work Orders
- 28 Orders of Conditions
- 4 Amended Orders of Conditions
- 32 Determinations of Applicability
- 33 Certificates of Compliance
- 31 Administrative Reviews
- 3 Permit Extensions

The Commission also revised its Wetlands Protection Bylaw Fee Schedule to include a "cap" on the fees collected for wetland boundary delineations. These fees can add up quickly and until this year, it has been up to each applicant to request a waiver from the Commission for excessive fees. The revised caps, \$200.00 for activities associated with a single family house and \$2,000.00 for all other activities, are also in place at both the state level and in the towns of Norwell and Cohasset, as well as many others in Massachusetts. The revised caps ensure that the filing process is fair, consistent, and transparent.

Following the recommendation of the Comprehensive Trails Plan to improve the town's trail system maps and signs, the Commission posted trail maps in the 27 kiosks that were installed last year on 12 separate open space properties that it and the Hingham Land Conservation Trust own. The Commission also set aside funds to repair, replace, and construct a total of 11 wooden identification signs for 10 of its open space properties. Work on the wooden identification signs is underway. The new wooden identification signs will be installed within the Weir River Estuary Park and at the Lehner property, once a formal name is adopted at the 2018 Annual Town Meeting.

The Commission also made several important changes to its bow hunting program, specifically related to the deer season. Starting in 2017, the

number of permits issued to hunters was limited to 35, based on a recommendation from MassWildlife. The permits were issued via a lottery system and successful hunters were invited back next year, reducing the number of permits available through the lottery system. The Commission also limited each hunter to a total of four tree stands, with no more than two per hunter, per property. Several administrative changes were made as well, including the development of a hunter log book, which provides the Commission with additional information that will help guide the program. In 2017, the Commission issued a total of 45 bow hunting permits; 10 for the spring turkey season and 35 for the fall deer season. The Commission received notification of 23 deer being harvested during the 2017 season.

The Commission's dedicated volunteers also continued to help maintain and improve its open space properties. Various groups and individual volunteers worked many hours over the course of the year to pick up trash, clear brush and downed trees from trails, and other tasks that contributed to a more positive visitor experience.

Laurie Freeman, Chair  
Paul Hall, Vice Chair  
Henry Hidell  
Robert Mosher  
Frank Gaul

Loni Fournier, Senior Planner:  
Conservation/GIS



*McKenna Marsh Trail Map*

## Planning Board

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Hingham witnessed continued development and permitting activity across all sectors (commercial, industrial, institutional and residential) over the past year. New development and reuse of existing buildings took place on commercial and industrial properties across Town.

The Planning Board conducted twenty-nine Site Plan Review hearings. Seventeen were in conjunction with Special Permits, and twelve were not. These included the redevelopment of the 99 Restaurant, a new multi-tenant building at 170 Shipyard Drive, a new daycare, an assisted living facility and the new bathhouse at the bathing beach. There were also approvals related to the expansion or modification of existing buildings and businesses in town. In addition, the Planning Board reviewed fourteen Special Permit A3 approvals in conjunction with requests for parking waivers or determinations in accordance with the Town's off-street parking regulations.

Joint hearings were conducted between the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals regarding applications for a Special Permit A2, and the related Site Plan and/or Special Permit A3 on an as needed basis. Together the Boards permitted the redevelopment of the 99 restaurant, the LCB Senior Living assisted living project and the bathhouse at the bathing beach. The Planning Board reviewed fifteen Form A (Approval Not Required) plans and endorsed thirteen of them for lot line changes, land swaps between adjacent parcels, or the creation of new lots. Two Form A submittals were ultimately withdrawn. The Planning Board also approved two Definitive Subdivisions and disapproved one preliminary subdivisions. Residential development on approved subdivision and infill lots, and in approved multifamily developments continued with activity at Baker Hill, Lewis Court, and Weathervane. The Lewis Court subdivision is completed and the Baker Hill subdivision is nearing completion. Construction is underway at the recently approved 901 Main Street Definitive Subdivision, and two multifamily developments at the Hingham Shipyard.

In the months leading up to the 2018 Town Meeting, the Planning Board discussed and held public hearings on ten proposed amendments to the Zoning By-Law (Section VI- Definitions, Section IV-D Flexible Residential Development, Floodplain Protection Overlay District, Use Table and Parking, Common Driveways, Section III-A –Ban on Marijuana Establishments, Regulation of Marijuana Establishments, Definitions Related to Marijuana Not Medically Prescribed, Section V-H- Registered

Marijuana Dispensaries, and Accessory Dwelling Units). The purpose of the Section VI- Definitions article is to add the definition of Lot Width to the definitions section of the By-Law. The purpose of the Flexible Residential Development article is to clarify the minimum setback distance between structures on the same lot in a Flexible Residential Development refers to principal structures (residential buildings) and not accessory structures (swimming pools, sheds, etc.). The purpose of the Floodplain Protection Overlay District article is to correctly reference the FIRM panels and their revised to dates and to modify the Zoning Part B map. The purpose of the Use Table and Parking article is to remove use 4.18 from the use table as a clean-up item, and to add clarifying text to state that the Planning Board may grant waivers to the Design Standards with a Special Permit A3. The purpose of the Common Driveways article is to slightly revise the language adopted last year to modify the requirement for Cape Cod berms and as relates to submittal of required legal documents. The purpose of the Section III-A-Ban on Marijuana Establishments article is to ban marijuana establishments and businesses dealing in marijuana accessories from town. The purpose of the Regulation of Marijuana Establishments article is to specify the permitting and location requirements for marijuana establishments in town in the event that the ban does not get adopted. The purpose of the Definitions Related to Marijuana Not Medically Prescribed article is to provide modest revisions to the definitions of home occupations, farmers' market and light industrial to exclude marijuana establishments in the event that neither of the other two proposed articles on marijuana establishments are adopted. The purpose of the Section V-H- Registered Marijuana Dispensaries article is to revise the existing language to be consistent with the current legislation but it does not expand or otherwise modify any other aspects of this regulation. The purpose of the Accessory Dwelling Units article is to provide a permitting mechanism for accessory dwelling units in the principal structure.

As with recent previous years, 2017 was marked by productive and collaborative relationships between the Planning Board and a variety of other Town boards and committees, including the Board of Selectmen and the Zoning Board of Appeals. Planning Board members or their designees continue to play an active role as members of several Town committees, including the Community Preservation Committee, Open Space Committee, Development and Industrial Committee, and the Traffic Committee.

Jennifer M. Gay Smith, Chairman  
Gary Tondorf-Dick, Clerk  
Gordon C. Carr  
Sarah Corey  
William Ramsey

## Zoning Board of Appeals

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The Board of Appeals is a quasi-judicial body established under the provisions of the "Zoning Act", Chapter 40A of the Massachusetts General Laws (M.G.L.). The Zoning Act and the Hingham Zoning By-Law authorize the Board to hear and decide appeals from certain actions of the Building Commissioner, to issue Variances and to issue certain Special Permits. These permits are broadly categorized into land use and dimensional regulations.

The Board is also the only Town agency entitled to issue comprehensive permits under M.G.L. ch. 40B.

The Board of Appeals consists of three regular members, appointed to 3-year terms. Five associate members, appointed to 1-year terms, presently serve on an as-needed basis. The Board of Selectmen makes all appointments.

The Board held thirty-eight (38) meetings in 2017, during which members conducted one hundred forty-three (143) separate hearings on both ongoing and new applications. The Board received seventy-nine (79) applications over the course of the year.

*Variances:* Variances are authorizations to use land or structures in a manner that is otherwise prohibited by the Zoning By-Law where the applicant demonstrates substantial hardship, unique conditions affecting the property, and no substantial detriment to the public good. More than half (47) of all applications submitted to the Board in 2017 were variance requests. Requests for dimensional relief related primarily to setback requirements for residential accessory structures, both attached and detached, as well as additions to single-family dwellings. The Hingham Zoning By-Law also authorizes the Board to grant use variances; however, this form of relief is granted sparingly. The Board did not grant any variance requests related to use in 2017.

*Administrative Appeals:* Aggrieved parties may appeal a decision or issuance of a permit by the Building Commissioner to the Board. Three (3) administrative appeal applications were filed in 2017. The Board upheld the Building Commissioner in the first two cases; the third application remains ongoing.

*Findings:* The Board received four (4) applications for a Finding under M.G.L. ch. 40A, § 6 this past year. Findings involve changes to pre-existing nonconforming structures or uses. Section 6 allows extensions or

alterations if the Board finds that the proposed change, extension or alteration will not be substantially more detrimental than the existing nonconforming use or structure to the neighborhood.

*Special Permits:* The Board heard applications on twenty-three (23) Special Permit requests. Special Permits are authorizations to use land or structures for a particular purpose, provided general guidelines as detailed in the By-Law and specific conditions arising from the review process itself are met. Special Permits are designed as a flexible tool to assure that the use is in harmony with the intent and purposes of the Zoning By-Law. Several special permit applications involved construction in floodplain districts, including both commercial and residential docks and piers. Special permit applications approved, after a collaborative review process with the Planning Board, include a new bathhouse at the Bathing Beach and a 90-unit assisted living facility on Whiting Street.

*Comprehensive Permits (M.G.L. ch. 40B):* Chapter 40B is a state statute that allows developers to seek a single local permit under flexible rules for housing developments where at least 20-25% of the units will have a long term affordability restriction. These applications tend to be more complex than others, in particular because the Board must review comprehensive permit applications under all local regulations, including those otherwise under the jurisdiction of the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, and the Board of Health. As a result, the Board solicits comments from these agencies and coordinates closely with all Town departments during its review of comprehensive permit applications in order to protect the public interest. The Board held hearings on two (2) comprehensive permit applications last year. In June 2017, the Board approved, with conditions, the Broadstone Bare Cove Alliance development to be located on Beal Street. While the original application for this development proposed 300 units, the project was reduced to 220 units during the public hearing process. The second application consists of a proposed 32-unit development on Ward Street, known as River Stone. The hearing on this matter was stayed with the Town's filing of an Appeal with the Housing Appeals Committee (HAC) pursuant to 760 CMR 56.03(8)(c) and resumed upon the issuance of the HAC's Interlocutory Decision on October 31, 2017. Review of this application remains ongoing at the time of this report. Finally, the Board received notice of two (2) Project Changes After Issuance of a Comprehensive Permit - one related to Avalon Hingham Shipyard II and the other to Broadstone - finding after review that each constituted an insubstantial change.

Board members would like to express appreciation for the support, cooperation, and assistance we received from all Town departments

during the past year. Zoning Board staff is available to assist residents, developers, other town departments, and the general public in all zoning related matters during regular Town Hall hours. The Board encourages all interested citizens to attend its hearings, which are held on selected evenings at Town Hall.

Robyn S. Maguire, Chair  
Joseph M. Fisher, Vice-Chair and Clerk

Emily Wentworth, Senior Planner and Zoning Administrator



## Historic Districts Commission

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The Historic Districts Commission is the Town's permitting board responsible for reviewing proposed exterior additions and alterations to buildings in Hingham's historic districts. In 2017, the Historic Districts Commission held over 75 hearings and made site visits to review applications from property owners seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness. The mission of the Historic Districts Commission is to protect the history and character of Hingham's historic districts by preserving, through design review, the streetscape and the characteristic architectural features of the structures located within the historic districts. Maintenance and repair projects do not require a hearing and are approved administratively. The work of the Commission is enabled by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 40C, and by the Historic Districts By-Law approved by Town Meeting.

The Commission's objective is to work collaboratively with applicants to help them meet their lifestyle and space needs while preserving the historic and architectural integrity of an historic structure and its site. Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Properties established by the United States Secretary of the Interior form the basis for the Commission's review of projects. The *Guidelines for Work in Historic Districts* prepared by the Historic Districts Commission and *Guidelines for New Construction and Additions in Hingham's Historic Districts, written and adopted in 2015*, are derived from the Secretary of the Interior's Guidelines. These Guidelines define the standards for exterior work on properties located in Hingham's historic districts. Reviewing the *Guidelines* helps property owners submit project plans that meet the criteria required for approval. The *Guidelines* can be obtained from the Town's website or from the Historic Districts Commission Office on the second floor of Town Hall.

The Commission consists of five members and five alternates appointed by the Board of Selectmen for three-year terms. The Historic Districts By-Law requires that Commission members include an AIA architect, one designee each from the Planning Board and Historical Society, a resident of an historic district when possible and an at-large member. The public is encouraged to attend Commission hearings held at Town Hall, generally scheduled on the third Thursday evening of the month. Alternatively, the Commission regularly videotapes its meetings, meetings, which are readily available to watch from the Harbor Media website.

The Commission wishes to thank Chuck Clutz. His expertise as an architect and his knowledge of period architecture were a tremendous asset for the

Commission and for the applicants, whose projects benefited as a result of his thoughtful design review. The Commission is grateful for his commitment to the work of the Commission and his many years of service. The Commission also wishes to extend its gratitude to Lois Levine, whose dedication to preserving the Town's architecturally significant resources never wavered during her two terms of service. Finally, the Commission wishes to thank Dennis King for serving thoughtfully for one term. The Commission welcomes new members Veronica Madden, Jason Aborn, and Mackenzie Pratt.

The Historic Districts Commission is one of the five permitting boards in the Community Planning Department and appreciates the support of the Building Department, and the cooperation of the Conservation Commission, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals.

Members

Hans von der Luft, Chair  
Virginia Tay, Vice-Chair  
Michael Collard  
Veronica Madden  
Vacancy  
Andrea Young, Administrator

Alternate Members

Mackenzie Pratt  
Tomas Kindler  
Ben Burnham  
Jason Aborn  
Vacancy

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## Hingham Historical Commission

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The mission of the Historical Commission is to preserve and protect the historic assets of the Town. In its ongoing efforts to do so, the Commission offers a *Homeowner Education Program*. Through this free consulting service, owners of historic homes and other buildings can learn from an expert about the significance of the architectural and structural elements that make the interior of their properties historically important. In addition to the signs designating the locations of the Almshouses which took care of Hingham's indigent and suffering citizens, the Memorial Plaque marking the locations of the Town Farm burial ground at 230 Beal Street, where hundreds of souls were interred has been installed. The Commission has also been working with the Historical Society to determine how best to allow access to the jointly owned Richardson Collection. Also in 2017, Martha Reardon Bewick gave a well-received presentation at the Lincoln Day Ceremony about the events surrounding the Abolitionist Picnic in Hingham's Tranquility Grove, the events of which will be the subject of a book published by the Historical Commission.

In 2017, the Commission awarded grants totaling \$100,000 from the Greenbush Historic Preservation Trust Fund to support restoration,

preservation and accessibility projects located in the historic districts abutting the Greenbush Rail right-of-way. Projects include a new roof for the Greenside Grill building at the Country Club, masonry work at the front entrance to the North Street Community Chapel, restoration of the Old Ship steeple, stoppage of water seepage into the Old Ordinary, and grants to four homeowners to restore exterior architectural features on their respective properties. The Historical Commission, in concert with the Town Treasurer, administers the Greenbush Historic Preservation Trust, established pursuant to an agreement between the Town and the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, to assist in the preservation of, and improvement to, historical assets in the area along the Greenbush rail line right-of-way.

The Hingham Historical Commission was created by Town Meeting in 1974 to serve as the Town's official body for administering the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. The duty of the seven-member Historical Commission is to act in the public interest to preserve and protect the historic, cultural and archeological assets of the Town, many of which are identified in the *Town of Hingham Comprehensive Community Inventory*. The *Inventory* lists these assets, including the homes, outbuildings, churches and other non-residential or commercial buildings, cemeteries and burial grounds, bridges and landscape elements, monuments and markers that are the visual chronicle of Hingham's evolution and the essence of the town's character, culture and appeal. The Inventory is posted at [www.hingham-ma.gov/338](http://www.hingham-ma.gov/338).

Like Hingham, most cities and towns in the Commonwealth have established local Historical Commissions. Local Historical Commissions are responsible for: (1) creating and maintaining an inventory of historic assets described in the previous paragraph; (2) protecting these assets from neglect, deterioration, demolition and development; (3) providing educational opportunities to understand the Town's history and the historic context of its resources.

By virtue of its demonstrated level of commitment to historic preservation, The Town of Hingham has been designated by the National Park Service as a "Certified Local Government", and is thus eligible for certain grants from the Massachusetts Historical Commission and the Department of the Interior. Hingham has the distinction of being one of only 13 Certified Local Governments in the Commonwealth.

The Hingham Historical Commission carries out its mission via the expertise and commitment of its volunteer members and the resources contained in the *Preservation Projects Fund*, established, pursuant to statute, to help carry out projects and programs important for preserving

the Town's historic character. This fund, initially established with grants and donations, has been used to mitigate the impacts of the Greenbush Line, catalogue archival materials to make information on the Town's historical and architectural assets available to the public, publish three histories of the Town, Not All Is Changed, When I Think of Hingham, and Derin Bray's book Bucket Town: Woodenware and Wooden Toys of Hingham, MA 1635-1945; and the *Historic Districts Handbook*. In addition, monies within this fund maintain such assets as the Memorial Bell Tower, the Lincoln, Governor Andrew and Iron Horse statues, and historical town markers.

Since the adoption of the *Community Preservation Act*, the Commission reviews, makes recommendations on, and proposes projects to preserve the history and character of the Town. The Commission has utilized CPA and other grants to the Preservation Projects Fund to support preservation projects.

The Commission also advises on certain environmental reviews through the Federal "Section 106" historic review process and the Massachusetts *State Register of Historic Places* program, and administers the Demolition Delay By-law, adopted by vote of Town Meeting in 1988 and revised in 2012, which is designed to protect historic properties outside of designated Historic Districts. The delay allows the Commission time to work with property owners to consider alternatives to demolition of structures that contribute to the Town's historic character.

The Commission extends its appreciation to Kathryn Black for her support for historic preservation and her service as member and Chair. As A history teacher in the Hingham Public Schools, Kathryn's insight informed the Commission's education component, and she continues to be instrumental in that role. The Commission also thanks Huck Handy for sharing his expertise as a builder of historically accurate barns to advise the Commission on the historic and architectural significance of buildings. The Commission also thanks Steve Swett for his service as member and Vice-Chair. His knowledge of history and his service as the Commission's liaison to the Document Task Force was instrumental in the preservation of town documents. The Commission welcomes new members Stephen Dempsey and Elizabeth Dings.

Historical Commission Members

Kevin Burke, Chair

Sarah Carolan, Vice-Chair

James B. Conroy

Signe McCullough

Andrea Young, Administrator

Stephen Dempsey

Elizabeth Dings

## Personnel Board

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The Personnel Board is pleased to submit this Annual Report of its activities from January 1 through December 31, 2017.

Calendar 2017 saw the Personnel Board handle a host of issues. The Board approved job descriptions for the following new positions: Police Department Office Clerk, South Shore Country Club Athletics Fields Specialist, Recreation Department Pool Manager, Assistant Pool Manager, Swim Instructor, and Lifeguard.

The Board approved the reclassifications of the positions of Benefits Coordinator position from salary Grade 8 to Grade 10 in the Salary Schedule and placed the employee at Step 3, Outreach Coordinator from Grade 8 to Grade 11 and placed the employee at Step 3, and Fire Department Administrative Assistant to Office Manager at a Grade 11, Step 3. Also, the Board approved the requests that the newly hired Assistant Project Inspector be placed at Grade 13, Step 4 on the salary scale and approved the granting of one additional week of vacation time, the newly hired Tax Receipt Clerk be placed at Grade 8, Step 3, and a newly hired lateral transfer for the Police Department be placed at the PS-1E salary scale. The Board voted to approve granting a Police officer education incentive pay by accepting his Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from an out-of-state accredited university. Seven vacation carry-over requests were approved by the Board.

The Board recommended to the 2017 Annual Town Meeting that, effective July 1, 2017, a 2% general wage increase for Hingham Town employees not covered by a collective bargaining agreement be implemented. This recommendation was approved by Town Meeting.

During calendar year 2017, the Personnel Board concluded negotiations and the Board of Selectmen signed a new three year labor contract with the union that represents the Public Works Supervisors. This agreement provides that, for the term, July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019, there will be a general wage increase of 2% in each of the successive three years. The Board also concluded negotiations and the Board of Selectmen signed three year successor agreements with the unions representing Library employees and Police Superior Officers. These contracts provide that, for their terms, July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2020, there will be a general wage increase of 2% in each of the successive three years and the Library Page salary schedule went from two steps to five steps. The Board negotiated and the Board of Selectmen signed two successive agreements with the union representing the Police Patrol Officers. The first contract was

effective from July 1, 2016, and expired June 30, 2017. The second contract is effective from July 1, 2017, and expires June 30, 2020. There will be a general wage increase of 2% in each of the successive two contract term years. Both Police Superior Officers and Patrol Officers unions agreed to a Health and Wellness Program utilizing the nationally recognized Cooper Physical Standards.

The Board ended calendar 2017 in negotiations for new successor labor contracts with the bargaining units representing the Public Works employees and Fire Department employees. The two contracts expired on June 30, 2016 and June 30, 2017, respectively.

David Pace, Chairman  
Russell Conn  
Marie Harris  
Jack Manning  
Smayira Million



*Winter 2017 at Bare Cove Park*

## Department of Public Works

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The Department of Public Works is responsible for the care and upkeep of approximately 140 miles of public roads and unaccepted subdivisions, 100 miles of drain lines, 10,000 drainage structures, 60 miles of sidewalks and over 10,000 public shade trees. We maintain numerous parks, grounds, islands, recreation and athletic fields, playgrounds, tennis courts, basketball courts, parking areas, skating areas, beaches, public buildings, the Town Forest and two Town nurseries.

We maintain and provide other assistance for the upkeep of Conservation areas, the Bare Cove Park and numerous other public properties throughout Town. We also assist other Town departments with procurement, building maintenance, and vehicle maintenance and repairs.

The Department of Public Works is directly responsible for snow and ice control on all public roadways, parking areas, public buildings, driveways, schools, sidewalks and certain private ways and unaccepted subdivisions. We are also responsible for the operation of the Town's Recycling and Trash Transfer Facility, as well as, the monitoring and maintenance of the Town's capped Sanitary Landfill.

### Highway Division

The following roads were either Reconstructed or Resurfaced:

Bucket Mill Lane	Kress Farm Road	Pheasant Run
Captains Lane	Lantern Lane	Popes Lane
Croyden Road	Lafayette Avenue	Rocky Run
Gilford Road	Leavitt Street	South Pleasant Street
Huckleberry Hill Lane	(East St to End)	(Charles St to End)
Indian Rock Lane	Longmeadow Road	Surry Road
Irving Street	Lyndon Road	Tower Road
Kilby Street	Martins Lane	Turkey Hill Lane
(Route 3A to East St)	(Croyden St to End)	Winter Street

Sidewalk Replacement: Kilby Street, Leavitt Street, Pleasant Street (at Congregational Church), Summer Street and Winter Street.

Installed Slope drains as necessary on Turkey Hill Lane, Leavitt Street and Winter Street.

Seawall Reconstruction: Downer Avenue (from #160 to #180).

Maintenance Operations: Painted & marked, swept & cleaned, plowed & treated 140 miles of Town owned roadways and 60 miles of sidewalks.

Inspected and maintained 5,382 drainage structures and outfalls, install, repair, maintain 3100 traffic and street signs and maintain 5 sets of signal lights.

Vehicle Maintenance: The new facility allows us to maintain the DPW, Transfer Station, and Sewer Department's equipment safely and more efficiently. This equipment includes 11 Dump Trucks w/ sanders and plows, 11 ¾ Ton Pickup Trucks w/ plows, 4 Sidewalk Plows, 4 Front End Loaders, 2 Backhoes, 2 Street Sweepers, 1 Bucket Truck, 1 Logging Material Handler, 1 Chipper, 11 Mowers, Chainsaws and 2 Rollers. The DPW Shop also has maintained vehicles for the Board of Health, Assessors, Building Department, Bare Cove Park and Town Hall.

Snow and Ice Control: 74" of snow, 9 Snowplow Operations, 29 Sanding Operations.

New Equipment: 2018 Chevrolet 1-Ton Dump truck with Plow & Sander, 2018 International Model 7000 Dump Truck with Plow & In-body Sander, 2017 Prinoth Tracked Sidewalk Plow with V-Plow, Snow blower & Sander, and 2-Ton Slip-in Hotbox.

Special Projects: None

#### Tree and Park Division

Tree Plantings: 81

Tree Removals: 378

Trees Pruned: 3,276

New Equipment: 2017 Toro Groundsmaster 4010D Field Lawn Mower and Wright Sentar Park Mower

Special Projects/Maintenance:

The Department of Works Tree & Park Department Division continues its work within the Town Forest. The George Washington Town Forest was diagnosed with "Red Pine Scale" and the "Pine Shoot Beetle" which has contributed to the widespread mortality of the Red Pine Trees in the forest. Trails in the forest are monitored for downed trees and limbs. About 85% of the trees that were a threat to the public have been removed and an on-going tree removal program is in place which evaluates and removes any threats to the public. We would like to thank you for your patience while this process is going on with our commitment to open the forest with minimal impact on the forest as we make it safe for the public.

The Tree and Park Division maintains 110 parks and traffic islands throughout the town and strives to constantly make improvements with the assistance of other Town committees to which we are extremely grateful. We maintain in excess of 1,000 acres of open space and over 10,000 public shade trees. We also provide assistance to various committees, boards and departments within the Town.

The fall storm of October 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> with high winds and rain caused extensive uprooting of trees and damage to trees throughout the Town. The Tree & Park Division continues its effort of pruning trees over roads and sidewalks to facilitate the paving of roads.

This year Tree & Park planted 81 shade trees throughout the town.

The Garden Club of Hingham donated a beautiful 3-1/2" caliper October Glory Red Maple Tree which was planted at the Hingham Middle School as part of an annual Arbor Day celebration. In Celebration of Earth Day (2) 3-1/2" caliper London Plane trees were planted at the Hingham Library. Hingham was also recognized, for the 29th year, as "Tree City USA" and also obtained its 10<sup>th</sup> "Growth Award" which is for recognition for significant project within the town.

The Department of Public Works would like to express its sincere gratitude to the past and present members of the Shade Tree Committee for their many hours of dedication and service to the Town of Hingham. We would also like to thank the Hingham Beautification Commission and Garden Club for all they do in keeping our many traffic islands and downtown sidewalks looking great.

Our staff's knowledge and experience is a great asset to the town and we would be happy to discuss any questions regarding the care and maintenance of trees and shrubs.

#### Recreation Division

The Recreation Division is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of athletic fields, tennis courts, recreation areas, playgrounds and other open spaces throughout the Town. The Recreation Division mows and maintains Lynch Field, Haley Field, Center School Field, Hull Street Park and Field, Hersey Playground and Field, Bradley Woods Playground and Park, Kress Playground Park and Field, Carlson Field, the Harbor waterfront area and numerous other public grounds, areas and schools.

The Recreation Division also assists with maintenance improvement of public roads, drainage, trees and other Town property, and assists with

snow and ice control throughout the Town. The Recreation Division has teamed up with the Tree and Park division and has worked successfully and effectively together providing everyday maintenance to the Town's parks and facilities and most importantly in emergency situations that are storm related.

New Equipment: None

#### Hingham Trash Transfer and Recycling Facility

Last year we transferred 4,847 tons of household rubbish to the SEMASS trash to energy facility in Rochester and 1,204 tons of bulky waste and demolition to New England Recycling (NER) in Taunton to be recycled. Hingham residents recycled 2,470 tons of mixed recyclables, 3,931 tons of brush, logs and yard waste, 8 tons of tires, 2400 gallons of motor oil, 93,254 pounds of electronics, 117 tons of textiles, 6.7 tons of batteries, and handled 252 cars with household hazardous waste. The Returnable Bottle-Can Program donated approximately 410,960 cans and 56,560 plastic bottles for an estimated total of \$23,376 to 22 different Hingham Youth Organizations for the year. The success of our recycling program provides relief from increasing waste disposal fees benefits the environment and helps our youth organizations.

The Transfer Station scale weighs the trash and recyclables at the Transfer Station. The scale is also used to weigh commercial construction debris and has been a revenue source for the Transfer Station. In 2017, the revenue from the scale was \$92,167. Transfer Station Permits (stickers) have been updated and changed from Green (round) to Black (round).

With the installation of a vehicle counter, the Transfer Station accepts an average of 7,986 cars per week.

With disposal costs projected to rise steadily in the future, the economic benefits of separation and recycling cannot be overemphasized. We urge residents to maximize their recycling efforts and to reduce waste disposal through separation, recycling and composting. The Department of Public Works is happy to answer any questions regarding recycling, composting, or use of the Recycling and Trash Transfer Facility.

Special Projects: None

New Equipment: Aluminum Refuse Trailer, 2017 Chevy 2500 HD Pick-up with Plow and 2017 Chevy 3500 1-ton dump w/ plow and sander.

### Interdepartmental

The DPW and the Sewer Department have been working out of the DPW building and are under the direction of the DPW Superintendent. This arrangement has allowed both departments to realize savings from sharing manpower, equipment, and office staff. The consolidation has also allowed the DPW and Sewer Department to save in operating expenses and has allowed the DPW to use its workforce more efficiently. We will continue to do our best to meet our obligation to provide necessary and essential services for the Town of Hingham.

It is our commitment to keep the Town of Hingham looking its best at all times and working to restore or improve its historical value while keeping with the plans of the future. We are constantly striving to train and keep our staff as safe and efficient as possible.

On behalf of the Townspeople of Hingham, I would like express my sincere gratitude and commend all the employees of the Department of Public Works who sacrificed many, many long continuous hours last winter to keep our roads safe and passable, and who are frequently called upon to work under adverse conditions dealing with weather related and other types of emergencies. I would also like to thank all of my office staff for keeping the Public Works Department/Sewer Office operating in an efficient and professional manner.

I would like to give special thanks to all of the Sewer Commissioners, Bob Higgins, Kirk Shilts, Stephan Harold, and the employees of the Sewer Department and DPW for the ongoing transition of leadership of the day to day operations. This arrangement has allowed both departments to be more efficient and cost effective.

We also like to a special thank you to Larry Hallahan of the Sewer Department, who retired after 19 years of dedicated service to the Town of Hingham. I would also like to wish Robert Sweeney Jr. (Tree & Park), Mike McIntyre (Tree & Park) and Dave Beaucaire (Sewer Department) well who left the DPW to look into other endeavors.

We are happy to welcome new employees, Tree & Park Laborer, Arunas Milisaisais; and DPW Skilled Laborers, Robert Feldmann Jr, and William Modestino

Randy Sylvester, DPW Superintendent

## Sewer Department

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Calendar year 2017 was another productive year for the Sewer Department. The Sewer Department continued to upgrade its infrastructure to keep in stride with our Asset Management Program. As part of this plan, 149,850 linear feet of sewer pipes were smoke tested to find sources of inflow. The testing identified 27 defects that are scheduled for repair in 2018. Also, 6 service connections were cleaned and repaired.

These efforts will continue well into the future to save the ratepayers money in pumping and electric costs. Homeowners in the sewer districts who use sump pumps can aid the effort to reduce inflow and infiltration by contacting the Sewer Commission to have their sump pumps checked. Any flow found entering the sewer system should be redirected.

The Sewer Department is also upgrading equipment in the pumping stations as part of the Asset Management Plan. Bayberry Lift Station was completely replaced. Bradley Woods Station had two new pumps and piping installed in the wet well, as well as a new generator installed. Broad Cove Station had a portion of the piping in the pump room replaced. The remaining piping is scheduled for replacement in 2018. Walton Cove Station's level controls were upgraded. Greenbush Station had one of the pump controllers replaced. The force main was cleaned at Malcolm Street Station and a Mission SCADA system was installed at the Weir River Station to monitor station activity. The Sewer Department continues to be aggressive in verifying sewer main locations and mapping the sewer system using the Town's PeopleGIS Program.

The Sewer Department continues to work alongside the Board of Health enforcing the Town Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Regulation. Inspections of the grease traps in all food establishments connected to municipal sewer were performed to locate sources of FOG in the system. Camera inspections of the lines in the streets were performed to provide additional information and pinpoint any problem areas. The Sewer Commission requests that residents refrain from putting fatty substances into their drains.

In 2017, the Sewer Department crew painted the interior of several stations in order to color code the utilities so that the station will be uniform.

The Sewer Commission has also made continuing efforts to update existing special acts, policies and regulations to develop an application process for future sewer expansion projects and develop a sewer betterment calculation policy. The Sewer Commission is working with and

finalizing the development of the policy consolidation with Weston & Sampson Engineers, Inc.

Long-time employee Larry Hallahan retired in July and the department acknowledges and thanks him for his nearly 30 years of service. Daniel Dempsey was hired as Larry's replacement.

As always we want to thank our Sewer Supervisor, Stephen Dempsey; the maintenance staff; our Office Administrator, Liz Welch; and the office staff for their dedication and hard work.

Kirk J. Shiltz, Chairman, Robert Higgins and Stephan G. Harold  
Randy Sylvester, DPW Superintendent

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## Sewer Commission

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The Hingham Sewer Commission consists of three elected members from the community. The term of office is for three years. The Commission has the statutory responsibility to set and manage policy for the town's (two) sewer districts as well as oversee the operations and management of the Hingham Sewer Department, under the direction of Public Works Superintendent, Mr. Randy Sylvester.

The Commission spent a great deal of time addressing chronic challenges related to a half century-old system that has not had a lot of capital improvements. Numerous problems currently exist. One such problem involves a right-angled sewer main where the entire Hingham sewer district flows into MWRA receiving pumps at Stoddard's Neck. This poor design contributes to backpressure and occasional surcharges during periods of maximum peak flows. A water hammer phenomenon also exists along this sewer main where the Bradley Woods pumping station connects. Another more difficult problem is nearly half of the wastewater we collect and pump into the MWRA system consists of inflow and infiltration (I&I), essentially leaks. When a water supply pipe leaks, treated drinking water escapes into the surrounding groundwater. However, when a sewer pipe leaks, the opposite occurs - surrounding groundwater infiltrates into the sewer system. Unfortunately, we pay the MWRA to treat this unwanted groundwater as if it were wastewater.

Two sizeable 40B housing developments were recently permitted in North Hingham. The Commission understood that our aged system would be seriously compromised by the additional wastewater flows from the Avalon II shipyard development and the Alliance project on Beal St. With the

assistance of Mr. Sylvester, the Commission negotiated with Avalon and then Alliance to redesign and reconstruct the 3A sewer main to eliminate the water hammer problem and the right-angle pipe restriction. Significant funds from both of these developments was also secured and Phase I of corrective reconstruction has already begun.

The Commission is taking a two-pronged approach to address the long-standing and costly problem of inflow and infiltration (I&I). First, the Commission is currently drafting new regulations to help reduce I&I that enters into the public sewer system from privately-owned sewer collection systems connected to our system. An example would be the state-owned Wompatuck State Park sewer system. The proposed regulation would compare water supply usage going into the Park, which their sewer bill is based upon, with the actual wastewater coming out of the Park. Any difference would be I&I. Private sewer system owners would be encouraged to fix their I&I problems. In the meantime, the town would be reimbursed for actual wastewater flows that we're obligated to pay the MWRA or to the Town of Hull, if the private system is connected to the Weir River Sewer District.

The second approach for I&I control is contained within this year's Warrant and capital plan. For the first time in a long time, the Sewer Department has a dedicated annual capital investment for identifying and eliminating I&I from our system. These capital funds will eventually be reimbursed from sewer rate-payers. More importantly, the cost to ship clean groundwater from our (environmentally-stressed) watershed will be reduced.

This upcoming year, the Commission will work to complete our town's Comprehensive Wastewater Master Plan (CWMP) required by the state. The plan's initial study phase identified the areas around south Hingham's office park and Derby St. corridor in need of a wastewater solution, in part, to support economic development. Now that the South Hingham Study Group has completed their extensive report, the Commission can use their projections to plan accordingly. Information about this topic, as well as any matter before the Commission can be found on our website. Better yet, we welcome the public to our Commission meetings and appreciate your thoughts and suggestions.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Commissioners, Superintendent Sylvester and Sewer Department employees including Supervisor Stephen Dempsey and Office Administrator Liz Welch for the numerous hours dedicated to bettering our town.

Kirk Shilts, Chairman; Stephen Harold, Member; Robert Higgins, Member

## Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant

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It is with great pleasure that I submit my report to the citizens of Hingham on behalf of the Lighting Board and the employees of the Lighting Plant. The Lighting Plant continues to provide a safe and reliable electric system to its customers due in large measure to the three person elected Light Board members who put policies and procedures in place with the long term best interests of Hingham businesses and residents in mind.

For the 2017 fiscal year the Light Board voted to transfer to the Town of Hingham a payment in lieu of taxes totaling \$494,999. To calculate the amount of the contribution we adopted the use of a formula which is tied to the amount of electricity sold. To help the Town prepare their operating budget while we certify purchases we are currently committed to a base payment of \$450,000. These dollars help the Town maintain the high level of services the citizens of Hingham have come to expect and receive.

The Lighting Plant continues to support energy efficiency efforts at Town owned facilities. Our contributions do not end with paying for an audit report. We helped with financing lighting retrofits, equipment changeovers and improvements to heating and cooling equipment. It is expected those efforts have resulted in energy savings to the Town in the range of tens of thousands of dollars.

Our energy savings activities do not end with Town facilities. Our Hingham Is Going Green program has been in existence for close to eight years. The program's benefits closely mirror those offered by investor owned utilities. The huge difference between our program and theirs is in how it gets financed. Theirs gets paid for by assessing their customers on a per kWh fee. HMLP finances our program. In 2017 we performed about 80 residential and commercial audits.

The Lighting Board has directed me to continue to search for opportunities to procure renewable and environmentally friendly energy sources that make sense from an electrical and financial point of view. To that end we and several other municipal lighting plants have bought the entire output of a three wind farms in Maine. They are Spruce Mountain, Saddleback Ridge and Canton Mountain Wind. Spruce Mountain went commercial late in 2012. Spruce Mountain consists of 10 2.0 megawatt (MW) turbines capable of generating 66 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of clean, renewable electricity each year. 66 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity is enough to power about 11,000 homes and is capable of reducing the amount of CO2 emissions by the equivalent of approximately 5.4 million gallons of gasoline per year. Saddleback Ridge went commercial in late 2015. Saddleback Ridge consists of 12 2.85-megawatt (MW) turbines capable of generating 105 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of clean,

renewable electricity each year. 105 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity is enough to power about 17,500 homes and is capable of reducing the amount of CO2 emissions by the equivalent of approximately 8.4 million gallons of gasoline per year. Canton Mountain Wind consists of 8 2.85 megawatt (MW) turbines capable of generating 62 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of clean, renewable electricity each year. 62 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity is enough to power about 10,300 homes and is capable of reducing the amount of CO2 emissions by the equivalent of approximately 5.1 million gallons of gasoline per year. In 2017 we received 10.44m kilowatt-hours (kWh) of clean hydro-electric power from the New York Power Authority. 10.44 m kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity is enough to power about 1,750 homes and is capable of reducing the amount of CO2 emissions by the equivalent of approximately 850,000 gallons of gasoline per year. In 2017 HMLP received 5.2m kilowatt-hours (kWh) of clean hydro-electric power from Miller Hydro. 5.2m kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity is enough to power about 865 homes and is capable of reducing the amount of CO2 emissions by the equivalent of approximately 425,000 gallons of gasoline per year. Finally in 2017 we bought electricity generated by the NuGen Solar array located in Central Massachusetts. This project, similar to the wind projects, would not have come to operate without our infusion of capital. NuGen generated 2.778m kilowatt-hours (kWh) of clean solar power. 2.778m kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity is enough to power about 380 homes and is capable of reducing the amount of CO2 emissions by the equivalent of approximately 228,000 gallons of gasoline per year. In 2017 approximately 15% of our electricity came from renewable sources of energy and 46% from non-fossil fuel generating plants. 58 HMLP customers have installed solar arrays on their homes or businesses. Their combined production could total 720 kw. The Lighting Plant also works closely with the Town's Energy Action Committee in their work to promote responsible energy use in both public and private settings.

As of this writing our Auditor's report is not available for publication. When the 2017 report is certified it will be posted on our web site, as have our Annual Reports going back to 2002. kWh sales in 2017 were approximately 2.5% less than in 2016. The 2017 system peak was in June and was approximately 4.5% less than the 2016 peak and a decrease of about 6% from the all-time system peak which occurred in July of 2011. Last summer was a bit unusual in that the peak load day was in June and not in July or August (which is when that normally happens). The last time HMLP's peak was in June was 10 years ago. This year's June peak was about 6% higher than our last June peak. The electrical load growth in Hingham seems to have leveled off. From 2008 to 2017 there was an increase of almost 3.5% in total sales. The past several years however have seen a definite leveling off in sales growth. Year over year from 2008 to 2017 there have been 4

years of growth and 6 years of declining kWh sales with decreases in 2 of the past 3 years.

The Lighting Plant continues to make capital improvements to our electric distribution system and to steadfastly maintain it. One of our most important missions is to "keep the lights on" and if they go out to "get them back on safely and quickly". 2017 was a year which tested our mettle in that regard. Due to the year-long efforts of HMLP employees neither the snowfalls in the winter or dog days of summer brought much disruption to our electric delivery system. This performance happens because of what we do 365 days a year. We add or replace equipment as needed, maintain that equipment and pay close attention to tree growth around our lines. The light plant trims trees back from our infrastructure 52 weeks a year. We feel this constant attention to detail is what makes our system perform as well as it does when stressed by heavy snow, high winds and load.

HMLP commissioned a cost of service study to examine whether our rates were sufficient to support HMLP's ability to pay its bills and save "for a rainy day". In 2017 we got results that called for a **RATE DECREASE for every rate class!!** Residential customers saw a decrease of approximately 12%, the average decrease for our commercial customers was 20% and the Town saw a decrease of approximately 34%!!! This while the investor owned utilities around us were announcing double digit % rate increases. This fact, along with HMLP's superior reliability, certainly makes the case for municipally owned electric companies.

In late 2017 after several months of deliberations the HMLP Board voted unanimously to offset the carbon emissions of all the fossil-fuel based electricity it purchases. HMLP is the 1<sup>st</sup> utility in Massachusetts to be 100% carbon free. This action, which will run through the end of 2018 at which time it will be reassessed, means that Hingham Light customers will be credited with using electricity generated without carbon emissions effective January 1, 2017.

Your Light Board is made up of three Hingham residents who are elected by Hingham voters. Their names are listed below. These folks volunteer their time and efforts to make the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant a public power company that Hinghamites should be proud of.

It is appropriate to thank the men and women of the Lighting Plant for their tireless hard work in making the system safe, reliable and for responding to customer requests in a timely manner. HMLP employees continue to be the single greatest asset of the lighting plant.

John P. Ryan, Chairman	John A. Stoddard Jr., Vice-Chairman
Roger M. Freeman, Secretary	Paul G. Heanue, General Manager

## Fire Department/Emergency Management

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The Hingham Fire Department responded to 4,389 emergency calls during 2017. Our call volume continues to increase and is higher than the previous year. Of those 4,389 responses, the ambulance transported 1800 patients to the hospital.

### EMERGENCY RESPONSES - 2017

Fire	75
Overpressure/Explosion/Over Heat	5
Rescue & Emergency Medical Services	2683
Hazardous Conditions	260
Service Calls	347
Good Intent Calls	396
False Alarm and False Calls	552
Severe Weather	67
Special Incident	4
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>4389</b>

### RESPONSE TOTALS 2012 – 2017

2017	4389
2016	4372
2015	4332
2014	3936
2013	3985
2012	3786

Over the past year and a half, the Fire Prevention Division has taken a firmer stance on enforcement of occupancy in restaurants and bars. The codes that dictate total occupancy of an establishment is done by a mathematic calculation that involves many factors, such as floor space and exit ways. These codes came to be due to historic fire tragedies like, Coconut Grove in Boston 1942, the Beverly Hills Supper Club in Kentucky 1977, and the Station Nightclub in Rhode Island 2003. All of these fires had a great loss of life due to overcrowding. It's our goal to ensure that Hingham provides the greatest amount of safety and protection for our residents and visitors.

The Fire Prevention Division has been very actively involved in inspections, permitting, and participation in the different Town committees. Last year the division issued 683 permits and conducted 1054 inspections. The permits, fees, and reports generated \$41,930 in revenue. Our Fire Marshal has also been working with other Town departments to address such issues as hoarding, homelessness, and other safety related issues concerning Town residents.

**FIRE INSPECTIONS – CALENDAR 2017**

Smoke Detector and CO Detector	448
Plan Reviews	260
Certification of Occupancy	91
Misc. Inspections	165
Chapter 304 Alcohol License Inspections	36
Nursery School Inspection	8
Elderly Boarding Care Inspection	9
Site Visit	37
<b>Total Inspections</b>	<b>1054</b>

In April, we were saddened by the passing of retired firefighter Captain Gerard F. Linscott. Captain Linscott faithfully served the Town for 33 years until his retirement in 1997.

The Fire Department welcomed two new members; Firefighter/Paramedics Brent Kuripla and Thomas Betschart. Both successfully graduated from the Massachusetts Fire Academy 10 week recruit program and have begun their career of service to the Town.

The Department continued to work with the Hingham CERT Team and received a FEMA grant to purchase new winter coats, polo shirts, and hats for the members. In 2017 the team assisted at-large Town events such as the Fourth of July road race, Grape Island reenactment and Christmas in the Square. The participation and effort given to the Town by these volunteers is much appreciated. We hope to continue building both the size of the team and to increase their mission capabilities in the future.

In 2017 the Department received a surplus 6 meter Coast Guard rigid hull inflatable. With support from the Capital Advisory Committee, we were able to upgrade the ten-year-old boat with new engines, electronics, and a custom made console. We are happy to now have a capable ocean boat that can support the Harbormasters as needed. The boat was put to use during a Department of Environmental Protection sponsored training drill

with Hingham and Hull Fire Departments and Harbormasters to simulate containing a marine spill.

Department members continue to participate in specialty programs. Captain Levenson led the Plymouth County Technical Rescue Team and helped oversee a large three-day structural collapse drill. The training was a combined effort with participation from every technical rescue team in the State, the Army National Guard, and multiple Incident Mobilization Teams. Also, Firefighter Paramedic Jim Sheard deployed on two separate missions with one of the FEMA Disaster Medical Assistance Teams. His first deployment was to the Florida Keyes in support of Hurricane Harvey, and his second deployment was to Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria.

Public education continues with the Student Awareness of Fire Education (SAFE) program. This year the Department received two grants from the Department of Fire Service for both SAFE and Senior Safe Education. Lt Nickerson and his team of public educators were able to provide programs for all of the elementary schools, nursery schools, Linden Ponds, and through the Senior Center. In total, the educators were able to discuss fire safety with more than 1400 seniors and children.

As I approach my retirement on February 28, 2018 after a 41 year career, I'd like to express my sincere thank you to the men and women of the Hingham Fire Department. Without their dedication and commitment I could not have succeeded in leading this great organization. Our Firefighter's are a dedicated group that perform their jobs with professionalism and great skill. I cannot emphasis how proud I am to watch them perform their duty on a daily basis. Lastly, I would like to show my appreciation to the families of our members for their support during the long hours and missed holidays.

Robert J. Olsson  
Chief of Department

## Hingham Police Department

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2017 has been a transformational year for the Hingham Police Department. The majority of our efforts have been focused on continuing to ensure that the Department is strongly rooted in the Hingham Community. The President's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Task Force directed that police departments across the country be considered the "guardians of the community" and will work with the community in an open and transparent manner. Understanding what drives the community and focusing on internal changes allows us to work with a changing culture while moving in a positive direction that benefits all parties. As the Chief, I am very proud of the dedicated and professional men and women of the Hingham Police Department. On a daily basis, they make these visions a reality.

Part of our transformation is reviewing current police policies, rules and regulations, updating MOU's, job descriptions, work schedules, promotional testing and adding technology that provides for improved efficiencies in managerial record keeping. We are also in the process of changing our regional computer aided dispatch system along with Police and Fire Record Management System. This is being done through grants received through South Shore Regional Emergency Communications Center (SSRECC) and will provide additional record sharing with our community partners as well as systems to streamline payroll and billing.

The Department continues to form new partnerships in the community and expand many of our existing relationships. We are active partners in the Plymouth County Outreach program where 27 county police departments have partnered with hospitals and treatment centers to provide needed outreach and information to people and families suffering with Substance Use Disorder. Great strides have been made with the Hingham Cares partnership promoting education on the issues of addiction, and we secured a grant that has allowed two drug recovery coaches to assist in the cause.

In addition, we have formalized an expanded partnership with the Hingham special needs community. All officers will receive training to help improve interactions with children with special needs challenges. In cooperation with the International Chiefs of Police and Massachusetts Chiefs of Police, Hingham Police has committed to a program called "Open Mind," It serves as an opportunity for the police departments to expand training of officers in the area of mental health. Our partnership with six local departments and South Shore Mental Health helped us secure several grants to help defer the cost of officer training. A more expansive federal grant has been applied for to establish a regional network to provide police

departments with embedded counselors and additional resources to people with mental health.

We have been working closely with the Planning and Zoning Board, Committees and Task Forces to ensure that we best manage the large scale building projects so they reflect the visions and values that make Hingham a great place to live. Traffic and safety continue to be our primary objective when representing the citizens affected by the projects.



This year, the Police Department held its 60th Citizens Police Academy Class. While there is no official record, we have not heard of another community with this success. We thank all the citizens that have attended and we are always looking for new students. Please sign up on our webpage at [www.HPD.org](http://www.HPD.org)



The Hingham Police Department is proud to continue our official partnership with the Pink Patch Project, a collaborative cancer awareness fundraiser in partnership with more than 150 (as of August 2017) public safety agencies across the country. This was our second year participating in this effort; we raised \$2300 in honor of the Susan F. Smith Center for Women's Cancers at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston.

The men and women of this agency are dedicated to serving the residents of Hingham and doing their part to ensure the health, safety and prosperity to all.

Respectfully,  
Glenn A. Olsson, Chief of Police

### Hingham Police Statistics - 2017

<b>Calls for Service</b>	<b>20796</b>
Arrests	272
Criminal Complaint Applications	231
Arrest Warrants	15
Protective Custody	16
Officers summonsed to appear at court	293

## Traffic Committee

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The Traffic Committee exists to assist Hingham residents and business owners with ways to alleviate traffic concerns in all areas of the Town. The Traffic Committee does not have the power to implement changes but rather recommends proposals to the Board of Selectmen.

The Traffic Committee recommended that the Board of Selectmen adopt a policy that if a sidewalk is broken by an intersecting roadway, it must be connected by a sidewalk. The street must be an accepted road with three residences on it.

A crosswalk was installed at the intersection of Thaxter Street and Kents Lane due to it being a busy connector road and a bus stop for both Foster and Hingham Middle Schools. In addition, a crosswalk was installed on Main Street near Haley Field to assist pedestrians in accessing the Field.

Gutter lines were painted on Prospect Street from Longmeadow Road to Main Street and a sign was installed at the intersection of Prospect Street, Amber Road and Forest Lane stating "400-500 feet ahead, next left to 228". This will reduce traffic on Hoover Road.

Traffic stanchions were installed as a trial measure at some of the crosswalks in the Square by DPW as a cost effective way to help reduce speed. They have been a success in Milton and Hull.

The Traffic Committee continued to monitor the accident occurrences at the intersection of Main Street and Cushing Street. Based on available data, there were two accidents at this location, neither of which had injuries. Two of the four cars involved were towed from the crash. Crashes by month: 1 in September and 1 in December. One was an angle collision and the other was a result of following too closely and inattention.

At High, French and Ward, based on available data, there were six accidents, none of which had injuries. Seven of the 12 cars involved were towed from the crash. Crashes by month: 1 in January, 1 in July, 2 in September, 1 in October and 1 in December. All were angle collisions.

The Traffic Committee thanks the citizens of Hingham for their ongoing interest in suggesting ways to improve the free and efficient flow of traffic and pedestrian movement within the streets and sidewalks of Hingham.

Should a resident or merchant have a topic to bring before the Traffic Committee, please send a written request to the Board of Selectmen,

cc: Chief Glenn Olsson. Questions regarding individual traffic issues can be directed to Sergeant David Horte, 781-804-2237.

Chief Glenn A. Olsson, Chairman (Represented by Sgt. David Horte)  
 Chief Robert Olsson, (Represented by Captain William Powers)  
 Harry Sylvester, Department of Public Works/Engineering  
 Thomas Molinari, Department of Public Works/Engineering  
 William Ramsey, Planning Board  
 Francis Donlan  
 Richard Wehter

## Traffic Safety Division

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### Persons Injured/Killed in Motor Vehicle Crashes in 2016

Fatal.....	2
Motor Vehicle Crashes with Injury.....	51
Motor Vehicle Crashes without Injury.....	804
Total Motor Vehicle Crashes.....	855

### Other Facts

Town of Hingham (Square Miles).....	23
Town of Hingham Road Miles.....	131
Town of Hingham State Highways (Routes 3, 3A, 228 and 53).....	4
Motor Vehicles Registered in Hingham (as of 12/31/16).....	19885

\*Figure includes Tax exempt town owned M/V's

### Motor Vehicle Citations Issued in 2016

Warnings (No Fine).....	2760
Civil (Fine).....	1197
Criminal/Arrests (from Motor Vehicle Stops).....	265
Total Issued.....	4222

### Parking Tickets Issued in 2016

Total Issued.....	152
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### Motor Vehicle Crashes Facts and Figures

<u>Year</u>	<u>MV Crashes</u>	<u>Fatals</u>	<u>Injuries From</u>
2012	819*	1	85
2013	879*	0	79
2014	776*	0	57
2015	839*	1	63
2016	855*	2	58

\*Includes all crashes documented and/or investigated in Hingham (except on Route 3), including crashes that were reported after the fact, crashes off road (such as in parking lots) and minor crashes where Officers responded.

## Harbormaster

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With the arrival of spring came completion of the Foss Intermodal Building in the shipyard, which corresponded with the completion of our port security camera system, the first public safety video surveillance system in our community. Part of the new building is designated for the Harbormasters Office. The space is fully furnished and equipped with new communications equipment, as well as our video surveillance monitoring equipment. Once the Town and the MBTA agree on the terms of our occupancy, the Harbormaster's Office will relocate to this space.

During March, in preparation for the boating season, Head Assistant Harbormaster Joseph Driscoll, instructed a safe boating course for the area fire departments including Hingham Fire. This training is important as more and more fire departments are interested in helping Harbormasters on the waters. The goal of this course was to educate fire departments on the basics of safe boating and to provide them with an understanding of how harbormasters operate on the water and how they can assist us in our mission.

Tall ships from around the world, arrived in Boston Harbor on Saturday June 17<sup>th</sup>, for about a week. The Harbormaster division supported the Tall Ships events by providing security at the Hingham Ferry Terminal, which experienced a large volume of passengers for the events. We also provided harbor coverage for the neighboring communities that were in the city for the parade of sail and other Tall Ship events throughout the week. We were still able to catch an up close view of the tall ships as they made their way into the harbor.

Assistant Harbormasters Jake Handrahan and Max Goldstein, pictured left to right, participated in search and rescue training with the United States Coast Guard in Boston Harbor. They learned about the various search



patterns and performed them with area Harbormasters. Search patterns are used to locate people in the water. Currents, tides, winds and other factors are considered to determine where the person could have drifted and then a search pattern is used to locate the person.

On August 24<sup>th</sup>, the Harbormaster received a call from a boater in the shipyard after locating a raccoon onboard their recreational powerboat. The raccoon escaped onto one of our patrol boats and managed to crawl into the bilge, where he was held up for a few hours. Leslie Badger, the Animal Control Officer, was called to assist. Leslie safely tranquilized the hiding raccoon before he was captured, removed from the boat, and released back into the woods. It is believed the raccoon was trying to hitch a ride to one of the harbor islands and did not want to swim.



The Harbormaster boats below are not heading to an emergency, instead they are working on boat handling skills. Boat handling skills are essential



and are continuously developed each and every time we are underway. This year our office hired five new assistant harbormasters and they all received extensive training in boat handling, law enforcement, search and rescue, and other areas essential to the function of our office. The budget for part-time assistant harbormasters increased this year to allow the Harbormaster to provide more coverage of the sailing and rowing programs that take place outside of the boating season. The Head

Assistant Harbormaster position was also funded as a full-time position.

In September, Hingham and Hull conducted a joint oil boom deployment training in Hingham. Each coastal community is provided with a trailer from the state containing oil spill containment equipment. During this drill we deployed booms in a simulated oil spill scenario to contain the "spilled oil". After the booms were deployed, peat moss is placed into the water to act as oil and test the effectiveness of the boom placement. The booms were placed according to a predetermined oil spill response plan.

Despite the busy nature of the boating season there is always the opportunity to enjoy some peace and quite and a spectacular sunset on Hingham harbor.



During the boating season we have a boat staffed and ready to respond to calls seven days a week, from early morning and well into the night. During the overnight hours we are on call and can be on scene in 15-20 minutes.

This year, mooring fees increased to \$7.50 a foot. The Worlds End mooring permit fee increased to \$500/mooring and Worlds End mooring rentals increased to \$50.00/boat per night. The Town instituted a mooring permit late fee of \$50.00/month for renewals that are submitted on or after March 1. This fee was instituted because many boaters, especially slipped boats, developed a practice of waiting for the Harbormaster to issue a warning before they applied for their permit. This practice has resulted in lost revenues and was costly for our office to search out these boats, issue a warning, and follow up to make sure that they applied for their mooring permit.

Over 1,700 permits were issued this year. Onlinemooring.com continues to provide online mooring renewals, new mooring submittals, and mooring management. The web based program tracks 776 mooring permits, 485 docking permits, over 250 transient mooring rentals, 35 moored float permits, and 136 Wait List applications.

Your Harbormaster's Office is honored to be the waterfront representative of Hingham. Our commitment to people's safety and enjoyment of

Hingham's waters is foremost. We are always open to questions and suggestions. Please visit our website at [harbormaster@hingham-ma.gov](mailto:harbormaster@hingham-ma.gov). If you have an emergency, dial 911. If you need immediate assistance, please call public safety dispatch at 781-749-1212, otherwise, call our business line, 781-741-1450.

Sincerely,



Kenneth R. Corson III  
Harbormaster/Shellfish Constable  
Custodian of the Islands



*Hingham Bay*

## Affordable Housing Trust

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The Hingham Affordable Housing Trust was created by a Town Warrant Article in 2007. The Trust is one of several state-authorized affordable housing trusts that work with Massachusetts and Town agencies to preserve existing housing opportunities and increase future housing for low and moderate-income persons. Increasing the stock of affordable housing benefits many different constituencies, including Town employees without the resources to live in the Town they serve, older Hingham residents on fixed incomes, former residents seeking to return to Town, young adults raised in Hingham but unable to afford a Hingham residence, and other persons with a stake in the community and a desire to live in it. To this end, the Trust co-sponsored the 2008 article that authorized the Town's purchase of Lincoln School Apartments. The Trust is the sole member of LSA, LLC, and appoints two members to the Board of Managers.

The Trustees are appointed by the Board of Selectmen and include one member of that Board. The Trust has a range of powers, including the power to receive money and property and to undertake projects to improve affordable housing opportunities in Hingham. The Trust's mission statement is as follows:

- The Trust seeks to preserve affordable housing through a variety of means which will benefit both current and potential new residents.
- The Trust will propose, support and develop affordable housing that contributes positively to the character of the town, considering both Hingham's history and its future.
- The Trust will engage in education and advocacy with the goal of promoting the diversity of Hingham's population.

This past year, the Trust has been working on the development of 302-304 Whiting Street. The Trust issued a Request for Proposals to develop the property. The Trust has signed a purchase and sales agreement with Habitat for Humanity. Habitat will be submitting to the state a Local Initiative Program (LIP) Application, including a request for a local preference. Habitat is seeking to subdivide the property into three (3) new affordable units to add to our Town's affordable housing inventory. With the approval of the Department of Housing and Community Development, Habitat will proceed to work with the Town Boards to assure a quality

development. This past year, the Trust also has worked with the Town to identify tax title properties that might be a good location for an affordable home. The benefit of this approach is that it spreads the affordable units throughout the entire town.

The Trust appreciates the cooperation of the Board of Selectmen, the Community Preservation Committee, the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Town Engineer, as well as other Town boards and officials. The Trust also appreciates input and assistance from Town citizens, all of whom are welcome to attend its meetings. Please visit our website at [www.hingham-ma.gov/388](http://www.hingham-ma.gov/388).

Tim White, Chair  
Brittan DuBose  
Mike MacDonald  
Nancy Kerber  
Kathleen Amonte

Karen Johnson  
Anita Comerford  
Aylene Calnan  
Al Chambers

Necia O'Neill - Administrative Secretary

## Audit Committee

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The Audit Committee is charged with the responsibility to review the audit process, including the annual financial statements and reports prepared by our auditors. The committee met on four separate occasions to review the following reports as prepared by Powers and Sullivan:

1. Town of Hingham "Comprehensive Annual Financial Report" (CAFR);
2. Management Letter discussing internal controls, ongoing status of previously reported items and review of upcoming regulatory changes;
3. Federally mandated single audit report.

Key findings in the reports confirm the auditors:

1. Did not identify any deficiencies in internal controls that were considered to be material weaknesses;
2. Had no material disagreements with management; and
3. The audited financial statements received an "unmodified opinion" which is the best opinion that a government unit can receive. It indicates that the financial statements were prepared in accordance with generally acceptable accounting principles and that they are fairly presented in all material aspects.

In addition, in this fiscal year the committee supported the Town in producing an RFP (Request for Proposal) for audit services after the mandated term limit was reached for the firm of Powers & Sullivan. Over a series of additional meetings the committee evaluated four responses, met with finalists, and recommended a new firm of Clifton Larson Allen.

Mike Dwyer, Chair  
Rob Schickel, Secretary  
Douglas Farrington  
Joshua Marine  
Leonetta Scappini

## Bare Cove Park Committee

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This was a great year for wild life and the landscape in Bare Cove Park. Nature needs you. We have been talking a lot about recruiting new Bare Cove Park Committee members these days. Because of some attrition, we are currently at five members on a committee designed for nine. We need your help to make a lasting, positive impact on the natural world in Hingham's unique nature preserve along the Back River. Bare Cove Park depends on your support to protect our natural treasures for wildlife and for people. Because of you, 2017 was an outstanding year for the Park. Thousands of visitors benefitted from the efforts of many volunteers, our Ranger, Scott McMillan, and the various Town of Hingham Departments that we rely on to manage, preserve, and protect us while we are in the park.



The Bare Cove Park Committee meets regularly on the second Tuesday of each month at 7pm in either Hingham Town Hall, or the Green Dock House Building in Bare Cove Park. The Public is welcome to attend our meetings. These meetings are an opportunity to review the day to day operations, Rangers Report, Treasurers Report, news, or events scheduled within the park. The Committee manages the day to day activities within the park. We also manage The Friends of Bare Cove Park Facebook site. Bare Cove Park consists of 484 acres located along the banks of the Weymouth Back River. The property is managed as a wildlife preserve and a place for public recreation, and education. The park is beautiful. It is safe, fun, and full of life.

We provided a rigorous schedule of outdoor educational programming last spring. The series included Tree Identification in the Winter Condition, A Woodcock Watch, Twilight Walk, Owls, and Other Things That Go Bump in the Night, Tree Identification in the Leafy Condition, and finally Songbird Identification; ID Using Visual Marks and Songs. We hope to have two full moonlight walks this spring.

The Hingham Naval Ammunition Depot Memorabilia (Museum) Display at the Green Dock House is a popular attraction. It is open once a month from March through October and staffed by Ranger Scott and his friends. Scott can be reached through town hall. He is always willing to open the Museum for groups or special events.

The Friends of Bare Cove Park hosted our first Beantown Marathon in September. 150 runners competed in the Boston Marathon qualifier.

Barbara Nicosia is back! She has volunteered her time to lead an effort to re-design the triangle garden. Thanks to Barbara's years of effort the Triangle Garden is an attractive haven for birds and assorted other wildlife.

We have received numerous requests for permits related to Road Races within the Park. The Martin Richards Race attracted over 500 people this spring for a 5K, and 1K road races. Derby Academy and Notre Dame are both using the park for cross country practice and their meets and the Hingham High School Rowing Team has inquired about using the Back River for training this spring. We are hoping that the waterfront will become a more utilized area for residents to enjoy over the years to come.



We are gearing up for a very active spring. Migratory birds return to the park in March and April from as far away as South America. They will spend the entire warm season here along the edge of the ocean. Most migratory birds will leave the park and be on their way south by the end of September. If you've ever seen a bald eagle, I think you'll agree that our national bird is magnificent. We know that they are residents in the area as they were poaching the herring run last spring.

Climate change presents enormous challenges for our planet, and our local waterways. The salt water marshlands in Bare Cove Park are degrading as a result of the persistent and consistent increased flooding. The state does still manage the mosquito troths, however the salt in the salt-fresh water estuary remains in the marsh and dilutes slowly. The Park also has some erosion issues along the roadways that traverse the park, especially along the river. We'd ask that you stay off these eroded areas. We intend to fix

some of the more degraded sections soon. From defending endangered species to reducing climate change impacts, advocating for the environment is not a spectator sport. It can only succeed when you take action. Please help us as we create programming to deal with these issues. Can one person really make a difference when it comes to something as big as protecting an entire landscape? Absolutely! But many hands makes lighter work.

An Off-Leash Dog Walking Program with Rules and Regulations for Bare Cove Park was promulgated by the Board of Selectmen in its capacity as the Board of Park Commissioners for the Town/Bare Cove Park in July of 2017. The program is pursuant to M.G.L. c. 45, Section 2 in response to an advisory vote of 2017 Annual Town Meeting (Article 15). The rules and regulations were drafted by a working group made up of the Assistant Town Administrator, Chief of Police, Animal Control Officer, Town Clerk, Chair of the Bare Cove Park Committee and a representative of Share Bare Cove. The draft was modified to include the comments and concerns of members of the public and the Board of Selectmen and to reflect the advice of legal counsel. The program has a 12 month "look-back" but seems to be a well-received improvement for all park user groups.

We'd like to thank Bob Smaldone, Dick Callahan, and Dr. Susan Kains for their valiant efforts as members of the Bare Cove Park Committee. Each of them served multiple terms as Committee members and we are grateful for their work.

Ted Matthews, Chairman 2018  
Rik Johnson, Treasurer 2020  
Dewitt Delawter  
Claudia Eaton  
Fran Rockett

Scott McMillan, Park Ranger



Acts of Kindness at Bare Cove Park

## Trustees of the Bathing Beach

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The Trustees of the Hingham Bathing Beach met regularly throughout 2017. Some of our meetings were held jointly with the Harbor Development Committee to help advance shared interests/concerns.

In 2017 the engineering and architectural design for the proposed new bath house/snack stand were advanced and permits/approvals were applied for and received from the Historic Districts Commission, Conservation Commission, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals. An RFP was advertised for a prospective vendor of the concession space and Greg Acerra of Eatwell Inc. was selected by the Trustees. April Annual Town Meeting voted to appropriate \$350,000 under Article 25 to complement the \$700,000 grant received from the Massachusetts Seaport Economic Council and the initial Town appropriation of \$150,000 for the design/engineering and construction of the project including bringing all essential utilities (electric, gas, sewer and water) to the building location. Construction is anticipated between Spring and Fall in 2018.

The 2017 Annual Town Meeting also funded numerous projects under the Community Preservation (CPC) program including the extension of the brick boardwalk for a distance of over 400 linear feet through the Grove area heading towards the Crow Point neighborhood. This work was laid out in late 2017 and should be completed prior to Town Meeting in 2018.

Thank you to Town Engineer Roger Fernandes, Assistant Engineer Tom Molinari and Carol Costello for their invaluable assistance on the bath house and boardwalk extension projects including their coordination of RFPs, invitations to bid and concessionaire solicitation/contracts.

We would also like to thank the Hingham DPW for their ongoing efforts in: getting our parking lot ready for the season; trash removal; managing sand, and grading/shaping the beach for the 2017 season; for their maintenance of the grass area along Route 3A and in the Grove area and for their coordination with our vendor's geese control program.

In addition, thank you to all the lifeguards and personnel who helped make our past season so successful and for helping our residents enjoy everything the beach has to offer.

On Saturdays from mid-Spring to late Fall, the bathing beach parking provided the Hingham Farmer's Market a high visibility location from which to operate. Our parking lot also served the Touch a Truck Program and Christmas tree sales again in 2017.

Chris Daly   Edward Johnson   Alan Perrault

## Hingham Beautification Commission

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The Hingham Beautification Commission completed its thirteenth year of helping to maintain the beauty of Hingham!

The commission began formal meetings in April. There are eleven garden sites throughout Hingham maintained by the HBC. There are also several container "gardens" designed, decorated, and maintained throughout the various seasons. About 180 man hours were spent this year by the commission in planning, decorating, and maintaining these sites. A chart has been made of the locations of the islands in Hingham, and the plant material in each of these islands.

Our daffodil planting at Scotland Island in the autumn of 2015 proved itself in the spring of 2016 and 2017 with a showy display of very welcome yellow!

In late autumn of 2016 we were "given" the island at the corner of Leavitt Street and Route 228, which we will call the Library Island. Linden Ponds had been its caretaker for years, doing a wonderful job of designing, planting and maintaining the lovely, showy site. This is a big undertaking and will require many man hours. In 2017, we started to create this island to be a bit like the island at West Hingham. It will take another season before we will be happy with the results.

The organization, comprised of nine women, has received a lot of help from the Department of Public Works. Frankly, without their help we probably would not exist as it is quite a bit of work to maintain the islands throughout Hingham.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Spaziani, Chairman  
Carolyn Aliski  
Patricia Bray  
Patricia Collins  
Suzanne Harnden  
Diane Morrison  
Jennifer Sullivan  
Margaret Coleman  
Lynne Anderson

## HBC Island Gardens

Island Name	Location	Plantings
Glastonbury	Corner of East and Hull Street	Catmint, Day Lilies
Morton's Cove	Corner of 3A and Route 228	Grass, Rugosa, Day Lilies
Kilby Street	Off 3A and turn by the Sons of Italy	Lilies, Russian Sage
Summer Street	By Nantasket Junction Rail Station	Lilies, Russian Sage
Water Street	Near Fruit Center and cemetery	Lilies, Russian Sage
Cherry Tree Park	Center of town at junction of North and South streets	Gold Mound Spire, Host, Knock out Roses
Thaxter Street	Intersection of Thaxter and North streets	Roses, Dianthus, Liriope, Lilies, White salvia
French Street	Near Rails on French street	Day Lilies and Russian Sage
Cold Corner	Corner of Main and Central	Stella Doors, Gold Cypress, Lilies, Roses
Short Street	Corner at Leavitt	Coneflower, Black-eyed Susans, White Daisies
Cushing Street	Off Main Street near...	Sedum, Mums, Lilies, Shorter Grasses
Scotland Street		Stella Doros, Bulbs, Black-Eyed Susans, Grass, Catmint, Daffodils
South Street Buckets	Near Brewed Awakenings, also near Loring (1 bucket)	Annuals (various)

## Cable Advisory Committee

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The committee continued to strengthen the town's local cable offerings working with our non-profit organization, Harbor Media, (formerly known as Hingham Cable Access and Media). The organization embarked on a few significant changes during 2017.

In July, HCAM undertook a major re-branding and new name: *Harbor Media*. The new branding initiative hopes to create a better regional programming presence in the South Shore while continuing to serve the Hingham community. The organization will also enable the organization to market for hire productions services for more sustainable future revenue growth.

As part of this new direction and to improve the quality and output of programming, Harbor Media/ HCAM introduced a new Executive Director, Farzad Wafapoor, in August of 2017.

Harbor Media's one-year old media and production facility and staff offers local community members production classes, training, equipment and services that contribute to producing more programming for its 3 PEG, You Tube and web site channels. Harbor Media also held instructional media classes at Hingham Public Schools and the Hingham library.

PEG programming includes Public, Educational and Government channels. The Public Channel produced and aired 111 programs consisting of shows focused on Hingham community organizations, people and events. The Educational Channel aired programming produced with or by Hingham Public Schools and aired 117 programs, mainly sports, concerts, and other school activities. The Government Channel aired numerous government committee meetings and special events.

The Harbor Media facility hosted special programs for local organizations such as the Special Needs Athletic Partnership (SNAP) as well as invited HPS 4th graders who produced their own annual "holiday news show".

The committee has been engaged in negotiations with Verizon on their license renewal. The key issues currently under negotiation: term of the license, creation of a High Definition (HD) channel and continued funding at a competitive level with other towns. The committee is also strategizing on upcoming negotiations with Comcast on their license renewal.

David E. Jones, Chairman	Chris Baron
Sandra Peavey, Vice Chairman	John Rice
Eric Connerly, Recording Secretary	Sky Thaxter
Glenda Garland, Hingham Schools Representative	

## Community Preservation Committee

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The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) is comprised of nine people, five of whom are appointed by and from the Conservation Commission, the Planning Board, the Historical Commission, the Housing Authority and the Recreation Commission, respectively, and four of whom are citizens at large, two appointed by the Board of Selectmen and two by the Moderator. The Committee reviews applications submitted by Town bodies and citizens to fund projects involving preservation of historic resources, creation of low and moderate income housing, acquisition of open space, and recreation. The CPC makes recommendations to Town Meeting regarding the use of the Town's Community Preservation Fund for those purposes. The CPC is assisted by Roger Fernandes, Town Engineer, who provides technical oversight on construction projects and assistance in analyzing grant requests. Carol Costello, Administrative Assistant to the Town Engineer, provides administrative support to the CPC on a part-time basis.

The Town obtains community preservation funds from a 1.5% surtax on Town real estate taxes (effective July 1, 2001). State matching grants payable each November 15<sup>th</sup> are based on the surtax revenues for the fiscal year ending the prior June 30<sup>th</sup> and interest on the accumulated funds. The total amount collected by the Town Community Preservation Fund for the year ended June 30, 2017 was approximately \$1,011,594.12 from local taxes and \$201,390 from the State grant. The community Preservation Act requires that at least 10% of each year's Community Preservation revenues be spent or set aside for each of the three Community Resource categories: Historic Preservation, Community Housing, and Open Space. The remaining 70% is available for spending on any one or more of these categories, or for recreational projects, as the Committee and Town Meeting see fit.

After reviewing several applications, CPC's recommendations to the Advisory Committee and the Board of Selectmen included a total of 12 projects: 1 open space project, 2 recreation projects, 7 historic preservation projects, 1 housing project, and 1 administrative allocation. A total of \$1,086,629 was recommended and approved by the 2017 Annual Town Meeting for the following specific projects.

Affordable Housing projects included:

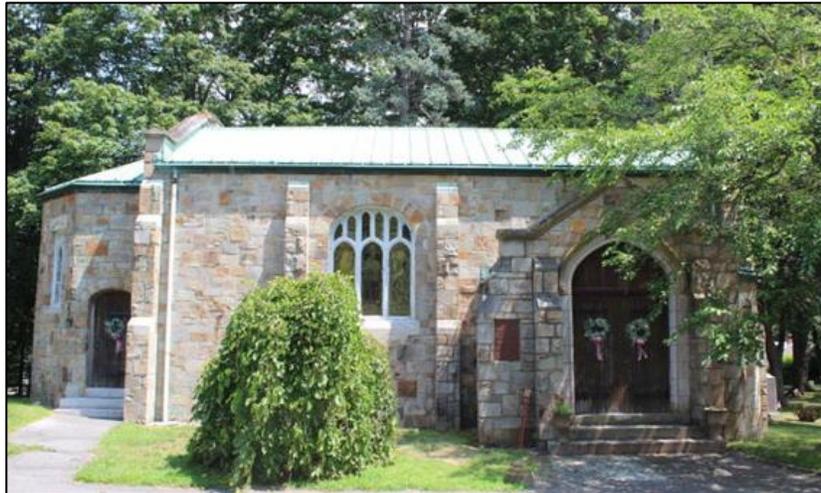
- Hingham Affordable Housing Trust Opportunity Funding Program

Historic Preservation projects included:

- Preservation of Historical Town Records
- Old Ship Steeple Restoration
- Whiting Memorial Chapel Restoration
- New North Tower Clock Renovations
- Congregational Tower Clock Renovations
- William Fearing II Bldg. Tower Clock Renovations
- Second Parish Tower Clock Renovations



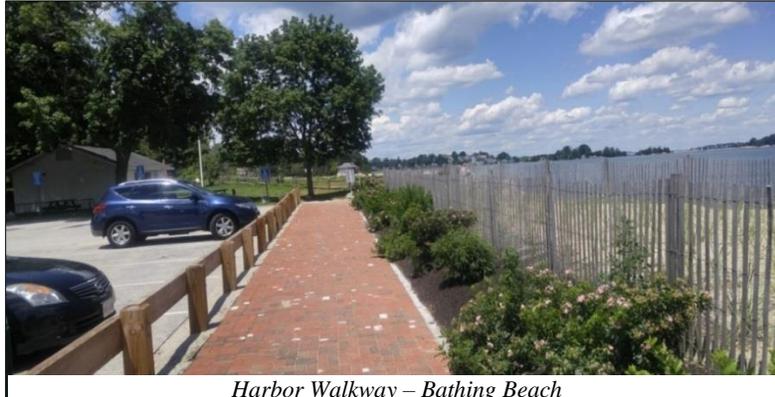
*Historic Preservation of tower clocks: New North and William Fearing II Building*



*Whiting Memorial Chapel – High Street Cemetery*

Open Space and Recreation projects included:

- Conservation Fund
- Bathing Beach Harbor Walkway Extension
- SSCC Pool Feasibility Study



*Harbor Walkway – Bathing Beach*

Finally, an administrative allocation was made to cover staff and operating costs of the CPC.

The Committee wishes to thank Tony Kiernan, Kathleen Peters and Gary Tondorf-Dick for their many years of service and welcomes new members Sarah Corey, Bill Harrington and Dan White. Finally, deep appreciation and thanks are extended to CPC Administrator Carol Costello and Town Engineer Roger Fernandes for their tireless efforts on behalf of the CPC.

Carol Pyles, Chair (Moderator's Appt.)  
James Conroy, Vice Chair (Historical Rep.)  
Vicki Donlan (Recreation Rep.)  
Dan White (Moderator's Appt.)  
Larry Lindner (Selectmen's Rep.)  
Robert Mosher (Conservation Rep.)  
Bill Harrington (Selectmen's Appt.)  
Sarah Corey (Planning Rep.)  
James R. Watson (Housing Rep.)  
Carol Costello, CPC Administrator  
Roger Fernandes, Town Engineer

## Country Club Management Committee

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This past year was a very good one for the South Shore Country Club and the Country Club Management Committee.

This year, we are most proud of the following accomplishments:

- 362 golfers signed up to be members of our course this year-a record. Our members are the backbone of our operation and we appreciate their continuing support.
- This past summer 70 new golf carts were delivered for use on the golf course. Initial response has been excellent.
- We successfully hosted our first U. S. Open Women's Qualifier Golf Tournament!  
Amateur women golfers from all over the world came to Hingham this summer to challenge our course and qualify for the U. S. OPEN. The tournament was won Nanna Madsen, a twenty-four-year old golfer from Denmark. Nanna went on to participate in the US Open.
- In recognition of the quality of our course and our golf course staff, The Massachusetts Golf Association requested that we, again this year, host a qualifying tournament for their State-wide annual Mass. Amateur Tournament.
- We held our largest ever (over 50 Kids) Special Needs Athletic Program (SNAP) camp in July of this year-involving SNAP kids in bowling, tennis, crafts and outdoor games and activities. We are looking forward to another great group this summer.
- With the Hingham Recreation Department ("Hingham Rec"), we also hosted a new summer sports camp. The camp enabled Hingham children to participate in supervised golf, tennis, swimming and other recreational programs at the SSCC. Over 200 of Hingham children participated in this camp.
- Also, with the Hingham Rec, we again organized and hosted the town's free children's Halloween party and "haunted" hayride; as well as, the annual Kite Day Event.
- We successfully transitioned management of the SSCC swimming pool from the YMCA to the Hingham Rec. More than 300 Hingham families signed-up and enjoyed a summer of open swimming, swim team participation and lessons, expertly managed by Hingham Rec.
- We Held our second annual Hingham Scramble Golf Championship. This year's Championship was enjoyed by over 120 participants and raised funding for capital improvements to our

golf course that would not have otherwise been in our budget. This year's projects funded by the Championship were improvement of the area around our 4<sup>th</sup> green (restored the bunkers and rebuilt the green-surrounds) and improvements to the 12<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> green areas (construction of new drainage systems).

- We worked closely with Hingham's 4th of July Parade Committee, soliciting participants and sponsors and organizing the Selectman's Cup Tournament. This tournament is a major fundraising event for Hingham's 4th of July parade.
- Our recently refurbished tennis courts are being used by the SNAP programs and Hingham Rec's summer sports camp programs. They are also available for public use at no cost.
- We continued to improve our food and beverage offering, adding a new fire pit to our patio area, which overlooks the 1<sup>st</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> holes. This new addition has been a huge hit with our after-golf crowd and other casual diners who want to watch a sunset on a spring, fall or summer evening.
- The Alley, our ten-lane bowling facility, continues to serve Hingham's serious candle pin bowlers, as well as seniors and families looking for alternative recreational activities, primarily in the winter months. While leagues, corporate and birthday parties are happening regularly, there are still plenty of times when lanes are open for walk-in bowlers and families. We are currently planning a bowling tournament for this spring that should provide another source of fun and entertainment for the bowlers amongst us.

While each of these events and activities have involved considerable hard work and time commitments from the SSCC staff and our committee, addressing our aged and deteriorating swimming pool facility, has been, by far, our most important and time-consuming project of the year and most likely the coming year.

The use-life of the existing SSCC swimming pool is coming to an abrupt end. It is not clear to us how much longer the building structure housing the pool will allow us to open and operate our pool. With this in mind, we commenced a process to assess the costs and benefits of investing in the rebuilding of the structure housing the pool and restoring our pool or building and entirely new pool facility, in one of several other locations on our property.

With the financial assistance of the Community Preservation Committee ("CPC") and technical guidance of the Town Engineer's Office, we issued

a Request for Qualifications, to invite engineering and/or architectural firms to bid on the preparation of a feasibility study. The focus of this study is to address our questions and concerns about our existing pool and to provide us with financial data regarding estimated construction costs or restoration costs of the existing or alternative pools, operating costs, potential revenue sources and other information that will enable us and the town to make sound decisions concerning the SSCC pool facility.

The firm selected has provided us with considerable information which we have passed on to the appropriate town committees and officials and we are now working to raise funds to support the design and construction drawings phase of the project. We will not be proceeding with this phase until the necessary funds for the design and construction drawings have been raised, and an estimated cost of the project has been determined and necessary town approvals have been given.

The Country Club Management Committee and SSCC staff are excited about the project and believe the town will continue to want a family pool facility. However, we also understand that a final decision regarding a pool facility is not ours to make and we look forward to the completing the process that will enable a sound decision to be made. A new independent "501-(c)-3" non-profit organization was established this year to support the SSCC and to assist us with our pool project.

Finally, we want to thank Scott Peterson for his years of volunteer service on our committee. A two-term member of the CCMC, Scott resigned this year to accept an appointment as a District Court Associate Justice. We also want to recognize former CCMC member Terry Clarke (recently deceased), for his many years of volunteer service both as a committee member and supporter of the SSCC.

The Country Club Management Committee  
William Friend, Chairman  
Paul Casey  
Jack Bailey  
Rod Gaskell  
Sue Sullivan

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## Development and Industrial Commission

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The Hingham Development and Industrial Commission was established under MGL Chapter 40, Section 8A for the promotion and development of the industrial resources of the town. As such, it is the Commission's mission to conduct research into industrial conditions, economic trends and potential commercial growth in Town.

As part of this mission, the HDIC assists in and facilitates the development of commercial projects, including projects involving private enterprises, for the purpose of expanding or strengthening the local economy. Our commission serves to assist, counsel, and inform on the merits of planned economic growth for the benefit of the residents of Hingham, the Board of Selectmen, other Town Boards and Departments, existing businesses and businesses proposing to move to or expand in Hingham. All of this is done in a manner consistent with the Hingham Master Plan. That being said, much of what the Commission focuses on is the ability of the Town to maintain and grow economic vibrancy.

In 2017, we continued our long-term efforts to support the Hingham Square business community as the commercial heart of Hingham. While not the largest commercial district in the Town, the vibrancy of Hingham Square directly affects the Town's property values, aesthetic nature and desirability.

### Lincoln Building Redevelopment

In the winter of 2015, the Hingham Square business district was dealt a devastating blow when winter storms caused the roof of The Lincoln Building at the corner of Main and South Streets to collapse. As a result, the building had to be torn down, leaving a gaping hole in the center of the District. Prior to the collapse, the building's owner had been working on plans to demolish the building and redevelop it. In 2016, the developer introduced plans for a mixed-use development that included residential units. A major issue was how to comply with the Hingham overnight parking requirements as there is no on-site parking. The HDIC worked, through 2016, with the owner and with the Hingham Downtown Association and other Town Departments to find a solution and to expedite the redevelopment of the site. Having completed the permitting process construction commence in in mid-2017.

### Underground Wiring on North Street

Also, in the Square Business District, the HDIC also worked to mitigate final discussions with property owners along North Street to facilitate the underground wiring connections between Station Street and Route 3A.

With the last underground connections completed in the fall of 2017 the telephone poles along that stretch were removed.

Settles Glass Site (6 Station Street)

Late in 2016, the HDIC was made aware of preliminary development plans for the Settles Glass site (6 Station Street). The preliminary plan contains retail stores at grade, eight two-bedroom condominiums on the second and third floors, and a sub-surface parking garage with between 16 and 18 spaces. The HDIC is excited about the potential for this site to act as an economic catalyst to bring together the various "small market" areas of Hingham Square. The HDIC has been closely monitoring the development and permitting process and will continue to do so.

South Hingham Development

The South Hingham Study Committee, comprised of former HDIC Chair, Sue Sullivan and individuals representing various town entities (Planning Board, Zoning Board, HDIC, Selectman's Office, South Hingham, etc.) was charged with fact-finding the various components that would be involved should development of any kind be proposed in South Hingham. The exhaustive work left very few stones unturned and has created a clear picture of what increased development will mean for the infrastructure, traffic and basic services. The final report of the South Hingham Study Committee was published in November 2017. While the report stopped short of making any explicit recommendations for development in the area, it will be a very useful resource for information that could be used to review any future development in South Hingham.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Shane Nolan, Chair  
Kevin Ellis  
Brian Stack  
Kevin O'Brien  
Nancy Wiley  
Mike Kranzley

## Department of Elder Services

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"The Hingham Department of Elder Services supports the independence and ongoing personal development of Hingham's population 60 and older, advocates for their needs and works to enhance the quality of their lives."

Transportation continues to be one of the most critical services provided by the Department. Transportation provides a way for older adults to grocery shop, attend Senior Center programs, accomplish necessary errands, and get to and from medical appointments. During 2017, 4,631 trips were provided to 224 individuals. At the end of 2016, a Transportation Evaluation was conducted among 279 individuals who had used transportation services and 43% responded to the survey. The results of this evaluation were tabulated in January 2017 and showed that transportation services have a direct impact on the rider's ability to live independently in the community. Rides to medical appointments was one of the highest uses of our transportation services. Respondents also indicated a high rate of satisfaction not only when scheduling rides but also with those who drove.

The Outreach Program remains a vital link for older adults and family members who need assistance not only with sorting through the myriad of programs and services, but in accessing the most appropriate services to enable an older adult to continue to live at home. On any given day, one can find an older adult, family member or friend meeting with the Outreach Coordinator to discuss medical insurance coverage; receiving assistance with the completion of various benefit applications; discussing issues of dementia and the need for services; or seeking information about housing. The Outreach Coordinator also confronts issues of elder abuse (physical, financial and emotional) and is a mandated reporter; and works closely with the Board of Health Nurse, Police and Fire on hoarding issues and self-neglect.

Wellness continues to be a major focus of the Senior Center and includes a variety of fitness programs. The goal of these fitness programs is to build strength, endurance and a sense of well-being among the users. In March of 2017, the Senior Center evaluated its fitness programs through a mail survey of 284 individuals who were currently or had participated in fitness classes since 2014. 95 surveys were returned representing a 33% return rate. Through the responses and comments received from the evaluation, we learned that the classes are very popular; 53% of the respondents have been attending Senior Center fitness classes for more than three years; 39% of the respondents participate at least two days a week; through these classes, respondents had expanded their social

network and have a greater sense of well-being. In fact, 58% of the respondents stated that their physical health had improved; 45% of the respondents reported improved stamina; and 48% of the respondents reported better balance. One of the respondent's best described the benefits that were outlined in the data through her comments: "When I first started taking Mary Jane's classes, I had to use a handrail to climb stairs. All that changed as I grew stronger and my balance improved due to her instructions that are carefully thought out, to correct the problems that we elders face. She is so important to the center. We all adore her. I consider the fitness classes at the Senior Center an enormous gift to the Town of Hingham. We are very fortunate to have them."

During 2017, the National Aging Mastery Program (AMP) was again offered at the Senior Center and limited to 25 individuals. As in the previous year, the program quickly filled and a waiting list was started. AMP is a 10 week course that takes a comprehensive approach to enable older adults to make the most of longevity.

During 2017, the Department of Elder Services completed the Self-Assessment process as the first step in continuing its goal to maintain National Senior Center Accreditation through the National Institute of Senior Centers. The Senior Center was first awarded National Accreditation in 2007, and to maintain Accreditation the process must be completed every five years. Through a Committee comprised of Council on Aging members, Senior Center staff, other elder service providers, and constituents, nine areas of operation were reviewed. This provided the Council on Aging and staff with updated information on the strengths and weaknesses of the Department of Elder Services operations. It is expected that the application for National Senior Center Accreditation will be submitted during the spring of 2018.

The need for a larger Senior Center continues to be at the forefront of discussion by the Council on Aging. The growth in the older adult population, programs and services, and the need for physical space that better suits the operations of the Senior Center has necessitated this discussion. We look forward to working with the Town Hall Facility Study Committee to further address this need.

The Department of Elder Services would not be able to function without the many volunteers who provide a wide range of services and programs. Volunteers work in all capacities at the Senior Center from driving vans, answering telephones, teaching classes, preparing our newsletter for mailing, gardening, and various miscellaneous tasks. During 2017, 139 volunteers donated 9,731 man hours to the Senior Center. We would also

like to thank the many different organizations and other Town Departments who work with us to ensure that older adults are safe and comfortable in their own homes.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank retiring Council on Aging members Gretchen Condon, Joan Iovino and Dick Ponte. Gretchen Condon served as the Council on Aging Chairman for two years and was volunteers for the AARP Tax Aide Program and the Discovery Program. We look forward to Gretchen's continued work with these programs. Joan Iovino has served as the Council on Aging's Secretary and is the facilitator for the Senior Center's Rest and Relaxation Program. In addition to Chairing the Council on Aging's Facilities Subcommittee, Dick Ponte volunteers at the Senior Center teaching bridge, mah jongg and dominoes. We are so pleased that these three individuals will continue their volunteer work with the Senior Center.



*Dick Ponte former Council on Aging Member and present class instructor*



*Various volunteers invited to the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon at Black Rock Country Club*

Barbara Farnsworth, Director  
Beth Rouleau, Chairman  
Dawn Sibor, Vice Chairman  
Debra Hoffman, Treasurer  
Gail K. Faring, Secretary  
David Alschuler

Kristen Arute  
Linda Hurley  
Rebecca Moffitt  
Peter Nevins  
Linda Powers  
Chrissy Roberts

## Fire Station Building Committee

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Established by Article 14 of the 2015 Annual Town Meeting, the Fire Station Building Committee was originally charged with overseeing the renovation of the North and South fire stations and the construction of a new fire station in the vicinity of Cushing, Whiting and Derby Streets. Upon the completion of initial site work at the North fire station, it was determined that a renovation of the existing building would not sufficiently address the emergency response needs of the Town and that the location was unsuitable for constructing a new facility that would serve the Town for a minimum of 50 years into the future.

Article 14 of the 2016 Annual Town Meeting modified the Committee's charge to include identifying a new location for the North fire station. In addition, the Committee was charged with identifying a new location for the South fire station, which together with the new North station and the existing Central fire station, would allow the Town to meet its current and anticipated emergency response needs with just three fire stations.

The Town is currently evaluating several sites as possible locations for the new North station and a decision will be made after considering a number of factors, including, but not exclusively, response time, cost, and plans for future development on the north side of Town. Our architects have given us a preliminary design for a fire station that is adaptable to many different sites and allows for response capability to be scalable as the needs of the Town evolve. We hope to present a proposal for the construction of the new North station at the 2019 Annual Town Meeting.

Our budget for site evaluation and design fees as authorized by the 2015 and 2016 Annual Town Meetings is approximately \$800,000, of which we have expended approximately \$150,000 to date.

The Committee appreciates the support of the Town and would like to acknowledge with gratitude the continuing assistance of Town Engineer Roger Fernandes and the members of the Hingham Fire Department, especially Captain Bill Powers and Lieutenant Dave Levenson, who have provided valuable insight with respect to the needs of the Department.

We offer our best wishes to Chief Bob Olsson as he plans his retirement after more than 40 years of service to the Town and thank him for his valuable contributions to this committee and his leadership of the Fire Department since 2015.

Greg MacCune, Chairman

Nancy MacDonald, Secretary

Steve Murphy, Fire Chief

Tom Carey

Al Kearney

Karen Griswold

Mark Wilkin

## Fourth of July Parade Committee

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Rain or shine the Hingham July 4<sup>th</sup> parade always starts on time at 10 am. The day was sunny and bright for the annual parade that draws 20,000 to 25,000 spectators. They come from near and far to watch the parade – Hingham, surrounding towns, and as far as Michigan, this year. The annual parade is a fun time for all ages and creates wonderful memories as noted on the parade’s Facebook page [Facebook/Hingham4th].

*"Making great childhood memories continues in Hingham, MA. A man who loved this parade as a young boy brought his family all the way from Michigan to see this wonderful Fourth of July parade."*

The planning for the next parade starts almost immediately after the last one ends, as the Parade Committee gathers during the summer to discuss any issues and possible solutions, to improve the parade and the experience for the spectators. Planning and fundraising for the parade is also a yearlong process. **The parade is entirely self-funded**, which means that over \$40,000 needs to be raised to pay for the bands, performers, special acts, and the **festive/patriotic/dramatic/iconic** red, white, and blue stripes! There are several fundraisers that occur throughout the year, as well as on parade day, where folks can show their appreciation for such a wonderful tradition!

Jim Murphy is the Parade Committee Chairman and oversees the largest events in town. He volunteers his time all year to see that the needed funds are raised, advertisements are placed, bands and performers are secured, safety measures are described and followed, needed manpower is present, and, lastly, proper "Thank You's" are mentioned, for the big event. Other parade committee members and parade day volunteers this year were: Dick Mason, Monica Conyngham, John Monz, Mary Ellen Lahiff, Dan Lahiff, Ginny Gray, Louis O'Dea, George Ford (Uncle Sam), Dewitt DeLawter, Cassie McDermott, Mark Everett, Carrie Murphy, Gabby Roegner, Police Chief Glenn Olsson, Tom Hoffman, Maura Richards, Jack Dean, Fire Chief Bob Olsson, Jeff Lally, Jack Murphy, Jamie Roegner and Fil Filippides.

The 2017 Hingham 4<sup>th</sup> of July provided the spectators with two Grand Marshals - retired Hingham High School Principal Paula Girouard McCann and retired Plymouth River Elementary School Principal Chuck Cormier; honoring their long term



commitment and contribution to the Hingham schools. Dr. Girouard McCann was the high school principal for 17 years, while Chuck Cormier was the principal at Plymouth River elementary school for 23 years. The crowds took every chance to cheer and thank the retiring education leaders! Each were delighted to be selected, and were driven by two prior Grand Marshals, Ginny Gray and Tom "Hoffy" Hoffman.

The Parade also honors the Veteran of the Year, US Navy Lieutenant Jon Asher, and the Hingham Citizen of the Year, Eileen McCracken.



The theme selected for the 2017 parade was Star Spangled Salute. Hingham's 5th grade students are invited to participate in creating a design for the parade button, based on the selected theme. The



Committee received many wonderful designs from Plymouth River School, Foster School, East School, South School, and St. Paul's School and were pleased to see the thought that went into translating the theme into a button design. The 2017 Hingham July 4th Parade Button winner was Ms. Amelia-Rae Creed from South Elementary School. As the winner, Amelia-Rae received a special framed artwork from Aisling

Gallery of Hingham, with both her drawing and the resultant button sold this year! She also gets to walk in the parade with her friends and family, carrying a large banner highlighting her achievement as the Button Design winner. Her button design displayed her family both in the parade, as well as the parade spectators!

Sales of the buttons are just one of the fundraising items for the parade that date back to 1992, when the Parade Committee was officially created, with the charge to raise the appropriate funds to pay for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. At that time, the parade had few bands, and the costs were moderate – the parade has grown significantly since the 1990's. The buttons are sold at a variety of local businesses for a donation and sell

quickly. Many parade goers save parade buttons for years, to create button collections; we know of four complete sets of buttons! They are also sold on the day of the parade by the Hingham Rotary Club along the parade route. This fundraiser raised approximately \$8,600 this year.

Another successful annual fundraiser is The Selectmen's Cup golf tournament held at the South Shore Country Club. This year's turnout was an amazing 120 golfers! Jay McGrail and his staff did an excellent job at promoting, organizing, and running the event. This year's giveaway of golf balls with the parade logo, in a metal container, also sporting the parade logo!

The Parade Committee extends their appreciation and thanks to many that made the 2017 Selectmen's Cup a big success – including the various volunteers, Hingham Rotarian and ever present Ginny Gray, all the players, the corporate sponsors led by AW Perry and Cambridge Savings Bank, Jay McGrail and his great staff at the SSCC, food providers Greenside Grille and Raffael's, and our generous donors: Paul Wahlberg, Freedom Boat Club, Hingham's Jack Ryan, and Eric Poreda, who returned a significant amount of cash from the 50:50 raffle, right back to the Parade Committee. An additional thanks to Paul Heanue, of the Hingham Municipal Light Plant, for running the mini Live Auction.



This year's event generated more than 40 percent of Parade Day costs!

The 50 Flags Campaign for the Parade continues to grow every year and is a wonderful opportunity for Hingham residents to display their support of our servicewomen and servicemen, their patriotic pride, and our annual parade. This year, with the assistance of Keith Jermyn and several veterans, we kicked off the campaign with a terrific exhibition in front of town hall on Memorial Day Weekend – with 383 flags on display, one for each year of Hingham's existence!

There were more than 10,000 flags on display throughout Hingham the week of the parade – the Town looked great! This is large undertaking and requires a band of volunteers headed by Parade Committee member Tom Hoffman and his fearless helper, Sue Rizzo. The Hingham High

School football team, Best Buddies group, and field hockey team provided the bulk of the labor for this tremendous effort.

The 2017 parade had a wide variety of participants from floats, bands, classic and antique cars, clowns, Scouts and sports teams. There were 28 registered floats and 13 bands spread out for the 1 and ½ hour parade. Huge thanks go out to all of the police, medical and safety staff, and DPW personnel, who keep our day safe and clean, starting with the road race and culminating with the parade, and tens of thousands spectators!

- Most Unique - Hingham High School Girls Soccer
- Most Beautiful - Democratic Caucus
- Most Patriotic - Hingham High School Crew
- Best of Parade - Su Escuela

A special thank you to this year's judges: Sarah Centanni, Meg Lahiff and Jack Murphy

The Parade Committee says thanks all of our members for their time and energy throughout the year, sponsors for their generous donations, vendors, Hingham Police and Fire Departments, Aquarion Water, the various local groups for the beautiful floats, the bands and performers, and all of the parade participants to make the 2017 Hingham July 4th Parade a success!



*Photos provided by Crow Point Creations.*

## Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall

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2017 was an important year for the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) Memorial Hall as we finally achieved our goal of opening our doors to the public on a regularly scheduled basis to show off this wonderful historical building as well as the treasures it contains. The G.A.R. Memorial Hall was built in 1888 and has served our community with functionality and focus, fulfilling its original objective. Many Hingham residents have participated and enjoyed activities in the memorable environment of the G.A.R. Hall this year.

The American Legion Post 120, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6053, and The Hingham Militia continue to meet monthly at G.A.R. Hall, perpetuating their missions which includes involving recently discharged Veterans. It is with delight and pleasure that we continue to see men and women Veterans join in these active groups.

The biggest event of the year was the Hingham High School Sophomore Class American History Field Trip. The students walked from the high school to G.A.R. Hall with the History Department teachers and staff. This year was the eighth annual event and on April 27th over three hundred students, broken into three sections, spent almost two hours each listening to Veterans from WWII to present day Afghanistan tours. The students and guests also took time to view the uniforms, flags, and military memorabilia that is on display around the hall.

The G.A.R. Hall Trustees coordinated with Linda Harper, Director of the Hingham Public Library to display memorabilia from the G.A.R. Hall at the



library in the month of May, leading up to Memorial Day. The focus of the display was a portion of the uniform collection that is otherwise on display within the hall. A special trifold flyer about G.A.R. Hall was available as a take away from the display.

Another successful annual event was the lunch offered to all Veterans and their families following the Memorial Day Celebration on the Town Common.

In August the G.A.R. Hall hosted several members from Hingham's Allerton House. They were given a tour by our Historian Emeritus, Ernie Sofis. On Saturday, September 23rd 2017 we held the first of our regularly scheduled Open House events. Starting on this day, G.A.R. Memorial Hall was open for the rest of the year on the 1st and 3rd Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm. The Open House presents an unguided tour of the hall open to the general public. The G.A.R. Hall Trustees worked with the Hingham Veterans' Council to identify local Veterans that staff the hall to welcome visitors. The Open House concept has been in the works for some time and will continue long into the future, our Facebook page displays scheduling information.



Several Boy Scout Eagle Court of Honor ceremonies were held over the course of the year where the young men achieved the highest rank within the Boy Scouts organization. The boys represented Hingham Troops 1, 4, and 52. The Cub Scouts also held some meetings at G.A.R. Hall. Packs 27, 41, and 52 all held flag folding and etiquette sessions as well as toured the hall itself.

This year the G.A.R. Hall upgraded the parking lot by having it paved as well as adding protective bollards around the air conditioning units. Wifi capabilities were also added as we continue to improve the functionality of the G.A.R. Hall. The Trustees continue the bi-annual art preservation, restoration and maintenance of the memorabilia to insure the integrity of our G.A.R. historic collection. We extend our sincere appreciation for the budgeting support and awareness of our town's leaders in perpetuating the mission of our G.A.R. Memorial Hall.

Respectfully submitted by the G.A.R. Hall Trustees: Scott McMillan, Chair; Robert Beal, Jr, Treasurer; Frank Sheelen, Secretary; Ernie Sofis, Historian Emeritus; Veteran

## Harbor Development Committee

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Continued attention to infrastructure, access, physical improvements along the waterfront and promoting Hingham harbor related issues remained the focus of the Harbor Development Committee (HDC) in 2017.

The HDC met monthly through 2017, including two televised meetings in April and October. The Committee particularly targeted moving forward several town projects approved and funded by Hingham's 2015 and 2017 Annual Town Meetings (ATM). To maximize efficiency of an all-volunteer committee, individual HDC members continue to take the lead on several of our initiatives by acting as liaisons with other committees and following through on projects between meetings. HDC is most appreciative of the extensive professional assistance provided to the Committee for its ongoing projects and proposals by Town Engineer Roger Fernandes and his able assistant Carol Costello. Selectman Paul Healey served as the Committee's Selectmen liaison and Bathing Beach Trustees Alan Perrault, Ed Johnson and Chris Daly joined us in several meetings to advance harbor matters of mutual interest, including the Bath House/Snack Shop Project and further extension of the brick harbor walkway through 'the Grove' at the north end of the Bathing Beach parcel.

### **Town Owned Wharf Repair, Restoration and Reconstruction—**

Following 2015 ATM's appropriation of \$175,000 for structural assessment and development of detailed engineering drawings of four town owned wharves, HDC has been working with marine engineering consultants Beals & Thomas to evaluate and prioritize necessary repairs and possible height increases of the wharves at Iron Horse Park, the POW/MIA memorial, the Mobil Station Property and Barnes I and II, against the background threat of sea level rise. This is in response to the 2014 Kleinfelder Sea Level Rise Study, funded by a Coastal Community Resilience Grant, to assess the Town's vulnerability to key infrastructure damage in the event of unusual wind and high tide events.

Initially starting with Town Pier (aka Iron Horse Park) and then with \$240,000 of additional funds voted by the 2017 ATM, we have proceeded with Phase 2 for all the wharves —preparation of detailed engineering drawings and permitting work for this project. Such work for the wharf on Barnes 1 is also required pursuant to a long term lease between the Town and the Hingham Maritime Center rowing and sailing facility negotiated by the Selectmen and signed in December of 2016. That lease calls for a phased lease term with obligations on both sides, including for the Town extending its best efforts to complete the designs and secure permitting

for repair/restoration and sea level rise resiliency of Barnes 1 wharf by December 31 of 2018.

In October, after a televised presentation by Beals and Thomas, the Committee reached a conclusion on the universal target height for all of the renovated wharves to address resiliency for sea level rise. That conclusion was ratified by the Board of Selectmen. The Phase 2 work will continue in 2018 with a target of completed designs/plans and substantial progress on permit requests prior to the next funding cycle of the Seaport Bond Council, one source of potential grant opportunities for funding.

**Route 3A/Rotary/Summer Street transportation corridor**—the 2015 ATM also approved expenditures of up to \$400,000 for civil engineering services to begin development of plans and specifications for this transportation corridor. Design Consultants, Inc. (DCI), the selected engineering firm, surveyed and measured the entire corridor during the summer of 2016 and at an April 2017 televised meeting presented initial engineering plans for the corridor with emphasis on speed reduction and accommodations for Mass. DOT's 'Complete Street's Initiative', which includes shared pedestrian/bike paths as part of the roadway layout. Mass. DOT, the town and its municipal neighbors are considering a 'pilot test' of the plan in the summer of 2018.

In July 2017 the Board of Selectmen transferred oversight of this critical infrastructure project from the HDC to a newly formed Route 3A/Summer Street Transportation Task Force, including relevant town department heads and citizens with substantial planning and construction experience.

**Hingham Boat Ramp** – HDC continues to advocate a new and improved boat ramp/launch/parking area for the inner harbor to replace its deteriorating predecessor. State officials from the Dept. of Marine Fisheries have acknowledged their responsibility for design and funding of these new facilities. The Public Access Board Division of Marine Fisheries retained CLE Engineering for engineering, design and permitting of the replacement ramp and float system and both HDC and the DPW have reviewed the proposed engineering design. Once approved, construction documents will be produced and the Division and the Town will need to prevail on our legislators to urge state funding for this important infrastructure project.

**New Initiatives** – Under the vision and leadership of former HDC Vice Chair Paul Losordo, the board of Selectmen initiated a new town holiday in May to remember the Revolutionary War battle of Grape Island. The initial celebration, with active involvement of Hingham Veterans led by

Veteran's Agent Keith Jermyrn, took place at the Hingham Shipyard with speeches, reading of a proclamation, a re-enactment of the battle by the Hingham Militia and refreshments for all in attendance. HDC heartily thanks Paul Losordo for his 6 years of service to the Committee, concluding with this innovative new tradition to recall part of Hingham's rich history.

In April 2017, the harbor benefitted from the first annual Helping Hingham Day performed by HHS students as a public service. Under the direction of HDC and Bathing Beach Trustee members, and with the help of the DPW, 75 high school students effected a 'coast sweep,' collecting 30 bags of trash and litter over large sections of the inner harbor. HDC is most appreciative of this community effort by our young citizens and looks forward to future projects with this HHS program.

**Revising the Harbor Master Plan Vision** – With the 2015 and 2017 ATM votes of confidence and financial support, HDC is proceeding with a number of diverse harbor improvement initiatives as outlined above, including the revised bathhouse/snack shack planned by the Bathing Beach Trustees. We and the town's harbormaster are also planning for the next round of harbor basin dredging, presumably in the 2019-2020 time frame. The Committee continues to try to balance opportunistically moving forward with individual projects as funding sources are available with the need to place such projects into the context of an overall vision for the future of Hingham's harbor. While some progress was made in 2017 on the vision picture (including a Community Preservation Act grant request at 2018's ATM for the next section of the brick harbor walkway across the front of the Bandstand Parcel), in part with the assistance of a landscape design firm subcontracted by DCI as part of the transportation corridor project, HDC is very mindful of the need to update particularly the programmatic and landscape plans of the now outdated 2007 Harbor Master Plan. We will continue to prioritize that effort in 2018 to create the vision for the kind of harborscape and amenities that the townspeople told us they desire in the 2014 town wide survey.

**Committee Members**

William Reardon, Chairman

Deirdre Anderson, Vice Chairman

Thomas Coveney, Secretary

Eric Kachel

Brian Knies

Bruce MacAloney

Edward Morris

Kenneth Corson III (Harbormaster) ex-officio

## Board of Health

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The Hingham Board of Health consists of three elected members from the community. The term of office is for three years. The Board currently oversees a staff of six employees, Ms. Susan Sarni, MPH, Executive Health Officer; Kathleen Crowley, R.N., Public Health Nurse; Elizabeth Nee, Health Agent; Andrea Benedetto, Administrative Secretary; and Robin Magner, Food Inspector.

The Board of Health's jurisdiction and responsibilities include such activities as adult immunization clinics which include homebound residential visits, public health assessments and risk monitoring, Title 5 Septic System approvals and inspections, food establishment licensing and inspections, beach and surface water quality testing and enforcement, recycling and dumpster regulations administration, Fats, Oil and Grease (FOG) regulations enforcement, tobacco sales and tobacco-free workplace regulations enforcement, rabies control, EEE and West Nile Virus surveillance, local and regional emergency planning and response, Right-to-Know workplace notifications, Body Art licensing, Bodywork licensing, communicable disease surveillance and response, recreational camps for children licensing and inspection, regulating the keeping of animals and fowl, tanning salon licensing, building permit review, subdivision review, private well permitting, housing code compliance and much more.

The Health Department enforces the State Sanitary Code which governs how residents may live safely in their home or apartment in tandem with the ability of first responders to access our residents in times of emergency. A Hoarding Task Force was created as a joint coalition between several departments within the town. Compulsive hoarding is the acquisition and failure to discard a large number of possessions that appear to be useless or of limited value. Living spaces are oftentimes so cluttered that they cannot be used and these homes slide into disrepair. The coalition provides a joint effort approach to help residents live safely and remain valuable members of our community.

The Health Department recently received a \$25,000 grant in collaboration with the Scituate Health Department to address hoarding disorders and its related stigma. The project will include peer support training, clinician mentoring, and strategies for long-term support. The Boston University School of Social Work will be assisting in the project.

### Health Department Permits

Farmers Market	38	Food Establishment	161
Retail Food	78	Store Milk	101
Catering	11	Frozen Desserts	4
Residential food service	4	Mobile Food Service	17
Fat Oil & Grease	50	Septage Haulers	23
Rubbish Haulers	22	Septic Installers	42
Tanning Salons	2	Funeral Directors	2
Semi-Public Pools	11	Pool Constr. Permits	15
Trailer Parks	1	Day Camps	14
Septic Permits	105	Variance Applications	37
Building Permits	860	Treatment Plant	300
Soil Evaluations.	36	Tobacco Sales	22
Animal Permits	14	Private Well Permits	18

**Board of Health Nurse.** A vital role of a Public Health Nurse is the surveillance of infectious diseases that threaten our public health. This surveillance helps interrupt the transmission of disease to susceptible people. When clusters of illnesses are identified, the Health Department works to control and prevent its impact to the public. An example would be Lyme disease where public education is at the forefront to disease control. The Public Health Nurse also administers flu vaccine to residents over 18 years of age who may have difficulty with using traditional health delivery settings due to being homebound, members of group homes or circumstances necessitating a no-cost town wide public clinic.

### Communicable and Reportable Diseases

Tickborne disease	97	Norovirus	2
Campylobacteriosis	5	Salmonellosis	3
Streptococcus	3	Shiga toxin	1
Hepatitis A/B/C	19	Shigellosis	1
Influenza	12	Streptococcus pneumoniae	5
Legionellosis	1	Tuberculosis	7
Mumps	3	Varicella	1
Pertussis	3	Vibrio	1
Q fever	1	Zika	14

Finally, the Board would like to acknowledge two individuals who recently retired from our ranks after years of public service. Mr. Bruce Capman served as our Executive Health Officer for over thirty years. His experience, knowledge and accommodating demeanor was widely respected by his peers and the public. For almost twenty-years, Mr. Stephen White served as an elected representative to the Board. His understanding of environmental science helped shape the town into the treasure we enjoy today.

Peter Bickford, Chairman

Elizabeth Eldredge M.D., Member

Kirk Shilts D.C., Member

## Seaman Herbert L. Foss Committee

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The Seaman Herbert L. Foss Memorial Committee is pleased to submit the following report for the year ending 2017, which includes formal discharge of the Committee and all associated duties at a future Board of Selectmen's meeting.

In October 2014, the office of State Senator Robert Hedlund announced that the new Intermodal Facility at the Hingham Shipyard would be named after Seaman Herbert L. Foss. There would also be space in the facility to honor Seaman Foss with a sculpture and memorabilia. The Board of Selectmen, Veteran's Council and the Foss Memorial Committee universally agreed that this was an appropriate way to honor Seaman Foss. The Board of Selectmen asked the Veteran's Council and the Foss Memorial Committee to work together with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the State Department of Transportation (DOT) to locate a proper memorial in the new Intermodal Facility.

The Veteran's Council and the Foss Memorial Committee worked closely together to hire Susan Luery to design a suitable sculpture for the facility. In early 2017 the new building was finished and opened to the public. Soon after, in June 2017, the bronze bust sculpture of Foss was dedicated during a ceremony that involved all constituents and stakeholders connected to this initiative, including Foss family members.



A follow-up task to get the Foss name placed on the outside of the Intermodal Facility is nearly completed. Otherwise, the Foss Memorial Committee has completed all tasks with which they were charged in their committee charter and have thereby discharged the Committee with final approval by the Hingham Board of Selectmen. Any remaining funds from the original appropriation will be returned to the Hingham General Fund.

Respectfully submitted,

Foss Memorial Committee:

Peter Finney, Chairman

Alan Perrault, Vice Chairman

Melissa Tully, Committee Secretary

William Reardon

John McHugh

D.J. MacKinnon

Veterans' Council

Jon Asher, Past Chairman

## Hingham Cultural Council

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The Hingham Cultural Council awarded \$6300 in 2018 to support arts and artists in our community. Twelve grants ranging from \$200 to \$1000 were awarded. Recipients include:

- Ames Chapel Cultural Series
- North River Arts Society's 42nd Annual Festival of the Arts
- Satuit Concert Band Summer Concerts
- South Shore Art Center's 63rd Annual Arts Festival
- James Library and Center for the Arts presents: Robert Frost: Light and Dark
- Old Ship Church Candlelight Concerts
- Second Parish in Hingham, 62nd Annual Arts Festival-Junior Exhibit
- Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) – Open House Museum Series
- Yoron Israel presents Jazz in the Sanctuary
- Hingham Singers at Second Parish
- South Shore Natural Science Center's Thingamajig Invention Convention
- Genesis Chamber Singers in Hingham

The Massachusetts Cultural Council guidelines and application process can be found by visiting [www.mass-culture.org](http://www.mass-culture.org). In addition to these guidelines, the Hingham Cultural Council local guidelines include the following:

- All grant applications must benefit the community, and promote the arts, humanities or interpretive sciences.
- All grant applicants must have a local sponsor.
- Priorities include arts and cultural events held within Hingham or the immediate area to benefit Hingham residents.

We welcome any suggestions that would improve these guidelines. Applications will be available September 1, 2018 with the next deadline of October 16, 2018.

Respectfully,

Janine Suchecki, Chair  
Leah Godfrey, Vice Chair  
Tricia Byrnes  
Patti Coyle  
Jean Roberts  
Jane Shute

## Hingham Housing Authority

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It is the mission of the Hingham Housing Authority to not only provide and preserve affordable, quality, safe and sanitary housing for very low to moderate income individuals and families, but to deliver services to the population with integrity and mutual accountability. It is the goal of the authority to foster trusting relationships with those we serve as the basis for economic self-sufficiency whenever possible.

The Board of Commissioners is committed to preservation of affordable housing, improving the quality of life for the population we serve, and development of affordable housing in permanency to meet continuing needs.

The Authority owns and operates state aided public housing at Thaxter Park:

- 78 one-bedroom apartments (c.667), housing for seniors 60+ or disabled meeting certain income guidelines
- 8 family apartments (c.705), for income-eligible families
- 6 congregate units under the Supportive Senior Housing Initiative program providing housing and services in collaboration with South Shore Elder Services.

We currently have nearly 500 applicants on our waiting lists.

Our management portfolio includes:

- 14 units of c. 689 housing for individuals with disabilities, a partnership with the Department of Mental Health,
- 50 Housing Choice vouchers (25 of which we sponsor for other agencies), a federal rent subsidy program for low-income families
- 5 Project Based vouchers attached to the Captain Anderson house for homeless Hingham veterans.
- A single family affordable home on Scotland Street purchased with Community Preservation funds in 2007.
- 15.4 acre lot on Beal Street

Over the past year, the Authority has successfully combined capital, operating, maintenance resources and grant money to improve our properties and programs.

Projects at Thaxter Park included:

- Replacement of exterior windows \$156,263.00
- Turnover and rehab of 11 apartments and one (1)-3 bedroom unit for which we received an additional \$32,000.00 grant
- Boiler Replacements: \$113,986.00
- Walkway improvements: \$54,00.00
- Roofs and gutters for the family units: \$39,828

We are pleased to report that we received a federal grant of \$66,199, for our Ross Self-Sufficiency program.

We have also been awarded a grant through the Lawyer's Clearinghouse for a pro-bono attorney to assist with possible development of affordable housing on the Beal Street parcel.

We would like to thank Kathy Glenzel, Elder Services Outreach Coordinator, Officer Orlandi, the DPW maintenance staff, as well as the Police and Fire Departments for all of their assistance. Additionally, we recognize Elizabeth James and Davalene Cooper for their service on the board.

The Board of Commissioners would like to thank the Director and her staff, Margie, Shari, Kevin and Mike for their dedication day in and day out to the population we serve.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Napier, Executive Director  
Robert Keyes, Chairman & Treasurer  
James R. Watson, Vice Chairman  
Irma Lauter, State Appointee

## Long Range Waste Disposal and Recycling Cleaner, Greener Hingham

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The Long Range Waste Disposal and Recycling Committee (LRWDRC) is pleased to provide residents with a recap of 2017's waste disposal and recycling operations at Hingham's Transfer Station. This has been a challenging year due to the radical changes in recycling markets and costs resulting from China's National Sword policy (refusing most mixed recyclables) though the impact on Hingham was buffered by our separation of recyclables operations. To continue to keep our costs as low as possible it is imperative that we keep our recyclables as free from unaccepted materials as possible. Only with "clean" collections can we expect to generate income from some of our recyclables and keep processing costs down for others. We ask residents to "Stop and Ask" Transfer Station staff before putting materials you are unsure about into the recycling areas. Increased costs for specific recyclables and ways to reduce the impact on our bottom line will be detailed below.

The LRWDRC's educational and advocacy efforts support the town of Hingham's household solid waste disposal operations. For financial data related to the overall costs and revenues from Hingham's waste disposal and recycling operations, please refer to the Department of Public Works summary and financial report in this Annual Report.

### Ongoing operations updates

- A total of 4279 residential and 127 commercial Transfer Station permits were issued in 2017. Six "Recycling only" permits were issued to Hingham businesses.
- For 2017, the town's waste total was 4847 tons compared to 5886 tons in 2016 while C&D (Construction & Demolition and Bulky waste) totaled 1204 tons compared to 1324 tons in 2016.
- A total of 2261 tons (vs. 2222 tons in 2016) of common recyclables (paper, cardboard, steel cans, plastics, glass, metal and textiles) were collected, yielding a current recycling rate of 32% (vs. 27.4% in 2016). We are happy to report that this improved recycling rate (lower trash amounts and higher recycling) results in a cost savings for the Town.
- The clothing and textile bins continued to collect all types of household textiles that will either be reused as is or repurposed in the textile and upholstery industry. The textiles collected, ranging from rags to fine clothing, totaled 118 tons which reduced our municipal waste costs (through saving \$8500 in disposal costs and generating \$7445 in receipts for the Town).

- The Transfer Station now has a tractor (truck) and a roll-off trailer to allow our staff to drive our waste and recyclables to our vendors, reducing transportation costs significantly.
- The two commodities with greatest increases in recycling costs are electronics and glass. We encourage residents to make use of recycling programs that are paid for by the manufacturers rather than town taxes when possible (i.e. return used electronics to Staples and Best Buy where most electronics are accepted for recycling and the costs are paid by the electronics manufacturers and bring any glass bottles with deposits to bottle redemption centers where the costs of recycling are paid for by bottlers).
- The Plastic Shopping Bag collection at the Transfer Station has been very successful with six to eight 55 gallon bags of recyclable plastic bags collected each week. Important Note: We ask residents to remember that our recycling vendor accepts only plastic bags which are made of thin plastic with molded handles and only such bags may go into the collection chute. If other kinds of plastic are put in the chute, the whole load becomes contaminated and gets trashed.

New this year:

- The Transfer Station now has recycling collections for ink cartridges and cell phones (located in the electronics container) and all forms of batteries (collected at the Universal waste window of the baler building).
- There is a new latex paint collection shed, open April-October to collect cans of latex paint, from which usable paint is taken to the Paint Exchange in Scituate where it is mixed for re-use. Oil based paints should be held until the annual Household Hazardous Waste collection each spring and latex paints should be kept from freezing and brought to the Latex paint shed in the spring-fall.

Hingham's Community Redeemable Bottle and Can Collection Program

This fundraising program continued to benefit many local youth organizations. In exchange for bottle and can redemption proceeds, this year 22 youth groups performed the following community services:

- Trail cleanup at More-Brewer Park
- Cleanup and water's edge trash pickup at Bare Cove Park beach
- Library: cleanings of shelves, books, and toys, shelving books, display set up and weeding
- East School garden bed preparation
- Placing flags at graves for Memorial Day
- Spring cleanup at Plymouth River School grounds
- Shoveling out fire hydrants

- Harbor beach cleanups
- Grounds keeping at Hingham Housing Authority properties
- Replace/decorate US Veteran's graves at Fort Hill Cemetery

#### 2017 Initiatives and Educational Programs

The LRWDRC continued to work in conjunction with the Board of Health, the School Department, the DPW, and the South Shore Recycling Cooperative's efforts to educate and advocate for common sense environmentally friendly and fiscally sound recycling practices.

Specific town-based efforts in 2017 included:

- Prepared four *Recycling News* newsletters for town residents, with information about such topics as plastic films recycling, free document shredding, and the importance of careful sorting of recyclables to keep our costs down.
- Supported the work of Julie Sullivan, Recycling Education and Enforcement Officer, in preparing materials to educate Hingham residents and in her work talking with 4016 Hingham residents as they brought waste to the compactors in May and June.
- Informational display at the Hingham Library and Town Hall on composting and recycling.
- Responded to questions posed about waste and recycling on Hingham Pinboard.
- Assisted with the Annual Household Hazardous Waste Day in June by updating the informational flyer and responding to residents' questions about recycling. Hingham collected toxic substances from 252 households, thereby keeping these hazardous wastes out of the municipal waste stream.
- Worked with Town Hall to support consistent separation of waste and recyclables in the offices and public rooms at Town Hall. New bins for the meeting rooms were purchased with Recycling Dividend revenues from MassDEP, awarded for our expanded range of items being recycled at the Transfer Station.
- Worked with the Board of Health around revising the town's Mandatory Recycling Regulation to amend the reporting requirement for haulers working in Hingham with the goal of increasing compliance and reducing demand on Health Office staff regarding annual re-permitting of haulers.
- Supported the Hingham Schools recycling program through participation in two All Schools Recycling and Green Activities meetings and providing a Best Practices Manual for all schools outlining best practices for school recycling learned from last ten years of experience with school recycling and information about an array of Green Initiatives enacted in the schools. Provided schools

with copies and license to show "Reuse! Because You Can't Recycle the Planet", a documentary about reuse programs across the U.S.

- Exploring possible ways to bring food scrap collection for composting to the Hingham Transfer station; food scraps comprise approximately 25-35% of household trash by weight and can be composted in an appropriate facility thereby reducing waste disposal costs.
- Supported the Re-Use activities of the Swap Shoppe where items that can be re-used are made available by town residents to other residents and thereby reduce the town's total waste and waste costs.

Committee Goals for 2018:

As of the time of writing, the Long Range Waste Disposal and Recycling Committee has adopted a nickname to better describe our focus on improving our local environment through sound waste and recycling practices: We will now identify ourselves as Cleaner, Greener Hingham.

In addition to ongoing efforts to educate the Hingham community about the economic and environmental benefits of recycling, the Cleaner, Greener Hingham's (LRWDRC) goals for 2018 include:

- Sponsoring a town wide clean up on Earth Day (April 22nd)
- Educating residents on waste reduction strategies including home composting of food waste (estimated to be 25-35% of residential waste)
- Highlighting households and businesses that are successfully recycling
- Educating residents on the importance of careful sorting of recyclables and keeping our collections free of materials that are not acceptable in order to keep our costs down and potentially generate revenues from high quality (non-contaminated) recyclables
- Working with the Board of Health to ensure that private haulers who pick-up residential trash are complying with the Town's Mandatory Recycling regulations
- Educating residents about a proposed statewide ban on plastic bags in order to reduce plastic bag litter and help residents adopt reduce and re-use strategies to keep our waste and waste costs down.

Brenda Black  
Brian Cardarella  
Janice McPhillips  
Katie Puzo  
Peter Stathopoulos  
David White

## Hingham Memorial Bell Tower

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The Memorial Bell Tower Committee is comprised of six volunteers dedicated to keeping the tradition of a functioning Bell Tower alive and well in Hingham. Committee members are available to meet as needed and are responsible for ringing the Bells. The Bells are generally rung on Tuesdays from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. and for Town celebrations, weddings or funerals.

The Memorial Bell Tower is an important historical structure for Hingham. The room on the second floor is dedicated to the Rev. Peter Hobart, founder of the Town of Hingham and first minister to the people. It was originally paneled in Cypress and furnished with Elizabethan antiques.

The bells themselves have a wonderful story as well. The bells on the top level are Change-Ringing Bells. Hingham's Memorial Bell Tower is one of only 11 free-standing bell towers with Change Ringing Bells in North America, and is the only bell tower of this type to have ten bells instead of the usual eight. The bells in the Hingham Memorial Bell Tower are copies of the bells that were rung in Hingham, England in 1632. Rev. Peter Hobart and Hingham's early settlers would have heard them ringing there before leaving England to sail to America.

The bells were cast by Mears and Stainbank at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry in London, England. The lightest bell weighs 550 pounds and stands 3.5 feet high, while the heaviest bell weighs 2,262 pounds and stands nearly 6 feet high. When ringing, the bells are balanced in the mouth-up position (upside down). The ringer pulls on the rope, which is attached to a wheel on which the bell is mounted, causing the bell to swing in a 360 degree circle and stop in the mouth-up position. The ringer then pulls the rope again, which causes the bell to swing back the other way and stop mouth-up again. Unlike some church bells, Change-Ringing bells do not produce recognizable tunes; instead, they are rung in an orderly sequence in rows. Ringers have the ability to increase or slow down the ringing speed; and the order of the bells can be changed on every pull, creating an infinite number of non-repeating patterns.

Kenneth Drescher  
Joan Getto  
Michael Shilhan  
Ann Shilhan  
Dorcas Wagner  
Martha Ryan

## Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project

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The Commissioners of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project are pleased to submit the following report of our activities during 2017.

The Project is a special district created by the State Legislature in 1957, and is now composed of all Plymouth County towns, the City of Brockton, and the town of Cohasset. The Project is a regional response to a regional problem, and provides a way of organizing specialized equipment, specially trained employees, and mosquito control professionals into a single agency with a broad geographical area of responsibility.

The 2017 season began with normal amounts of precipitation but became drier as the season progressed. Efforts were directed at larval mosquitoes starting with the spring brood. The Project ground and aerial larvicided 15,032 acres and this was accomplished using B.t.i., an environmentally selective bacterial agent. Upon emergence of the spring brood of mosquitoes, ultra-low volume adulticiding began on June 5, 2017 and ended on September 8, 2017. The Project responded to 14,209 requests for spraying and larval checks from residents covering all of the towns within the district.

Massachusetts Department of Public Health has developed an "Arbovirus Surveillance and Response Plan" for the state. The Plan creates a system which estimates the human risk for contracting Eastern Equine Encephalitis and West Nile using a several factors including the number of infected mosquitoes. Based on guidelines defined by the Plan, all towns in Plymouth County Mosquito Project were at the "Low Level Risk" for Eastern Equine Encephalitis. We are pleased to report that in 2017 there were no human, or horse EEE cases in the district. There were also no detections of EEEV in the mosquito population.

West Nile Virus was active in Massachusetts. This summer, WNV was found in mosquitoes 17 times in the district. The virus was found in Abington, Bridgewater, Halifax, Kingston, Lakeville, Marion, Middleborough, Plymouth, West Bridgewater, and Whitman. In response to these findings DPH estimated that there was a moderate risk of contracting WNV in Abington, Bridgewater, Brockton, East Bridgewater, Halifax, Hanover, Hanson, Kingston, Pembroke, Plymouth, Plympton, Rockland, West Bridgewater, and Whitman. There were no human or horse cases of WNV reported in the district. The Project responded to the increased risk by conducting additional surveillance, larviciding, and adulticiding. As part of our West Nile Virus control strategy a total of

50,694 catch basins were treated with larvicide in all of our towns to prevent WNV.

The Health threat of EEE and WNV continues to ensure cooperation between the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project, local Boards of Health and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. In an effort to keep the public informed, EEE and WNV activity updates are regularly posted on Massachusetts Department of Public Health website.

In conjunction with the MDPH we have been monitoring *Aedes albopictus* expansion in the state. *Ae. albopictus* is an introduced mosquito that has the potential to become a serious pest and a vector of disease. The mosquito has been present in the Massachusetts since 2009. The larvae live in containers and are closely linked with human activity. They are especially associated with used tires. Our surveillance detected *Ae. albopictus* in the District for the second year. In response we reached out to the affected landowners and removed tires from the site. The Project began a tire recycling program in October 2017. Since the program started, we have recycled 3,346 tires.

The figures specific to the town of Hingham are given below. While mosquitoes do not respect town lines the information given below does provide a tally of the activities which have had the greatest impact on the health and comfort of Hingham residents.

**Insecticide Applications:** Our greatest effort has been targeted at mosquitoes in the larval stage, which can be found in woodland pools, swamps, marshes and other standing water areas. Inspectors continually gather data on these sites and treat with highly specific larvicides when immature mosquitoes are present. In Hingham 119 larval sites were checked.

During the summer 3138 catch basins were treated in Hingham to prevent the emergence of *Culex pipiens*, a known mosquito vector in West Nile Virus transmission.

Our staff treated 604 acres using truck mounted sprayers for control of adult mosquitoes. More than one application was made to the same site if mosquitoes reinvaded the area. The first treatments were made in June and the last in September.

**Water Management:** During 2017 crews removed blockages, brush and other obstructions from 3855 linear feet of ditches and streams to prevent overflows or stagnation that can result in mosquito production. This work,

together with machine reclamation, is most often carried out in the fall and winter months.

Mosquito Survey: Our surveillance showed that the dominant mosquitoes throughout the district were generally *Coquillettidia peturbans* and *Culex salinarius*. In the Town of Hingham the three most common mosquitoes were *Cx. species*, *Cx. salinarius* and *Oc.canadensis*.

We encourage citizens or municipal officials to visit our website at [www.plymouthmosquito.org](http://www.plymouthmosquito.org) or call our office for information about mosquitoes, mosquito-borne diseases, control practices, or any other matters of concern.

Stephen Gillett  
Superintendent

Commissioners:  
John Kenney, Chairman  
Michael F. Valenti, Vice-Chairman  
Cathleen Drinan

John Sharland-Secretary

## Hingham Public Library

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The Hingham Public Library was a bustling hub of activity throughout 2017, offering a wide range of materials to borrow such as books, ebooks, audiobooks, movies, music, puzzles, artwork, technology devices and online resources, in addition to providing technology training and one-on-one help, story times, craft nights, author talks, and educational and entertaining programs and classes for people of all ages and interests.

Over the course of the year:

- patrons borrowed over 334,000 items including books, movies and music;
- over 79,000 items were sent and received through inter-library loans with other libraries in the Old Colony Library Network and throughout the state;
- nearly 18,700 children, teens, and adults attended over 750 lectures and programs;
- and more than 254,000 people walked through our doors, averaging over 1,000 people per day.

With each passing year, we find ourselves continuing to deliver a high level of traditional library services such as providing materials to borrow, research assistance, reading recommendations, computer help, fostering early literacy skills, teaching children how to find information and materials for homework and school projects, and providing children, teens and adults with comfortable spaces in which to work, read, think, or just relax.

At the same time, however, we find that the role of the public library in the community is fast expanding to include even more and diverse opportunities for personal growth, educational enrichment, life-long learning, historical and cultural exploration, collaboration with peers, and connection with the community.

One of our many events that was a highlight of 2017 was a special evening in May to benefit the Library with author David McCullough, who spoke about his new book *The American Spirit*. The evening was a great success and featured pianist Ed Wise, who performed a number of American songs to the singing accompaniment of Mr. McCullough. The event was the first in a series of annual author talks generously sponsored by the Harold and Avis Goldstein Lecture Series, and



was held at Derby Academy who generously donated the venue for this event. Many thanks to Trustee Tina Sherwood and her team of volunteers who donated their time and considerable and diverse talents that helped to make this evening such a success.

During the past year, the Library also worked in partnership with the Hingham Chess Club to offer a new series of beginner to advanced lessons, taught by nationally ranked chess player National Master Farzad Abdi. These free lessons are made possible through a grant generously provided by the Harold and Avis Goldstein Trust, and thanks to the hard work, time and dedication of local residents Kay Praschma and Laura Donnelly, founders of the Hingham Chess Club.

The Library also worked in collaboration with the Weymouth, Scituate and Cohasset libraries and received a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant in the amount of \$21,375 for "All Aboard Greenbush: One Train, One Book", funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC). The grant sought to extend library services to time-strapped commuters by connecting Greenbush commuter rail passengers to local library services through the reading and discussion of a common book – Doug Most's *The Race Underground: Boston, New York, and the Incredible Rivalry that Built America's First Subway*. In April, library staff visited all local Greenbush stations, handed out copies of the book and provided information on how to access the ebook version as well as other library services. On-train book discussions were held in May, as were a number of programs at the Library featuring the history of transportation, train trivia, book discussions, a viewing and discussion of the PBS documentary *The Race Underground* with filmmaker Michael Rossi and author Doug Most, and culminating with a finale event and author talk by Doug Most that was held at South Station in Boston.



*Library staff Anna Byrne, Jill Blair, and Mary Ellen Miller*

Another highlight of 2017 included the successful submittal of a construction grant round application offered through the Massachusetts Public Library Construction Program (MPLCP) which provides financial and

technical assistance to municipalities for planning, design, improvement and expansion of their public library facilities, administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC). With the leadership of the Trustee Task Force on Library Futures, the assistance of Peter Byerly and Richard Smith from Beacon Architectural Associates, and from Owner's Project Manager and Town Engineer Roger Fernandes, the Library completed and submitted a grant application that was favorably received by the MBLC. In July 2017, the MBLC awarded nine communities Provisional Construction Grants and wait-listed twenty-four other communities, with Hingham listed as third on the wait-list of approved libraries. Libraries that have been wait-listed will receive construction grants as state funding becomes available.

We've also made significant improvements to our roof, roof-top HVAC units, and roof truss system in 2017. Roof design by Habeeb & Associates Architects and work completed by Greenwood Industries Inc., have resulted in substantial improvements that have eliminated the many leaks we've experienced in the Library over the years through the replacement of roof membrane and roof-top HVAC units that were nearing the end of their useful life, located over the original side of the Library. Additional work on the roof truss system inside the Library was completed by MCI Contracting which maintained the structural integrity of the roof after the stresses placed upon it from the harsh winter of 2015. Many thanks to Town Engineer Roger Fernandes and his staff Assistant Projects Engineer Tom Molinari and Administrative Assistant Carol Costello, for assisting the Library throughout all aspects of these projects, and a great thanks and appreciation to all our patrons for their patience and understanding throughout the construction and subsequent disruption within the Library.

Through our corps of dedicated volunteers, the Library also continues to offer popular services, such as Home Delivery to those who are physically unable to visit in person, and opportunities to purchase used and donated books daily from the Library's Bookstore or seasonally through "Booktique" book sales. Last year, over \$14,000 was raised from book sales, and these funds are used to help offset the cost to purchase new materials for the Library. Many thanks to volunteer Adrienne Richardson, who manages the bookstore and to Jean McGear, who manages the Home Delivery program.

After many years of service recruiting, training, organizing, and acting as liaison extraordinaire between the Library and our 100+ volunteers, former Trustee and long-time friend, patron, and volunteer Joan Newell stepped down from the position of Head of the Volunteer Program. We are all extremely grateful for Joan's dedication and many years of service

running this program, and we look forward to working with her as she continues on as one of our volunteers in the Library.

In closing, there are many individuals who help to make this such a wonderful Library and community resource. Thanks to Business Administrator Joan Allen for her unwavering dedication and hard-work, Assistant Director Anna Byrne for her vision and innovation, and to all the Library staff and volunteers for all they do every day to make this such a special place within the community. We also wish to thank the members of the Board of Trustees for their time, talents, involvement, and dedication, and are deeply appreciative of all that they do for the Library and the community.

Respectfully submitted,  
David J. Mehegan, Chairman of the Board  
Linda Harper, Library Director



*Special thanks to Library staff who volunteered at the McCullough event  
(l to r): Janice MacDonald, Anna Byrne, Debbie Clifton, Mary Beth Keif, Barbara Bird, Ann Fickenwirth, Laura Arsenaault.*

## Hingham Public Schools

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As of October 1, 2017, there were 4,233 students enrolled in Kindergarten to Grade 12 (K-12) in the Hingham Public Schools, a count nearly level with October 1, 2016. In addition, the district had responsibility for funding and/or programming for 67 pre-school students in the Integrated Pre-school program, 50 out-of-district special education students, and 4 vocational students.

Operational and leadership changes for Fall 2017 included the appointments of Principal Richard Swanson at Hingham High School (HHS) and Principal Melissa Smith at Plymouth River School (PRS). Filling their former Assistant Principal roles are Collin Shattuck, HHS, and Charleen Fabrizio, PRS. Mary Andrews has assumed the role of K-12 Director of English and Language Arts, and Joann Bellis and Rose Papuga are the new Resource Teachers for Elementary Music and K-12 Art, respectively. Jim Quatromoni was appointed Athletic Director in October.

The 2017 Town Election added a new member of the School Committee when Michelle Ayer was elected to fill the vacancy resulting from Carol M. Falvey's decision not to seek re-election. Dr. Edward M. Schreier, DDS, was re-elected for a third term. Liza O'Reilly, Aylene Calnan and Cynthia Galko were elected School Committee Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary, respectively, in May 2017.

The Annual School Department Operating Budget for fiscal year 2018 (school year 2017-2018) was approved at the April 2017 Town Meeting at \$49,762,698; another \$850,820 was appropriated for Capital Projects including preventative maintenance and roof repair projects, technology infrastructure and device replacement work, and HVAC repairs and upgrades, etc.

Academically, Hingham students performed above state averages at every grade and subject on the 2017 Next-Generation MCAS. The percentage of students meeting or exceeding expectations in mathematics is strong across grades 3-8. In grade 10, 99% of students scored at the proficient or advanced level in English language arts (ELA), 94% in math, and 95% in science. All members of the class of 2017 demonstrated proficiency on the ELA, math, and science MCAS tests that are required for a state certified diploma. The Massachusetts Accountability system is used to classify districts and schools on a five-level scale from the highest performing in Level 1 and the lowest performing in Level 5. The levels reflect both overall performance and the progress of the different subgroups of the student population. Due to the change-over to the Next

Generation MCAS exams in grades 3-8, only MA high schools received an accountability rating in 2017; yet again, Hingham High School is rated as a Level 1 high school.

On Saturday, June 3, 2017, 292 students graduated from Hingham High School. In addition to a diploma, 36 members of the class received the Global Competency Certificate. Through interdisciplinary academic study, community service and international travel, these graduates demonstrated increased global awareness, a heightened appreciation of diversity, and a capacity to work and contribute in an increasingly interconnected world. Of all graduates, 93% will go on to four-year colleges located in 31 different states and four foreign countries, about 3% will attend specialized or two-year institutions, some will attend post-graduate programs or take a gap year, and a few will begin full-time employment. Academic accomplishments of the HHS Class of 2017 include 8 National Merit commended students, 107 Advanced Placement Scholars, 4 National Scholars, and 83 members inducted into the National Honor Society.

HHS students continue to have the opportunity to participate in a myriad of extracurricular activities including a new Climate Committee, a student group dedicated to strengthening a positive school culture. In April 2017, the Climate Committee launched its flagship program, the "Harbormen Helping Hingham Day," which inspired more than 95 percent of HHS seniors to spend a full day engaged in community service projects around town. Competitive extracurricular activities include Mock Trial, Debate, Quiz Bowl, Math Team and Robotics. The Quiz Bowl team participated for the eighth straight year in WGBH's High School Quiz Show and for the first time advanced to the semi-finals. The HHS Student Council, one of the largest groups in the school and one of the largest councils in the state, was awarded the Gold Medal as a Student Council of Excellence in Massachusetts.

Hingham High School Athletics enjoyed continued success in 2017. HHS teams won ten Patriot League Championships (Sailing, Girls' Cross Country, Girls' Soccer, Girls' Basketball, Girls' Tennis, and Girls' Spring Track, Boys' Cross Country, Boys' Golf, Wrestling and Boys' Lacrosse). Boys' Lacrosse finished the season as State Champions and Coach John Todd was selected as a 2017 National Federation Coach of the Year. Boys also excelled in Golf by winning the South Sectional Championship and the Hockey team winning the prestigious Malloy Award for Sportsmanship. Girls' Tennis were South Sectional Champions and Girls' Basketball's Patriot League Championship win was the first since 1999.

Hingham students again excelled with strong performances in the visual and performing arts, as demonstrated in building and district-wide concerts and in regional music and local and regional art competitions. The annual all-town art show continued in its Town Hall location in Spring 2017; the multi-day event featured the work of students from all six schools. Drama students continue to captivate audiences with their productions, and our instrumental music and choral programs continue to thrive and provide engaging opportunities for HPS students to apply their talents across a multitude of settings.

The four elementary schools continue to enhance curriculum and instruction in literacy, mathematics, science, and social studies through a variety of initiatives. In English Language Arts (ELA), the second year of implementation of the new literacy program, Journeys, progressed across all grades and schools. In mathematics, HPS specialists and teachers have worked to implement Number Talks and a Math Workshop model across the district. In both ELA and mathematics, work continues to fine-tune our instruction to meet the new 2017 MA Curriculum Frameworks guidelines. The curriculum alignment and revision of our K-5 science program continues with several new units and topics being addressed across the grade span, with new units of study also rolling out across grades 6-8. Expanded course offerings in social studies and business were rolled out at Hingham High School, along with the establishment of "coding clubs" at both HHS and HMS. In each of the schools, targeted instructional opportunities have been designed to respond to needs identified by analysis of district, state, and standardized test results.

The Special Education Department, working collaboratively with members of the extended school community, has formed the Special Education Continuous Improvement Task Force to coordinate the district's efforts to assess needs and improve our programs and services. Professional development for HPS special educators has included completion of a three-day Project Read: Framing Your Thoughts course, as well as focused sessions on a variety of other special education topics. The district has revised and implemented new procedures to align with the requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), as well as Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

The district launched a revamped professional development model for all teachers that saw not only an increase in the hours allocated to professional development, but an increase in the number of topics offered. The new model provides opportunities for both teacher-selected learning opportunities and building-based focused sessions on a variety of topics. Our Social Studies Department has formed a partnership with the Hingham

Historical Society for not only professional development opportunities for Hingham faculty, but also internship opportunities for our students.

Further, the district has initiated a concerted effort to ensure a multi-tiered approach to supporting the social and emotional needs of students across the district. The work began this year in partnership with the Boston University School of Education by surveying our faculty, students (grades 4-12), and parents to help inform our work in this area.

In Fall 2017, the School Committee met in a Planning Session to establish goals and priorities for the upcoming FY 19 budget season. The meeting marked the beginning of dialogue around the development of a five-year district vision, a project that continued throughout the fall and is in the process of being shared widely as of this writing. Subsequent to discussion of district needs and priorities at that meeting, Budget Guidelines were initiated and approved by the School Committee. In December 2017, the School Administration developed a "level services budget" that is (at the time of this writing) in the process of refinement with the ultimate adoption of a FY 19 Operating Budget or other action by the School Committee and the Board of Selectmen, and the Advisory Committee's recommendation of an Operating Budget figure to the 2018 Annual Town Meeting for its action.

The School Committee continued to review facilities needs through the year and is completing a successor Master Plan, with focus on a Foster School Project. Town Meeting approved the formation of a Foster School Building Committee and feasibility money to study the school pending acceptance into the Massachusetts School Building Authority Core Program. In the fall, the School Department was notified that the Statement of Interest that was submitted last spring was not selected by the Massachusetts School Building Committee for funding in this cycle; we were encouraged by the MSBA to reapply in Spring of 2018 (planning to that end is in process).

Again in 2017, the Hingham Public Schools continued to benefit from strong and long-standing community partnerships. The cooperative efforts, volunteerism, and generosity of parents, PTOs, booster and other community groups, civic organizations, SEPAC, the Hingham Education Foundation, and the Hingham Sports Partnership have again supported the School Department in realizing its mission and achieving both short and long-term goals. Myriad graduation scholarships and awards were presented in recognition of students' outstanding performance in academic areas or involvement in school organizations. The School Department and the School Committee gratefully acknowledge and

appreciate the many community efforts that serve to enhance the excellent facilities, programs, and activities of the Hingham Public Schools.

Our appreciation goes again to the citizenry and voters of the Town for their ongoing support and financing of annual education budgets and facilities enhancement projects. Equally important to our students of all ages is the support for school activities, student performances and other achievements that Hingham residents provide. Thank you, Hingham!

DOROTHY GALO, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
Liza O'Reilly, Chair  
Aylene Calnan, Vice Chair  
Cynthia Galko, Secretary  
Michelle Ayer  
Carlos Da Silva  
Kay Praschma  
Edward Schreier, D.D.S.

## Recreation Commission

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The Hingham Recreation Commission oversees the operations of the Recreation Department. It is a five member elected board committed to providing high quality, affordable recreation programs as well as maintaining safe and accessible fields and facilities throughout the Hingham community. It is the mission of the Recreation Department to offer programs, activities, and opportunities which assist all Hingham residents in enhancing their physical, social and emotional well-being.

The Hingham Recreation Department is an integral part of the community with the Recreation Center attracting residents of all ages, abilities, and interests. The Recreation Center, located in Town Hall, comprises a gymnasium, game room, two studios and the Fitness Center. The outdoor facilities include playgrounds, a street hockey rink, tennis, basketball and volleyball courts and soccer and baseball fields. This year the Recreation Department added to its program space the newly renovated Rec Barn located at 341 Main Street.

In programming terms, 2017 was a hugely successful year for the Hingham Recreation Department. An array of adult activities were offered to the public including Zumba, boot camp, spinning, dance, yoga, tennis, pickleball, harbor hoops, men's and women's basketball and much more. School aged students and toddlers had many program offerings including archery, cake decorating, a babysitting training course, a healthful cooking course, tennis, street hockey, basketball, soccer, all-star sports, mini sports, art programs and dance. The Commission provided residents with seasonal events including the Halloween costume party and Easter egg hunt.

The Rec continued its partnership with the SSCC this year for tennis and golf programs. Additionally, this year the Rec added management of the pool located at the SSCC to its responsibilities allowing the Rec to offer even more programs and activities to town residents. Under Rec directorship the seasonal pool saw more than 400 memberships as well as 500 enrolled in Rec directed and staffed swimming lessons and swim team. In this first season, the Rec's newly minted swim team participated in 2 meets, the first of which was successfully hosted at SSCC.



The summer saw another season of excellent, high-quality, affordable Rec programming for town residents. Our summer staff worked diligently to design a new and exciting line-up of shows and entertainers for the 2017 summer including sports and dance workshops, animal shows, music performances, and more! Field trips included visits to the zoo, to George's island, to the Boston Garden and Six Flags Amusement Park with each trip specifically designed for each age group. The Rec utilized its brand new studio space located in the Rec Barn to expand the summer programs offerings both as a home for Playground and Preschool games and activities and as the location for new summer weekly programs like our Drama and Lego camps. Between the Preschool, Playground, and Teen Xtreme programs the Rec Department enrolled over 2200 participants.

Continuing with its goal to provide even more variety and options for Hingham residents, this summer the Rec used its partnership with SSCC and its new responsibilities in overseeing and directing the only Town managed pool to create a Summer Sports camp offering instruction in tennis and golf as well as engaging in football, volleyball, and other traditional camp activities. Each day was capped off with an hour of water sports in the pool. The Country Club Sports Experience was run at SSCC, with the Rec providing tennis instructors, camp coordinators, counselors and lifeguards and SSCC providing golf instructors. In its first year, the County Club Sports Experience had 374 enrolled campers.

The "Funky Feet" dance program marked its third full year at Hingham Rec in 2017. In May, the program held its third recital at the Middle School auditorium. Over 600 dancers, ages 3-18, participated in four different performances. More than 2,000 Hingham residents were in attendance to watch the performances over one weekend! In September, Funky Feet added a new state-of-the-art look and design with the launching of classes in the newly renovated Rec Barn studio space. Starting in September, a majority of Funky Feet dance classes took place in this beautiful new space.

"Hingham Rec Paddle Sport" had its third full summer season in 2017, and it was very successful. This program made it possible for the public to rent out paddleboards and kayaks at very affordable rates. This program gave people with varying paddle sport experience the opportunity to experience something new and fun at Hingham Harbor during the hot summer months, while keeping cool on the water. We were able to incorporate our kayaks and boards with our Teen Xtreme program giving them a local destination for weekly outings. We continued to offer an assortment of adult fitness classes at the Harbor including yoga and Zumba. These classes were well attended and we look forward to building our program curriculum at the harbor in 2018.

Our very popular 3 season sport of Pickleball added to its accessibility with the addition of Pickleball court lines to all 6 of the Cronin Field courts. This allowed for 3 season lessons to take place along with providing the recreational player with a perfect destination for matches.

July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 marked the 59<sup>th</sup> continuous running of the Hingham Road Race. One of the region's oldest footraces, this premier event starts our Independence Day celebrations and is one of the town's richest traditions. Thanks to Hingham Striders who cultivated this growing race and reshaped it into how we know it today. Because of their entrepreneurial innovation, dedication to community and sustainable fundraising legacy, race proceeds continue to generate seed money to subsidize quality, affordable programs, finance special events, and purchase capital equipment for the Striders Fitness Room. Also, race proceeds have contributed to the Rec Center game room and office, field maintenance improvements and provided Summer Program scholarships based on need at no cost to the taxpayer. Proceeds also generate fee revenues, offset operational and overhead costs, and pay for services provided by the Rec Department. They would like to thank all those who make this annual race possible.

As the summer of 2017 continued, the Rec began preparations for a new undertaking. In September, the Rec began overseeing, managing, staffing, and designing the East Explorers afterschool program for students enrolled at East School. This afterschool program offered a range of courses for students in kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade from drama to sports to cake decorating.

New changes and expansions to programs and facilities are always a top priority for the Hingham Recreation Commission. Day in and day out we strive to be the best that we can possibly be. Without our staff and the support from the community it would be impossible for us to run and offer all that we do. A big thank you, to all that made 2017 a year to remember.

Recreation Commissioners:

Vicki Donlan, Chair	Sarah Melia
Bruce Thompson, Vice Chair	Nandita Scott
Adrienne Ramsey, Secretary	

Recreation Department Staff:

Mark Thorell, Recreation Director  
Kathy Walsh, Administrative Secretary  
Mike Benard, Program Administrator  
Christina Macdonald, Program Administrator

## School Building Committee

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Town Meeting 2017 authorized two action steps in connection with ongoing facility deficiencies impacting William L. Foster Elementary School. In one warrant article, The 2017 School Building Committee (SBC) was established with its seven members subsequently appointed by the Moderator (Ray Estes and Kevin Lynch), Selectmen (Linda Hill and Jen Murphy) and School Committee (Chris Mercer, Tim O'Neill and Ed Schreier). A second article approved the appropriation of \$750,000 for the eligibility and feasibility phases of a potential renovation/expansion/new construction project in partnership with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA). Use of the funds is contingent upon acceptance into the MSBA's core building grant program in connection with Hingham's application or Statement of Interest (SOI) requesting assistance to address Foster's facility needs.

Built in 1951 with multiple renovations and additions in the decades that followed, Foster benefitted from a 2008 Town Meeting-authorized a capital investment of approximately \$3.5 million in its physical plant as part of the 2006 School Facilities Master Plan executed by the 2006 School Building Committee. This investment was an effort to enhance learning environment parity among the four elementary schools and breathe an additional 10-15 years of life into a tired and poorly designed, albeit a clean, safe, and well-maintained structure, that continues to serve as a welcoming haven for nearly 500 students residing in north Hingham.



Although the 2006 Master Plan determined that either a comprehensive renovation or replacement of Foster was required, the East Elementary and Middle School projects were prioritized and pursued first. The most recent renovations have improved the educational experience at Foster

but many facility issues were too costly to address adequately. Several classroom layouts remain problematic and more recent and serious concerns arose relative to some of the building's aging mechanical systems requiring frequent repairs and relocation of students due to inconsistent heat distribution. As a result, the School Committee sought Town-wide support for a long-term solution to these growing challenges.

Based on its past success working with the MSBA on the East Elementary and Middle School projects, Hingham had every reason to be optimistic about being selected for the 2017-2018 round of funding. In anticipation of the MSBA Board vote in December, the SBC began work in late summer engaging Pare Corporation to perform site investigative work using School Department capital funds authorized by the School Committee. The resulting engineering and environmental reports confirmed the Foster site's suitability for future development and prepared the SBC to hit the ground running once given the green light by the MSBA. Unfortunately, Hingham was not selected for the MSBA core grant program's current cycle but was strongly encouraged to re-submit an SOI in spring 2018. The SBC remains optimistic for an MSBA invitation in 2018 and in the meantime, will work with school officials on various preparatory tasks including an enrollment study.

The SBC looks forward to continuing the collaborative effort that resulted in prior successful school building projects and intends to follow the example set by its predecessor committees to provide vigilant oversight, cost control, and attention to detail in the execution of its mandate on behalf of Hingham taxpayers.

Linda Hill, Chair  
Raymond Estes, Vice-Chair  
Christopher Mercer, Secretary  
Kevin Lynch

Jennifer Murphy  
Timothy O'Neill  
Edward Schreier, DDS

## Scholarship Fund Committee

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The Scholarship Committee is charged with the investing of assets on behalf of current and future recipients of the Hingham Scholarship Fund. Scholarship Fund assets at the end of 2017 were \$5,128,185 compared to \$4,376,730 at the end of 2016. These figures include investment returns, deposits of \$200,789 and disbursements for scholarships and administrative fees of \$226,800. If net disbursements are included with investment returns, present and future beneficiaries experienced a return on investments of 17.76% in 2017.

2017 was an excellent year for the major asset classes. The Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate, a broad domestic investment grade bond index returned +3.54%. The S&P 500, an index comprised of the 500 largest US public companies according to market capitalization, returned +21.83%. The Russell 2000 Index, an equity index that includes a broad array of small sized US companies, returned +14.65%. The MSCI EAFE Index, which measures large company equity performance domiciled in developed markets within Europe, Australasia and the Far East returned +25.62%.

The asset mix, approximately 70% equities and 30% bonds & money market equivalents, has been a consistent strategic target of the fund for several years. Given the perpetual nature of the fund's beneficiary interests, the committee continues to feel this mix to be most prudent. The committee voted to provide \$223,000 in scholarship awards in 2017. This amount is consistent with the Fund's Investment Policy Statement, which is to distribute 5% of the average assets over the prior three years, and compares to \$220,000 in 2016 and \$230,000 in 2015. The Town of Hingham authorized this program in 1975. In the subsequent years over \$3 million has been awarded to Hingham High School graduates who successfully complete their first semester of higher learning.

The members of the committee volunteer their time and are listed below. We continue to rely heavily upon the skills and professional acumen of members of the Treasurer's Office for trade implementation and accurate processing of donations and disbursements.

### Appointees

John Fitzsimons, Frank Gaul, Matt McGonagle, Jean Montgomery, Roger Nastou, Adam White

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE TRUST FUNDS  
IN CUSTODY OF THE TREASURER

Scholarship	12/31/16	12/31/17
Rizzotto Memorial .....	22,714	28,362
Cyrus Bacon & Ada W. Bacon .....	30,154	34,938
Orvis K. & May B. Collins .....	64,056	72,319
Amasa J. Whiting .....	31,138	35,211
Second World War Memorial.....	78,125	88,395
Margaret McElroy .....	16,328	18,329
Stuart Macmillan .....	74,171	84,162
Anne Mulholland .....	7,397	8,263
John Lewis Russell .....	19,374	21,944
Caroline Murdock .....	14,600	16,509
Charles (Chuck) Martell .....	36,567	43,462
Francis James Thompson.....	2,573,843	2,884,322
Patricia Lynne Schneider.....	5,493	6,209
Harold L. Downing .....	23,353	26,425
Hingham Theater for Children.....	6,790	7,712
Curtis Chase .....	15,094	17,147
Wallis Lee Chipman .....	8,737	9,859
Russell H. Arkell.....	12,132	13,672
Hingham Basketball Boosters.....	15,697	18,180
Charles Berry .....	6,734	7,584
Edward O. Hornstra .....	20,431	23,009
William J. Laubenstein Jr .....	6,073	6,834
Mary Sheldon.....	8,435	9,466
Robin Karen Kurciviez.....	6,529	7,337
Mary J. Fee.....	5,810	6,543
Jacobs.....	37,093	41,623
John Higgins.....	5,481	6,167
Burditt W. Collins Memorial.....	8,691	9,613
Savini Music.....	7,464	8,363
Stuart Blake & Mary McKay Luce.....	249,113	283,123
Robert V. Barbuto & James C. Silipo.....	22,306	25,112
Herbert W. Farrar Memorial .....	7,067	7,908
Lane W. & Agnes Bryant.....	142,551	159,475
Hingham Taxpayers .....	67,061	75,152
Hingham Band Parents .....	7,144	8,058
Susan/George Burton .....	25,070	28,113
Leroy L. Eldredge.....	21,946	23,948
John Barba .....	24,158	28,411
M. Tilghman Earle.....	27,196	29,827
Lewis J. Ernst .....	15,120	17,153
Joan E. Pyne Memorial .....	8,660	10,251

John Peter Nionakis.....	14,711	16,606
Kids Cabaret .....	3,950	4,416
Rosemary Amoscato Shaughnessy .....	16,943	18,787
Field Hockey Team.....	10,911	12,633
Charles L. Vickery .....	39,185	44,598
Jamin Guarino .....	41,581	47,197
Clifford Family Memorial .....	12,318	14,560
Thomas J. Wallace, Jr & Michelle Wallace .....	13,032	14,808
Gerald M. Collins, M.D. ....	3,546	3,961
Hingham Scholarship Memorial .....	8,139	9,491
Crofoot Trust .....	24,132	26,648
Sam Butterfield.....	11,409	12,679
Gloria O. Lofgren .....	15,157	17,056
Robin Helene Ruben .....	19,312	22,183
Robert L. Goodrich .....	37,753	42,405
Helen S. Wollan .....	7,427	8,595
Former Students of HHS.....	15,149	16,942
Mark S. Gratta Sr Memorial.....	23,502	26,199
Hingham Women's Club .....	18,052	20,339
Corine Cyr Benedict Memorial .....	12,510	14,133
Carol & Ruth Gardner Memorial .....	26,004	29,889
Samantha Hooper Memorial.....	7,341	8,219
Cynthia Steven Scholarship.....	6,061	6,742
Marie Meallo Scholarship .....	12,464	14,185
Keith Ryan Memorial .....	3,982	4,497
Sean Ryan Memorial .....	73,331	83,628
Colarullo Family Scholarship.....	10,133	11,300
Neal Tompkins Memorial .....	82,627	93,019
Christopher J. Orlando Memorial .....	13,447	55,779
Elizabeth Nally Memorial.....	4,311	6,483
Class of 1976 Fritz Hansel Memorial .....	0	4,444
Herbert T. McMeekin, Jr. ....	0	154,179
General Fund .....	<u>2,414</u>	<u>3,094</u>
Total .....	4,376,730	5,128,185

## Shade Tree Committee

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The primary purposes of the Shade Tree Committee are to foster and promote the preservation and planting of shade trees and to support the DPW in the appropriate shade tree species, site selections, and the care of shade trees.

Eighty one shade trees were planted in 2017. A number of these trees were replacements for trees lost due to winter storms and drought related stress factors. We continue to look at those factors that support good tree health to include environmental conditions such as drought and salt tolerance, disease tolerant species, and carefully select the appropriate shade trees for specific planting locations.

Earth Day 2017: The Earth Day celebration was held on April 21 at the Hingham Public Library. Along with the tree planting ceremony (two London Plane Trees) there were a number of activities that made for a special event. Count the tree rings, Touch the Truck, tree puzzle table and library exhibits made for a special week of activities. Linda Harper, Library Director and her team were supportive in every way. Again this year, Selectman Paul Gannon read the Earth Day proclamation.

Arbor Day 2017: The Arbor Day celebration was held on Friday April 28 at the Hingham Middle School. In attendance were members of the Hingham Garden Club, Department of Public Works, Hingham Shade Tree Committee and 8th grade students including the Middle School's Green Team. School Principal Derek Smith hosted the celebration along with the Schools Green Team leaders. Jeff Handrahan and the DPW planted two October Glory Maple trees *Acer Rubrum*, donated by The Garden Club of Hingham. A special treat was the Middle School students reading their Arbor Day poems.

For the twenty-ninth year, Hingham was named "Tree City USA" by the Arbor Day Foundation. This honors Hingham's commitment to effective management, growth and development of public trees in 2017. In addition, Hingham received a Tree City USA Growth Award for demonstrating environmental improvements at a higher level of tree care.

Shade Tree Committee

James Huse  
Barbara Kardok  
Dorothy Manganaro  
Michael Studley

## Veterans' Services

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The Department of Veterans' Services is responsible for administering benefits to qualifying veterans and their dependents under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 115. The Department also assists veterans applying for various State and Federal support programs as well as arranging and managing the Town's military-related ceremonies throughout the year.

The Town's Veterans In Need Fund—funded through *ad hoc* donations as well as contributions accompanying annual excise and quarterly property-tax payments—finished calendar 2017 with slightly more than \$25,100 on hand. Over the Fund's seven-year history, upwards of \$21,100 has been expended to provide emergency shelter, heating, medical, and sustenance support to qualifying veterans and their dependents as recommended by the Veterans' Services Officer and approved by the appointed Veterans' Council.

In April, former Hingham Chief of Police and WWII Army veteran, Raymond C. Campbell, was remembered for his service to his country and community. "Bud," as he was known to many, was awarded four Battle Stars for service in Normandy, the Ardennes, France, and the Rhineland.



*Retired Police Chief Mike Peraino, Selectman Paul Healey,  
Police Chief Glenn Olsson, Ret. Chief Borowski*

The Memorial Day observance was held at Mathew Hawkes Square adjacent to the Town Common. The principal speaker was Hingham native, Colonel Richard John Harries III, USMC. The Colonel had trained as an Infantry Officer and later as a Naval Aviator, where he flew over 3000 hours in the F/A-18 Hornet. Following the officials' remarks, Town Clerk Eileen McCracken read the names of those (83) Hingham veterans who had passed since Memorial Day 2016. Wreaths were laid in honor of all those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, as high school student Michael Hill sounded TAPS on his trumpet.

The Foss Memorial Committee completed its collaborative effort with MassDOT, memorializing Hingham's Medal of Honor recipient, Seaman Herbert L. Foss, with a bronze sculpture and plaque dedicated in June at the new Hingham Shipyard intermodal facility.

In October, as has been the custom for many years, the Town remembered the 146<sup>th</sup> birthday of Seaman Foss with a wreath-laying ceremony at his Fort Hill Cemetery gravesite. During the same month, Hingham was selected to host a first-of-its-kind, town hall-style forum for veterans of the South Shore. Many VA healthcare and benefit issues were brought to the attention of our local legislators and to the Secretary of Veterans' Services during this well-attended, televised event.

The Veterans' Day observance at Sanborn Auditorium featured our own Director of Veterans' Services, Keith Jermyn. Currently serving in the U.S. Navy Seabees 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Jermyn has participated in numerous combat operations around the globe. The Senior Chief spoke about how honored he is to serve the nearly 2,000 veterans and dependents who call Hingham home and his advocacy for all who have served this great nation. During the ceremony, U.S. Army Korean War veteran, Herman Messmer, was named Veteran of the Year for his years of service to the Town and to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, which he commanded for many years.

The Department wishes to thank the Board of Selectmen, the Interim Town Administrator, the Town Accountant, the Veterans' Council and all the Town's citizens and youth groups, who have provided such strong support to our veterans and their dependents throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Keith A. Jermyn, Director

## Water Supply Committee

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The Hingham Water Supply Committee was established by Town Meeting in 1946. Its members are appointed by the Town Moderator. Its original charter was to investigate the feasibility of acquiring the private water company then known as the Hingham Water Company, and to report to the Town on the costs and benefits of undertaking such action. In 2004 Town Meeting revised the Committee's role to include advising the Town on water-supply matters more generally. The Committee also continues to serve as liaison between the Town and Aquarion Water Co, the private water company that serves as the current water-supply operator.

In that connection, the Water Supply Committee conducted several public meetings over the past year. Each meeting featured a presentation from Aquarion and lively discussions of various water-company-related issues: Aquarion's capital investments and capital improvement plans, the system's water-distribution challenges, leak-detection efforts, investigation of supplemental sources of water supply, water rates and tariffs, Aquarion's public outreach and customer communication programs, the water balance program operated by the company for new real estate developments, and others.

Several discussions focused on water conservation efforts, including outdoor watering restrictions and the manner in which they were administered. Those efforts, abetted by an aggressive leak-detection and repair program and the return of our local climate for most of the year to more nearly normal rainfall levels, contributed to holding the system's average daily water withdrawal to approximately 3.16 million gallons per day -- down slightly from 2016's 3.18 MGD and significantly better than the system's registered limit of 3.51 MGD under the state Water Management Act. (It should be noted that the modest reduction in water use was achieved in spite of carrying out the flushing project described below.) Another consequence of reduced water use was to take some pressure off efforts to secure alternative sources of supply for the future. Current forecasts for the Town's growth and water use indicate that the supply should be adequate to accommodate the Town's needs through 2031.

Information on many of the matters discussed, as well as copies of some of Aquarion's presentations, can be found in the minutes of the meetings and elsewhere on the Town of Hingham website ([www.hingham-ma.gov/469](http://www.hingham-ma.gov/469)).

Operational highlights for 2017 included, along with the matters mentioned above, a complete system-wide flushing of water mains, designed to dislodge particulate matter (typically iron and manganese deposits) and eliminate corresponding water discoloration. Major projects planned for 2018 include rehabilitating the system's Accord Tank. Doing so will involve emptying the tank, sandblasting off its current coating inside and out, and then repainting it, all at a cost of approximately \$800,000. The project is expected to be completed and the tank restored to service by late Spring, in time for the greater demands of the Summer months.

Other significant developments in 2017 included Aquarion's application for a general rate increase, filed in May with the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities. The original filing requested DPU approval for an increase of approximately 14.7%, which was described as likely, if approved, to produce an increase of approximately \$9 per month in the typical residential customer bill. (Note that the requested overall increase in rates was reduced in a later, amended filing to 13.3%. Assuming a more or less proportional impact on average monthly residential customer bills, that lesser rate hike would cause a correspondingly smaller increase – say, \$8.15 per month -- in the typical bill.)

On the corporate front, the major news was the acquisition of the Aquarion Water Company – which operates water systems in Connecticut and New Hampshire as well as our own local water company – by Eversource Energy, the large electricity and natural gas utility created in 2012 by the merger of NSTAR and Northeast Utilities. Eversource, the largest energy supplier in New England, serves approximately 3.7 million electricity and gas customers in Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Hampshire. Both Eversource and Aquarion issued numerous press releases and other public communications assuring customers and the general public that the transaction was not expected to produce any material changes in the manner in which they would conduct Aquarion's water-system operations.

Meanwhile, the Town's own effort to investigate acquiring the local water company's assets, begun four years ago, continues. The Water Supply Committee has no direct role in the acquisition study or the related legal proceedings, but shares with the rest of the Town an interest in the outcome of the project. Meanwhile, the committee remains committed to monitoring water company operations and looking after the Town's interests in its water supply.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Doran  
Ron Kirven

Sam Mullin, Chair  
Kirk Shilts, Secretary

Melissa Bower Smith  
Adam White

## Weir River Estuary Park Committee

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Hingham shares the Weir River estuary – from Foundry Pond and World’s End to Sunset Point and Straits Pond – with Hull and Cohasset. Since December 1986, this estuary has been a State-designated **ACEC** (Area of Critical Environmental Concern).

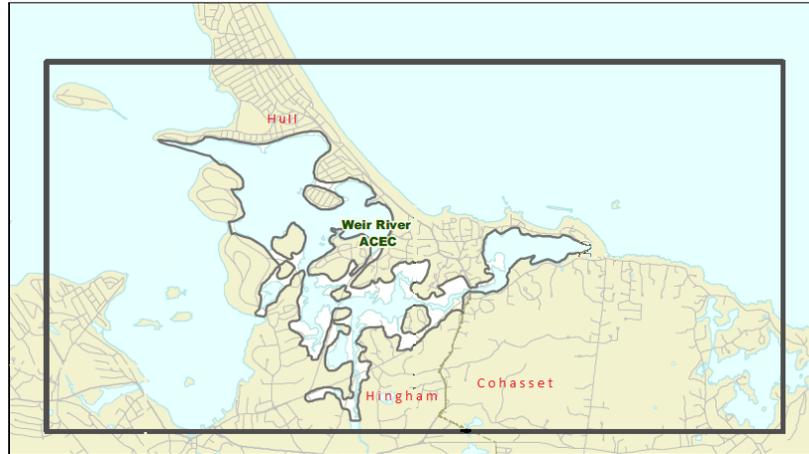
Our purpose is to support the three towns’ Master and Open Space Plans as advocates for habitat and land protection, promote stewardship through respectful recreation and education, and encourage water quality improvement. The Selectmen in each town appoint up to three members; meetings are held at Hingham Town Hall or the Estuary Center at 333 George Washington Blvd.

One member from each town must be present for a quorum. In 2017, WREPComm voted to meet up to five times during the year. Agendas are posted per MA Open Meeting Law standards. You’ll find a Paddle Guide, the proposed bicycle path map, the Land Protection Plan (LPP), a map of the ACEC, minutes, annual report and members on our page at Hingham’s website. We hope you’ll ‘Like’ our Facebook page and the links, photos and videos posted there.



*Lyford’s Lyking: Two Conservation parcels abutting Bonnie Briar Circle.*

At an estimated 950 acres, this estuary is similar in size to the Weymouth Back River ACEC, where most of the uplands are managed by two towns: Great Esker Park in Weymouth and Hingham's Bare Cove and More-Brewer parks. While some parcels in the Weir River ACEC are town-owned or protected, most of the land abutting this estuary is in private hands.



For more details see <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/weir-river-acec>

Flood plains of this estuarine system provide protection. The acreage here is able support over 100 migratory and resident bird species, as well as numerous small mammals. Historically, the marshes and flats were nursery and feeding areas for a wide variety of finfish, such as alewives, smelt, flounder, bluefish and striped bass; an abundance of shellfish were harvested. Development pressure is intense; populations of local species are reduced. WREPComm members collaborate with the Conservation Commissions, Harbormasters, neighbors, watershed associations, land trusts, MA Coastal Zone Management (CZM) and the MA ACEC Program.

In 2017, Mother Nature brought some relief from the drought of the last four years. Aquarian implemented water restrictions; public awareness and concern about the stressed Weir River Watershed also helped.

Hingham Conservation Officer Loni Fournier used funds approved by April 24<sup>th</sup>'s Town Meeting to repair the signs at both entrances to Foundry Pond and for new signs at Sidney's Pond and 60 GWB. She also arranged for the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project (PCMCP) crew to do some Chapter 252 ditch maintenance to improve water-flow at the culvert at 118 Kilby St; PCMCP was already in the neighborhood doing similar work, across Rockland St. at Amonte Meadow.

At the annual Spring Clean-up on April 29<sup>th</sup>, the Straits Pond Watershed Assoc. (SPWA) had over fifty people, including many new faces, ready to work at the pond! Other volunteers focused on the Estuary Center in Hull and picked-up roadside trash on Hingham's Rockland and Kilby streets. Special thanks to the Allen, Bibby and Sarni families, estuary neighbors who regularly maintain our Foundry Pond, Sidney's Pond, and Amonte Meadow properties, respectively, throughout the year.

On August 23<sup>rd</sup>, Hull's Conservation Administrator Chris Krahforst joined CZM's Jason Burtner at a packed SPWA Annual Meeting to report exciting news: Straits Pond is recovering – faster than expected – from decades of degradation due to human activities. Judeth Van Hamm continued to finalize the Conservation Restriction at the end of Richards Rd. for a future path out to Hull-owned Straits Pond Island and on to Eastman Rd.



*An ocean double and two coxed-quads from Hingham Maritime Center, set to race 'windmill-to-windmill' at the 31<sup>st</sup> Head of the Weir regatta*

Along with the Spring Clean-up, members continue to watch for any additional parcels listed in the LPP that become available for protection or purchase, and participate at various pertinent meetings in the towns.

WREPComm Co-chairs: Dick Avery, (Cohasset), Patti Coyle (Hingham), and Judeth Van Hamm (Hull). Members: latest addition Tom Bell (Cohasset), Dave Sibor (Hingham) and Scott Plympton (Hull).

## Town Accountant/Finance Director

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To the Citizens of the Town of Hingham, Massachusetts:

The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the year ended June 30, 2017 for the Town of Hingham, Massachusetts is hereby submitted for your consideration.

State law requires the Town of Hingham to publish at the close of each year a complete set of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) that are audited in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards by a firm of licensed certified public accountants.

This report consists of management's representations concerning the finances of the Town. Consequently, management assumes full responsibility for the completeness and reliability of all of the information presented in this report. To provide a reasonable basis for making these representations, management of the Town has established a comprehensive internal control framework that is designed to both protect the Town's assets from loss, theft, or misuse and to compile sufficient reliable information for the preparation of the Town's financial statements in conformity with GAAP. As management, we assert that this financial report is complete and reliable in all material respects.

The CAFR is designed to be used by the elected and appointed officials of Hingham in addition to those entities concerned with the Town's management and development including credit rating agencies, bond analysts, investors and financial institutions. The format of the report enables the Town to present complex financial data in a manner that is easier for citizens and taxpayers of the Town of Hingham to review and understand.

The Town of Hingham's financial statements have been audited by Powers & Sullivan, LLC a firm of licensed certified public accountants. The goal of the independent audit was to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements of the Town of Hingham for the year ended June 30, 2017 are free of material misstatement. The independent audit involved examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management; and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. The independent auditor concluded, based upon the audit, that there was a reasonable basis for rendering an unmodified opinion on the Town of Hingham's financial

statements for the year ended June 30, 2017 and that they are fairly presented in conformity with GAAP. The independent auditor's report is presented as the first component of the financial section of this report.

The independent audit of the financial statements of the Town of Hingham was part of a broader, federally mandated "Single Audit" designed to meet the special needs of Federal grantor agencies. The standards governing Single Audit engagements require the independent auditor to report not only on the fair presentation of the financial statements, but also on the audited government's internal controls and compliance with legal requirements, with special emphasis on internal controls and legal requirements involving the administration of Federal awards. These reports are available in the Town of Hingham's separately issued Single Audit Report.

GAAP requires that management provide a narrative introduction, overview, and analysis to accompany the basic financial statements in the form of Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A). This letter of transmittal is designed to complement the MD&A and should be read in conjunction with it. The Town of Hingham's MD&A can be found immediately following the report of the independent auditors.

### **Profile of the Town of Hingham**

This CAFR includes all of the operational departments of the Town. The Hingham Housing Authority is not included in the reporting entity because they do not meet the criteria for inclusion. The Hingham Public Library, the Lincoln Apartments, LLC, and the Hingham Contributory Retirement System are included in this report as component units, with the Hingham Public Library and the Lincoln Apartments, LLC being presented as discrete units, and the Hingham Contributory Retirement System being presented as a fiduciary fund within the statement of fiduciary net position.

The Town of Hingham is a seacoast community located approximately 20 miles southeast of downtown Boston. Primarily an established single family community, Hingham has several historic village districts and more recent single family subdivisions that were constructed within the last 40 years.

The Town provides general government services including police and fire protection, disposal of rubbish, public education, streets, recreation and a municipal golf course (The South Shore Country Club). The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) provides certain sewer services to the Town. A municipal sewer system serves approximately 27% of the

households of the Town. The Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant, a self-supporting enterprise, provides electric power to the Town, while the Aquarion Water Company of Massachusetts, a private firm, provides water services to the Town. The Hingham Housing Authority maintains housing for elderly and handicapped residents. In addition, the Town has a Department of Elder Services to service senior citizens with various programs as well as outreach projects. Bus services are provided by the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority and connect to established stations of the Authority.

Several recreational programs are provided among the parks located throughout the Town, in addition to significant beach and swimming facilities. Bare Cove Park contains 468 acres and was a former federal ammunition depot. It is mostly in its original pristine condition with many trees and forests and is adjacent to the scenic Back River. It provides walking and bicycle trails, nature studies, picnic facilities and other items of interest.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts maintains Wompatuck State Park in the Towns of Hingham and Cohasset containing 3,509 acres, of which 2,047 acres are in Hingham. In addition to the facilities provided by Bare Cove Park, it offers hiking trails in the summer which become cross country skiing trails in the winter, and extensive camping facilities are provided.

The principal services provided by the County are court facilities, a jail and house of correction and registry of deeds and probate.

The three member elected Board of Selectmen is the administrative authority; however, the Town has a diverse government with many elected and autonomous boards and committees. A Town Administrator is appointed by the Selectmen and is responsible for day to day administration.

### **Factors Affecting Economic and Financial Condition**

Unemployment rates in Massachusetts continue to fall below the state and national percentages. The Town traditionally has a more stable employment profile than the state or the nation, and has maintained this consistency over the past decade.

The Town's population has modestly increased in the nineties, after having declined through most of the late eighties, and over the past decade we have seen movement up and down. There is a parallel impact in school enrollment, which declined through the late eighties and then increased

11% during the nineties. Over the past ten years the town's population has increased approximately 5% while school enrollment has increased 12%.

### **Long-term Financial Planning**

The Finance Director along with the financial officers, which consist of the Town Accountant, the Treasurer/Collector, and the Director of Assessing work closely with the Board of Selectmen, Advisory Committee, Capital Outlay Committee and Department Heads to develop short-term and long-term financial goals and to address the financial stability of the Town.

### **Major Initiatives**

Since the mid 1990's the Town has consistently made capital expenditures a high priority. In the early 2000's due to economic conditions and budget restraints the amount of capital spending has been reduced from normal levels of \$2-\$3 million annually. The Town expects to be able to appropriate capital spending in the \$2-\$2.3 million range for 2017.

### **Financial Information**

**Financial Management.** The Advisory Committee, Board of Selectmen and School Committee have adopted a Financial Policy. It is a comprehensive statement covering financial management, capital expenditures and debt service. The purpose of the Policy is to stabilize tax rates and control expenditures. It is expected to give guidance to the preparation, review and approval of budgets.

The Policy recommends that Available Reserves (Unassigned Fund Balance) be maintained at a level of no less than 16% and no more than 20% of total annual appropriations. Each year that Available Reserves increase, any excess of the above level should be available for spending or for tax reductions.

**Internal Controls.** Management of the Town is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure designed to ensure the assets of the Town are protected from loss, theft or misuse and to ensure that accurate accounting data is compiled to allow for the preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. The Town Administrator and the fiscal team are responsible for evaluating the adequacy and effectiveness of the internal control structure and implementing improvements. Because the cost of internal controls should not outweigh their benefits, the Town of

Hingham's comprehensive framework of internal controls has been designed to provide reasonable rather than absolute assurance that the financial statements will be free of material misstatement.

The Town voted at the Annual Town Meeting held on April 27, 2010 to establish an Audit Committee. The Committee shall assist in the selection and monitoring of an independent auditing firm to conduct annual audits of the financial statements of the Town. The Committee will supervise and review the conduct of the audit and the auditor's relationship with the Town.

**Budgetary Controls.** The Town Administrator is responsible for the preparation of the executive budget and initiates the process with the development of a five-year financial forecast and budget guidelines for the coming year. The various boards prepare the budgets for departments under their jurisdiction. The Town Administrator reviews all budgets and recommendations are submitted to the Board of Selectmen. The 15 member Advisory Committee reviews the budgets approved by the Board of Selectmen; attempts to resolve any differences and then prepares the annual budget recommendations to the Town Meeting, which is the body that has final approval authority. Once approved, the budgets are controlled at the department level with the Town Accountant approving all payrolls and invoices. The Advisory Committee, based on a recommendation of the Board of Selectmen, may approve subsequent transfers from a reserve fund.

The Treasurer/Collector is responsible for all of the Town's cash and investments, debt management and payment of invoices. The Assessors set the tax rate and commit the real estate taxes, personal property taxes and motor vehicle excise taxes to the Treasurer/Collector for collection. About 99% of all real estate taxes are collected during the year of billing with the remaining 1% collected the following year. This efficiency greatly aids the Treasurer/Collector in not only reducing or avoiding temporary loans but also maximizing investment potential.

The Treasurer/Collector, in common with other towns as a result of permissive legislation, changed from a semi-annual billing system to a quarterly billing system in 1992. This change has not only eliminated the need for temporary borrowings, which were costing the Town \$150,000 per year, but also provided temporary excess cash beyond immediate needs which is available for short-term investment.

In addition to approval authority over all disbursements, the Town Accountant is responsible for providing accurate and timely estimates of

the Town's current and future financial position to the Town Administrator. Also, the Town Accountant holds quarterly budget review meetings with departments to ensure they are within their approved budgeted appropriation.

The Finance Director holds quarterly meetings with the Town's financial officers to establish goals and objectives and to review monthly reports of comparison of budgeted revenues and expenditures with actual.

### **Other Information**

Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the Town of Hingham for its CAFR for the year ended June 30, 2016. This was the twenty-first consecutive year that the government has achieved this prestigious award. In order to be awarded the Certificate of Achievement, a governmental unit (state, county, district, or town) must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized Comprehensive Annual Financial Report whose contents conform to program standards established by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA). Such reports must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and applicable legal requirements. A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year only. We believe that our current comprehensive annual financial report continues to meet the Certificate of Achievement program's requirements, and we are submitting it to the GFOA to determine its eligibility for another certificate.

**Independent Audit.** The financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2017 were audited by the public accounting firm of Powers & Sullivan, LLC. The financial statements have received an "unmodified opinion" from the auditors. An "unmodified opinion" is the best opinion which a governmental unit can receive. It indicates that the financial statements were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and that they are fairly presented in all material aspects.

Additionally, the Town is required to have a single audit, under the requirements of the Single Audit Act of 1984, of all Federal programs, as prescribed in the audit requirements of Title 2 *U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (the Uniform Guidance).

## Acknowledgments

A special gratitude is owed to Michael Nelligan and James Powers, partners at Powers & Sullivan, LLC, whose attention to the 2017 financial statements was invaluable. We want to express our appreciation to the accounting personnel, Steve Becker, Susan Noone, Lynn Phillips, and Bonnie Jones for their invaluable assistance with the preparation of this CAFR; and to Kate Richardsson (IT Department) for her work on the cover design. We wish to acknowledge their efforts, and the efforts of all the Town departments that assisted in the production of the final report.

Cordially yours,



Ted C. Alexiades, CPFO  
Town Administrator/Finance Director



Susan M. Nickerson  
Town Accountant

## Treasurer/Collector

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Balance in the Treasury July 1, 2016.....77, 056,669  
-Total Receipts for Fiscal Year 2017.....169,986,919  
-Total Paid on Selectmen warrants.....(160,096,011)  
Balance in the Treasury June 30, 2017 ..... 86,947,577

Investment Return for all accounts.....2,246,843

During Fiscal Year 2017 the Collector's Office processed the following warrants for collection:

2017 Real Estate Tax .....	77,959,770
2017 Community Preservation Surcharge .....	1,028,359
2017 Personal Property Tax .....	1,246,178
2017 Boat Excise Tax .....	77,591
2017 Motor Vehicle Tax .....	4,196,226
2016 Motor Vehicle Tax .....	464,048
2014 Motor Vehicle Tax.....	577
Betterments-Paid in Advance .....	92,170
Sewer Betterments & Committed Interest .....	179,500
Title 5 Betterments & Committed Interest .....	2,566
Sewer Use Liens .....	127,578
Payments in Lieu of Taxes .....	<u>613,443</u>
Total .....	85,988,006

Tax collections remain strong with ninety-nine percent of real estate and personal property revenue collected by fiscal year end. 46,700 bills were issued to collect real estate, personal property, and excise tax. Taxes accounted for seventy-six percent of general fund revenues in FY 17.

There were nine new tax liens secured in 2017. The practice of pursuing tax lien collection in house rather than selling or assigning liens to an outside party is still preferred. By applying consistently enforced collection measures and working directly with taxpayers the Treasurer's office collected \$278,522 in tax lien revenue which 24.5% or \$68,336 was payment of interest and fees accruing to the benefit of the general fund.

In addition, the Town has several foreclosure cases currently pending in Land Court.

The total outstanding long term debt as of December 31<sup>st</sup> was \$67,260,842. Details related to the Town's outstanding debt obligation

can be found in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFRA) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017.

In May of 2017 a competitive sale was held for the issuance of a \$10.9m Note. The winning bid of 1.1 % on the one year note was submitted by JP Morgan Securities. The note was related to several projects including Lincoln School Apartments, Hingham Heritage Museum, Lehner Property acquisition, road improvements and the South Shore Country Club's carts and utility vehicles.

I wish to thank the staff in the Treasurer/Collector's office for their continued dedicated service - Lori-Ann Magner, Nancy Leahy, Linda Kelley and Regina Ledwick. Our office welcomed our newest employee Marijane Deitsch and extended our sincerest best wishes to our former employee, Jacquie Berard, who assumed her new position as Assistant Town Clerk.

Jean M. Montgomery  
Treasurer/Collector

TRUST FUNDS/GIFT ACCOUNTS IN CUSTODY OF THE TREASURER  
As of December 31, 2017

Trust Fund	12/31/2016	12/31/2017
375th Anniversary .....	12,112.....	12,780
4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade .....	113,701.....	112,266
Affordable Housing Trust .....	701,535.....	1, 623,655
Aid to Elderly/Disabled (Tax Bill Checkoff) .....	14,143.....	18,773
Buttonwood Tree .....	760.....	802
Dr. Margaret Long Memorial .....	64,238.....	67,779
Education Fund (Tax Bill Checkoff) .....	16,931.....	18,753
Foundry Pond .....	7,252.....	7,652
Greenbush Historic Preservation Projects.....	1,417,985.....	1,338,172
Group Insurance Trust .....	1,002,269.....	863,386
Hannah Lincoln Whiting.....	15,893.....	15,751
Hingham Federal Withholding .....	6,241.....	6,585
Hingham High School Fields Projects.....	119,487.....	151,541
Hingham War Memorial .....	7,987.....	8,427
Light Customer Deposit .....	1,690,284.....	1,715,662
Light Depreciation .....	6,959,061.....	8,542,548
Light OPEB Trust.....	1,773,986.....	1,877,209
Light Reserve Stranded Cost.....	5,326,707.....	5,952,053
Meals Tax Stabilization .....	1,443,102.....	1,006,864
More-Brewer.....	87,699.....	92,534
MWRA I&I Grant/Loan.....	107,860.....	36,080
Open Space Conservation .....	131,579.....	113,558
Preservation Projects.....	128,660.....	138,015
Scholarship Fund*.....	4,376,730.....	5,128,185
Stabilization .....	905,797.....	2,913,559
Town OPEB Trust.....	8,490,314.....	10,856,734
USLST War Memorial.....	1,932.....	2,038
Veterans Council Beneficial Gift Account .....	10,249.....	14,151
Veterans in Need (Tax Bill Checkoff) .....	23,036.....	27,559
 Total .....	 34,957,530.....	 42,663,070

\*See Scholarship Committee Report for individual scholarship balances

## Board of Assessors

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It is the responsibility of the Assessors' Office to establish current fair market value for all of the properties in the Town of Hingham. The Massachusetts Department of Revenue mandates that every city/town fully update its property assessments each fiscal year to reflect the current fair market value. Every three years, the DOR audits the Board of Assessors records and procedures for certification. This includes an intense examination of all of Hingham's assessment policies and procedures. In 2017, we received our Triennial Certification approval and our tax rate was approved by the DOR in plenty of time for the mailing of the January tax bill.

In addition to the real property valuations, the Assessors' Office maintains records on taxable personal property, boat and motor vehicles excise tax files. All applications for deferrals, personal exemptions, community preservation exemptions, and abatement requests for real property, personal property, boat and motor vehicle excise taxes can be obtained from and must be filed with the Assessors' Office. The Assessor's Office updates all property ownerships according to the recorded deed transactions which are received from the Registry of Deeds. Hingham consists of approximately 8700 parcels, so there are many transactions that take place. They also process plans and corrections to update the Assessor's maps as well as research property ownership and assist other town departments in the performance of their duties.

As part of the revaluation process, the sales for 2016 were analyzed. The ratio of the assessment to the sales price is calculated and Hingham's ratio for Fiscal Year 18 is 95%. The fiscal 2018 tax rate is \$11.77, down 48 cents from last year. The average assessment for single family homes is \$806,180.00 up from last year's average of \$749,950.00. The average assessment for condominiums is \$610,584, up from last year's average of \$578,586.00

The Assessors' Office continues to participate in the Senior Work Off program which has been a great success for everyone involved. We are fortunate to have two terrific volunteers while they earn a real estate tax credit for their invaluable service to our office. They assist our office in a variety of ways and we are grateful that they participate in such a worthwhile program.

Bill Fennelly, who has been a valued member of our board is leaving his position this year. He will be greatly missed by the board members and

the staff as he was a wealth of knowledge. This will open a new opportunity for someone to fill his shoes.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Rick and his staff for a successful 2017.

Stuart G. Hall, Chairman  
Michael Shaughnessy  
William Fennessey

## Hingham Contributory Retirement System

There are 104 contributory retirement systems within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. These systems have accepted the provisions of Sections 1-28 (contributory sections), Chapter 32, Massachusetts General Laws. As a result of this acceptance, all systems, although operating independently, are bound together under one uniform retirement law.

The Annual Report for 2017 contains the system's financial statements as well as membership statistics listing new members enrolled, members that were retired and members who died in 2017.

Susan M. Nickerson, Chairman & ex-officio	(2/4/2011- )
Charles J. Cristello, Appointed Member	(7/1/2015-2018)
Robert J. Mansfield, Elected Member	(7/1/2017-2020)
Jean M. Montgomery, Elected Member	(7/30/2016-2019)
James P. Costello, Appointed Member	(6/23/2015-2018)

### **Contributory Retirement System Trial Balance as of December 31, 2017 (Pre-Close)**

#### **ASSETS**

Cash – Citizens Bank	102,570.60
Checking – Citizens Bank	0.00
Cash Fund (PRIT)	281.83
General Allocation Account (PRIT)	118,810,610.81

Accounts Receivable	51,944.67
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<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>118,965,407.91</b>
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#### **LIABILITIES**

Accounts Payable	-5,909.62
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<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>-5,909.62</b>
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**FUND BALANCES**

Annuity Fund	-27,214,612.97
Annuity Reserve Fund	-6,460,600.00
Military Service Fund	-13,908.10
Pension Fund	-4,233,447.64
Pension Reserve Fund	-64,174,554.34
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>-102,097,123.05</b>

**REVENUES**

Investment Income	-3,087,081.16
Miscellaneous Income	0.00
Workers' Compensation Settlements	0.00
Realized Gain	-4,720,330.22
Realized Loss	138,141.09
Unrealized Gain	-10,800,881.68
Unrealized Loss	121,401.58
Contrib. received for Military Service	0.00
Member Deductions	-2,910,714.53
Transfers from other Systems	-43,637.74
Members' Make-Ups and Re-Deposits	-19,952.42
Pension Fund Appropriation	-4,758,538.00
Federal Grant Reimbursement	-6,626.70
3(8)(c) Reimb. From other Systems	-221,265.83
Received from Commonwealth COLA	-38,677.02
Member Payments from Rollovers	-25,036.51
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>-26,373,199.14</b>

**DISBURSEMENTS**

Staff Salaries	57,989.08
Management Fees	573,457.88
Consultant Fees	25,750.00
Legal Expenses	11,815.00
Fiduciary Insurance	5,736.00
Service Contracts	53,730.00
Professional Services	9,000.00
Actuarial Services	0.00
Education and Training	1,750.00
Administrative Expenses	18,999.47
Furniture and Equipment	0.00
Travel	1,055.01
Annuities Paid	1,427,443.90
Pensions Paid	5,743,712.16
COLA's Paid	1,038,123.69
3(8)(c) Reimb. to other Systems	206,735.71

Transfers to other Systems	98,513.93
Refunds to Members	237,012.07
Option B Refunds	0.00
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>9,510,823.90</b>

**NEW MEMBERS 2017**

Alaina Barry	Christopher Keenan
Thomas Betschart	Shayla Keenan
Jennifer Britt	Alice Korey
Caroline Carver	Christopher Kourafas
Seth Coburn	Christine Kuehberger
Amy Conboy	Brent Kuripla
Emily Curtin	Mark Linehan
Laura Davidson-Kennedy	Bryan Lobianco
Catherine Davis	Matthew Maggio
Lisa Devine	Colin McGinnis
Thomas Duggan	Cory McKeever
Ashley Elliot	Sarah McMahan
Deborah Fassl	Arunas Milisaukas
Robert Feldmann	Erik Minnaert
Brian Fernandes	William Modestino
Kevin Fitzgerald	Thomas Molinari
Jerome Ford	Arlene Moynihan
Rebecca Gagne	Jennifer Napolitano
Kelly Gill	Sydney Nutall
Melinda Grabowski	Patricia O'Rourke
Christopher Groleau	Jordan Oster
Kali Hamel	Laura Patnaude
Nicole Harrison	Michelle Pearson
Horatio Hemmings	Louis Pires
Stephen Henderson	Ashley Sanford
Stephanie Higgins	Susan Sarni
Angela Hoey	Katherine Shaughnessy
Suzanne Hoffses	Jessica Sinanan
Aimee Holbrook	Colleen Squatrito
Aksana Holmes	Robby St. John
Elizabeth Ingoldsby	Siobhan Sullivan

Richard	Jean Baptiste	Abigail	Theis
Katelyn	Joyal	Jeffrey	Weimer

**RETIRED MEMBERS 2017**

Theodore C Alexiades	Elaine M Foley
Judith A Beausejour	Lawrence J Hallahan
Anita L Brooks	Richard M Larocco
Bruce T Capman	John J. Norris
David J Damstra	Elizabeth A Parker
John C Deluca Jr	Bradley John Shaw
	Marie Elizabeth Terman

**DECEASED MEMBERS 2017**

Barry	Marjorie	Grassie	Mary
Bird	Norma	Landry	Charles
Callahan	John	Linscott	Gerard
Daigger	Helen	McDonald	Michael
Dolan	George	Tower	Betty
Eldredge	LeRoy	Watts	Jasper

**MEMBERSHIP STATISTIC REPORT 2017**

<b>Active Membership Dec 31, previous year</b>	<b>667</b>
<b>Inactive Membership Dec 31, previous year</b>	<b>188</b>
Enrolled during current year	66
Transfers between groups	0
Reinstatements of disabled members	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>66</b>
Deduct	
Death	13
Withdrawal	19
Retirements	13
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Active Membership Dec. 31, current year</b>	<b>711</b>
<b>Inactive Membership Dec. 31, current year</b>	<b>171</b>
<b>Retired Beneficiary, and Survivor Membership, Dec. 31, previous year</b>	<b>317</b>
Retirements during the year:	
Superannuation	12
Ordinary disability	0

Accidental disability	0
Termination Retirement Allowance	0
Beneficiary of Deceased Retiree	3
Survivor benefits from active membership	1
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>16</b>
Deduct	
Deaths of retired member's	11
Termination of Survivors Benefits	6
Reinstatement of disabled pensions	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Retired Membership Dec. 31, current year</b>	
Superannuation	269
Ordinary disability	0
Accidental disability	10
Termination	0
Beneficiaries from accidental deaths	7
Beneficiaries from Section 100	0
Beneficiaries from Section 101	3
Beneficiaries under Option (C)	16
Option (D) Survivor Allowance	12
Section 12B Survivor Allowance	0
<b>Total Retired, Beneficiary and Survivor Membership, Dec. 31, current year</b>	<b>317</b>
<b><u>TOTAL MEMBERSHIP</u></b>	
<b>Active, Inactive, Retired, Beneficiary and Survivor, Dec. 31, current year</b>	<b>1,199</b>