

Annual Report



Town of Hingham 2015

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Report compiled and edited by Sharon Perfetti
Cover Design by Kate Richardsson, IT

This is Your Town

www.hingham-ma.gov



USN LST Hingham Shipyard

Area	22.59 Square Miles
Shore Line	21 Miles
Population	22,368
Registered Voters	16,768
Dem. 3,999; Rep. 3,126; Unenrolled, 9,538; Other, 105	
Number of Houses, including Condos	7249
Assessed Value	
Real Property	\$6,076,591,660
Personal Property	\$98,762,540
Tax Rate	\$12.49
Schools	6
Public School Children, PreK-12	4,328
Professional Staff	369
Support Staff	308
Total FY2016 Town Budget (includes Capital)	\$98,088,561
Total FY2016 School Budget (includes Capital)	\$46,402,200

State Senator
Norfolk-Plymouth
Robert Hedlund
State House,
Rm. 313C
Boston, MA 02133
617-722-7646

State Rep.
Third Plymouth Dist.
Precincts 1,3,4,5,5A,6
Garrett Bradley
State House, Rm. 478
Boston, MA 02133
617-722-2520

State Rep.
Fourth Norfolk Dist.
Precinct 2
James Murphy
State House, Rm. 443
Boston, MA 02133
617-722-2460



Mary Power, Paul Healey, Paul Gannon

Board of Selectmen

2015 in Hingham ushered in an unprecedented winter season with over 100 inches of snow. Our community rose to the challenge and our residents, Town employees and contractors alike all worked tirelessly to weather the snow. Our special thanks to the Police and Fire departments for their great work during this difficult time.

Our Town's Aaa bond rating remains intact and we continue to exercise prudence in our spending. We have seen earlier periods of expansive growth leveling off along with the underlying revenues. In the face of continued expectations for the high level of services that Hingham has come to expect, the Board of Selectmen has sent an unequivocal message of heightened fiscal restraint in the budget process. Faced with looming capital improvements to replace aging infrastructure, the Board has encouraged a town-wide conversation to examine how best to address and prioritize the growing needs of the Fire Department, the Schools, the Senior Center, the Police Department, as well as the needs of the Recreation Department and Town Hall. As always, we're optimistic about the future, but recognize the need to approach these matters realistically.

To that end, in November 2015, we revived the Town Forum and provided a platform for the conversation on how best to approach these growing infrastructure needs. The discourse was respectful and thoughtful. Issues of consequence were addressed and a free exchange of views gave all of our citizens the opportunity to weigh in with their concerns and questions.

In line with this, and in response to a steadily growing chorus of concerns raised by our residents on the condition of our roadways, the Board has proposed an aggressive initiative designed to increase the number of streets to be repaired and upgraded by the Department of Public Works. Working with contractors to upgrade existing subsurface utility, our goal overall is to provide a network of streets within Hingham that are safe to travel on, both for vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

We have likewise engaged Design Consultants Inc. to provide a detailed engineering study on the Summer Street Corridor with an eye towards moving forward on changes to vehicle and pedestrian traffic in the Harbor area. The Town also continues to examine the consequences of the 2012 FEMA flood maps which speak to potential adverse impacts to residents, commercial businesses and Town properties. We are in the process of examining a study speaking to the seawalls in our harbor's waterfront areas, examining both resiliency and restoration.

Consistent with the 2015 ATM vote, the Board continues to work towards executing a long term lease with the Hingham Maritime Center for Barnes Wharf. We anticipate a warrant article at this year's 2016 ATM for approval of a building at the waterfront calculated to enhance the beneficial use of the waterfront for our citizenry. We are pleased to announce that substantial grant funding has been secured for this initiative. Our special thanks to the hard work of the Engineering Department, Roger Fernandes, the Harbor Development Committee, the Bathing Beach Trustees and our Town Administrator.

The development potential in the Derby Street Corridor area continues to be examined by the South Hingham Working Group. Formed in 2013, the SHWG has held numerous public meetings and has solicited the input of the stakeholders and interested residents. Interest in this issue is robust and all interested parties have substantively contributed to the consideration of the issues. The examination reveals both the constraints and the opportunities that exist for future development. The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MA DOT) has also approved the proposed work on the Derby Street corridor, as well as the Whiting/Derby Street intersection. It is anticipated that the construction

work will be concurrent so as to minimize the disruptive effect of this undertaking. Our thanks to Roger Fernandes for his dedication and effort on this, as well as the support from our legislative contingent for the Derby Street corridor improvements, harbor improvements and other projects.

As the Town approached an annual budget of one hundred million dollars, the Board continues to keep a promise made to taxpayers to employ meals tax revenues and unused levy capacity to mitigate the impact of tax increases arising out of earlier voter approval of the new Middle School and other Town projects. The Board continues to look for opportunities to provide tax relief to the neediest citizens – seniors as well as all property owners. The Capital Budget for FY2016 addresses a number of projects including the long awaited replacement of the roof at the Hingham Public Library.

Costs for “snow and ice” removal continue to exceed the money set aside in our budget for this. As has been done in the past, excess over the budgeted amount will be taken from Fund Balance but it is clear that more money needs to be dedicated to this going forward on a regular basis. The Board has reacted cautiously in evaluating short term spending that involves decreasing the Fund Balance level, seen as a yardstick in assessing the strength supporting the Town’s continued Aaa rating. The current fund balance stands at 23 percent which facilitated a more aggressive revenue forecast for FY2017.

Hingham’s litigation effort to determine the price of owning its municipal water company continues. In a thoughtful and well-reasoned opinion released in November 2015, the court has made a number of positive rulings consistent with the town’s position in this lawsuit and has invited the parties to submit a proposed figure consistent with the court’s findings. That has occurred and the matter is under advisement by the Court. Once the decision as to price is arrived at by the court, the Town will have the opportunity to decide if such ownership is in our best interests. There is a warrant article slated to be heard at this year’s 2016 ATM seeking additional funding calculated to pay the legal costs necessary to defend an anticipated Aquarion appeal of the superior court’s decision.

As part of our ongoing effort to maintain and safeguard good government, in September 2015, the Board of Selectman adopted a Code of Conduct setting out standards of civility, exercise of Board authority, conducting Town business, its relations with the Town Administrator and other Town employees as well as relations with

members of the public. We thank the Town Administrator By-Law Committee for their good work in crafting the language of the Code subsequently adopted by the Board. In conjunction with that effort, there is a warrant article proposed for this year's 2016 ATM seeking approval to petition the General Court to enact a special act relating to the Town Administrator so as to ensure that future candidates for this position will be only the most highly qualified to fill this critically important role in town government.

Our public safety personnel continue to serve with great professionalism. We saw the retirements of two highly respected chiefs in 2015, Police Chief Michael Peraino and Fire Chief Mark Duff. Both men served their departments and our community with professionalism and distinction for their entire careers. We wish them well in their retirement and thank them for a job well done.

We welcome Police Chief Glenn Olsson and Fire Chief Robert Olsson to their new roles as chief. It is with pleasure that we continue to be able to promote from within and succession planning continues to remain a priority in any promotional consideration. We enjoy the distinction of having two brothers serving in key roles within our community. The transition of leadership has been seamless and each has actively engaged in positive ways with our community in their public safety functions. This includes participating in planning efforts underway with respect to future fire station siting/design, and an examination of the growing needs of the police department.

Hingham was privileged to be the only small town in the United States of America to be awarded the coveted Freedom Award in August 2015. The Freedom Award is given to those employers whose support for its employees who also serve our nation as reservists or guardsmen is considered to be exceptional. We welcomed back our veteran service officer Chief Petty Officer Keith Jermyn, who returned from Djibouti after completing his sixth overseas deployment. As a group we traveled to the Pentagon in August for the award ceremony hosted by Deputy Secretary of Defense Robert Work. Our efforts at recognizing opportunities for new and enhanced programs remains unabated. Our Flag for Soldiers Campaign honoring our residents serving in uniform that render selfless service to our country is seen throughout town and has become a tradition going forward.

It is with great sadness that we mourn the loss of United States Marine Corps Corporal Christopher Orlando, who perished on a training mission in Hawaii on January 14, 2016. It is a sobering reminder of the price we

pay in blood and treasure for freedom. The outpouring of prayers and sympathy shown by our community and other towns nearby highlight that even in sadness, we are one with each other. Our thoughts remain with the Orlando Family.

We wish to thank Betty Foley for her dedication, loyalty and stellar service to Hingham in her role as Assistant Town Administrator. Only those whom she served truly know the value she brought to her position and we will sorely miss her. We wish Betty and her husband Tom a long and pleasant retirement and deep thanks for a job well done.

The Board of Selectmen report would not be complete if it did not recognize the invaluable contributions made by volunteers who unselfishly give their time and talent to our Town's many committees and boards. Our way of life would not be what it is without their investment of their time and considerable abilities. A special note of thanks to our colleagues at the School Committee and School Department, the Advisory Committee members, who tirelessly dedicated their efforts to our good governance, and all other elected and appointed Boards serving our Town. Finally, but not lastly, the dedication and commitment of our town employees, whose service to the town is seen in every aspect of its operation. Without it, this would not be the town that it is.

Paul K. Healey, Chairman
Paul J. Gannon
Mary M. Power

Town Administrator

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

The past year we have seen continued improvement in the financial position of the Town. Fund Balance reserves have surpassed our financial objectives as the results of having implemented both financial and operational initiatives over the past several years. However, new tax revenues derived from an expansion of the tax base are tapering off, and new economic development is several years away, thus creating budgetary pressure over the next few years.

Also during 2015, the Town continued the litigation to determine a purchase price for the Town water system owned by Aquarion Water Company of Massachusetts, Inc. The trial took place at the end of February to beginning of March, with closing arguments in May of 2015. In November the Court from the Suffolk County Business Litigation Session issued a 32-page ruling. The ruling addressed specific issues in dispute between the parties regarding the Town's potential purchase of the water company, including the definition of corporate property and the formula for calculating a purchase price. The Court also directed that the parties cooperate to submit a Proposed Final Judgment with respect to the appropriate purchase price by early February 2016. The Town and Aquarion could not agree on a purchase price so each side has since submitted separate pleadings. We are awaiting a decision from the Court.

2015 saw the retirement of Library Director Dennis Corcoran, Fire Chief Mark Duff, and Police Chief Michael Peraino. The accomplishments of these individuals throughout their careers in Hingham cannot be overstated, and as true testament to their efforts, all three departments are now being led by leadership they helped to cultivate. Additionally, 2015 saw the retirement of Betty Tower within the Selectmen's Office. Betty's career with the Town spanned 26 years, and given that I have worked for the Town for 22 years, either alongside Betty, or across the corridor from her desk, I can say with conviction that her affect on our operations over those years is unmatched. Betty's knowledge of the Town, its history and residents, along with her calming influence in what can be at time a tumultuous Selectmen's Office was greatly appreciated. In all, 13 people retired this year and we wish them well for many years to come.

I want to thank the Board of Selectmen for its support, the department heads and administrators, as well as the town employees and volunteers, particularly Betty Foley, Betty Tower, Sharon Perfetti, Diane Picot and David Basler in the Selectmen's office, for their helpfulness and cooperation during the past year. Success is a cooperative effort, and I look forward to a productive year serving the Hingham community in 2016.

Ted C. Alexiades
Town Administrator



*Betty Tower, Administrative Assistant
For the Board of Selectmen*

2015 Elected Town Officers

	Term Expires
MODERATOR (1 Year Term)	
Michael J. Puzo	2016
BOARD OF SELECTMEN (3 Year Term)	
Mary M. Power	2018
Paul J. Gannon	2017
Paul K. Healey	2016
TOWN CLERK (3 Year Term)	
Eileen A. McCracken	2018
TREASURER/COLLECTOR (3 Year Term)	
Jean Montgomery (2013 ATM Voted to Appoint)	
BOARD OF ASSESSORS (3 Year Term)	
Michael P. Shaughnessy	2018
Stuart Gregory Hall, Chairman	2017
Harold S. Goldstein	2016
BOARD OF HEALTH (3 Year Term)	
Peter B. Bickford	2018
Stephan J. White	2017
Kirk J. Shilts	2016
MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD (3 Year Term)	
John A. Stoddard, Jr.	2018
John Ryan	2017
Roger M. Freeman	2016
HOUSING AUTHORITY (5 Year Term)	
William A. Wise	2020
Robert D. Keyes	2019
James R. Watson	2018
Kevin C. Connelly	2017
Amy Farrell (Appointed by State)	2016

SCHOOL COMMITTEE (3 Year Term)

Aylene M. Calnan	2018
Cynthia W. Galko	2018
Carol M. Falvey	2017
Edward J. Schreier	2017
Elizabeth O'Reilly	2016
Raymond C. Estes	2016
Andrew A. Shafter	2016

PLANNING BOARD (5 Year Term)

William C. Ramsey	2020
Walter Sullivan Jr.	2019
Sarah H. Corey	2018
Judith S. Sneath	2017
Gary S. Tondorf-Dick	2016

SEWER COMMISSION (3 Year Term)

Robert M. Higgins	2018
Kenneth F. Johnson, Jr.	2017
Edmund Demko	2016

RECREATION COMMISSION (5 Year Term)

Adrienne S. Ramsey	2020
Sarah J. Melia	2019
Vicki Donlan	2018
Budd K. Thorne, Jr.	2017
Bruce Thompson	2016

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

Laurel H. Cosman	2018
Karen Sadlon	2017
Pauline Munroe	2016

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

Edward Johnson
Alan Perrault
Joan P. Williams

2015 Appointees

Term Expires

TOWN ACCOUNTANT
(Appt. By Selectmen MGL C41 S55)
Susan Nickerson

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

Chris Reale	2018
Victor Baltera	2018
Eric Haskell	2018
Lucy Hancock	2018
Craig D. MacKay	2018
Thomas E. Belyea	2017
Daniel J. Coughlin	2017
Linda K. Kutsch	2017
James A. Sharkansky	2017
James W. Taylor	2017
Theodore Joyce	2016
David Anderson	2016
Thomas J. Pyles	2016
Eryn Kelley	2016
Donna Smallwood	2016

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

Timothy White	2017
Daniel Jacobson	2017
Aylene Calnan	2016
Anita Comerford	2016
Nancy Kerber	2016
Peter Vanderweil	2016
Patrick R. Gaughen	2015
Kevin C. Connelly	2016
Paul Gannon (Selectmen's Rep)	

APPEALS, ZONING BOARD OF
(Appt. By Selectmen)

W. Tod McGrath	2018
Joseph Freeman	2017
Joseph M. Fisher	2016

Associate Members (one year term)

Michael Mercurio
David Anderson
Alan Kearney
Robyn S. Maguire
Mario Romania, Jr.

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

Michael Dwyer (Selectmen Appt.)	2018
George L. Alexakos (Moderator Appt.)	2017
George Danis (Moderator Appt.)	2017
Josh Gregory (Selectmen Appt.)	2016
Ted C. Alexiades, Town Administrator, ex-officio	
Susan Nickerson, Town Accountant, ex-officio	

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

Edward J. Matthews	2018
Melissa Tully	2018
Susan M. Kains	2017
Robert Smaldone	2017
Richard J. Callahan	2017
Rikard Johnson	2017
DeWitt DeLawter	2016
James Nowicki	2016
Shirley Rydell	2016

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

Maura Graham	2018
Suzanne M. Harnden	2017
Carolyn Aliski	2017
Diane Morrison	2017
Deborah A. Hayes	2017
Patricia Bray	2016
Margaret Coleman	2016
Rosemarie Durkin	2016
Laura Spaziani	2016

BOARD OF HEALTH MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Elizabeth Eldredge, MD

BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK

ADVISORY COUNCIL

(Appt. By Selectmen)

William Reardon

John Elmer

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

Reginald Newcomb, 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)

Sandra S. Peavey 2018

Phillip S. Thaxter 2018

John Rice 2017

Eric Connerly 2016

David Jones 2016

Katy Gallagher-Wooley, (School Rep.)

William August (Special Counsel)

CABLE DIRECTORS OF TELEVISION PUBLIC ACCESS CORP.

James Dellot

Hal Goldstein

Robert Kirk

Noreen Moross

Margaret Sullivan

CAPITAL OUTLAY COMMITTEE

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

Brendan Kiernan 2018

Elizabeth Claypoole 2017

Harold F. Schlib, III 2017

Appt. By Advisory Committee Chairman

Craig MacKay

Lucy Hancock

Ex-Officio

Town Accountant (Non-voting member)

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT TASK FORCE (2015)

Melissa Tully
John Davenport
Terence Farrell
Kathy Reardon
Andrew McElaney

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

Carol Pyles (Moderator Appt)	2018
Anthony Kiernan (Moderator Appt.)	2017
Kathleen Peters (Selectmen Appt.)	2017
Irma Lauter (Selectmen Rep.)	2017
Scott McIsaac (Conservation Comm. Rep.)	2016
Robert Curley (Historical Comm. Rep.)	2016
Gary Tondorf-Dick (Planning Board Rep.)	2016
James Watson (Housing Authority Rep.)	2016
Vicki Donlan (Recreation Commission Rep.)	2016

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

Laurie Freeman	2018
Scott McIsaac	2018
John Morrissey	2017
Robert Mosher	2017
Frank Gaul	2017
Michael Ide	2016
Eldon L. Abbott	2016

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

Jerold S. Loomis	2018
Kathleen Peloquin	2017

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

Charles Cristello (Appointed by Selectmen)	2018
James Costello (Retirement Board Appt.)	2018
William Powers (Elected by Employees)	2017
Jean M. Montgomery (Elected by Employees)	2016

Ex-officio

Susan Nickerson (Town Accountant)

COUNCIL ON AGING

(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 13, 17 ATM 1970)

Beth Rouleau	2018
Dawn Sibor	2018
Linda Hurley	2018
Gretchen Condon	2017
Gail Faring	2017
Joan Iovino	2017
Richard Ponte	2017
Debra Hoffman	2017
June M. Freedman	2016
Chrisanne Gregoire	2016
Leslie Vickers	2016

COUNTRY CLUB MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Selectmen, ATM 1993 By-Law 37)

Paul J. Casey	2018
John J. Bailey	2018
William Friend	2017
Roderick C. Gaskell	2017
Scott D. Peterson	2016

CULTURAL COUNCIL

(Appt. By Selectmen, MGL C10 S35C)

Leah Godfrey	2018
Sonia Steele	2018
Deanna Maria Costa	2018
Carol B. Moss	2018
Marlie L. McManus	2017
Jean Roberts	2017
Janine Bradley Suchecki	2017
Trish Baggott	2016
Jill Powell	2016

DEVELOPMENT & INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

(Appt. By Selectmen, 7 members, 5 Year Term)

Kevin Ellis	2020
James Pollock	2020
Shane Nolan	2020
Susan L. Sullivan	2018
Gregory Lane	2018

Mary Ann Blackmur	2017
Eileen Richards	2016
Nanette G. Walsh	2016
Scott R. Peterson	2015

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

Michael Clancy, Building Commissioner
Barbara Partridge
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

**ELECTRONIC VOTING, COMMITTEE TO STUDY
(Appt. By Moderator, ART 24 ATM 2013)**

Charles Clapp
Judy Cole
Marissa Costello
Dight Crain
Edna English
Eric Haskell
Andrew McElaney, Chair
George Miller

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DIRECTOR OF

Mark L. Duff

**ENERGY ACTION COMMITTEE
(ART 41 ATM 2008)**

Ben Kerman, M.D., Selectman Appt.
Kenneth Brown, Moderator Appt.
Otto Harling, Moderator Appt.
Tim Bankroff, Moderator Appt.
Paul Heanue, Light Plant Mgr.
Scott Cyr, Selectmen Appt.
Brad Moyer, Selectmen Appt.

Ex-officio

Town Accountant
School Business Manager

FIRE CHIEF

Mark L. Duff

FIRE DEPARTMENT ASSET REVIEW COMMITTEE

(Appt. by Selectmen 4/4/13)

Chief Mark Duff
Lt. William McIntyre
Charles Bacon
Carl Peterson
Alan Kearney
Thomas J. Carey
Board of Selectmen Chair

FIRE STATION BUILDING COMMITTEE

Alan Kearney	2018
Gregory MacCune	2018
Nancy MacDonald	2018
Peter Boyle (Moderator Appt.)	2018
Karen Griswold (Moderator Appt.)	2018
Tom Carey (Moderator Appt.)	2018

FISHERIES COMMITTEE

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

See Conservation Commission

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Selectmen Annually)

Jason Caine	Cassie McDermott
Tom Hoffman	Jay McGrail
Melissa Caine	John Monz
Mary Ellen Carlisle	Carrie Murphy
Monica Conyngham	Jim Murphy (Chair)
Deanna Maria Costa	Bill Nickerson
Jack Dean	Robin Nickerson
DeWitt Delawter	Louis O'Dea
Eric Dresser	Glenn Olsson
George Ford	Mary Pizzelli
Ginny Gray	Ruth Potter
Susan Hagstrom	Gabby Roegner
Owen Kane	Christine Spielberger

Dan Lahiff
Dave Madden

Cindy Tonucci

GAR HALL TRUSTEES
(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 40 ATM 1944)

Robert Beal, Jr.	2017
Scott McMillan	2016
Arthur J. Smith (Interim)	2015
Keith Jermyn (On Leave)	2015

HARBOR DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 30 ATM 1971)

Edward Morris	2018
Deirdre Anderson	2018
Edward Colbert	2017
Brian Knies	2017
Thomas Coveney	2017
Paul Losordo	2017
William S. Reardon	2016
Eric Kachel	2016

HARBOR TASK FORCE
(Appt. Selectman 02/26/2015)

Sarah Corey
Paul Losordo
Alan Perrault
Deirdre Anderson
Richard Cook

HARBORMASTER-CUSTODIAN OF THE ISLANDS

Kenneth R. Corson, III
Assistant Harbormasters (Annual Appt.)

Joseph P. Driscoll
Michael McCue
Neal Nelson
Michael Riley
Danny Souza
Michael Nash
Daniel Goldstein
Connor Kennedy
Jake Handrahan
Raymond Abreu
Max Goldstein

HAZARDOUS WASTE-MUNICIPAL COORDINATOR

(Appt. By Selectmen)

Bruce T. Capman, Executive Health Officer
David Damstra, Deputy Coordinator

HERBERT FOSS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Selectmen)

Peter T. Finney
John McHugh
Alan D. Perrault
Donald J. MacKinnon
William S. Reardon
Melissa Tully

HISTORIAN, TOWN

(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 2 ATM 1943)

Alexander Macmillan

HISTORIC ARCHIVES TASK FORCE

(Appt. By Selectmen, 8/30/2011)

Paula M. Bagger (Historical Society Member)
Ann Dalton (Library Director or Designee)
Dorothy Galo (School Supt. Or Designee)
Eileen A. McCracken (Town Clerk or Designee)
Stephen Swett (Historical Commission Member)

HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION

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

Michael Collard	2018
Lois Levine	2017
Marc Minor	2017
Denis King	2017
Virginia Tay	2016
Hans von der Luft	2016
Charles Clutz	2015

Alternate Members

Benjamin Burnham	2018
Thomas Kindler	2017
Martha Saunders	2016
John D'Angelo	2016
Michael Collard	2015
Anne Fanton	2015

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

Huck Handy	2017
Stephen Swett	2017
Kathryn Black	2017
Michael Dyer	2016
Robert A. Curley, Jr.	2016
Arthur K. Choo, Jr.	2015
Thomas Willson	2015

LIBRARY, HINGHAM PUBLIC, TRUSTEE OF

Charles B. Abbott, Esq.

Edward D. Boylan

Thomas J. Carey, Jr.

Edna English

Arthur Garrity

Harold Goldstein

David Mehegan

JoAnn Mitchell

Nelson G. Ross, Esq.

Edward Siegfried

Appt. By Selectmen

Michael A. Spatola	2018
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Elizabeth A. Eldredge	2017
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Bonnie B. Hobbs	2016
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Appt. By Moderator

Caryl Falvey	2015
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Tina V. Sherwood	2018
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Ex-officio

Rep. of Board of Selectmen

Treasurer/Collector

Superintendent of Schools

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

David Ellison (Selectman Appt.)	2018
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Michael MacDonald (Selectmen Appt.)	2018
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Patrick Gaughen (Affordable Housing Trust Appt.)	2017
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Albert Rodiger (Selectmen Appt.)	2017
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Richard Mason (Affordable Housing Trust Appt.)	2016
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John W. McHugh (Moderator Appt.)	2016
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LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Selectmen)

Robert Olsson, Deputy Chief, Fire Department, Chairman
Michael Peraino, Police Chief
Glenn Olsson, Deputy Chief, Police Dept.
Mark L. Duff, Fire Chief
David Damstra, Fire Department Hazmat
William Gray, Fire Department, EMS
Irma H. Lauter, Selectman
Paul Gannon, Selectman
Paul K. Healey, Selectman
Ted C. Alexiades, Town Administrator
Bruce Capman, Executive Health Officer
Kenneth R. Corson, III, Harbormaster
Barbara Farnsworth, Elder Services
Paul Field, School Department
Michael Clancy, Building Commissioner
Paul Heanue, Manager, HMLP
Abby Piersall, Conservation Officer
Roger Fernandes, Town Engineer
Harry Sylvester, Asst. Project Engineer
Randy Sylvester, Superintendent of Public Works

LONG RANGE WASTE DISPOSAL/RECYCLING COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Moderator, ART 25 ATM 1974)

David P. White	2017
James Pettee	2017
Diane Morrison	2017
John Stringer	2017
Kimberly Jursic	2016
Janice B. McPhillips	2016
Brenda P. Black	2015
Peter Stathopoulos	2015
Elizabeth A. Dewire	2015

Ex-officio

Superintendent Public Works

MBTA ADVISORY BOARD

Marco Boer, Hingham Representative

MASS BAYS PROGRAM LOCAL GOVERNANCE COMM.

Peter S. Rosen, Hingham Representative
Faith L. Burbank, Alternate Representative

MASS PORT AUTHORITY COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Declan Boland, Hingham Representative
Ronald Vickers, Co-Representative

MASS WATER RESOURCES AUTH. ADVISORY BOARD

Edmund Demko, Hingham Representative
Michael Salerno, Alternate Representative

MASSPORT COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Selectmen, 11/30/2000)
Declan Boland, Hingham Representative

MAYFLOWER MUNICIPAL HEALTH GROUP

(Appt. By Selectmen)
Ted C. Alexiades, Representative
Betty Foley, Alternate Representative

MEMORIAL BELL TOWER COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Selectmen Annually, ART 13 ATM 1975)
Kenneth Drescher
Joan Getto
Martha Ryan
Ann Shilhan
Michael Shilhan
Dorcas V. Wagner

METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL

(Appt. By Selectmen, MGL C161 S7, 3 Year Term)
Marco Boer 2015
Edna S. English, Alternate

MUNICIPAL HEARINGS OFFICER

(Appt. By Selectmen)
Eileen A. McCracken

NOISE BY-LAW STUDY COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Selectmen. ART 31 ATM 2013)
Declan Boland
Vicki Donlan
Dennis King
Brian Knies
Joseph McCracken

**OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Selectmen, MGL C161 S7, ART 15 ATM 1997)**

Jim Morris (Conservation Appt.)	2017
Carolyn Nieslen (Selectmen Appt.)	2016
Charles Berry (Planning Board Appt.)	2018
Richard Cook (Associate Member)	2018

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

Eileen A. McCracken

**PERMANENT BUILDING & FACILITIES MANAGEMENT
STUDY COMMITTEE**

(Appt. By Selectmen, 10/12/2010)

Roger Fernandes
Donald J. MacKinnon
John Manley
Jerry Seelen
Benedict Wilcox

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

David Pace	2018
Marie S. Harris	2018
Russell F. Conn	2017
John F. Manning	2017
Mary Jane O'Meara	2016

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

Richard Cook (Associate Member)

PLYMOUTH COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD REP.

Irma Lauter

**PLYMOUTH COUNTY STUDY COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Selectmen)**

Peter Blampied
James Claypoole
Scott Ford
Michael Holden, Esq.
Jane Malme

POLICE CHIEF
(Appt. By Selectmen)
Michael Peraino

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

RECREATION & FIELDS MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE
(Appt. Selectman 02/26/2015)
Selectman: Irma Lauter
Recreation: Vicki Donlan & Mark Thorell
South Shore Country Club: William Friend & Jay McGrail
Schools: Raymond Estes
SNAP: Warren Pelissier
DPW Representative: To be decided
Sports Groups:
 Soccer: Edward Healey
 Football: Susan Rizzo
 Lacrosse: Brian Hlidek
 Babe Ruth: Elliott Sherman
 Little League: Timothy McGowan
 DPW Representative: To be decided

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
(Appt. by Selectmen, MGL C51 S15, 18)
Dawn Sibor 2017
Betty Tower 2016
Virginia Gray 2015
Eileen A. McCracken, Town Clerk

SCHOLARSHIP FUND COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 26 ATM 1975)
John T. Fitzsimmons 2018
John Fitzsimmons 2018
Adam White 2017
Kurt Weisenbeck 2016
Roger Nastou 2016
Matthew McGonagle (fill unexpired term) 2016
Jean Montgomery, Treasurer 2015
Andrew Shafter 2015

**SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE, 2006
(ART 17, ATM 2006)**

Robert S. Bucey (Moderator Appt.)
Timothy R. Collins (Moderator Appt.)
Samantha Anderson (School Comm. Appt.)
Peter Bradley (School Comm. Appt.)
Raymond Estes (School Comm. Appt.)
Sandra Cleary (Selectmen Appt.)
Stefan Vogelmann (Selectmen Appt.)

**SHADE TREE COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Selectmen)**

James R. Huse
Barbara Kardok
Dorothy Manganaro
Michael Studley

**SOUTH HINGHAM STUDY GROUP
(Appt. By Selectmen)**

Richard Cook (At large)
Paul Healey (Selectmen's Rep.)
Mark Lucas
Tod McGrath (ZBA Rep.)
Jerry Seelan
Judith Sneath (Planning Board Rep.)
Susan Sullivan (Dev. and Ind. Rep.)

**SOUTH SHORE COALITION
(Appt. By Selectmen, 3 Year Term)**

Irma Lauter

2015

**SOUTH SHORE RECYCLING COOPERATIVE
(Appt. By Selectmen)**

Stephen Messinger
Randy Sylvester

SOUTH WEYMOUTH NAVAL AIR STATION

Joseph Fisher, Member CAC
Mary Byram, Member CAC
William Koplovsky, Rep. to the Advisory Board of the South Shore
Tri-Town Development Corp.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION WORKING GROUP
(Appt. by Selectmen, 8/23/2012)**

Laura Burns
David Ellison
Elizabeth Flynn
Dennis Friedman
Dorothy Galo
Melissa Goldman
Linda Port, Chair
Marisa Ronan
Linda Kutsch, Advisory Comm. Liaison
Paul Gannon, ex-officio

SPECIAL LIAISON TO THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Nelson G. Ross 2016

SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER

(Appt. By Selectmen)

Brian Aiguier	Michael Powers
Michael Bolze	Michael Riley
Mark Brennan	Charles Souther
Kenneth Corson	Daniel Souza
Joseph Driscoll	Richard St. Laurent
Daniel Galvin	James Taylor
Johnathan Gordon	Russell Way
Michael McCue	James Wells
Michael Murray	Brian Willard
Michael Parker	

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)

Carolyn Kelliher
John J. Pollick
Greg Hall, Assessors
Jean Montgomery, Treasurer

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR/FINANCE DIRECTOR

Ted C. Alexiades

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR BY-LAW COMMITTEE

Charles Cristello

2012 TOWN HALL STUDY COMMITTEE

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

Charles Cristello 2018

Tina Sherwood 2018

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

Clark Frazier 2017

Dan Zivkovich 2017

TREE WARDEN

Randy Sylvester, Superintendent of Public Works

UNDERGROUND UTILITIES TASK FORCE

(Appt. By Selectmen, 9/18/2007)

L. Paul Heanue

Sandra Peavey

Bruce Rabuffo

John A. Riley

Susan Sullivan

Benedict Wilcox

VETERANS' COUNCIL

(Appt. By Selectmen)

W. Paul Koenen 2018

Jonathan Asher 2018

Maureen DeMenna 2017

Stephen Bray 2017

Robert Gibbs 2016

Edward Guild, Jr. 2016

William Ramsey 2016

Thomas Burbank 2016

James Claypoole 2015

Keith Jermyn
John W. McHugh
Scott McMillan
David Sargent

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

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

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

James Connelly
Maureen F. Doran
Matthew H. Greene
Ron Kirven
Samuel S. Mullin
Kirk J. Shilts
Adam C. S. White

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

Robert Egan

WEIR RIVER ESTUARY PARK COMMITTEE

Patricia Coyle
David Sibor, Hingham Representative

WHISTLEBLOWER COMMITTEE

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

Annual Town Meeting

April 27, 2015

Registered Voters: 16,353

Attendance: 492

The Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Hingham, Massachusetts was held at the Hingham High School, 17 Union Street, on Monday, April 27, 2015. Michael J. Puzo, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m, a quorum being present. Mary Jean O'Mara was appointed to preside as Assistant Moderator. The invocation was given by Pastor Stephanie Kelsch of the Second Parish Church. The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Jamie Litchfield, the Acting 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 into the Meals Tax Stabilization Fund
9. Transfer from the Meals Tax Stabilization Fund
10. Disbursement of Electric Light Department Receipts
11. Building Department Revolving Fund
12. Department of Elder Services Revolving Fund
13. Transfer Funds to the Reserve Fund
14. Fire Station Building Committee and Renovations
15. Community Preservation
16. Town Administrator By-Law
17. Amend Zoning By-Law re: Height Restrictions
18. Amend Zoning By-Law re: FRD/Multi Unit Housing
19. Amend Zoning By-Law re: Special Permit A3 Parking Determinations
20. Amend Zoning By-Law re: Commercial Uses Under Section III-A,4
21. Amend Zoning By-Law re: Completion of Multi Unit Developments
22. Amend Zoning By-Law re: Personal Wireless Services

23. Town Farm Monument
24. Special Education Reserve Fund
25. Adjust Base for Retiree COLA
26. Station Street Discontinuance
27. Station and North Street Disposition
28. Electronic Voting Total
29. Amend Town By-Law re: Wetlands Protection
30. Engineering Services for the Route 3A Rotary and Summer Street
31. Harbor Improvements
32. Lease of Barnes Wharf
33. Acquisition of 26 Summer Street
34. Transfer of Hingham Municipal Light Plant
35. School Bus Lease
36. Insurance Receipts in Excess of \$20,000
37. Acceptance of Easements

Article 1

VOTED: That Laurel H. Cosman, 16 Queen Anne Lane, be elected a member of the Committee to have charge of the income of the Hannah Lincoln Whiting Fund for a three-year term, and that Pauline Munroe, 16 Pilgrim Road, be elected a member of the Committee to have charge of the income of the Hannah Lincoln Whiting Fund to fill an unexpired one-year term.

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 any reports of the Affordable Housing Trust; Audit Committee; Capital Outlay Committee; Commission on Disability Issues; Community Preservation Committee; Conservation Commission; Country Club Management Committee; Council on Aging; Electronic Voting Study Committee; Energy Action Committee; GAR Hall Trustees; Harbor Development Committee; Hingham Historic Districts Commission; the Historian; Historical Commission; Board of Managers of Lincoln Apartments LLC; Long Range Waste Disposal and Recycling Committee; Memorial Bell Tower Committee; Open Space Acquisition Committee; Scholarship Fund Committee; 2006 School Building Committee; Wastewater Master Planning Committee; and Water Supply Committee be received; and that all of said bodies and posts of government be continued, except that Electronic Voting Study Committee be discharged with thanks.

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 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, 2015 or as otherwise specified in said report or agreements; that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$476,816 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, 2015 through June 30, 2016 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 Clerk¹: 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.

-
1. 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, 2015, 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 \$65,413 from the Stabilization Fund for the purpose of reducing the Fiscal Year 2016 tax rate.

2/3rd Vote Required

A Unanimous Vote

Article 8

VOTED: That the Town transfer the sum of \$674,133.30 into the Meals Tax Stabilization Fund.

2/3rd Vote Required
A Unanimous Vote

Article 9

VOTED: That the Town transfer the sum of \$450,000 from the Meals Tax Stabilization Fund for the purpose of reducing the Fiscal Year 2016 tax rate.

2/3rd Vote Required
A Unanimous Vote

Article 10

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 Municipal Lighting Plant during the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2015, 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 11

VOTED: That, in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2, which allows the Town to establish departmental revolving funds, the Town authorizes the continuation of such a fund in the Building Department. Departmental receipts for building inspections performed by the Assistant Building Inspectors shall be credited to the Fund. Monies shall be spent primarily to compensate such inspectors for their services. The Building Commissioner, or functional equivalent, shall be authorized to spend

monies from the Fund. The amount that may be spent from the Fund shall be limited to \$250,000 during Fiscal Year 2016.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 12

VOTED: That, in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws chapter 44, section 53E1/2, which allows the Town to establish departmental revolving funds, the Town authorize the continuation of such a fund for the Department of Elder Services. Departmental receipts for all fees and charges received from Senior Center programs shall be credited to the Fund. Monies shall be spent for Senior Center programs and related expenses. The Director of Elder Services, or functional equivalent, shall be authorized to spend monies from the Fund. The amount that may be spent from the Fund shall be limited to \$60,000 during Fiscal Year 2016.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 13

VOTED: That the Town transfer from available funds the sum of \$1,656,180 to the Town's Reserve Fund for use during Fiscal Year 2015.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 14

VOTED: That the Town: (1) establish a Fire Station Building Committee consisting of seven members, as follows: three citizens of the Town appointed by the Board of Selectmen; three citizens of the Town appointed by the Moderator; and the Fire Chief or, if the Fire Chief so designates, the Deputy Fire Chief; with the chair of said committee to be elected from among its members; and (2) appropriate \$500,000 to be expended under the direction of the Fire Station Building Committee for design costs, including architectural and engineering services, as well as other professional fees, for the renovation of the North Fire Station. 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(21), or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor.

A 2/3rd Vote Required

A Unanimous Vote

Article 15

VOTED: That the Town appropriate the following sums of money for Community Preservation purposes as follows:

- 1) \$37,500 from the Community Preservation General Fund for addition to the Community Preservation Committee's Administrative Fund;
- 2) \$100,000 from the Community Preservation Community Housing Reserve to be used by the Hingham Affordable Housing Trust for the HAHT Opportunity Funding Program;
- 3) \$25,000 from the Community Preservation Community Housing Reserve to be used by the Hingham Affordable Housing Trust for additional funds needed for the Board of Selectmen's Parcel development;
- 4) \$28,068 from the Community Preservation Community Housing Reserve to be used by the Hingham Housing Authority for exterior repairs to the house located at 132 Scotland Street, Map190/Lot 26;
- 5) \$88,931 from the Community Preservation General Fund to be used by Hingham Historical Archives Task Force for implementing the Hingham Historical Collections Master Plan;
- 6) \$24,750 from the Community Preservation Historic Resources Reserve to be used by the Liberty Plain Cemetery Corporation to continue to restore and conserve veterans' markers and monuments within the Liberty Plain Cemetery located at 990 Main Street, Map 180/Lot 20;
- 7) \$25,000 from the Community Preservation Historic Resources Reserve to be used by the Board of Selectmen to preserve the windows of the former Tree and Park Barn located at 8 Short Street, Map 81/Lot 140;
- 8) \$34,393 from the Community Preservation Historic Resources Reserve and \$38,107 from the Community Preservation General Fund to be used for funding the rehabilitation of Building 52 located in Bare Cove Park and currently used by the Bare Cove Fire Museum;
- 9) \$20,000 from the Community Preservation General Fund to be used by the Hingham Congregational Church Association for construction of a

handicapped ramp at the Hingham Congregational Church located at 366 Main Street, Map 90/Lot 60;

10) \$5,000 from the Community Preservation General Fund to be used by the Hingham Historical Commission for the preservation of an historic gazebo and the relocation of this gazebo to its probable original location on Ragged Island, Map 28/Lot 1;

11) \$58,695 from the Community Preservation General Fund to be used by the Board of Lincoln School Apartments for replacement of the elevator located at 86 Central Street, Map 71/Lot 111;

12) \$30,000 from the Community Preservation Open Space Reserve for deposit to the Town's Conservation Fund for purchase of land, conservation restrictions for prior CPC land acquisitions, and capital improvements and expenses related to such acquisitions and to make deposits or down payments toward acquisitions or creation of interests in open space or to otherwise preserve open space;

13) \$380,000 from the Community Preservation General Fund to be used by the Recreation Commission for the renovation and repurposing of the Historic Cordage Factory Barn (Phase IV), Map 86/Lot 46; and

14) \$50,000 from the Community Preservation General Fund for the restoration of the South Shore Country Club tennis courts located at 274 South Street, Map 70/Lot 14.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 16

VOTED: That the Town amend the General By-Laws of the Town, adopted March 13, 1939, as heretofore amended, by re-numbering Article 5 as Article 5A, amending Sections 1 and 2 of said renumbered Article 5A by substituting new Sections 1 and 2, and adding a new Article 5B, all as follows:

ARTICLE 5A SELECTMEN

SECTION 1 -- To the extent permitted by law and except as otherwise provided by law or these by- laws, the selectmen shall have the general direction and management of the property and affairs of the town. This section shall not apply to property in the custody or use of any town department, officer, or committee. The selectmen are authorized and

empowered, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 41, section 23A, of the Massachusetts General Laws, to appoint a town administrator as provided in Article 5B of these by-laws.

SECTION 2 -- The selectmen shall cause to be printed and made available to residents before the annual town meeting, the annual town report, which shall contain a selectmen's report, a report of the town administrator, and the reports provided for by Section 1 of Article 4 of these by- laws. The report of the doings of the selectmen shall include the following relating to the town administrator position: (i) a statement as to the status of any employment contract between the town and the town administrator describing its key terms, including, but not limited to, the term of the contract, total compensation (including salary and benefits), termination, removal and non-renewal provisions; and (ii) a statement clearly indicating any authority or responsibility listed in Section 5B hereof contemplated to be assigned or delegated to the town administrator which has not been so assigned or delegated and any which has been modified or withdrawn from assignment or delegation to the town administrator and the rationale therefor, together with an affirmation that all other listed authorities and responsibilities in said Section 5B continue to be assigned or delegated.

ARTICLE 5B TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

SECTION 1 -- The board of selectmen is authorized and empowered, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 41, section 23A of the Massachusetts General Laws to appoint a town administrator for a term of one or three years or any such longer term as may hereafter be authorized by law and, in its discretion, for successive terms thereafter, and to remove him or her at its discretion. The town administrator shall act by and for the selectmen in any matter which the selectmen may assign to him or her relating to the administration of the affairs of the town or of any town office or department under the supervision and control of the selectmen, and, with the approval of the selectmen, may perform such other duties as may be requested of him or her by any other town officer, board, committee or commission. A town administrator appointed under the provisions of this section shall be sworn to the faithful performance of his or her duties. During the time he or she holds office, he or she shall devote full time to the position of town administrator and shall not engage in any other business or occupation and shall not hold elective town office, but may be appointed by the selectmen or, with their approval, by any other town officer,

board, committee or commission, to any other town office or other position consistent with this office.

The town administrator shall be appointed solely on the basis of executive and administrative qualifications and shall be a person of proven professional ability fitted by education, training and previous full-time employment in a responsible public or business administrative position. No appointee shall have held elective office within the town for a period of 12 months prior to his or her appointment as town administrator.

The position of town administrator shall not come within the personnel by-law. The board of selectmen may enter into an employment contract with the town administrator.

The board of selectmen shall provide the town administrator with an annual review of his or her job performance with input from department heads, employees and members of elected and appointed boards. As part of its annual review, the selectmen shall evaluate the town administrator's performance, including his or her ability to supervise municipal employees properly, administer town government effectively, effectuate policy and accomplish established goals.

SECTION 2 -- Subject to chapter 41, section 23A of the Massachusetts General Laws and subject to assignment of authority to the town administrator by the board of selectmen, the town administrator is hereby designated the Chief Administrative Officer of the town and is responsible for (i) the administration and supervision of all town departments and appointed personnel under the jurisdiction of the board of selectmen and as otherwise provided by law or these by-laws; (ii) directing the overall activity of the municipality when exercising his/her authority for finances, operations and oversight; and (iii) implementing town policies. Pursuant to assignment by the board of selectmen, the town administrator shall have additional authority and responsibility as follows:

A. The authority and responsibility to exercise overall responsibility for human resources for the town, including but not limited to (i) authority for hiring, supervision, evaluation, discipline and removal of town employees under the jurisdiction of the board of selectmen and (ii) the responsibility to assist the personnel board in the implementation and administration of the personnel by-law and salary and classification plan and in that regard:

With respect to the appointment of the chief of police, the fire chief and the superintendent of public works, the town administrator shall coordinate the recruitment and screening of suitable candidates for consideration and appointment by vote of the board of selectmen. The town administrator shall provide the selectmen with relevant materials for the evaluation of no more than five such candidates. In the event that the selectmen do not appoint any of the candidates, the town administrator will continue to present one or more candidates until one is appointed. Any of the chief of police, the fire chief and the superintendent of the department of public works may be removed by vote of the board of selectmen after consultation with the town administrator.

With respect to the appointment of department heads under the jurisdiction of the board of selectmen other than the chief of police, the fire chief and the superintendent of public works and except as may otherwise be provided by law, the town administrator shall appoint and remove all such department heads. The town administrator shall consult with the appropriate elected or appointed board, commission, committee or official as well as the board of selectmen prior to making these department head appointments or undertaking their removal. Prior to finalizing such a department head appointment, the town administrator shall provide notice to the board of selectmen of the anticipated appointment and the terms and conditions of employment for the appointment. The board of selectmen shall approve or disapprove the appointment and the terms and conditions of employment within 14 days of such notice. A failure of the board of selectmen to act within this 14 day period shall be deemed approval of the appointment and the terms and conditions thereof. Any termination or removal of such department heads shall be subject to the same notice and approval requirements for appointments as set forth in this paragraph.

The town administrator or his or her designee shall appoint and remove all other town employees under the jurisdiction of the board of selectmen except as may be required by Civil Service.

The town administrator shall be responsible for the supervision, management, evaluation and discipline of all other town employees under the jurisdiction of the board of selectmen. The town administrator annually shall be responsible for performance evaluations of all department heads and shall oversee the performance evaluation program conducted by department heads for employees within their respective departments. The town administrator shall act as hearing officer for appeals of Civil Service disciplinary suspensions of five days or

less and act on behalf of the board of selectmen in the grievance process under collective bargaining agreements.

B. The authority and responsibility to, in a timely manner, prepare, develop and assemble the town budget for all non-school departments and accounts and following the development of the budget, the town administrator shall submit the entire budget document to the board of selectmen for review. The town administrator shall forward the budget document, including any alterations approved and incorporated therein by the board of selectmen, to the Advisory Committee.

C. The authority and responsibility to act as the Chief Procurement Officer for the town. In that regard, the town administrator shall exercise full authority for procurement as provided under chapter 30B of the Massachusetts General Laws. The town administrator shall be responsible for the purchase of all supplies, materials, services and equipment, and shall have the authority to award and sign all contracts up to \$50,000, in addition to all MassHighway contracts and state and federal grants. Any contract over \$50,000 shall require the approval of the board of selectmen. The town administrator shall have the authority to sign all contracts approved by the board of selectmen on behalf of the town. All contracts and grants signed by the town administrator shall be promptly reported, in writing, to the board of selectmen.

D. The authority and responsibility to:

1. Attend all regular and special meetings of the board of selectmen, unless unavailable for reasonable cause, where he or she shall have a voice, but no vote, in all of its proceedings and keep full and complete records of the same;
2. Keep the board of selectmen fully informed as to the needs of the town and make recommendations to the board with regard thereto;
3. Keep the board of selectmen fully informed on departmental operations, fiscal matters, administrative actions and provide regular reports to the board on all such matters and provide special reports to the board at its request;
4. Coordinate collective bargaining negotiations under the jurisdiction of the board of selectmen, on behalf of and at the direction of the board of selectmen;

5. Administer and enforce collective bargaining agreements and other employment agreements under the jurisdiction of the board of selectmen at the direction of and on behalf of the board of selectmen;
6. Manage all real and personal property of the town under the jurisdiction of the board of selectmen;
7. Oversee the purchase of all supplies, materials, services and equipment, and approve the award of all contracts for all town departments exclusive of the schools, subject to Section C above;
8. Determine the compensation of all non-school employees within the limits of the town's salary and classification plan and/or collective bargaining agreements and other employment agreements and subject to the personnel by-law;
9. Coordinate the activities of all appointed and elected boards, committees and commissions and have the authority to require such bodies and individuals to meet with and provide information to the town administrator, at reasonable times for the purpose of coordination and financial planning. In addition, the town administrator shall be a resource to all elected and appointed boards and departments;
10. Reorganize, abolish, consolidate or establish any department or position under the town administrator's authority as the town administrator deems appropriate from time to time, subject to the approval of the board of selectmen before implementation and funding by town meeting, if needed;
11. Supervise, direct and be responsible for the efficient administration of all town departments under the jurisdiction of the board of selectmen and for all functions for which the town administrator is given responsibility, authority or control by the board of selectmen;
12. Delegate, authorize or direct any employee appointed under the jurisdiction of the board of selectmen to exercise any power, duty or responsibility which the office of the town administrator is authorized to exercise;
13. Administer and enforce either directly or through a person or persons supervised by the town administrator, all provisions of the laws of the Commonwealth applicable to the town, all by-laws, and all regulations and policies established by the board of selectmen;

14. Investigate or inquire into the affairs of any town department under the jurisdiction of the board of selectmen and have access to all books and records of the same;

15. Attend all sessions of town meeting, whether regular or special, unless unavailable for reasonable cause and answer all questions addressed to the town administrator, particularly those questions that are related to town finances, warrant articles and matters under the general supervision of the town administrator; and

16. Coordinate the prosecution, defense and/or compromise of all litigation to which the town is a party solely at the direction of and on behalf of the board of selectmen.

E. The town administrator shall exercise such additional authority and perform such other duties as are lawfully assigned by the board of selectmen.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 17

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941 as heretofore amended, by deleting Section IV-C.8 in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

8. Height Exceptions

Chimney, ventilators, elevators, mechanized or motorized equipment which is used to ventilate, heat or cool a building or structure, poles, spires, tanks, towers and skylights and other projections not used for human occupancy may extend a reasonable height above the height limits herein fixed, provided, however, that (a) no wireless communications tower or antenna shall be erected except in compliance with Section V-E of this By-Law, and (b) with respect to dwellings in residential districts, (i) the area of such projections where they intersect the height limit shall not exceed five percent of the horizontal plane of the roof area in the aggregate, measured at the uppermost full floor of the dwelling, and (ii) this provision shall not be construed to exempt a parapet, wall or railing from the height requirements set forth in Section IV-B.16.

A 2/3rd Vote Required

A Unanimous Vote

Article 18

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 IV-D 5 iii by inserting the words "and/or a professional civil engineer registered in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts," after the words "professional landscape architect registered in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,"

Item 2: By amending Section IV-D 7.i. by deleting the last sentence thereof and replacing it with the following: "To the extent permitted by applicable law, local preference shall be given in the sale or rental of Low and Moderate Income Housing."

Item 3: By amending Section IV-E, 5.e., by deleting the portion thereof beginning with the words "To the extent" through the end of subsection iii, and replacing therefor the following: "Local preference shall be given in the sale or rental of Low and Moderate Income Housing to the extent permitted by applicable law."

A 2/3rd Vote Required A Unanimous Vote

Article 19

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, to amend, insert, or delete, as applicable, certain provisions of the By-Law as detailed below.

Item 1: By changing the numeral "5" in Section I-J, 3 Repetitive Petitions to a "4";

Item 2: By inserting ", with the exception of Special Permit A3 Parking Determinations. The approval criteria for Special Permit A3's related to off-street parking are described in Section V-A 6." at the end of the existing Section I-J, 5.

Item 3: By deleting the following language from Section V-A, 1 "The Planning Board may grant a Special Permit A3, which provides relief from portions of these regulations, if it finds that it is impractical to meet these standards and that a waiver of these regulations will not result in

or worsen parking and traffic problems on-site or on the surrounding streets or adversely affect the value of abutting lands and buildings."

Item 4: By inserting "Applicants are encouraged not to construct parking in excess of the typical projected demand." into Section V-A, 2 in the third line after the sentence ending with "A3".

Item 5: By inserting the word "parking" after the word "These" in line 4 of Section V-A, 2.

Item 6: By deleting the following language from Section V-A, 3 ", and it is determined that the granting of relief is consistent with the intent of this By-Law and will not increase the likelihood of accident or impair access and circulation".

Item 7: By inserting a new subsection 6 into Section V-A which states
Approval Criteria

An applicant is not entitled to a Special Permit. The Planning Board may approve such an application for a Special Permit A3 Parking Determination if it finds that, in its judgment:

- a) The parking is sufficient in quantity to meet the needs of the proposed project;
- b) Pedestrian access and circulation has been provided for;
- c) New driveways have been designed to maximize sightline distances to the greatest extent possible;
- d) It is impractical to meet these standards and that a waiver of these regulations will not result in or worsen parking and traffic problems on-site or on the surrounding streets, or adversely affect the value of abutting lands and buildings and
- e) The granting of relief is consistent with the intent of this By-Law and will not increase the likelihood of accident or impair access and circulation.

A 2/3rd Vote Required
A Unanimous Vote

Article 20

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

to insert into Section III-A 4.4 and 4.5 the words "except in the Industrial Park District" at the end of the description of the use.

A 2/3rd Vote Required
A Unanimous Vote

Article 21

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, by replacing Section I-C.2 in its entirety, as follows:

2. No premises and no building erected, altered, or in any way changed as to construction or use, under a permit or otherwise, shall be occupied or used without a certificate of occupancy signed by the Building Commissioner. Such certificate of occupancy shall not be issued until the premises or building and their uses comply with this By-Law. A record of all applications and certificates of occupancy shall be kept on file by the Building Commissioner.

In town house, garden apartment and apartment house developments, and/or any other multi-unit residential developments (exclusive of subdivisions) (herein a "development"), certificates of occupancy shall not be issued by the Building Commissioner for more than 85% of the dwelling units within the development or within an approved phase of the development until:

a. all "site work improvements", as hereinafter defined, shown on the approved development plans for the entire development, or for an approved phase of the development, and required by the applicable permits or approvals for the development, shall have been fully completed. Site work improvements shall not be considered fully completed until a project engineer has submitted to the Building Commissioner as-built plans (for the entire development or applicable phase of the development) and a certification that such site work improvements have been completed in accordance with the approved development plans or approved phase thereof and the applicable permits or approvals; or

b. the developer has applied for and obtained a Special Permit A1 from the Board of Appeals requesting relief from the 85% limitation on certificates of occupancy. Each application for a Special Permit A1 pursuant to this section shall include, in addition to all other application requirements, a certification of a project engineer as to the status of site

work improvements remaining to be completed, the number and percentage of dwelling units remaining to be completed in the development or phase thereof, and such additional information related thereto as may be requested by the Board of Appeals. Upon making a finding that:

(i) a delay in the completion of the remaining site work improvements will not adversely impact the occupants of the completed dwelling units;

(ii) is not required for the safe occupancy of additional dwelling units; and

(iii) the granting of relief from said limitation will not jeopardize the likelihood of full completion of the site work improvements; said finding to be used in lieu of the special permit approval criteria contained in Section I-F, 2., the Board of Appeals may partially waive the 85% limitation and allow the Building Commissioner to issue certificates of occupancy in a manner consistent with the first paragraph of this Section I-C,

2. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board of Appeals shall not allow, and the Building Commissioner shall not issue, certificates of occupancy for more than 95% of the dwelling units within the development or approved phase of the development until the project engineer has submitted to the Building Commissioner as-built plans and a certification that the site work improvements have been completed in accordance with the approved development plan or approved phase of the development plan and the applicable permits and approvals.

“Site work improvements” as used herein shall include all improvements to be made or constructed in connection with the development (exclusive of dwelling structures), including, but not limited to, roadways, parking lots, sidewalks and walkways, grading, landscaping, utilities, wastewater treatment, drainage and other required infrastructure. For the purpose of this section, the “developer” shall be deemed to include the original applicant and all successors or assigns of the applicant, including any and all parties seeking building permits or certificates of occupancy for the initial construction or initial occupancy of one or more dwelling units within the development or applicable phase thereof. The “project engineer” shall be a licensed engineer working on behalf of the developer and shall include the original project engineer at the time of application to the permit granting authority and all successors to the original project engineer.

A 2/3rd Vote Required
A Unanimous Vote

Article 22

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, by amending Section V-E (Personal Wireless Services) as follows:

Item 1: By inserting the words "to ensure public safety" at the end of Section 1 (Purposes).

Item 2: By replacing Section 7.d. in its entirety with the following: "In order to maintain a safety fall zone, a Tower shall not be erected nearer to any property line than a distance equal to the vertical height of the Tower (inclusive of any appurtenant device), plus 10 percent or 20 feet, whichever is greater (or such greater distance to the extent that federal or state law allows for any additional increases in the height of the Tower), measured at the mean finished grade of the Tower base."

A 2/3rd Vote Required
A Unanimous Vote

Article 23

VOTED: That the Town transfer a sum not to exceed \$20,000 from available funds to the Hingham Historical Commission to erect a monument to memorialize the citizens buried at the Town Farm and to mark the location of the three Town Almshouses.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 24

VOTED: That the Town transfer \$250,000 from available funds to the Special Education Reserve Fund.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 25

VOTED: That the Town accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws chapter 32, section 103 (j), inserted by Section 19 of Chapter 188, An Act Relative to Municipal Relief, of the Acts of 2010, so as to increase

the maximum base on which the COLA (Cost-of-Living Adjustment) is calculated to \$13,000 and, provided further, that an appropriations increase of \$58,100 for Fiscal Year 2016 be approved and transferred from available funds to meet the Fiscal Year 2016 obligation.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 26

VOTED: That the Town, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 82, section 21, discontinue the following public ways: a portion of North Street and a portion of Station Street, shown as Parcel A and Parcel B, respectively, on a plan entitled "Roadway Discontinuance Plan, Portion of North Street & Station Street, Hingham, Massachusetts", dated February 27, 2015, prepared by Merrill Engineers and Land Surveyors.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 27

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, and Article 5 section 4A of the Town of Hingham General By-Laws, to dispose of certain land, shown as Parcel A and Parcel B on a plan entitled "Roadway Discontinuance Plan, Portion of North Street & Station Street, Hingham, Massachusetts", dated February 27, 2015, prepared by Merrill Engineers and Land Surveyors, for a minimum of \$25,000, and on such other terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deem in the best interests of the Town, for any use permitted as of right or allowed by special permit in the Downtown Hingham Overlay Zoning District.

A 2/3rd Vote Required

A Unanimous Vote

Article 28

VOTED: That the Town vote to rescind the action taken under Article 21 of the Warrant for the 2014 Annual Town Meeting whereby \$15,000 was transferred from available funds to supplement a previous appropriation of \$5,000 for the purpose of conducting an electronic voting pilot program at the 2015 Annual Town Meeting.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 29

VOTED: That the Town amend the Wetlands Protection By-Law (Article 22 of the Town By-Laws) by deleting Section 2A in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

2A. Except as permitted by the Commission or as otherwise provided in this By-Law, no person shall remove, fill, dredge, alter or build upon or within one hundred (100') feet of any resource area, as outlined in Section 1 of this By-Law, or within the two-hundred foot (200') Riverfront Area, as defined in 310 CMR Section 10.58. The provisions of this By-Law shall not apply to any removing, filling, dredging, or altering necessary in the course of maintaining or repairing, or replacing, but not substantially changing or enlarging, an existing lawfully located structure or facility used in the service of the public to provide electric, gas, sewer, water, telephone or telecommunication services. Any removal, filling, dredging or altering authorized by this section 2A shall be subject to best management practices for sediment and erosion control.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 30

VOTED: That the Town transfer from available funds an amount not to exceed \$400,000 for civil engineering services to begin development of plans and specifications for Route 3A / Rotary / Summer Street corridor roadway improvements and all incidental costs.

A Majority Vote

Article 31

VOTED: That the Town transfer \$827,000 from available funds (accumulated mooring fees in the General Fund) for a) the engineering, permitting and construction of a harbor walkway along the edge of the bathing beach asphalt pavement and the construction of a buried concrete block wall along the edge of the pavement between the bathing beach parking lot and the beach sand to provide protection of infrastructure; and b) the development of detailed engineering drawings for repair and restoration and the reconstruction of four Town-owned harbor wharves at Iron Horse Park, the POW/MIA/Mobil Station parcel, Barnes I and Barnes II.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 32

VOTED: That the Town authorize, but not require, the Board of Selectmen, for consideration on such terms as it deems in the best interest of the Town, to enter into a long-term non-exclusive lease for a term not to exceed thirty (30) years with a nonprofit organization for operation of a sailing and rowing center on a portion of the parcel of land shown on Assessors' Map 51, Lot 58 and known as Barnes Wharf.

A Majority Vote

Article 33

VOTED: That the matter contained in Article 33 be referred to the Board of Selectmen for further study, the Selectmen being further instructed to report on such matter at the next town meeting.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 34

VOTED: That the Town, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 40, section 15A, transfer the care, custody, management and control of that certain parcel of land and the improvements thereon, known as and numbered 308 Cushing Street, and shown as Lot 28 on Assessor Map 167, (a) from the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant ("HMLP") Board of Commissioners to the Board of Selectmen ("BOS"), upon relocation of the HMLP to its new facility, in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding, dated as of February 3, 2015, between the BOS and Board of Commissioners, and (b) to be held as general corporate property of the Town

A 2/3rd Vote Required

A Unanimous Vote

Article 35

VOTED: That the Town authorize the School Department to enter into a lease of up to five years for the purpose of leasing new school buses used for regular transportation.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 36

VOTED: That the Town transfer \$109,086 from the Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Fund: Insurance Recovery in Excess of \$20,000 for use by the School Department for the initial stabilization and safety repairs to the Plymouth River School roof.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 37

VOTED: That the Town authorize, but not require, for a period through April 30, 2016, the Board of Selectmen to accept grants of easements for purposes of streets, sidewalks, 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 Unanimous Vote

Meeting Adjourned 10:12 PM

2016 Cash Appropriations

Article 6	
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	
122 SELECTMEN	
Payroll	458,173
Expenses	33,590
Capital Outlay	24,295
132 RESERVE FUND	
550,000	
135 TOWN ACCOUNTANT	
Payroll	371,381
Expenses	12,555
Capital Outlay	210,500
Audit	55,000
Information Technology	204,755
141 ASSESSORS	
Payroll	229,746
Expenses	11,587
Consulting	67,000
Map Maintenance	6,000
145 TREASURER/COLLECTOR	
Payroll	323,898
Expenses	44,808
Capital Outlay	0
Tax Titles	10,000
151 LEGAL SERVICES	
232,000	
159 TOWN MEETINGS	
Payroll	2,692
Expenses	27,300
161 TOWN CLERK	
Payroll	178,822
Expenses	7,866

162 ELECTIONS	
Payroll	12,150
Expenses	14,795
173 COMMUNITY PLANNING	
Payroll	714,978
Expenses	57,885
177 BARE COVE PARK	
Payroll	16,954
Expenses	7,833
192 TOWN HALL	
Payroll	218,653
Expenses	426,776
Capital Outlay	60,185
193 GRAND ARMY MEMORIAL HALL	14,846
Capital Outlay	<u>5,000</u>
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	<u><u>4,612,023</u></u>

PUBLIC SAFETY

210 POLICE DEPARTMENT	
Payroll (Overtime \$384,812)	5,146,548
Expenses	346,550
Capital Outlay (\$71,000 from Mooring Permits)	130,500
220 FIRE DEPARTMENT	
Payroll (Overtime \$400,000)	4,577,186
Expenses	403,258
Capital Outlay	123,000
230 DISPATCH SERVICES	
Expenses	813,750
292 ANIMAL CONTROL	
Payroll	52,384
Expenses	4,300

295 HARBORMASTER	
Payroll	151,700
Expenses	55,250
299 PUBLIC SAFETY UTILITIES	
Emergency Water	364,424
Street Lighting	<u>183,274</u>
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	<u>12,352,124</u>
EDUCATION	
300 SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	
Payroll	37,239,250
Expenses	8,174,470
Capital Outlay	<u>988,480</u>
TOTAL EDUCATION	<u>46,402,200</u>
PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES	
405 PROJECT ENGINEERING	
Payroll	237,848
Expenses	35,475
Capital Outlay	0
Road Building/Construction	300,000
420 HIGHWAY/RECREATION/TREE & PARK	
Payroll (Overtime \$44,412)	1,967,668
Expenses	434,897
Capital Outlay (\$325,000 for Excess Overlay)	404,500
Snow Removal	504,325
Road Maintenance	303,246
430 LANDFILL/RECYCLING	
Payroll (Overtime \$22,295)	490,356
Expenses	861,946
Capital Outlay	117,000
440 SEWER COMMISSION	
Payroll (Overtime \$22,143)	314,966

Expenses	269,278
Capital Outlay	159,000
Engineering	10,000
MWRA Charges	1,688,876
Hull Intermunicipal Agreement	161,086

\$2,475,163 shall be funded from Sewer revenue.

TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	<u>8,260,467</u>
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HUMAN SERVICES

510 HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Payroll	303,923
Expenses	20,285

541 ELDER SERVICES

Payroll	203,333
Expenses	21,558
Capital Outlay	0
Tax Work Off Program	60,000

543 VETERANS' SERVICES

Payroll	89,762
Expenses	5,779
Benefits	282,733

545 WOMANSPLACE CRISIS CENTER

2,700

546 SOUTH SHORE WOMEN'S CENTER

3,700

TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES

993,773

CULTURE AND RECREATION

610 LIBRARY

Payroll	1,298,890
Expenses	314,682
Capital Outlay	105,000

630 RECREATION COMMISSION

Payroll	89,681
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650 TRUSTEES OF BATHING BEACH	
Payroll	17,727
Expenses	22,145
Capital Outlay	0
692 CELEBRATIONS	<u>11,210</u>
TOTAL CULTURE & RECREATION	<u><u>1,859,335</u></u>
ENTERPRISE FUND	
720 COUNTRY CLUB	<u>2,231,877</u>
The total sum of \$2,181,127 shall be funded from Country Club revenue.	
TOTAL ENTERPRISE FUND	<u><u>2,231,877</u></u>
DEBT SERVICE	
710 DEBT SERVICE	<u>9,661,182</u>
(\$4,786,120 IS EXCLUDED FROM PROPOSITION 2 1/2)	
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	<u><u>9,661,182</u></u>
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	
900 CONTRIBUTORY GROUP INSURANCE	6,429,881
900 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS	880,732
910 CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT	3,839,017
912 WORKERS' COMPENSATION	300,000
913 UNEMPLOYMENT	30,000
914 EMPLOYER MEDICARE TAXES	675,000
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	<u><u>12,154,630</u></u>

UNCLASSIFIED

901 INSURANCE	
Fire, Public Liability, Property Damage, etc.	550,000
940 CLAIMS AND INCIDENTALS	
Claims and Incidentals	<u>10,950</u>
TOTAL UNCLASSIFIED	<u>560,950</u>
TOTAL ARTICLE 6	99,088,561
Article 7	
From Stabilization to reduce 2016 Tax Rate	65,413
Article 8	
2014 Article 8 (reduce FY2016 tax rate)	674,133
reallocate to Meals tax stabilization fund	
Article 9	
From Meals Tax Stabilization to reduce 2016 Tax Rate	450,000
Article 13	
From Free Cash to FY15 Reserve Fund	1,656,180
Article 14	
Fire Station Building - renovation North Station	500,000
Article 15-CPC	
General Reserve - Administrative Fund	37,500
Housing Reserve-HAHT Opportunity Funding Program	100,000
Housing Reserve-HAHT to develop Selectmen's Parcel	25,000
Housing Reserve-Housing Authority for 132 Scotland St	28,068
General Reserve-Historical Collections Master Plan	88,931
Historic Reserve-Liberty Plain Cemetery Restore & Reserve Veteran Markers	24,750
Historic Reserve-Restore former Tree & Park Barn windows	25,000
Historic Reserve-Rehab building 52-Bare Cove Fire Museum	34,393
General Reserve-Rehab building 52-Bare Cove Fire Museum	38,107

General Reserve - Congregational Church Assoc. construction handicapped ramp	20,000
General Reserve - Ragged island gazebo preservation	5,000
General Reserve - Lincoln School Apts- replace elevator	58,695
Open Space Reserve-Deposit to Conservation Fund	30,000
General Reserve - Cordage Head House improvements	380,000
General Reserve - Restoration of tennis courts at SSCC	50,000
Article 23	
From Free Cash to Historical Commission Monuments to Alms houses	20,000
Article 24	
From Free Cash to Special Education Reserve Fund	250,000
Article 25	
From Free Cash to Increase Retirement appropriations Increase base/COLA increase	58,100
Article 27	
Dispose land - Portion of North & Station Streets	25,000
Article 28	
Rescind 2014 Article 21 - Electronic Voting	-15,000
Article 30	
Development of plans Rte 3A/Rotary/Summer St	400,000
Article 31	
Harbor improvements (accumulated Mooring fees in the General Funds)	827,000
Article 36	
Insurance recovery > \$20,000 Plymouth River Roof	114,086
	<u>104,944,831</u>

Annual Town Election, May 2, 2015

Moderator

	PR1	PR2	PR3	PR 4	PR5	PR5A	PR6	TOTAL
Blanks	109	130	165	165	106	80	183	938
Michael J. Puzo	508	569	704	631	476	256	606	3750
Write-Ins	1	3	4	4	1	2	6	21
Total	618	702	873	800	583	338	795	4709

Selectmen

	PR1	PR2	PR3	PR 4	PR5	PR5A	PR6	TOTAL
Blanks	6	9	9	10	3	5	3	45
Irma H. Lauter	189	183	211	202	161	116	301	1363
Mary M. Power	423	510	653	587	419	217	491	3300
Write-Ins	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Total	618	702	873	800	583	338	795	4709

Board of Assessors

	PR1	PR2	PR3	PR 4	PR5	PR5A	PR6	TOTAL
Blanks	150	186	276	226	158	97	225	1318
Michael P. Shaughnessy	467	513	595	572	425	240	566	3378
Write-Ins	1	3	2	2	0	1	4	13
Total	618	702	873	800	583	338	795	4709

Town Clerk

	PR1	PR2	PR3	PR 4	PR5	PR5A	PR6	TOTAL
Blanks	105	116	161	152	113	86	159	892
Eileen A. McCracken	512	585	711	645	470	251	633	3807
Write-Ins	1	1	1	3	0	1	3	10
Total	618	702	873	800	583	338	795	4709

Board of Health

	PR1	PR2	PR3	PR 4	PR5	PR5A	PR6	TOTAL
Blanks	139	156	237	185	141	98	208	1164
Peter B. Bickford	479	545	634	613	441	239	585	3536
Write-Ins	0	1	2	2	1	1	2	9
Total	618	702	873	800	583	338	795	4709

Municipal Light Board

	PR1	PR2	PR3	PR 4	PR5	PR5A	PR6	TOTAL
Blanks	161	187	256	209	153	105	217	1288
John A. Stoddard, Jr.	457	514	615	585	430	233	576	3410
Write-ins	0	1	2	6	0	0	2	11
Total	618	702	873	800	583	338	795	4709

Municipal Light Board

	PR1	PR2	PR3	PR 4	PR5	PR5A	PR6	TOTAL
Blanks	102	125	142	133	102	75	187	866
David Ellison	271	294	334	325	233	126	316	1899
Roger Freeman	245	280	395	341	248	137	290	1936
Write-ins	0	3	2	1	0	0	2	8
Total	618	702	873	800	583	338	795	4709

Housing Authority

	PR1	PR2	PR3	PR 4	PR5	PR5A	PR6	TOTAL
Blanks	172	201	297	251	169	106	259	1455
William A. Wise, Jr.	444	500	575	546	414	230	534	3243
Write-Ins	2	1	2	3	0	2	2	12
Total	618	702	874	800	583	338	795	4710

School Committee (Two Positions)

	PR1	PR2	PR3	PR 4	PR5	PR5A	PR6	TOTAL
Blanks	227	282	304	255	194	139	312	1713
Aylene M. Calnan	249	217	338	406	221	140	417	1988
Carlos A. F. Da Silva	187	180	225	168	187	140	213	1300
Cynthia W. Galko	339	383	556	447	323	126	327	2501
Eryn G. Kelley	234	340	321	323	241	129	319	1907
Write-Ins	0	2	2	1	0	2	2	9
Total	1236	1404	1746	1600	1166	676	1590	9418

Planning Board

	PR1	PR2	PR3	PR 4	PR5	PR5A	PR6	TOTAL
Blanks	154	169	245	227	154	106	225	1280
William C. Ramsey	464	532	627	570	429	232	565	3419
Write-Ins	0	1	1	3	0	0	5	10
Total	618	702	873	800	583	338	795	4709

Sewer Commission (For Three Years)

	PR1	PR2	PR3	PR 4	PR5	PR5A	PR6	TOTAL
Blanks	172	187	284	240	172	112	250	1417
Robert M. Higgins	444	512	586	558	411	226	537	3274
Write-Ins	2	3	3	2	0	0	8	18
Total	618	702	873	800	583	338	795	4709

Sewer Commission (For Two Years)

	PR1	PR2	PR3	PR 4	PR5	PR5A	PR6	TOTAL
Blanks	179	208	298	252	180	119	263	1499
Kenneth F. Johnson, Jr.	438	491	573	546	403	218	531	3200
Write-Ins	1	3	2	2	0	1	1	10
Total	618	702	873	800	583	338	795	4709

Recreation Commission

	PR1	PR2	PR3	PR 4	PR5	PR5A	PR6	TOTAL
Blanks	145	167	258	236	154	104	237	1301
Adrienne S. Ramsey	472	533	612	562	428	234	553	3394
Write-Ins	1	2	3	2	1	0	5	14
Total	618	702	873	800	583	338	795	4709
Registered Voters: 22368								28.80%

Vital Statistics

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Births	221	205	216	201	222
Marriages	74	73	80	85	84
Deaths	335	275	281	402	491

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

Building Department

The Building Department continued to see renovation and new construction activity on both residential and commercial properties throughout the town during 2015. We also saw several building and roof collapses with the record snowfall including the Lincoln Building, Recreational Park Drive, Cushing Street, The Fresh Market and the Plymouth River School library roof along with some homes and garages. The Lexus dealership is now open on Derby Street. Damon Farm continues to add units. The Derby Street Shoppes continue to see new tenants. The Volvo dealership has also opened on Lincoln Street. All 150 units at the Shipyard are now complete. Back River condos have received the final occupancy for that project. We are anticipating a new assisted-living complex behind Lexus and a new apartment building at the Shipyard in the near future.

We continue to enforce the Massachusetts 8th Edition of 780 CMR State Building Code, The Massachusetts State Electrical Code 527 CMR 12.00 2014, The Massachusetts State 248 CMR Plumbing and Gas Code, Along with the Town of Hingham General By-Law and the Zoning By-Law.

The computer based permitting program is receiving upgrades from the IT department. The new software will make on line permitting more user-friendly for homeowners and contractors to apply for permits from their home or office.

The Building Department has issued a total of 3,900 permits and conducted 5,949 inspections in 2015.

		Fees Collected
1,312	Building Permits	\$616,525
44	Final Cost Affidavits	69,690
613	Plumbing Permits	51,265
484	Gas Permits	23,575
1066	Electrical Permits	105,500
83	Certificate of Inspection	7,880
136	Occupancy	4,620
54	Re-inspection	3,755
108	Sheet Metal	19,465
<hr/>		
3,900		<hr/> \$902,275

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 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Clancy C.B.O./Building Commissioner

Conservation Commission

In 2015, the Conservation Commission supported multiple projects related to natural resource protection and open space management.

The Hingham Bathing Beach Management Plan was finalized 2015 and serves as a valuable tool for a number of Town departments, including Conservation, Public Works and Harbormaster, in cooperatively managing the beach on a year-round basis.

The Hingham Climate Change, Vulnerability, Risk Assessment and Adaptation Study was also finalized in 2015. It guides capital improvements and public infrastructure decisions relative to sea level rise and storm surge. The study was funded by a Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Coastal Community Resilience grant; Hingham was one of the first communities in the state to win an award from this grant program.

The Walton's Cove Stormwater Mitigation Project moved into its second of three phases in 2015, which included the final design for the bioretention areas at the Town's sewer facility on Downer Avenue and a public education campaign in the Walton's Cove watershed. As part of this campaign, Town staff, a landscaping professional, volunteers from the Horsley Witten Group and a local resident constructed a demonstration rain garden at the resident's home on Downer Avenue. This project was featured in the Hingham Journal.

The Comprehensive Trails Plan Committee and the BSC Group, Inc. completed the Town's trails plan in 2015. The trails plan is a benefit to both residents of, and visitors to, Hingham as well as Town departments

and committees. It provides trail locations and maps of publicly accessible land, as well as the necessary information to plan future property acquisitions for trail connectivity, trail development and maintenance, and resource protection. The trails plan was funded through Town Meeting.

The Conservation Commission was featured on a Hingham Community Access & Media (HCAM) episode of "Getting to Know." The episode aired on July 8, 2015 and included an introduction by Scott McIsaac, Chair, highlights of the demonstration rain garden and trails planning process, mentioned above, as well as the annual vernal pool presentations by the science classes at Notre Dame Academy.

The Commission continued to evaluate projects subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Hingham Wetland Regulations; it acted on 168 applications and projects during 2015. These included:

- 2 Orders of Resource Area Delineation
- 1 Emergency Certification
- 3 Enforcement Orders
- 35 Orders of Conditions
- 3 Amended Orders of Conditions
- 29 Determinations of Applicability
- 67 Certificates of Compliance
- 21 Administrative Reviews
- 7 Permit Extensions

In 2015, the Conservation Department issued a total of 75 hunting permits; 9 for the spring turkey season and 66 for the fall deer season. The Conservation Department received notification of 6 deer being harvested during the 2015 season.

The Commission's dedicated volunteers continued to help maintain and improve trails, fields and natural resources on Conservation lands. Various student groups, Boy Scouts and resident volunteers worked to clear trails and improve facilities.

Scott McIsaac, Chair
Eldon Abbott, Vice Chair
Laurie Freeman
Frank Gaul

Michael Ide
John J. Morrissey
Robert Mosher

Loni Fournier, Senior Planner: Conservation/GIS

Planning Board

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 Site Plan Review hearings. Fourteen were in conjunction with Special Permits, and six were not. These included the Notre Dame fields project, a minor modification to the Lexus project, a modification to the High School fields approval, the installation of a buried seawall and parking lot reconfiguration proposed by the Trustees of the Bathing Beach, a storage shed at the Meadows, installation of a new canopy at a gas station, a building addition for the Hingham Historical Society, a Bed & Breakfast Establishment, a mixed use commercial/warehouse building, and conversion of a retail space into a mixed use residential/commercial building. In addition, the Planning Board issued seven Special Permit A3 approvals in conjunction with requests for parking waivers or determinations in accordance with the Town's off-street parking regulations, and one Special Permit A3 approval for a Preliminary Flexible Residential Development.

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 additional antennae at an existing PCS location, an excavation and grading project at a residential location, a Bed and Breakfast Establishment, minor modifications at the Meadows Condominium, and the Herb Chambers Lexus Dealership. They also permitted both a major and a minor modification at the Hingham Shipyard, as well as a modification at the Derby Street Shoppes, and the reuse of 425 Lincoln Street.

The Planning Board also held joint hearings with the Conservation Commission to hear the reports and progress on the Trails Master Plan, and a joint hearing with the Board of Selectmen to fill the seat left vacant with the resignation of Walter Sullivan, Jr. The Boards voted to appoint Jennifer M. Gay Smith to fill the vacancy in January 2016.

The Planning Board reviewed eight Form A (Approval Not Required) plans and endorsed seven of them for lot line changes, land swaps between adjacent parcels, or the creation of new lots. One Form A submittal was withdrawn. The Planning Board also acted on one new Preliminary Subdivision, one Definitive Subdivision application, and two

applications for modifications to existing subdivisions. Residential development on approved subdivision and infill lots, and in approved multifamily developments continued with activity at Baker Hill, Weathervane, Back River, Black Rock and Hewitt's Landing. Back River, Black Rock, and Hewitt's Landing are essentially completed, and, the Baker Hill subdivision is nearing completion. Construction at Damon Farms is progressing steadily, and construction is preparing to start on two of the three new houses at the recently approved Lewis Court subdivision.

In the months leading up to the 2016 Town Meeting, the Planning Board discussed and held public hearings on nine proposed amendments to the Zoning By-Law (Media Broadcasting or Production Studios, Common Driveways, Floodplain Protection Overlay District, Bed and Breakfast Establishments, Section II & III, Commercial Parking Requirements and Table of Parking Dimensions, Lot Shape Requirements, Uniformity Amendments, and, Changes to Nonconforming Structures Accessory to Single Family and Two-Family Dwellings). The purpose of the Media Broadcasting or Production Studios article is to broaden the existing use "Local Cable Access Broadcasting Studio" by providing a definition, and increasing the zoning districts where it could be permitted. The purpose of the Common Driveways article is to provide a process for review and approval of common driveways, as well as clear standards. The purpose of the Floodplain Protection Overlay District article is to revise the references to the FEMA map panels, correct naming conventions, revise the associated map, and add a clearly stated purpose to the section. The purpose of the Bed and Breakfast Establishments article is to insert this use into the table in Section III-A. The purpose of the Section II & III article is primarily clean up for consistency with naming conventions and removing dates. The purpose of the Commercial Parking Requirements and Table of Parking Dimensions article is to consider changes to parking requirements for commercial uses, and, changes to the Table of Parking Dimensions. The purpose of the Lot Shape Requirements article is to remove the dimensional requirement of a "circle" from the frontage definition, and, standardize lot shape requirements across all zoning districts. The purpose of the Uniformity Amendments is to remove date based criteria from two sections in the by-law: bed and breakfast establishments and two family dwellings, because having date based criteria is thought to be inconsistent with state law. The purpose of Changes to Nonconforming Structures Accessory to Single Family and Two-Family Dwellings is to provide a more appropriate permitting mechanism for proposed changes to nonconforming residential garages, sheds, porches, and other accessory structures by reviewing them with a Special Permit process.

As with recent previous years, 2015 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, the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Conservation Commission. 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, Trails Planning working group, Development and Industrial Committee, Traffic Committee, South Hingham Study Group and the newly re-formed Harbor Development Task Force.

Sarah H. Corey, Chairman
Judith Sneath, Clerk
Gary Tondorf-Dick
William Ramsey
Jennifer M. Gay Smith



The Falls at Foundry Pond

Zoning Board of Appeals

The Board of Appeals is a quasi-judicial body charged 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-Laws designate the Board as the permit granting authority for Variances, Administrative Appeals, Findings, and certain Special Permits. These permits are broadly categorized into land use and dimensional regulations.

The Board is also the only 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. Four 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 (28) meetings in 2015, during which members conducted one hundred fifteen (115) separate hearings on both ongoing and new applications. The Board received fifty-three (53) 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 (34) of all applications submitted to the Board in 2015 were variance requests. The majority of the variances approved were dimensional and related 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 new variance requests related to use in 2015.

Administrative Appeals: Aggrieved parties may appeal a decision or issuance of a permit by the Building Commissioner to the Board. No new appeals were filed with the Board in 2015.

Findings: The Board received a single application 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 sixteen (17) Special Permit requests. Special Permits are authorizations to use land or structures for a specific use, 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 a restoration project at the Hingham Bathing Beach. Special permit applications approved, after a collaborative review process with the Planning Board, include a bed & breakfast establishment, a downtown mixed-use building, and an electric car dealership at Derby Street Shoppes. The Boards also jointly heard and approved plan modifications in the Hingham Shipyard.

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 have a long term affordability restriction. While no new comprehensive permit applications were filed with the Board, construction continued on a previously approved 40B development: Damon Farms at Queen Anne's Corner.

Other Business: Board members and its designee continued to participate in an ongoing planning initiative last year, known as the South Hingham Study Group. The Board also initiated several zoning amendments for consideration at 2016 Annual Town Meeting. The Board sponsored the proposed changes in an effort to improve the processes and regulations it implements under the Zoning By-Law.

Board members would like to express their thanks 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.

Joseph M. Fisher, Chair
Joseph W. Freeman, Vice-Chair
W. Tod McGrath, Clerk
Emily Wentworth, Senior Planner and Zoning Administrator

Historic Districts Commission

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 2015, the Historic Districts Commission held over 75 hearings and conducted site visits to review applications from property owners seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness. The Commission reviews applications in a public hearing for projects that will affect the historical and architectural features of a building in order to ensure that the project is appropriate, i.e., respectful in mass and scale and is compatible to the original historic structure and the streetscape. Maintenance and repair projects do not require a hearing and are approved immediately. 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 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.

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. The Commission's meetings are video recorded and are readily available to the public. For viewing information contact HCAM or visit the HCAM website www.hinghammedia.org/

The Commission wishes to thank Anne Fanton for her interest in preserving Hingham's historic properties, and for her keen editing skills; and Marc Minor for his thoughtful comments and advice. The Commission welcomes new appointees Ben Burnham and Denis King.

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
Chuck Clutz
Lois Levine
Virginia Tay
Marc Minor

Alternate Members

John D'Angelo, Vice-Chair
Michael Collard
Marty Saunders
Anne Fanton
Tomas Kindler

Andrea Young, Administrator

Hingham Historical Commission

During 2015, the Historical Commission completed the planning and approval phases for the Almshouse signs and memorial, the funding for which was approved by 2015 Town Meeting. The signs and the memorial marking the locations of the Town's former Almshouses and the burying ground where hundreds of souls were interred, will be installed late this summer. Last year's Town Meeting also approved Community Preservation Act funds to restore an historic gazebo, which originally stood in Melville Gardens. The Historical Commission in cooperation with the National Park Service, will place the newly-restored gazebo on Ragged Island in Hingham Harbor for all to enjoy.

With considerable assistance from Steve Dempsey, creator and administrator of "Hingham Then and Now" on Facebook, the Commission published its first "Hingham Then and Now" calendar. The calendar features twelve months of photographs of Hingham past and present.

In 2015, the Commission awarded grants of nearly \$100,000 from the Greenbush Historic Preservation Trust Fund to support restoration and preservation projects located in the historic districts abutting the Greenbush Rail right-of-way. Projects included a new roof for the Tower at Glastonbury Abbey, restoration of sanctuary windows in the First Baptist Church, additional funding for the Ames Chapel and the Heritage Museum, a ramp and accessible toilet for the New North Meeting House, and the "Bucket Town Sculpture" located at the corner of North and Station Streets. The Historical Commission 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 on the Town website under Historical Commission.

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 former Chair Tom Willson for two terms of dedicated service to the Commission's mission, and for his thoughtful and steadfast leadership. The Commission also thanks architect Arthur Choo, Jr. for sharing his design expertise, and to former Vice-Chair Mike Dyer for initiating the Ragged Island Gazebo project.

Robert A. Curley, Jr., Chair
Mike Dyer, Vice- Chair
Tom Willson
Huck Handy
Steve Swett
Arthur Choo, Jr.
Kathryn Black

Andrea Young, Administrator

Personnel Board

The Personnel Board is pleased to submit this Annual Report of its activities from January 1 through December 31, 2015.

Calendar 2015 saw the Personnel Board handle a host of issues. The Board approved job descriptions for the following new positions: Associate Librarian–Young Adult Services, Deputy Fire Chief–Administration and Deputy Fire Chief-Operations.

The Board approved the reclassification of the position of Systems Analyst at Grade 14 and the Human Resources Director at Grade 17. The Board approved the revised job description of the Library Director. Also, the Board approved the requests that the newly hired Assistant Library Director, Library Custodian, and Senior Planner: Conservation Officer/GIS and three promoted Police Officers be placed at a higher step on the applicable salary scale based on prior experience. The Board voted to increase the South Shore Country Club Range /Car attendant (X-18) salary schedule to reflect the State mandated minimum wage. Six vacation carry-over requests were approved by the Board.

An amendment to Section 14-c of the Personnel By-Law was recommended by the Board to change the wording to read: "At the discretion of the Personnel Board, vacations may be carried over from one year to another where circumstances beyond the control of any single employee preclude the enjoyment of the usual annual vacation period. The employee must submit a Vacation Carry-Over Request to his/her Department Head/Chief with an explanation of why the vacation could not be taken throughout the year due to a work-related reason. The Department Head/Chief will then submit a letter of justification to the Personnel Board and attend the Personnel Board meeting to respond to any questions the Personnel Board may have concerning the carry-over request. All carried over vacation time not used by July 1 of the following year will automatically lapse and no longer be available to the employee."

The Board recommended to the 2015 Annual Town Meeting that, effective July 1, 2015, 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.

The Board ended calendar 2015 in preparation for negotiations for new successor labor contracts with the bargaining units representing the

Public Works, Police Patrol and Police Superiors employees. All three contracts are due to expire on June 30, 2016.

David Pace, Chairman
Russell Conn
Marie Harris
Jack Manning
Mary Jane O'Meara



Winter 2015 at the Bathing Beach

Department of Public Works

The Department of Public Works is responsible for the care and upkeep of approximately 140 miles of public, 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. 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:

Boulder Glen Road	Maryknoll Drive
Brandon Woods Circle	Martins Cove Road
Cottage Street	Martins Cove Road
Downer Ave (Otis St - Marion St)	Porters Cove Road
Evergreen Lane	Seal Cove Lane
Free Street	Seal Cove Road
Gardner St (Upper)	Ship Street
Lewis Court	

Sidewalk Reconstruction: Cottage Street, Ship Street, and Union Street

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: 113.1" of snow, 20 Snowplow Operations, 45 Sanding Operations.

New Equipment: 2015 Chevrolet 2500 Pickup truck with plow, 2- 2016 International 6 Wheel Dump trucks with sanders and plows.

Special Projects: Built New Election Booths, Replaced Bandstand Beams

Tree and Park Division

Tree Plantings: 73

Tree Removals: 217

Trees Pruned: 1379

New Equipment: 2015 International Model 4400 6 Wheel Log Truck.

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. After extensive research and plant diagnostic site work performed by the University of Massachusetts Extension's diagnostic team it was determined that all trees that could potentially fall onto the roads or trails should be removed for Public Safety. The forest was closed for safety of the public during the work. The Town Forest roads were cleared and made passable by the DPW and Tree & Park to allow a contractor to remove the affected trees. A contractor was selected which performed the work through the winter. About 80% 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 Tree & Park has made good progress over the last 3 years rehabilitating the Parks and Traffic Islands, some of which were 50 or more years old and in need of revitalization.

This year Tree & Park planted 73 shade trees throughout the town.

The Garden Club of Hingham donated a beautiful 3' Lilac Tree which was planted at South Elementary School as part of an annual Arbor Day celebration. Hingham was also recognized, for the 27th year, as "Tree City USA" and also obtained the "Growth Award" which is for recognition of the Town's strong commitment to caring for and protecting our public shade trees. Over the past 2 years the Shade Tree Committee, with the assistance of the Department of Public Works, planted 2 trees in celebration of "Earth Day". These trees were planted in historical areas of Town, one was planted on East Street in the area which was known as "Rocky Nook" and one on the Hingham Common.

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 5,847 tons of household rubbish to the SEMASS trash to energy facility in Rochester and 1,404 tons of bulky waste and demolition to New England Recycling (NER) in Taunton to be recycled. Hingham residents recycled 2,197 tons of mixed recyclables, 3,238 tons of brush, logs and yard waste, 3.4 tons of tires, 2,100 gallons of motor oil, 143,240 pounds of electronics, 120 tons of textiles, 3.5 tons of batteries, and handled 135 cars with household hazardous waste. The Returnable Bottle-Can Program donated approximately 348,490 cans and 53,530 plastic bottles for an estimated total of \$20,101 to 26 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 2015, the revenue from the scale was \$71,503 which is ahead of schedule for the three year payoff. Transfer Station Permits (stickers) have been updated and changed from Blue (round) to Red (round).

With the installation of a vehicle counter, the Transfer Station accepts an average of 7,100 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, Ventrac Mower, Swap Shop Container

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 plan's 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, Ed Demko, Kenneth Johnson, 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 at the DPW would like to extend a special thank you to Terry Fredendall, who retired after 28 years of dedicated service to the Town of Hingham Department of Public Works. Terry's knowledge and hard work will be missed and we wish Terry well in retirement. I would also like to wish Donna DelRoso well who left the DPW to look into other endeavors.

We are happy to welcome new employees, Administrative Secretary, Samantha Downton; Transfer Station Skilled Laborer, Brian Norcross; Transfer Station Skilled Laborer, Kevin Bishop; and DPW Skilled Laborer, Patrick McGorman.

Randy Sylvester, DPW Superintendent

Sewer Commission

Calendar year 2015 was a very productive year for the Sewer Department. The Sewer Department continued to upgrade its infrastructure to keep in stride with our Asset Management Program. Structural repairs of 5,079 linear feet of sewer pipe were performed which removed approximately 32,328 gallons per day of infiltration.

Also part of the Asset Management Plan, 25,497 feet of sewer pipes were inspected by camera and 78,624 gallons per day of removable infiltration was observed. The defect in the sewer pipe where this infiltration is occurring is scheduled to be repaired. Also discovered during the inspections was a severely compromised manhole on North Street and Central Street. The manhole was rehabilitated in an emergency fashion and an additional 29,000 gallons per day of infiltration was removed.

Two manholes were installed for maintenance purposes on Bayberry Road and Downer Avenue. Six manhole covers were set to grade on Route 3A (Lincoln Street) in the southbound lane between Fottler Road and Thaxter Street.

The Sewer Department is also upgrading equipment in the pumping stations as part of the Asset Management Plan. Malcolm Street Pump station had a new Pressure Transducer installed, along with new pump discharge flanges. Mill Street Pump Station had a Multitrode submersible level control replaced. Both Howe Street and Bel Air pump Stations have new generators ordered as part of the FY15 Capital Budget. A Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System was installed at 8 of the 13 Sewer pump stations to track information such as station flows, pump run hours, pumping time, and alarms. This information is allowing the department to become more efficient and to analyze problems.

The Sewer Department has been aggressively 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 the 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 2015, 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 Department also extended the contract for three "On-Call" Service contracts to keep in stride with the Asset Management Plan. These contracts are for Camera Inspections, Trenchless Sewer Repairs, and Dig Sewer Repairs.

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 I/I by contacting the Sewer Commission to have their sump pumps checked. Any flow found entering the sewer system should be redirected.

Special Projects:

The Sewer Commission has also made continuing efforts to consolidate existing special acts and policies and 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.

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.

Robert Higgins, Chairman
Edmund Demko
Kenneth Johnson
Randy Sylvester, DPW Superintendent

Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant

It is with 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 2015 fiscal year the Light Board voted to transfer to the Town of Hingham a payment in lieu of taxes totaling \$500,000-. Some years back we adopted the use of a formula which is tied to the amount of electricity sold to calculate the amount of the contribution. 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. It is expected that the 2016 payment will be close to \$500,000.

The Lighting Plant continues to support energy efficiency efforts at Town owned facilities. Our contributions did 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 are not just for Town facilities. Our Hingham Is Going Green program has been in existence for close to five 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. We performed about 200 residential and commercial audits which cost the lighting plant about \$60,000.

The Lighting Board has directed me to continue to search for opportunities to procure renewable energy sources that make sense from both an electrical and financial point of view. To that end we and several other municipal lighting plants bought the entire output of another wind farm in Maine which went commercial in late 2015. The Saddleback Wind Project consists of 10 2.75-megawatt (MW) turbines capable of producing more than 105 million kilowatt-hours of clean, emission-free, renewable energy per year— enough to power approximately 10,000 homes. Additionally, six other municipal lighting

plants have bought the entire output of a solar array in central MA, Spencer and East Brookfield, which will go commercial in 2016. The Central Mass Solar Project will consist of two sets of 5 megawatt (MW) solar arrays capable of producing more than 15,000 MWh of clean, emission-free, renewable energy per year. Right now approximately 12% of our electricity comes from renewable sources of energy and 40% from non-fossil fuel generating plants. The Lighting Plant also works closely with the Town's Energy Action Committee in their work promoting responsible energy use in both public and private settings. To that end, the EAC and HMLP are having discussions with the Town about possibly siting a solar array on the top of the capped landfill at Sam Ryder Road.

As of this writing our Auditor's report is not available for publication. When the 2015 report is certified it will be posted on our web site, as have your Annual Reports going back to 2002. It appears sales in 2015 were a tad higher than in 2014. In 2015 they were 208.7m kWh and 207.7m kWh in 2014. I believe this is a combination of colder/hotter weather and economic uptick. The 2015 system peak was in July as it has been for each of the past 6 years and represents an almost 2% increase over the 2014 peak. The electrical load growth in Hingham over 10 years demonstrates how the Town's has grown. From 2005 to 2015 there was an increase of almost 27% in total sales and the system peak increased almost 42%. I believe Hingham's "growth spurt" has slowed however because if you consider the period from 2001 to 2015, the annual sales in 2015 were 38% higher than 2001 and our annual peak for that same time period was 45%.

The world of electric supply continues to become more complicated and expensive. Recent headlines have shouted about 30% higher rates for customers of investor owned utilities. HMLP customers saw no such increases. For the 1st quarter/winter months of 2015 HMLP spent \$500,000 less in supply costs then the same time period in 2014 and received 1.3% more energy. A major reason why we can hold rates largely steady and the investor owned utilities cannot is in our basic structure. We are vertically integrated which means we are exclusively responsible for securing energy for you. This difference allows us to make longer term power purchases vs. those investor owned utilities who buy in 6 month blocks making them more subject to short term market swings. That said we have been consistently, for more than 20 years, less expensive than the investor owned utilities. That 20 year period is when they became "deregulated". That deregulation allowed them to shed the potential financial downside of ill-advised power purchases. As currently constituted they simply pass those higher costs to their rate payers/customers with no consequence to their bottom line.

HMLP and other municipal lighting plants continue to work with Federal regulators and members of our Congressional delegations to control what we feel are unwarranted increases in transmission and capacity costs.

The Lighting Plant continues to make both capital improvements and steadfastly maintains its electric distribution system. 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". 2015 was once again a year which tested our mettle in that regard. Due to the efforts of HMLP employees neither the snowfalls in the winter nor the dog days of summer brought significant problems to your electric system. During last winter's record setting 8' of snow our system experienced only 3 area outages! They were all caused by snow removal equipment hitting transformers buried under snow.

The construction of our combined Operations and Administration center in Bare Cove Park is continuing at a brisk pace. We got a somewhat later than expected start of the project due to all the snow but completion is expected for spring 2016. We plan to hold an open house so Hingham residents can see their lighting plant's home for the next 75+ years!

We are converting to an Automatic Meter Reading system which will allow us to get our meters read by simply driving a truck by your residence or place of business. They are not "smart meters" which allow for remote and 2 way communication. They, AMI meters, have some amount of "controversy" associated with them from folks nervous about purported health or privacy issues. Those concerns are not the reasons we went with AMR vs. AMI. A primary driver was cost. AMR is much less expensive and provides us with the data we need to operate and bill.

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.

Your Light Board is made up of three elected Hingham citizens who volunteer their time and efforts to make the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant a public power company that Hinghamites should be proud of.

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

Fire Department/Emergency Management

The Hingham Fire Department has undergone some changes in the past year with the retirement of Chief Mark J. Duff after forty-eight years of service to the Fire Department. He started as a volunteer firefighter back in 1967 and was appointed to the permanent force in 1973. He rose to the rank of Lieutenant in 1981 and Captain in 1985. Chief Duff was made a Deputy Chief in 1991 and became Chief of Department in 2005. During his time he oversaw the introduction of the day time Deputy Chief, the renovations at Station 1 and the creation of the new Dispatch Center. I was privileged to be his Deputy Chief for ten years; his retirement has left a void in the department that will be difficult to fill.

The department now has two new Deputy Fire Chiefs: Deputy Chief of Administration/EMS Steve Murphy and Deputy Chief of Operations/Training Lou LaChance.

During the last year we were saddened by the passing of four retired firefighters; Ron Olson, David Lundin, Arthur Kress and Joe Shaughnessy. All of the men were dedicated to the department and the community.

The Hingham Fire Department responded to 4332 Emergency Calls during 2015. This is the highest year-end total of responses for the department. The ambulances made over 1650 transports to the hospital.

In 2015 we received mutual aid 80 times and gave mutual aid 354 times. This aid involved our working with eight towns and three ambulance services. The mutual aid program remains a vital and necessary part of our emergency response plans.

EMERGENCY RESPONSES - CALENDAR 2015

Fire	58
Overpressure/Explosion/Over Heat	2
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	2551
Hazardous Conditions	378
Service Calls	397
Good Intent Calls	380
False Alarm & False Calls	547
Severe Weather	10
Special Incident	9
TOTAL RESPONSES	4332

The Fire Prevention Division, under Captain Damstra, issued 546 permits and conducted over 1000 inspections. It continues to be a very active and important part of fire department operations. Lt. DiNapoli was assigned to assist the division in staying ahead of the requests for service when it was

required. Last year Permits, Fees and Reports generated \$39,013 in revenue for the town.

FIRE INSPECTIONS - CALENDAR 2015

Smoke detector and CO detector	344
Plan reviews	226
Certificates of Occupancy	204
Fire Protection Systems	80
Misc. Inspections	133
Chapter 304 Alcohol License Inspections	36
TOTAL INSPECTIONS	1023

Under the leadership of Lt. Nickerson, the department participated in SAFE fire prevention education in the various schools, nurseries and day care facilities in town. The firefighters provided overwhelming support to the program to get the fire safety message out. We are looking to expand the program to include the seniors in town.

Our work with the South Shore Regional Emergency Communications Center continues. Thanks to a SSRECC 911 grant, we have installed Mobile Data Terminals in our apparatus. These allow us to monitor calls for service in real time directly from the SSRECC. The MDT's allow us to change our current vehicle status, directly from the apparatus, on the Unit Status board at the dispatch center. The terminals also allow responding crews to access dispatcher information directly from the call and to look at the previous response history of that address.

The 2014 Annual Town Meeting approved the purchase of two new fire engines. The new engines arrived this January and we hope to have them in service by the end of February. There will be an open house soon after so the town can view the new apparatus and learn about the new capabilities they have. A special thanks to Lt Winnie, FF Krause and FF Connelly for their exceptional work on the Engine Committee.

The department continues to work with MEMA (Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency) and FEMA by attending meetings and exercises designed to assist local communities with situations that may be beyond the scope and abilities of local resources. Lately the exercises have been on cooperative regional evacuation and sheltering operations. We are looking at forming a partnership with our other coastal communities and the Hingham CERT in making this a reality.

Last winter's snow caused a lot of issues and damage to structures in the town. Hingham Emergency Management has been working with the department heads and FEMA on reimbursement for the town expenses and damages due to the storm.

The Fire Department Assets Review Committee, appointed by the Board of Selectmen in 2013 has determined that our two satellite fire stations, both of which were constructed in 1942, are in need of upgrades. A feasibility study conducted by the Architectural Firm of Dore & Whittier has also concluded that the buildings are well beyond their useful life and in need of major upgrades. The North Fire Station Building Committee was formed after the 2015 Town Meeting to start addressing that need and has been at work on that project. After careful evaluation of the existing site the committee made a decision to ask the Selectmen to approve a warrant article to explore other sites for the North Fire Station and to consider how that would affect the South Fire Station and the fourth Fire Station discussion. I believe this is a very prudent move to allow us to look at the whole fire protection plan for the town rather than just a part of it.

After serving the town faithfully for close to 100 years, the towns' Fire Alarm system will be shutdown in August 2016. It has become increasingly more expensive to maintain the system and the protection systems offered by a central station alarm company have exceeded the capability of the old system. Cell phone technology has made the street call boxes obsolete. Companies still on the old system have been informed that they need to make other arrangements prior to this date. To assist during the transition, the Fire Department is waiving the permit fee associated with the permit.

Your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide alarms play a vital part in protecting you in your home. These life saving devices require yearly maintenance. In recent years there has been an increase in carbon monoxide related events in residential homes. The department is always ready to assist a resident with information on purchasing and installation of these devices. It is important to make sure gas vents are properly cleared of snow to prevent carbon monoxide in the home.

In closing I would like to thank the firefighters of the department and the other town departments and committees we work with each day for their generous cooperation and assistance. The spirit of cooperation between the departments and committees truly benefits us all and is a hallmark of this town called Hingham.

Robert J. Olsson, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director

Hingham Police Department

The 2015 year welcomed all departments with record amounts of snow. The Hingham Police Department thankfully had fulfilled its goal of being fully staffed with 53 officers and was prepared to face the mounds of snow and the troubles it would bring. It was a test of the town's emergency response capabilities. The newer designed SUV Ford Police Interceptor cruisers were tested by the heavy snow and we are thankful we opted to purchase the all-wheel drive versions. They were able to remain in service throughout the storms. The South Shore Emergency Communication Center (SSRECC) again proved to be a positive modernization during the durations of the storms. The additional personnel smoothly and efficiently handled the call taking and dispatch duties throughout the storms for all four towns. They provided us with the ability to interface radio communications between different emergency response agencies.

The town should be proud that all departments rose to the challenge and kept Hingham safe and sound. It is often difficult for essential employees to make that dangerous drive to work during storms when everyone else is told to stay home. One of our officers had a tree limb go through his windshield while driving to work in the storm. We run three shifts a day at the Police Department and I would like to acknowledge the effort and family sacrifice officers made to get to work during these storms. It shows a true dedication to the citizens of Hingham.

With the melting of the snow, spring brought about more change for the Hingham Police. May 1, 2015 Chief Michael Peraino retired after serving this town for over 37 years. Mike had the great opportunity to see several of his DARE graduates join the Hingham Police workforce. We hope he is enjoying his retirement with his family and relaxing somewhere. It is well deserved. The selection process for a new police chief had been in place, which helped make for a smooth transition. The town was fortunate to have many qualified internal candidates to participate in the selection process. I would like to thank Deputy Chief David Jones, Lieutenant John Norkaitis and Lieutenant Sean Cavanaugh for their professionalism, dedication to job and their efforts to make Hingham a better town. I am glad to have them on my team. After 35 years of service Lieutenant Jim Taylor announced he would be retiring at the end of July. Jim has been such a recognizable face for the Police Department to so many people. We will miss him.

With the appointment of a new Chief and Deputy Chief David Jones, we set about filling in our staffing needs. During this time, we now had

sufficient manning to strengthen our Detective Division to four (4) detectives. Over the next month we implemented ten (10) promotional changes to our staff. It impressed me that we had the depth of talent and devoted officers to make these changes work without missing a beat. As Chief, I am proud of the quality of officers we have been hiring over the years.

As we move forward, we are devoted to bringing the latest technology to the department and the officers on the street. We have been working closely with the South Shore Regional Emergency Communication Center and the other communities to enhance our regional infrastructure. We have built a fiber optic loop connecting all four SSRECC communities, which strengthens reliability of communication and adds redundancy to the system. Additionally we have added computers in all police and fire vehicles, updating police and fire agencies with state of the art interoperable radios and improving our abilities to self-dispatch calls through the Computer Aided Dispatch system. All this is coming from E911 Enhancement/Development grants at no cost to the towns. Because of this technology we are in the process of implementing "Cop Link" which is a state wide system that allows police departments to share data and police incident reports. The officers will be able to see what police interactions a suspect has had with any community in the state from the seat of their cruiser.

The Police Department continues the upward trend of calls for service this year. We responded to 24374 calls for service in 2015. That is a 19% increase from the previous year or roughly 10 additional calls each day of the year.

The continued development of Hingham, both commercial and residential, has resulted in an upswing of calls for service for the Police, Harbormaster Office and Animal Control. All three departments have been working closely with the town and its various boards and committees to stay up to date and aware of new projects and demands that will be placed under their jurisdiction. The Police Department continues to remain committed to working with the various planning boards, departments, and committees that are handling future building projects that could affect quality of life issues for the citizens of Hingham. By working with these committees and boards, we are able to highlight the impact the project will have on public safety, traffic and neighborhood issues. The boards can then work with the project owners in a way that will provide mitigation to lessen the impact on the community by providing needed infrastructure changes.

The Harbormasters office continues working on a plan to finish implementing its 5 year mooring plan for Hingham Harbor. Hingham Harbor is a valuable resource to the town. The Harbormasters office has been upgrading and introducing technology as well. The "On Line Mooring " system has been a great success and we have been fortunate that Harbormaster Corson has had great success in securing federal grants for equipment and infrastructure that are making Hingham waters safer. We are also expanding our mutual aid agreements with the greater Boston Harbor communities. Since Hingham Shipyard serves as an evacuation point for Boston and a major ferry terminal, we want to be prepared and have conducted several ferry drills with the MBTA and Massport. This is increasing our regional capabilities, training opportunities and access to additional water assets when needed. Harbormaster Corson continues to work closely with all harbor development committees and conservation committees in making decisions about the future of the harbor.

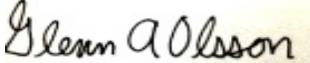
The Animal Control Officer, Leslie Badger has been busy working on leash law issues and helping citizens with the influx of wildlife that has populated Hingham. With all the open and protected lands in Hingham comes an increase in wildlife. We have also been upgrading the Animal Control Officer with new technology to aid her in streamlining some of her duties. Many may not know, but the ACO is also responsible for inspecting the various barns in Hingham. New state regulations have been put in place regarding Animal Control Officers. ACO Badger has already been certified and meets all the new standards. The new law does provide for mandated yearly training which is something that is welcomed.

Hingham Police continue to put a strong emphasis on community policing. Our Citizens Police Academy has completed its 54th class. I know of no other community that has shared this success. We continue to work closely with all the schools in Hingham, both public and private. We have four School Resource Officers devoted to this cause. We are actively working with the Hingham Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition in an effort to help educate people about the opioid epidemic and provide them with tools to help make a difference. We are changing how we as a Police Department respond to these types of calls. The focus will be on assistance to the family and hopefully to provide services to the victim of the addiction. We have been working with the Fire Department to provide training in the latest "Active Shooter "scenario based exercises. We have been working with the private industry and schools to educate them on this subject. We are looking to expand this training into all of Hingham's departments and building locations.

Times are changing in our society and we can see examples of it every day in the news. There is a social unrest and a new social awareness being exercised by the younger generations. Unfortunately the catalyst for the unrest and sometimes public disorder were the result of a police action. This is something we are conscious of and through training, education and community relations, I believe Hingham is well ahead of the curve. We work closely with the community and are responsive to their needs. In cooperation with the Board of Selectmen, we demand a highly quality recruitment process. We continue to push for well-educated officers and provide continued training throughout their careers. We seek to provide them the tools to safely and efficiently do their jobs. Additions such as Taser, less lethal weapons and hopefully additional cruiser mounted videos help us prevent some of the tragedies we have witnessed over the last several years.

As a Police Department, we are glad to be serving the Town of Hingham. We will continue to strive and provide the service that the citizens of Hingham expect of us. I look forward to working with all of you in the up-coming years.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Glenn A. Olsson". The signature is written in a cursive style and is set against a light yellow rectangular background.

Glenn A Olsson, Chief of Police

Traffic Committee

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.

There were requests for sidewalks made by many residents and there are in house traffic studies being conducted of the following streets: New Bridge, Cushing, Gardner, Prospect (from Charles to Main) and Long Meadow Road. These are all connector roads for which requests have been made for sidewalks. The study will gather data such as speed, traffic volume and accident history which will be analyzed by the Committee prior to a recommendation being made to the Board of Selectmen.

Improvements were made to the intersection of High/French/Ward Streets to enhance safety and visibility. DPW made adjustments to the line painting, brought the Stop sign out 10 feet further at French Street and painted an island on Ward Street. Residents agreed that these changes have helped immensely along with speed enforcement and the placement of a traffic trailer on High Street alerting motorists of their rate of speed.

The Traffic Committee continued to monitor the accident occurrences at the intersection of Main Street and Cushing Street. In 2015, based on available data, there have been six accidents which occurred there, of which only one had injuries. Three of the 13 cars involved were towed from the crash. Crashes by month: 1 in March, 1 in June, 2 in September, 1 in October and 1 in December; 4 were angle collisions and 2 were rear end collisions.

Once again, 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, they should make a written request to the Board of Selectmen, cc: Chief Glenn Olsson, Hingham Police Department. Questions regarding traffic issues can be addressed to Sgt. David Horte, Traffic Sergeant, Hingham Police Department, 781-804-2237.

Chief Glenn A. Olsson, Chairman (Represented by Sgt. David Horte)
 Chief Robert Olsson, (Represented by Lt. John Haley)
 Harry Sylvester, Department of Public Works
 William Ramsey, Planning Board
 Daniel Zivkovich
 Clark Frazier
 Francis Donlan

Traffic Safety Division

Persons Injured/Killed in Motor Vehicle Crashes in 2015

Fatal.....	1
Motor Vehicle Crashes with Injury.....	63
Motor Vehicle Crashes without Injury.....	776
Total Motor Vehicle Crashes.....	839

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 12/31/14).....	19,699

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

Motor Vehicle Citations Issued in 2015

Warnings (No Fine).....	2,918
Civil (Fine) 773	
Criminal/Arrests (from Motor Vehicle Stops).....	364
Total Issued.....	4,055

Parking Tickets Issued in 2015

Total Issued.....	243
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Motor Vehicle Crashes Facts and Figures Previous (5 Years)

<u>Year</u>	<u>MV Crashes</u>	<u>Fatals</u>	<u>Injuries From</u>
2010	838*	1	93
2011	803*	2	82
2012	819*	1	85
2013	879*	0	79
2014	776*	0	57

*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

The boating season had a slow start as the harbor ice thawed and the record high snow levels melted. The commuter ferries, which rarely experience interruption of service, cancelled trips to Boston for most of February due to the ice pack in the Weymouth Back River. The ice and snow began thawing in the middle of March and by late April the Inner Harbor finally began showing signs of activity as the youth rowing and sailing programs began. Despite numerous piling and pier damages around town there was no snow or ice damage to any of the town's wharfs or piers.

Three new Assistant Harbormasters began working this season bringing the total number of Assistant Harbormasters to eleven. The boating season continued to be busy with lots of recreational boating traffic and commercial vessels. The increased ferry transits to Boston, Logan Airport, and the Boston Harbor Islands were extremely popular with record high passengers for the season.



Marine II on Patrol with Asst. Dan Goldstein at the Helm

The Harbormaster's Office implemented a new mooring plan in the Hewitt's Cove Mooring Area. This mooring plan is the fourth to be implemented since 2010. The Hewitt's Cove Mooring Area offers a total of 85 mooring locations, an overall increase of seven mooring locations.

Although the boating season began slowly, activities increased very quickly. Early in the season, at roughly 3:00 AM, a nineteen foot power boat was stolen from Weymouth. Hingham, Weymouth, and Hull Harbormasters searched for a few hours before observing smoke rising over Slate Island. Hingham responded to the island's shore finding the vessel fully engulfed in flames and the operator nowhere to be found. Several hours later, after sunrise, a small search party consisting of Harbormasters and the USCG supported by a USCG HELO located the alleged operator. He was taken into custody and transported by boat to a waiting ambulance.

Boaters and town residents enjoying Hingham's harbors were delighted with a great boating season. There were many sunny days and no significant storms.



Scene of the Outer Harbor from the Inner Harbor

This year our pumpout program exceeded any previous years in gallons of sewage waste pumped from recreational boats. A total 18,701 gallons were removed by the pumpout boat, a 17% increase from last year. The pumpout boat emptied over 870 recreational boats. These significant increases are a result of increased pumpout requests in the Shipyard due to lack of a pumpout facility. This program continues to grow in cost annually; however, the benefits to our waters are important.

A total of 1710 permits were issued this year. Onlinemooring.com continues to provide online mooring renewals, new mooring submittals, and mooring management for the Harbormaster. The online software tracks 696 mooring permits, 538 docking permits, 436 transient mooring rentals, and 40 moored float permits.

Lots of time and energy was devoted throughout 2015 to plan our transition to the new Intermodal Building in the Shipyard. While the completion date was pushed into 2016, we are timing the complete performance of the 2014 Port Security Grant for a harbor wide security camera system, to coincide with the building completion. This camera system, new radios, and furniture will create a professional work environment for the office enabling us to better serve the community.



New England Aquarium evaluating a deceased seal found in the Area of the Ferry Terminal

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. We can be emailed at harbormaster@hingham-ma.com. 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,

Handwritten signature of Kenneth R. Corson III.

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

Hingham Affordable Housing Trust

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 added 4 Beal's Cove to the Town's inventory of affordable housing units. Looking forward to 2016, the Trust is working on the development of the 302-304 Whiting Street. The Trust is in the process of improving the existing structure and designing a second house on the property. The Trust anticipates submitting and obtaining approval for a LIP application, a Local Initiative Program Application from the state, including a request for a local preference. With the approval of the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Trust

will proceed to work with the Town Boards to assure a quality development.

The Trust appreciates the cooperation of the Board of Selectmen, the Community Preservation Committee, the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals, 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 the link to our website at the Town of Hingham at <http://hingham-ma.gov>.

Tim White, Chair
Kevin Connelly
Mike MacDonald
Nancy Kerber

Paul Gannon
Anita Comerford
Aylene Calnan
Peter Vanderweil

Necia O'Neill - Administrative Secretary

Audit Committee

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 FY 2015 audit for the Town of Hingham is complete.

The Audit Committee reviewed The Town of Hingham's audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015 and met with both and Powers & Sullivan, the Town of Hingham's independent registered public accounting firm (and the Board of Selectmen), to discuss those financial statements.

The Audit Committee also reviewed the following Powers & Sullivan reports:

(i) their report included in the Town of Hingham's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015 related to its audit of the financial statements of the Town of Hingham;

(ii) their consideration of the effectiveness of internal controls over financial reporting;

(iii) their federally mandated single audit report.

The Management Letter prepared by Powers & Sullivan did not identify any deficiencies in internal controls that are considered material weaknesses, there was no disagreement with management and the financials were prepared in accordance with acceptable accounting principles.

The Committee met four times over the course of the year.

Josh Gregory, Chair
George Alexakos
George Danis
Mike Dwyer

Bare Cove Park Committee

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 view the day to day operations, news, or events scheduled within the park. We also publish the monthly Agenda, and the accepted meeting notes on our webpage on the Town Of Hingham website. Rules and Regulations for park usage are clearly visible at the park entry points, and on our web page.

Bare Cove Park consists of 484 acres located along the banks of the Weymouth Back River in the town of Hingham. Set aside as a wildlife sanctuary and a place for public recreation, it offers exceptional areas of tidal river shoreline, wetlands, open fields, dense woods, 5 certified vernal pools, and diverse animal and plant life. The many wild animals that inhabit Bare Cove Park include coyote, fox, turkeys, deer, and many other species. Prior to 1906, the land was privately owned by many families whose descendents still in Hingham. Due to its convenient access by water to Boston Harbor, the site was acquired by the U.S. Navy and used as an ammunition depot until 1971. In 1972, the Government declared the depot surplus and divided it up for several uses, including Bare Cove Park.



The Bare Cove Park committee is comprised of 9 members. Regrettably we accepted Jim Nowicki's resignation in May as he accepted a new position within his firm that required him to travel during the week. Also, our good friend Tom Burbank, Chairman emeritus, Chief Historian, who has been on and around the Bare Cove Park Committee since the Federal Land to Park deal was consummated, felt his full attention was better focused on the Veterans. We wish Tom the best, and thank him

for all of his years of stewardship. Melissa Tully was a short timer on the committee during the summer. She unfortunately had to resign as well. This leaves two open positions on the Bare Cove Park Committee currently.

It would be remiss to start this report without mentioning again the epic winter of 2015. With a record snow fall within a very short timeframe, Scott McMillan, the Park Ranger, The DPW, Hingham Model Railroad Club and The Martin Richard Charitable Road Race Group prevailed in an extraordinary response to clear the driveway, and roads within the park. We are grateful. Without the clearing, the park would have been unmanageable for its many daily visitors.

The Bare Cove Park Committee was approached by several citizens in February 2015 related to the dog-behavior within the park. The committee began regular monthly discussions about issues related to unleashed dogs disturbing the natural habitat of the park and some of the wildlife, dog-owners not cleaning up after their pets, and finding ways to avoid conflicts between dogs and those who use the park for other than walking their dogs. A standing-room only crowd of about 150 citizens, many of them dog owners, attended the June 9th Bare Cove Park Committee meeting centering on dog behavior-related issues. After months of hearings and discussions, the Bare Cove Park Committee is proposing a set of tougher rules for dogs and their owners – among them, a requirement to keep all dogs on leashes. The current dog regulations will be enforced until such a time as additional regulations are accepted. The Selectmen have agreed to revisit this issue during 2016.

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

The End of Summer Classic Road Race was held on August 28th and was another fun and successful event. This year's race saw fewer runners participating. This event is very important to BCP and some actions were taken to boost the turnout next year.

Eagle Scout candidate Alexander Davis from Hull replaced an Egret Nest at Indian Point. Alexander and his group of boys along with Ranger Scott spent many hours wrestling with the nest, and ensuring that predators could not disturb the egrets upon their return from warmer climates in

the spring. Alexander enlisted the help of Scouts and other volunteers and they did a wonderful job of placing the nest without disturbing the marsh. Leaving no trace, and abiding by the Scout Outdoor Code. Bare Cove Park has benefitted from the local Eagle Scout candidates work in the park. We encourage Boy and Girl Scouts of any age to visit us to discuss other volunteer opportunities within the park.

We have received numerous requests for permits in the spring of 2016 related to Road Races within the Park. Derby Academy and Notre Dame are both using the park for cross country practice and their meets. The Hingham High School Rowing Team has also been using the Back River for Regattas. The Green Dockhouse area and the beach to the south is a perfect entry for rowing shells.

In February 2016, Bare Cove Park inherited a Ford F350 that was retired by the Fire Department. It is fitted with a plow. This truck replaced an older small truck with an inoperable plow. The new truck is much more capable for our needs. We are grateful that the Town Administration and Fire Department together fulfilled this need. Ranger Scott uses the vehicle to pick up waste, and other debris within the park.

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. They will produce one or more broods of their species. The Ovenbird migrates to Bare Cove Park from Mexico, Central America, Cuba, Hispaniola and other Caribbean Islands. Its call will be heard on the forest floor near Conservatory Path throughout the spring and summer. It sounds as if the bird is saying "Teacher, teacher, teacher, teacher" in progressively louder tones. The male ovenbird produces a song in flight that is similar to that of the Skylarks of Europe. Once you hear the ovenbird, with its distinctive call, you never will forget it. Everyone remembers their first time hearing the call or seeing the bird of a new species. This bird is particularly threatened by roaming dogs because it is a ground nester and forages for insects and other Arthropods there. This species of warbler builds a nest on the ground that resembles a rounded oven, hence the name.

We ask that all park visitors respect the park. It is Hingham's to treasure. The town is entrusted with its care and maintenance. The history of the land that Bare Cove sits on is complex. It was basically clear cut to serve the US Government. The forest is young, but growing. We are working to protect, and enhance the property for all of the residents and visitors.

We ask for your assistance, and patience in all of our projects related to successfully returning the land to a more pristine state. Thank you!

Ted Matthews	Chairman 2018
Bob Smaldone	Vice Chair 2017
Shirley Rydell	Secretary 2016
Rik Johnson	Treasurer 2017
Dick Callahan	Member 2017
Dewitt Delawter	Member 2016
Susan Kains	Member 2017
Scott McMillan	RANGER

Trustees of the Bathing Beach

The Trustees of the Hingham Bathing Beach met monthly throughout 2015. Many of our meetings were held jointly with the Harbor Development Committee to help advance shared interests/concerns.

First and foremost, the Trustees would like to acknowledge and thank Joan Williams for her decades of service as a Trustee and as the "guardian of the beach". Her insight and experience with all things related to the bathing beach from budgeting, lifeguard hiring and scheduling to maintenance and programming to being our everyday eyes and ears on the beach were invaluable and will be missed.

We would like to thank the Hingham DPW for their efforts in: getting our parking lot ready for the season after the heaviest snow accumulation/"snow farm" stockpiling in Town history during the winter of 2014-2015; managing sand, grading and shaping the beach for the 2015 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. Special kudos go out to our Town Engineer Roger Fernandes for his professional assistance and coordination of engineering for all our initiatives this past year including completion of the armor stone extension contract to protect the Grove area; drafting a beach management plan and getting it approved by all the necessary Town bodies; overseeing the engineering, bidding and contract execution for the parking lot stabilization/boardwalk project and for drafting a grant application to secure \$700,000 in funding from the Massachusetts Seaport Economic Council for a new multipurpose bath house/snack shop/community building (note: Seaport Council funding was approved in February 2016 and will come available in July).

2015 Town Meeting under TM Article 31 approved \$652,000 for the engineering, permitting and construction of a parking lot stabilization contract, parking lot reconfiguration, beachfront appropriate landscaping and the beginning of a long awaited harbor paver boardwalk. The project engineering was completed and bids received in the Fall were within the budget and this important work will be undertaken in the late Winter/Spring of 2016.

In September, the Trustees filed an application with the Community Preservation Committee for \$150,000 in CPC funding to serve as a 20% match for the earlier referenced \$700,000 State grant request for a new building to house rest rooms, snack shop etc. This effort was undertaken after the Trustees were unable to finalize an agreement with the sole RFP respondent (Sullivan's of Castle Island) to have such a building financed and constructed privately under a long term land lease. Constructing the building including the shell of the food service area in advance of a future RFP should remove the prior obstacles to this project that was first envisioned in the 2007 Harbor Master Plan.

We would like to thank 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 during the season, the bathing beach parking lot is the home of the Hingham Farmer's Market which had its most successful season in 2015. Our parking lot also served the Touch a Truck Program and Christmas tree sales again in 2015.

The geese management program and grass spraying was extended to include the area from the Grove to the Iron Horse and noticeably improved the area as observed by the Farmer's Market and our beach users. We look forward to even greater success in 2016 as we continue to monitor this program.

At a joint meeting of the Bathing Beach Trustees in early December, Chris Daly, who had previously served for six years on the Harbor Development Committee, was unanimously approved to fill the vacancy created by Joan Williams' resignation.

Chris Daly
Edward Johnson
Alan Perrault

Hingham Beautification Commission

The Hingham Beautification Commission completed its eleventh 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 150 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.

An exciting event this year is HICAM'S YouTube video of our daffodil planting at Scotland Island. This can be seen at YouTube Hingham Happenings Dec 2015. The direct link is below:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=463no_DDYWs

The Commission formally meets once a month at the Town Hall from April to November. Our physical labor keeps us busy throughout the spring, summer and fall. There is a Gift Account to which donations can be made by local businesses and individuals who wish to support the Hingham Beautification Commission.

Board member, Deborah Hayes, stepped down this year due to family commitments. We have replaced her position with a new board member, Patricia Collins, who has already offered her eager input.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Spaziani, Chairman
Carolyn Aliski
Patricia Bray
Margaret Coleman
Rose Durkin
Maura Graham
Suzanne Harnden
Diane Morrison
Patricia Collins

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 TV Advisory Committee

In April, 2015, the State notified the Town that it should begin preparation for the renewal of the Verizon cable TV license agreement with the Town, which will expire in April 2018. Comcast's cable TV license agreement with the Town will expire in August 2019. The Board of Selectmen authorized the Committee to carry out the activities required during the license renewal process, including holding hearings, ascertaining the Town's cable needs, negotiating license provisions with Verizon and Comcast, and making recommendations for new licenses. This process involves a comprehensive review of the Town's cable television needs, including its needs for Public, Educational, and Government ("PEG") Access television. With the assistance of the Town's cable attorney, the Committee prepared a timeline for the license renewals and began preparations for the assessment of the Town's cable television and PEG Access needs. This is known as the "ascertainment" process.

Ascertainment involves an assessment of how well the cable companies have performed under their current license agreements. It also involves an assessment of the Town's needs for PEG Access television. The Town's three PEG Access channels (Verizon channels 29, 30, and 31; and Comcast channels 9, 22, and 97) are operated for the town by Hingham Community Access & Media Corporation ("H-CAM"), a non-profit corporation established by the Town in 2011. Funding for H-CAM's programming and operation of the PEG channels is provided by operational support payments made to the Town by Comcast and Verizon as part of their franchise agreements with the Town. The current franchise agreements require both companies to make payments to the Town in the amount of 4.2 percent of their Hingham cable revenues for support of PEG Access. This money can only be used to support PEG Access cable television, and is not available for the General Fund. Franchise agreements also provide for payment to the Town of capital to fund equipment for PEG Access, in return for the right to provide cable television service in the Town. Under their current franchise agreements with Hingham, Verizon made a grant payment of \$400,000 and Comcast made a payment of \$200,000. This money has been used to purchase television broadcast equipment for Town Hall meeting rooms, Hingham High School, and the H-CAM studio. The Town's ascertainment process involves a determination of how much operating and capital funding will be needed from the cable companies for PEG Access television over the life of the renewal licenses.

The Committee also makes recommendations to the Board of Selectmen on the use of the money provided by the cable companies. In 2015, the Board of Selectmen approved the installation of ceiling mounted projectors, screens, and related equipment in the third floor meeting rooms at Town Hall, as well as upgrades to the cable television equipment in the second floor meeting rooms. A substantial upgrade was made to the cooling system in the PEG access server room in Town Hall. The Selectmen also approved the use of cable money to purchase and install equipment which will permit live cable TV broadcast from any of the Hingham schools. Cable operational support funds were used to fund a television production class at Hingham High School.

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, the Committee provides general oversight of the Government and Educational channels. In 2015, H-CAM, working with a Committee representative, made substantial enhancements to the programming for the Educational Channel.

Sandra Peavey, Chair
Eric Connerly
David Jones
John Rice
Katy Gallagher-Wooley, School Representative

Community Preservation Committee

The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) is comprised of nine people, six of whom are appointed by and from the Conservation Commission, the Planning Board, the Historical Commission, the Housing Authority, the Recreation Commission, and the Board of Selectmen, and three of whom are citizens-at-large, one appointed by the Board of Selectmen and two by the Moderator. The Committee reviews applications submitted by Town bodies and citizens for funding 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 15th are based on the surtax revenues for the fiscal year ending the prior June 30th and interest on the accumulated funds. The total amount collected by the Town Community Preservation Fund for the year ended June 30, 2015 is approximately \$934K from local taxes and \$274K from the State match. 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, i.e., Historic Preservation, Community Housing, and Open Space. The remaining 70% is available for spending on any one or more of the categories, including recreational projects, as the Committee and Town Meeting see fit.

The CPC reviewed 20 proposed projects in 2015 for a total request of more than \$4.6M. After due diligence, the Committee recommendations to the Advisory Committee and the Board of Selectmen included a total of 14 projects: 3 open space/recreation projects, 7 historic preservation projects, 3 housing projects, and 1 administrative allocation. As required by the CPA legislation, the unexpended amount of the past and current reserve for affordable housing projects was allocated to a reserve for future affordable housing projects. Similarly, the unexpended amount of the past and current reserve for open space projects was allocated to a reserve for future open space projects. A total of \$976K was

recommended and approved by the 2015 Annual Town Meeting for the following projects.

Open Space Acquisitions and Recreation projects included:

- Conservation Fund
- Cordage Factory Head House, (aka The Rec Barn) Phase IV
- South Shore Country Club Tennis Court Renovation



*SSCC Tennis Courts
renovated June 2015*

Historic Preservation projects included:

- Hingham Historical Archives
- Liberty Plain Cemetery Phase III
- Tree & Park Barn Renovations
- Bare Cove Fire Museum
- Hingham Congregational Church - handicapped ramp
- Hingham Historical Commission - restore gazebo
- LSA Elevator replacement



*Ames Chapel
renovations completed 2015*

Affordable Housing projects included:

- Hingham Affordable Housing Trust Selectmen's Parcel design
- Hingham Affordable Housing Trust Opportunity Funding Program
- Hingham Housing Authority – Renovations on 132 Scotland Street

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

The Committee wishes to thank Irma Lauter and Matthew Zieper for their many years of service and welcomes new members Selectman Paul Gannon and Carol Pyles. Finally, deep appreciation and thanks are extended to Town Engineer Roger Fernandes and CPC Administrator Carol Costello for their tireless efforts on behalf of the CPC.

Bob Curley, Chair (Historical Rep.)
Carol Pyles, Vice Chair (Moderator Appt.)
Vicki Donlan (Recreation Rep.)
Paul Gannon (Selectmen's Rep.)
Tony Kiernan (Moderator Appt.)
Scott McIsaac (Conservation Rep.)
Kathleen Peters (Selectmen Appt.)
Gary Tondorf-Dick (Planning Rep.)
James R. Watson (Housing Rep.)

Carol Costello, CPC Administrator
Roger Fernandes, Town Engineer

Country Club Management Committee

The Country Club Management Committee is pleased to submit its annual report for calendar year 2015.

The South Shore Country Club (SSCC) is a unique and valuable resource for the Town of Hingham, offering many active recreational opportunities and preserving 165 acres of open space for the Town. It is managed by the town's Country Club Management Committee (CCMC). The SSCC is funded primarily by user fees and private event fees.

While the SSCC's operations are currently projected to generate a positive cash flow, the CCMC plans to continue exploring new and enhanced sources of revenue to offset the anticipated capital and operating expenses necessary to independently maintain the SSCC's ageing facilities and continue to improve the recreational offerings we provide to residents of Hingham and the surrounding communities.

The SSCC has delivered significant recreational offerings to the Town over the past 27 years. It is the primary management objective of the CCMC to continue to provide these recreational offerings for all of Hingham's residents, at no cost to the Town. It is also the CCMC's intention to strike a balance between making responsible and necessary investments in the SSCC's property and operations and achieving a net positive cash flow.

In 2015, The SSCC's professional staff, Jay McGrail, Director of Operations, Christopher Riley, Golf Professional and Jake Silva, Golf Course Superintendent continued our committee's efforts to improve our facilities, services and grounds and to expand and enhance the recreational offerings at the SSCC.

However, 2015 presented us with many challenges, weather being the primary one. Our committee would like to thank Jake Silva and his staff for their hard work throughout the winter, protecting our facilities and keeping them open for business. We are also grateful for their efforts to restore and revitalize the course following the winter damage. These efforts were a significant contributor to the recognition we received this year, being voted the number one golf course on the South Shore and a Patriot Ledger Readers Choice Gold Award Winner.

The following assessment provides an overview of our operations in 2015 and our expectations for their improvement.

Golf: Though demand and related revenue is subject to weather conditions, competition and the vacillations of the economy, our golf course continues to be the SSCC's main source of revenue.

The CCMC feels that we have priced our offerings effectively to compete with both the public and private courses. However we continue to monitor our competitor's price offerings. This is important, because the overall golf market has been flat in recent years and shows no signs of improving or expanding again in the near future. As a result, market share becomes an extremely important factor in revenue growth.

In order to continue maintaining the good condition of the course and an improving revenue stream, management has put together a five year capital plan that includes: upgrades to the golf course bunkers, cart path pavement repairs and a 20 year equipment replacement schedule.

After years of working to determine the correct balance between daily play fees and annual fees paid by permits holders we are now focusing on increased optimization of the golf course and developing new offerings, such as more golf camps by increasing the number of charity and corporate outings.

We are confident that our golf operation is on sound footing, will continue to provide a very valuable recreational service to the Town of Hingham and contribute favorably to the quality of life enjoyed by the residents of the Town of Hingham.

Swimming Pool: The swimming pool at the SSCC has a loyal and vocal following. However, this year's pool membership sign-up efforts were hampered considerably by the unseasonably cold weather that extended well into June and the extended school year, caused by the winter snow storms.

Since the Town purchased the SSCC, the South Shore YMCA has been selected to operate the pool, through a periodic and open Request for Proposals (RFP) process. Our contract with the YMCA expired at the end of the 2015 swimming season. An RFP was issued through the CCMC in late 2015 and the YMCA was again the successful bidder. We are currently working with the YMCA on a Seasonal License Agreement for the 2016 swimming season.

Bowling: The SSCC's bowling facility; "The Alley" appears to be an area of potential revenue growth. The bowling alley is used heavily by senior citizens for socialization and exercise. The Alley is handicap accessible which benefits many of our senior bowlers. It also is primarily a winter sport so the Alley brings traffic to the club in the off season for golf.



Our bowling fees remain competitive in the regional bowling market. With a new renovated party room and improved party offerings, we continue to book events such as children's birthday parties at an increasing volume. We believe that the Alley represents a uniquely positive recreational opportunity for Hingham residents of all ages and we will continue to maintain it as one of our recreational offerings.

Restaurant and Function Hall Operation: In 2009, the CCMC entered into a long-term lease agreement with Raffael's for the operation of our food and beverage facilities (10 years, with an option to renew for an additional 10 years). Pursuant to this agreement, Raffael's completed a major renovation of the facility's two ballrooms and the "Greenside Grille" and also installed a permanent outdoor seasonal tent. Raffael's continues to invest in the facilities and currently has three years remaining on the original lease agreement. The CCMC has received considerable positive customer response with regard to the improved restaurant operations and, with both increasing operating revenues and rental income; we expect to continue our Restaurant and Function Hall Operation in its current format.

Golf Simulators: In the fall of 2011, the SSCC entered into a revenue sharing program with Evergreen Golf for the use of three "state of the art" golf simulators ("The Tour"). In 2015, we extended this arrangement for another three years and installed upgraded golf simulator equipment, including updated computer software and new cameras and new hitting surfaces that make the experience even more realistic and enjoyable for our golfers. The additional traffic this operation brings to the SSCC in the winter months makes the simulator operation a great addition to the SSCC that provides a positive synergy with our bowling alley and restaurant operations.

Tennis: In the spring of 2015, with the help of the Hingham's Community Preservation Committee, the SSCC completed a renovation of our three tennis courts here at the SSCC. Also, in 2015, we partnered with Hingham Recreation and South Shore SNAP to offer tennis lessons and programs. Both



partnerships provide increased usage and revenues for the courts. The courts are free to the public but there are charges for private activities. We believe the improved tennis courts will result in a new source of revenue for the SSCC.

In conclusion, recognizing the weather related difficulties we encountered in the winter and spring of 2015, we have conservatively budgeted our expenses to manage our finances through any potential weather related issues in 2016 and are looking forward to a very good year.

Respectfully,
The Country Club Management Committee

William Friend, Chair
Paul Casey
Roderick Gaskell
Scott Peterson
Jack Bailey

Development and Industrial Commission

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 2015, 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.

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 was working on plans to demolish the building and redevelop it. The HDIC worked with the owner, the



Hingham Downtown Association and other Town Departments to expedite the redevelopment of the site. As a result, the owner is submitting an application for development in February 2016.

Also in the Square Business District, the HDIC worked to mitigate final discussions with property owners along North Street to facilitate the underground wiring connections between Station Street and Route 3A. These discussions and the underground connections are expected to be completed early in 2016 and then the telephone poles along that stretch will be removed.

In other business in 2015, the Commission was called upon by the South Hingham Study Committee to provide a market demand study for industrial/commercial growth along the Derby Street Corridor. The study was presented in late spring to the Study Committee and the general public. The Study Committee, comprised of 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 HDIC provided assistance in this fact-finding and will utilize the factual findings to determine the scope of potential commercial/industrial development that may be advisable in that area going forward.

On a final note, the Hingham Development & Industrial Commission continued to take a strong interest in the future development of Hingham Harbor. Proposals have been made to the Trustees of the Bathing Beach and the Harbor Development Committee to redevelop the restroom facilities and to include a small restaurant area as part of that development. The HDIC supports the concept of such a proposal as a way to increase the use of the Harbor area and to enhance its viability as a meeting place by providing a certain amount of desired amenities.

We encourage residents, property owners, and business representatives to attend and participate at our meetings. The Commission usually meets at 7:00pm on the second Wednesday of each month in Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Sullivan, Chair
Eileen Richards
Nanette Walsh
Kevin Ellis
Mary Ann Blackmur
James Pollock
Shane Nolan

Department of Elder Services

"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."

After several months of work, two public forums and several revisions, the Council on Aging finalized the Department's five year strategic plan. The plan is all encompassing and not only outlines the Department's goals and objectives through June 2020, but also details the work plan to accomplish these goals and objectives. One of the goals concerns the Department's current staffing pattern and its adequacy as well as its relevance to the current staffing needs of the Department. A subcommittee began its review work in November and will have a finalized report and recommendations for the Council on Aging in June 2016. To accomplish the goal, the subcommittee will review current job descriptions, how tasks are accomplished which will include the completion of a questionnaire and discussions with staff, where tasks aren't accomplished due to a gap in staffing.

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. During 2015, a working group consisting of Elder Services, Board of Health Nurse, Police and Fire developed a more formalized communication mechanism to work on areas of common concern, share resources and where appropriate, make referrals to other community organizations. During the fall months, the SHINE Program implemented additional hours to help older adults sort through their many options for prescription drug coverage during the Medicare D Open Enrollment period.

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, get to and from medical appointments, and take local trips of interest. During 2015, 4569 trips were provided to 272 individuals.

The winter of 2015 provided many challenges to the Department. Roofing issues caused the Senior Center to close to the public for two full weeks in February and alternate office space was provided for the staff in the Selectmen's office. While the Department had established a snow

shoveling program for 30 individuals, many other phone calls were received from those older adults who needed assistance with shoveling paths to their oil spigots and/or who had not made prior arrangements for general snow removal from their walkways and driveways. The Department of Elder Services was very grateful to the community at large, the sports teams, Resurrection Church Confirmation Class, and Brian Kenney for organizing and supervising the Snow Angels.

Fitness classes, the Lifelong Learning Program – Discovery, Matter of Balance, Personal Journal Writing, health screening clinics, and the AARP Income Tax Assistance Program continued to thrive in 2015. Due to space constraints, some fitness classes are now closed to non-Hingham residents and maximum participation limits have been imposed.

Physical space continues to be challenge to the Department. The growth in programs and services has not only necessitated the need to review current staffing patterns as discussed above, but has also led the Council on Aging to begin discussions about the need for a larger physical plant to address our current needs and the continued growth in the 60 and older population.



*The 90th Birthday Party was held in May in honor of
Older Americans' Month*

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 2015, 157 volunteers donated 10,086 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 like to especially acknowledge retiring Council on Aging member Edward Ford. Ed was a lead member of the Strategic Planning Committee and the development of the Lifelong Learning Program. We will miss his thoughtful consideration in making decisions and his hard work on behalf of Hingham's older adults.

Barbara Farnsworth, Director
Gretchen Condon, Chairman
Beth Rouleau, Vice Chairman
Joan Iovino, Secretary
Dawn Sibor, Treasurer
Gail Faring
June Freedman
Chrisanne Gregoire
Debra Hoffman
Linda Hurley
Dick Ponte
Leslie Vickers

Fourth of July Parade Committee



The Hingham 4th of July Parade Committee is pleased to report on its highly successful activities in 2015 culminating in another wonderful and memorable event for the town! The parade theme for 2015 was "Salute to Our Veterans" - intended to honor the service of local veterans of all branches and to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II and the 40th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War. From the many floats to the entries by Hingham's 5th graders in the button design contest, appreciation for our veterans was evident everywhere.

Veteran of the Year Guy Stadig, who served in World War II, and his wife Pauline were greeted warmly by the crowd as they road in a beautiful convertible. After the parade, the Committee presented Mr. Stadig with the Veteran of the Year banner as a token of our appreciation to his service to the United States of America.



The group of veterans participating in the parade was tremendous, thanks to efforts from the Hingham Veterans' Services Department, led by Lisa Potts and acting director Jaime Litchfield. Veterans riding in golf carts provided by Black Rock, the Linden Ponds van, and marching in the Parade were members of both the American Legion and the VFW.

Weather for the event was fantastic, and the many floats, bands, vehicles and marchers did not disappoint the large crowd. As usual, the marching bands delighted the spectators, including the Crusaders Senior Drum and Bugle Corps from Boston, the Second Line Brass Band and the Seventh Regiment Drum and Bugle Corps. After some tough competition, the judges ultimately settled on the following float awards:

- **Best in Parade** - Hingham High School Boy's Hockey
- **Most Unique** - Hingham Republican Committee
- **Most Beautiful** - SuEscuela Language Academy
- **Most Patriotic** - Democratic Caucus

Although the focus of our activities is ultimately the big day itself, the parade is the culmination of a number of less public activities by the Committee in the months, weeks, days – and sometimes hours – leading up to the event. Within a few weeks after the parade's conclusion, committee members meet to evaluate the content, conduct and organization of the recent event itself, with safety as a primary concern, and then start planning improvements for the coming year.

Work on the 2015 Parade began in earnest in late 2014 under Chairman Jim Murphy. We welcomed new members to the Committee and selected this year's theme. The Art teachers at East, South, Foster, Plymouth River -- and, for the first time, St. Paul's -- schools set their students about designing a 2015 Parade button. The Committee received hundreds of thoughtful and beautiful entries and, as usual, had a difficult



job choosing the winner. After much deliberation (including a tie vote), the winning design was selected. It was created by Robin Penza, a 5th grader from St. Paul's School, and it depicted the Iwo Jima Memorial. She was rewarded with a beautiful commemorative plaque of her design along with this year's button from Aisling Gallery.

Button Contest Winner Robin Penza with her mother and grandfather, along with Parade Committee Chair, Jim Murphy.

Ms. Penza and schoolmates from St. Paul's School marched together with a banner depicting the winning design. The Committee was especially pleased by the enthusiastic participation of St. Paul's students for the first time (and their button-selling success!)

The Committee then turned its attention to selecting a Grand Marshal for the Parade. Each year there are several worthy candidates who have made a big contribution to the lives of Hingham residents, and this year was no different. The Committee enthusiastically selected recently retired Police Chief Michael Peraino, who was surprised but pleased at

the honor. Chief Peraino had contributed to the Parade event in one way or another for the past 37 years, either by riding on the D.A.R.E. float, serving a detail or marching as Police Chief, missing only one parade the year his daughter was born. Chief Peraino started the D.A.R.E. program in Hingham in 1994 and told us that he even built the first-ever D.A.R.E. float for the 1995 Parade, winning Best of Parade Award that year! Such dedication to the event, as well as his many years of service to the Town, made Chief Peraino a great choice.



Grand Marshal Michael Peraino, his wife, Linda, and grandchild, Madison. (Photo courtesy of Crow Point Creations)

With these important activities completed, we got down to business to raise the funds needed to host a great parade! The Committee decided to continue its highly successful "50 Flags Campaign", in which volunteers place 50 U.S. flags on house lawns for a donation of \$50. The flags, which remained on lawns for about a week, were a terrific way for people to show their support of our servicemen and women, and to match their pride in the parade with a financial contribution. 2014 Grand Marshal Tom Hoffman took charge of the campaign this year and made it an even bigger success! More than 180 households and businesses participated.

Thank you to all who participated in this event that provided wonderful reminders of patriotism across all corners of Hingham. We expect this effort to continue to grow in 2016, and we hope to have community youth volunteers for this effort. In concert with Keith Jermyn, this campaign has also been incorporated into all "Welcome Home/Yellow Ribbon ceremonies" with the Town of Hingham's Department of

Veterans' Services. The Committee is so proud of the growth and acceptance of this Campaign!

Committee members Ginny Gray and Dewitt DeLawter once again led our very successful Parade Button campaign, where buttons are available for a donation. Every year, Ginny, Dewitt and their Hingham-Hull Rotary colleagues placed buttons with local merchants and at town facilities, and Ginny herself makes great efforts to attend town events to extend her selling reach. A button table at Hingham's first "PizzaPalooza" in March at the High School, as well as at the "Taste of Hingham," the downtown food festival held in May, raised more than \$500 in a few hours. Buttons are also expected to be available for a donation at the Library on Saturdays in May and June.

The Selectmen's Cup Golf Tournament, held on June 22nd at the South Shore Country Club, was another highly successful event for the parade. The tourney, led by Jay McGrail and his staff, offered exciting 'scramble' golf, while raising much-needed funds for the parade. More than 70 golfers participated and everyone had a fabulous day for a great cause. After we enjoyed a great BBQ from Raffael's under the tent, a live auction for a handful of items "added to the pot" for the parade coffers, featuring a meal for 8-12 folks prepared in the winner's home by Chef Paul Wahlberg!

The 2015 South Shore Four Ball was yet another fundraising success. The event, begun only a few years ago by Jay McGrail at the SSCC, has grown into a challenging two-day tournament for many of the best golfers in eastern Massachusetts! The SSCC also provides us with much needed Parade Day mobility in the form of golf carts, essential for the mustering of the many participants - for these efforts the Committee remains very grateful.

Our annual Hingham Municipal Light Plant (HMLP) flyer was kindly included in with the June invoice, which was issued to approximately 9,000 residences. The flyer, prepared by Carrie Murphy and printed by The Ink Spot (at no cost), allowed us to reach out to most of the households in Hingham with a request for donations and the latest Parade news. Such support from the community and local businesses is critical to the success of the Committee's fundraising efforts.

And of course, there is the big day itself. In addition to the Parade Grand Marshal Michael Peraino, and Veteran of the Year Guy Stadig, we had the honor of having the participation of the Hingham Citizen of the Year,

Scott McMillan. Incidentally, Mr. McMillan was previously Hingham's Veteran of the Year!



*Hingham Citizen of the year Scott McMillan
(Photo courtesy of Crow Point Creations)*

We thank those who put the time and effort into creating fabulous floats and the spectators who line the streets each year, rain or shine, showing their town and national pride. Next, we thank our own Hingham police, led by the Committee's liaison, Deputy Chief Glenn Olsson (for the last time), who provides seamless and unobtrusive coordination of public safety.

Hingham Police Chief Glenn Olsson and Uncle Sam (George Ford), just before the start of the Parade! It was Chief Olsson's first parade as Police Chief after many, many years on the Parade Committee. Thank you for all of your assistance, Glenn!



The parade also welcomed home Hingham's Veterans' Services Officer CPO Keith Jermyn from Operation Enduring Freedom, 2014-2015.



(Photo courtesy of Crow Point Creations)

The Parade Committee also receives tremendous support throughout the year from its Community Partners: South Shore Country Club, Hingham-Hull Rotary, Hingham Journal and Hingham Municipal Light Plant. Thanks to all!

A long list of contributors and sponsors also merit our recognition and gratitude. The list of Parade individual and corporate sponsors is long and impressive:

- Entergy, Inc. (LEAD SPONSOR)
- A.W. Perry (LONGEST AND STRONGEST SPONSOR)
- McCusker-Gill, Inc.
- Pyne Keohane Funeral Homes
- Chef Paul Wahlberg
- TRACEY Environmental Consulting
- ColorMax Graphics
- Fruit Center Marketplace
- Liberty Grille
- Raffaels & Greenside Grill at SSCC
- The Rug Merchant
- Tower of Power
- Hingham Community Center
- Aquarion Water Company
- DT&M

- Volvo Village
- South Shore Magazine
- Powers & Sullivan, LLC
- The Hubbell Group
- Hingham Police Association
- Dain, Torpy, LeRay, Wiest & Garner, P.C.
- Freedom Boat Club
- Carolann's Children's Clothing
- Whitney Gordon's Jewelers
- Hingham Toy Storage
- Hingham Cycle

We also thank Dan Leahy, General Manager of Porsche of Norwell/Audi Norwell/Volvo Village of Hingham, who provided the stylish convertibles for the Veteran of the Year, Guy Stadig, and the Citizen of the Year, Scott McMillan as well as Aquarion Water Company, who supplied water at the parade.

Finally, we are indebted to the many Parade Day volunteers, who provided the additional mustering of support necessary to meet the needs of the Day. We hope to see all return next year to continue the tradition and to add additional members drawn from the many active Hingham community groups.



*Moderator Mike Puzo and Uncle Sam at the viewing stand
(Photo courtesy of Crow Point Creations)*

Our e-mail address is Hingham4th@gmail.com. Information about past and future parades can be found on the [Parade](#) page via the Town of

Hingham website, <http://www.hingham-ma.gov/> or on the Parade Committee's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/Hingham4th.

If you would like to be a part of our fun committee or participate in the parade or golf tournament please contact Jim Murphy, 781-726-2519, or jmurphy1sp@gmail.com

Jim Murphy, Chair
Louis O'Dea
Chief Glenn Olsson, Police Liaison
Virginia Gray, Hingham-Hull Rotary Liaison
George Ford,
Robin Nickerson
Dewitt DeLawter
Mary Ellen Carlisle
Gabby Roegner

Deanna Costa
Carrie Murphy
Monica Conyngham
Cassie McDermott
Bill Nickerson
Cyndy Tonucci
Tom Hoffman
Eric Dresser
Jason Caine



Members of both the American Legion and the VFW

Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall

This One Hundred Twenty-Seven (127) year old historical gem has served our community with functionality and focus fulfilling its original objective. Additionally more Hingham residents have participated and enjoyed in activities in the memorable environment.

The Hingham resident Veterans of The American Legion Post 120, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6053 and The Hingham Militia continue to meet monthly perpetuating their missions and involving recently discharged Veterans expanding their involvement. It is with delight and pleasure that Men and Women Veterans have joined in these active groups.

One of the largest attended events is the Sophomore Class at Hingham High School who walk from the school to the GAR and nearly (300), in 4 sections, spend approximately 90 minutes each listening to Veterans from WWII to present day Afghanistan tours. Also, the students view the memorabilia, displayed weapons and flags. The April 14th tour was the seventh year of this popular day. The History Department Teaching staff was present during the day.

The Boy Scouts Eagle Courts of honor were held on five separate occasions for six boys who achieved the Rank of Eagle which is the Boys Scouts highest award.

The Cub Scouts also held meetings at The GAR. Packs 27, 41, and 52 held flag folding, flag etiquette and toured the Hall.

The Veterans continue to serve Luncheon at the Hall to fellow Veterans and their families following the Memorial Day Celebration on the Town Common.

This summer, contact was made with Linda Harper, Acting Director of the Hingham Public Library to plan a year end display of memorabilia from the G.A.R. Hall. It was agreed and we met in early December to establish the scope of the display. The focus was primarily the WWI era of Flags. Photographs and Plaques and the display is scheduled to be held January 2 through January 29, 2016. A special 3- folded flyer was designed and printed for handouts.

Patriots Pen Awards Day 7th Annual Ceremony with participation by St. Paul's had four winners and attendance of 35. The December 12th event was a big success.

The D.A.R. met at the Hall on October 14th to honor Vietnam era Veterans who received pins and certificates. It was a moving event.

The Trustees continue the biannual art preservation, restoration and maintenance of the memorabilia to insure the integrity of our G.A.R. historic collection. We extend a sincere appreciation for the budgeting support and awareness of our Town's Leaders in perpetuating the mission of our Memorial Hall.



Respectfully Submitted by the Trustees:

Scott McMillan, Chair
Keith Jermyn, Treasurer;
Robert Beal, Jr., Secretary
Ernie Sofis, Historian Emeritus

Harbor Development Committee

Attention to infrastructure, access, physical improvements along the waterfront and promoting Hingham harbor related issues continued to be the focus of the Harbor Development Committee (HDC) in 2015.

The HDC met monthly through 2015, including two televised meetings in March and December. Much of the Committee's time and attention focused on preparation for presentations at Hingham's 2015 Annual Town Meeting (ATM) on three harbor related articles and, after their positive acceptance by voters, in moving those initiatives forward. To maximize efficiency of an all volunteer committee, absent assigned Town staff, individual HDC members continue to take the lead on several of our initiatives by acting as liaisons with other committees and following through on matters discussed between meetings. Selectman Mary Power served as the Committee's liaison with the Board of Selectmen and Bathing Beach Trustees Joan Williams (retired 2015), Alan Perrault, Ed Johnson and Chris Daly joined us in several meetings to advance harbor matters of mutual interest, including geese management, beach stabilization and the Bath House/Snack Shop Request for Proposal (RFP).

Annual Town Meeting Actions - Voters at the 2015 ATM were highly supportive of a number of harbor initiatives:

--They authorized the Selectmen to negotiate up to a 30 year lease with a privately owned rowing and sailing center to be constructed and operated on Barnes Wharf. Newly renamed Hingham Maritime Center (formerly Lincoln Maritime) was the only respondent to the Town's RFP and lease negotiations continue at this time with that organization.

--In Article 31, voters appropriated \$175,000 for development of detailed engineering drawings for the repair, restoration and reconstruction of four town owned harbor wharves. Previously, the Kleinfelder Sea Level Rise Study, funded by a Coastal Community Resilience Grant, assessed the Town's vulnerability to key infrastructure damage in the event of unusual wind and high tide events. Results of that study informed HDC's retention of Beals & Thomas to evaluate 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. That engineering assessment will provide the basis for HDC to prioritize repair and restoration recommendations against the background threat of sea level rise.

--Voters in Article 30 approved expenditures of up to \$400,000 of civil engineering services to begin development of plans and specifications for the Route 3A/Rotary/Summer Street transportation corridor.

Following from that vote and led by HDC's newest member, Deirdre Anderson, the Committee conducted a town-wide survey of transportation corridor issues and related citizen views on harbor facilities, activities and priorities. More than 1500 people completed the survey with detailed responses and commentary, providing HDC with invaluable input into the issues raised. Simultaneously HDC received the report of the Mass. Dept of Transportation's Central Transportation Planning Section (CTPS) regarding their summer 2015 traffic study of the Route 3A corridor. Both the citizen survey and the CTPS report will inform the scope and direction of the preliminary engineering study, for which an RFP has been published and initial bids received.

Whitney Wharf Pedestrian Bridge - All necessary town state and federal permits have finally been received to proceed with construction of the bridge to provide improved pedestrian access to Whitney Wharf from behind Red Eye Roasters. After a careful RFP process, a contract was signed in July with the winning bidder, York Bridge Concepts, to construct the bridge. Final engineering is complete, project mobilization has commenced and construction is expected to occur in the spring of 2016

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 appear open to the concept of their assuming responsibility for design and funding of these new facilities but first require that the Town address the problem of migrating beach sand choking out the ramp. Voters at 2015's ATM also approved \$675,000 of funding for engineering, permitting and construction of a harbor walkway and buried concrete wall in the Bathing Beach parking lot to protect it from winter storm erosion and reduce sand migration in the direction of the boat ramp. A contract for that work has been let and construction is expected in the spring of 2016. This action is part of a larger beach sand management plan adopted in 2015, responsive to the state's requirement.

Kayak/Paddle Boat Program - Urged on by the non-profit advocacy group Friends of Hingham Harbor, the town continued its pilot program for citizen rental of kayaks and paddle boats off a small float attached to the Town Dock. Designed and co-managed by the Recreation

Commission and Harbormaster Ken Corson, the program continued the momentum from its a successful start in the summer of 2014

Revising the Harbor Master Plan Vision – Hopefully evident in this report is the breadth and diversity of harbor improvement initiatives currently progressing (also including a new bathhouse/snack shack proposal being championed by the Bathing Beach Trustees at the 2016 ATM). HDC continues to try to balance opportunistically moving forward with such 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, one of its most valuable physical assets. The Committee is mindful of the need to update particularly the programmatic and landscape plans and tone of the now outdated 2007 Harbor Master Plan. With the benefit of the town-wide survey, the CTPS traffic study and the wharf engineering surveys, we expect to focus in 2016 on a revised and updated broad vision for the kind of harborscape and amenities that the townspeople desire.

Committee Members

William Reardon, Chairman
Paul Losordo, Vice Chairman
Edward Morris, Secretary
Deirdre Anderson
Thomas Coveney
Eric Kachel
Brian Knies

Kenneth Corson III (Harbormaster) ex-officio

The Board of Health

The Board consists of three elected members from the community. The term of office is for three years. The Board oversees a staff of seven employees Bruce T. Capman, R.S., Executive Health Officer, Kathleen Crowley, R.N., Public Health Nurse, Elizabeth Nee, Health Agent, Andrea Benedetto, Administrative Secretary, Ann Marie Papasodero, Health Clerk, and William Peterson, Food Inspector.

It was a year of change for the Health Department Staff. Andrea Benedetto assumed the responsibilities of Administrative Secretary and Elizabeth Nee was appointed Health Agent replacing Susan Sarni who accepted the Director of Health position in Cohasset. We were very fortunate to be able to fill these vacancies with two excellent individuals.

The Board of Health's jurisdiction and responsibilities include such activities as adult immunization clinics which includes elderly homebound residents, blood pressure monitoring and health assessments, Title 5 Septic System approvals, food establishment licensing and inspections, surface water quality enforcement, recycling and dumpster regulations, Fats, Oil and Grease regulations (FOG), tobacco control program, rabies control, West Nile Virus surveillance, local and regional emergency planning and response, Right-to-Know enforcement, septic system approval and inspection, Body Art licensing, communicable disease investigation and management, Recycling licensing, communicable disease surveillance and response, recreational camps for children licensing, 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 Hingham Health Department in collaboration with Town Officials and concern citizens of all ages Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition is gaining strength and excited to be entering our second year! Our mission is to create and foster a strong and inclusive community that encourages a healthy lifestyle and supports informed and responsible choices about drug and alcohol use. Our coalition's events have been creating public awareness of addiction as a disease with the goal of reducing the stigma. One of our goals in 2016 is to involve additional members of our community to strengthen our coalition. Kathleen Crowley, R.N., Public Health Nurse leads the charge for the Board of Health and is available to respond to Hingham residents who may have an interest with this effort.

This year the Board spent time developing, reviewing and amending health regulations. Fats, Oils and Grease (F.O.G.) regulations were

adopted to minimize amounts of grease discharged by those Food Establishments connected to the MWRA and Hull sewer systems.

Changes were finalized to the Board of Health smoking regulations which included the inclusion of electronic cigarettes (E-cigarettes) as a prohibited smoking product. A synopsis of the changes include:

1. The exclusion of any FDA-approved tobacco cessation product from the list of prohibited smoking products.
2. The inclusion of Town-owned beaches, marinas, and at public festivals held on Town property as places where smoking is prohibited.
3. The prohibition of smoking in any vehicle while used for child-care or taxi services.
4. The requirement of a written smoking policy for all Town housing properties under the oversight of the Hingham Affordable Housing Trust or the Hingham Housing Authority.
5. To increase the age for purchasing tobacco products from 18 years to 19 years old.

Supplemental Food Regulations were adopted to place more emphasis upon personnel hygiene for Food Establishment employees and to require Certified Food Handlers in the Food Establishment at all times the Food Establishment is open.

Permits Issued in 2015:

Farmers Market	33	Food Establishment.	158
Retail Food	78	Store Milk	92
Catering	12	Frozen Desserts	7
Residential F.S.	1	Mobile Food Service	14
Fat Oil & Grease	50	Septage Haulers	19
Rubbish Haulers	26	Septic Installers	39
Tanning Salons	2	Funeral Directors	2
Semi-Public Pools	16	Pool Constr.Permits	12
Trailer Parks	1	Day Camps	15
Septic Permits	97	Variance Appl.	22
Building Permits	767	Treatment Plant	294
Soil Evaluations.	44	Tobacco Sales	23
Animal Permits	12	Private Well Permits	9
Flu Shots	220		

Kirk Shilts D.C., Chairman
Stephan White, Member
Peter Bickford, Member

Herbert L. Foss Memorial Committee

In October 2014 the office of State Senator Robert Hedlund announced that the new Intermodal Facility at Hingham Shipyard would be named after 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 Committee universally agreed that this was an appropriate way to honor Seaman Foss. The BOS asked the Veteran's Council and the Foss Committee to work together with the State to locate a proper memorial in the new Foss Intermodal Facility.

The Veteran's Council and Foss Committee worked closely in hiring Susan Luery to design a suitable sculpture for the facility. The bust will be located inside the new facility in a visible alcove next to the ticketing area. The alcove location will also allow for display of a plaque describing the acts of heroism for which Seaman Foss was given the Medal of Honor. Dedication of the building and the memorial is expected to occur sometime this spring, upon completion of construction of the Foss Intermodal Facility.



The Foss Committee looks forward to completing all tasks with which they were charged in 2016.

Respectfully submitted:

Foss Committee:
Peter Finney, chairman
Alan Perrault, vice-chairman
D.J. Mackinnon
John McHugh
William Reardon
Melissa Tully

Hingham Housing Authority

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.

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:

- Walk way improvements due to a health and safety grant of \$25,000
- Turnover and rehab of 9 apartments
- Common area refurbishments
- Exterior door replacement

We are pleased to report that we successfully applied for and received a federal grant of \$65,647 for our Family Self-Sufficiency program.

Randy Sylvester and his DPW crew have gone above and beyond, especially last winter, and we truly appreciate all that they do for us.

We would like to thank the Community Preservation committee for accepting and supporting our 2015 application for a \$30,000 grant to provide a feasibility study and architect/engineering services for the land behind 100 Beal Street.

The Board of Commissioners would like to thank the Director and her staff for the exemplary work that they do.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Napier, Executive Director

James R. Watson, Chairman
William Wise, Commissioner
Robert Keyes, Treasurer
Amy Farrell, Vice Chairman

Logan Airport Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and Massport Advisory CAC

Background

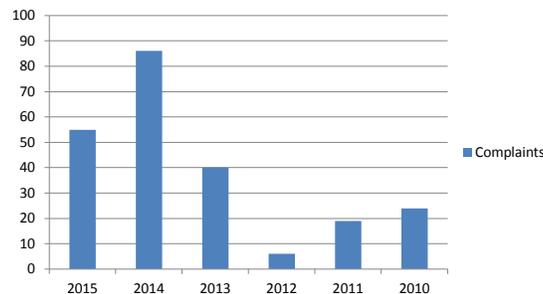
Logan Airport Community Advisory Committee, Inc (CAC) is a well - established Pan-Boston committee composed of nearly 40 communities within '128' surrounding Logan Airport. CAC's primary objective is to reduce ground and over-flight noise from aircraft and secondarily, to monitor air pollution from Logan Airport. The CAC will be absorbed into a new Massport Advisory Board later in 2016. This new group is will have a broader brief than the existing CAC.

Complaints in 2015

Massport collects complaints (<http://www.massport.com/environment>) and reports them for each community monthly. Complaint activity varies for a number of reasons – wind direction, awareness, public interest etc.

The lingering problem for Hingham is primarily arrivals at night and continuous use of arrivals on Runway 33 – particularly over Crow Point and the Hingham, Hull and Cohasset coast line.

Noise Complaints



Several communities including Hull and Milton have serious concerns about the 2013 deployment new RNAV SIDs – basically departure routes from leaving Logan with tight navigational paths. The FAA and Massport claim there is not a significant increase in noise but both communities feel the RNAV creates greater persistence over some parts of each community.

Activities for Logan CAC in 2015

Early in 2014, CAC created a detailed Program Use Program to Massport and the FAA to trial more dynamic runway use so that communities won't have sustained overflights lasting days and provide intermittent relief independent of the weather. The goal is finish the current phase with some positive and implementable outcomes.

The runway use test program will benefit every community by reducing persistent overflights, will be supported by the FAA and, for the first time, have the support of the controllers who have agreed to self-report on performance. It is likely the remainder of the BLANS funding should also be used to document aircraft compliance with the Phase 1 and 2 RNAV flight tracks, to establish criteria for measurement of same, to create a reporting protocol and to implement an enforcement mechanism.

Activities for Massport Advisory CAC in 2015

In 2013, Governor Patrick signed a Transport Bill which created the Massport Advisory Board. Hingham was selected as a member. On Jan 28, the formal kick off occurred and with over a 2/3 quorum, Bylaws were approved, the leadership team voted in and the election of the Massport CAC's representative (John Nucci) to one of the seven Massport Advisory Board seats for a seven-year term. This is the only Board member not appointed by the Governor. In addition, a working budget was agreed with the next meeting scheduled in the Spring 2016.

Declan Boland has represented Hingham on CAC since 2005 and elected to the CAC Leadership as Clerk for five of those years. He recently stepped down in late 2015. However, the Board of Selectmen appointed him as Hingham's representative to the Massport Advisory CAC which he continues to serve on.

Long Range Waste Disposal and Recycling

The Long Range Waste Disposal and Recycling Committee (LRWDRC) is pleased to provide residents with a recap of 2015's waste disposal and recycling operations at Hingham's Transfer Station. The LRWDRC's educational and advocacy efforts support the town of Hingham's household solid waste disposal operations. This report contains the highlights and updates of the education and advocacy efforts of the LRWDRC in 2015. 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 4741 residential and 156 commercial Transfer Station permits were issued in 2015.
- For 2015, the town's waste total was 7251 tons, with trash down 50 tons from 2014 while C & D (Construction & Demolition and Bulky waste) was up 303 tons from 2014. This resulted from repairs to homes damaged during the winter and increased use by contractors who bring their construction waste for a fee. Hauling costs went from \$620,268 in 2014 to \$521,865 in 2015, due to renegotiated contracts with reduced costs for transporting and incinerating our household waste at the SEMASS and with our construction and demolition recycling vendor.
- A total of 2316.8 tons (vs. 2574.7 tons in 2014) of common recyclables (paper, cardboard, steel cans, plastics, glass, metal and textiles) were collected, yielding a current recycling rate of 28.4% (vs. 30.3% in 2014). Residents should be concerned that our town is paying to throw away many things that should, by Commonwealth law and Town regulation, be recycled.
- 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 119.9 tons which reduced our municipal waste (with savings of \$8900 in disposal costs) and added roughly \$6,000 in receipts for the Town of Hingham.

New this year: The Swap Shoppe continues to provide residents with an option to pass along their gently used household items for re-use by other residents and now includes a 40 ft. by 8 ft. container which provides covered storage of items such as children's toys and games, electronics, lamps and books, thereby protecting them from the weather

and allowing greater re-use. The container was purchased using Recycling Dividends award funds received from the MA Dept. Environmental Protection for Hingham's comprehensive recycling program. The Shoppe exists due to the coordinated efforts of many Hingham resident volunteers and the Transfer Station staff. Additional volunteers are always needed for the Swap Area and would allow for additional hours of operation. Volunteer forms can be found on the Transfer Stations webpage's "Public Works" tab.



New Swap Shoppe Covered Container

New this year: A wide range of rigid plastics are now accepted for recycling in the plastics bay at the Transfer Station

New this year: Shopping bags are now accepted for recycling at the Transfer Station (chute for clean dry plastic shopping bags located between the plastics and the redeemable bottle and can bays).



Hingham's Community Redeemable Bottle and Can Collection fundraising program continued to benefit many local youth organizations. In

exchange for redemption proceeds, this year 23 youth groups performed the following community services:

- Assistance sorting and stacking donations at Food Pantry
- Foundry Pond Trail Cleanup
- Landscaping NW corner of Library
- Built potting bench for HHS Greenhouse
- Built outdoor Storage Container for East School
- Bench, Signs and Maintenance at Plymouth River School
- Footbridge and Maintenance at Triphammer Pond
- Built 3 footbridges at South Shore Country Club
- Built portable wooden barriers for Hingham Police
- Served breakfast at Senior Center
- Painted sign to support textile re-use & recycling
- Helped Hingham Rec. bowling at SSCC for SNAP
- High School senior night storage cleanout
- Library Clean-up Day
- Cleaning Senior Center
- Support for East Elementary Green Team
- Mulch and water new town trees at 1000 Main St.
- Energy audit and carbon footprint measures of Housing Authority, Plymouth River School, Girl Scout House, Hingham Courthouse and Wompatuck Visitor Center properties

We are pleased to report that Hingham's DPW was acclaimed for recovering the largest amount of textiles at a Transfer Station in the region, and for earning more than 10 MassDEP Recycling Dividend Program (RDP) points for its program elements. The RDP rewarded Hingham with a \$9,600 grant this year. The Board of Health was hailed for successfully regulating private haulers to provide recycling service to all Hingham residents and businesses. Hingham High School was commended for leadership in school recycling and composting, in conjunction with Holly Hill Farm, for its in-house food waste composting program and use of the compost on the school's raised garden beds. LRWDRC member, Brenda Black, was recognized for her volunteer leadership in the school and town waste reduction programs.

2015 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 and regional efforts in 2015 included:

- Exploring how the town might cut waste by reducing single-use items such as plastic and paper shopping bags: Discussions were held with community groups, town committees and business owners about how regulation might be used to impact consumer use of such bags. In Oct. 2015, the MA Attorney General ruled that regulations requiring fees by businesses were inconsistent with a provision of the State Constitution. This highly effective tool for increasing consumer awareness of the negative environmental and waste impact of single use items is not available to MA towns. Thus no by-law relating to single use shopping bags was proposed.
- Mailing to town residents with information about the new Swap Shoppe and what materials are acceptable as well how to make the best use of the Swap in order to keep reusable things out of our household waste and thus reduce costs to taxpayers.
- Informational displays at the Hingham Library and Town Hall on a range of recycling topics. Responding to questions posed on Hingham Pinboard.
- Educational presentations for Scout troops and at the Hingham Farmer's Market
- Submission of "Did you Know?" recycling facts on Hingham Community Access Media (HCAM - Channel 9 and 97 for Comcast and Channel 3 and 31 for Verizon subscribers).
- Support for the Board of Health's Recycling Compliance Coordinator's efforts to assist commercial waste and recycling haulers to comply with Hingham's residential and commercial recycling regulations.
- Assistance with the Annual Household Hazardous Waste Day in May. Hingham collected toxic substances from 245 households, thus keeping these hazardous wastes out of the municipal waste stream.
- Support for the Hingham School Recycling Implementer's efforts to 1) implement a pilot organics collection program at East School and 2) communicate and enforce Hingham Public's School's recycling requirements by users of the school facilities and fields.

Committee Goals for 2016

In addition to ongoing efforts to educate the Hingham community about the economic and environmental benefits of recycling, the LRWDRC's 2016 goals include:

- Educating residents on waste reduction strategies including food waste composting (estimated to be 25-35% of residential waste)
- Promoting in Hingham MassDEP's campaign to increase separation of textiles from household waste to increase textile re-use and recycling and reduce waste and waste costs.
- Promoting the new Mattress Recycling program expected to start at the Transfer Station in spring 2016, funded by a MassDEP grant.
- Continuing to research the economics and logistics of a Save Money and Reduce Trash ("SMART") approach to managing Hingham's household waste and recycling.
- 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.

Brenda Black
Kimberly Juric
Diane Morrison
David White

Andrea Dewire
Janice McPhillips
Peter Stathopoulos

Hingham Memorial Bell Tower

Bell Ringing celebrates the joy of weddings and victories, intones the sadness of deaths and funerals, and summons people to church. The bells in the towers produce no recognizable tunes. Yet they are rung in sequences and an orderly fashion. The bells, rung in an ancient yet very modern way, produce a rich cascade of sounds. This is called change ringing.

Change ringing requires special bells, special "music" and ordinary people who enjoy climbing towers, working as a team, and doing "The Exercise." Change ringing depends on real bells, each swung in a complete circle by a single person; six bells, six people and so on usually standing in a circle.

We ring on Tuesday evenings 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM. We welcome new ringers.

Kenneth W. Drescher
Michael Shilhan
Ann Shilhan
Joan R. Getto
Dorcas Wagner
Martha Ryan

Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project

The Commissioners of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project are pleased to submit the following report of our activities during 2015.

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 in Norfolk County. 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 2015 season began dry with a low water table, dry conditions increased into the summer season. Efforts were directed at larval mosquitoes starting with the spring brood. Ground larvicided 4,500

acres and aerial larvicided 12,327 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 1, 2015 and ended on September 12, 2015. The Project responded to 16,344 requests for spraying and breeding checks from residents covering all of the towns within the district.

In response to the continued threat of mosquito borne diseases in the district, we increased our surveillance trapping, aerial and ground larviciding, and adult spray in areas of concern to protect public health.

Based on guidelines defined by the "Arbovirus Surveillance and Response Plan" in Massachusetts, three Plymouth County towns, Bridgewater, W. Bridgewater, and Kingston, were "Moderate Level" of EEE Risk for the season. All other towns in Plymouth County Mosquito Project were at the "Low Level Risk" category. We are pleased to report that in 2015 there were no human, mosquito, or horse EEE cases in Plymouth County.

West Nile Virus was also found within the district. A total of 6 mosquito pools tested positive for WNV in the following towns: Abington (1), Whitman (1), Bridgewater (2), Kingston (1), Lakeville (1). All towns within the district remained at the "Low Level Risk" category for West Nile Virus. We are also pleased to report that in 2015 that there were no human or horse West Nile Virus cases in Plymouth County Mosquito Control district. As part of our West Nile Virus control strategy a total of 21,336 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.

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 Application. 1,887 acres were treated 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.

During the summer 1,613 catch basins were treated to prevent the emergence of *Culex pipiens*, a known mosquito vector in West Nile Virus transmission.

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.

Water Management. During 2015 crews removed blockages, brush and other obstructions from 2,275 linear feet of ditches and streams to prevent overflows or stagnation that can result in mosquito breeding. This work, together with machine reclamation, is most often carried out in the fall and winter.

Machine Reclamation. 3,000 linear feet of both saltmarsh and upland ditch was reconstructed in Hingham using the Project's track driven excavator.

Finally, we have been tracking response time, which is the time between notice of a mosquito problem and response by one of our inspectors. The complaint response time in the Town of Hingham was less than three days with more than 609 complaints answered.

Mosquito Survey. Our surveillance showed the dominant mosquitoes throughout the district were generally *Aedes vexans* and *Coquillettidia perturbans*. In the Town of Hingham the three most common mosquitoes were *Culex pipiens*, *Aedes vexans*, and *Aedes cinereus*

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

Anthony Teixeira
Superintendent

Commissioners:
John Kenney, Chairman
Michael F. Valenti, Vice-Chairman/Secretary
Kimberley King
Cathleen Drinan
John Sharland

Hingham Public Library

The Hingham Public Library is a valuable and well-used community resource and destination where residents can explore their community and the world through programs, materials, and services that nurture personal growth, stimulate intellectual curiosity, and encourage lifelong learning opportunities that enrich people's lives of all ages from young to old. To help guide us in planning our priorities and offering relevant and responsive services to the community, a five year Long Range Plan was developed this year through a series of Trustee, employee, and community meetings using information gathered through data collections, public library literature surveys, an Employee Survey, and a Patron Survey. The Long Range Plan was approved and adopted by the Board of Trustees in September, and outlined eight primary goals that will be central to the Library's ongoing commitment to meeting the needs and expectations of the community:

1. Evaluation, redesign and expansion of physical space to support offerings and to provide flexibility to accomplish them
2. Development of new offerings for patrons
3. Prudent continuing adaptation of technology
4. Continued enhancements of core collections and service strengths
5. Enhanced marketing, outreach, and communications channels with patrons and non-patrons
6. Training and development of staff
7. Development of new public and private funding sources and improvements to existing sources
8. Greater intra-Town department and community organization collaboration

In 2015, the Library remained as busy as ever: 230,269 people came through our doors averaging 952 visits per single day. The Library loaned a total of 356,524 items, and added over 14,000 new items to the collection so that patrons had physical and digital access to over 343,000 items. In addition, over 17,000 people – including children, teens and adults - came to library programs throughout the year and 12,343 Hingham residents currently have an active library card.

Every day residents of Hingham and the surrounding towns visit the Library not only to borrow books, movies, audiobooks, music, magazines, and technology equipment, but also to attend meetings, art receptions, lifelong learning programs, book groups, author talks,

concerts, training sessions, workshops, support groups, committee meetings, webinars, tutor sessions and study groups. Some may visit the training room and learn how to convert their old VHS tapes to DVD or their Vinyl Records to CD or get one- on- one eBook or technology help. Others may want to sit in the courtyard, see a friend, browse the collection, check out the latest offerings in the bookstore, or just sit and read a magazine. Whatever the reason, the Library remains the center of activity for the community. Patrons continue to have questions they need answered and materials they need found. Staff continues to dedicate themselves to delivering these services.

The Reference Department answered over 4,900 questions in 2015, covering everything from general research topics to genealogy and local history, book recommendations and Readers Advisory, and computer questions and technical support. The Reference Librarians also planned and arranged a large share of the adult programming for the year, offering nearly 400 Library sponsored programs such as movie nights, author talks, book clubs and lectures.

The Children's & Young Adult Department offered nearly 300 programs throughout 2015 including five weekly story times, book groups serving children from Grades 2 to high school, shows with the very popular puppeteers Pat Boylan and Leigh Baltzer, "Read to a Dog" series, movies, crafts, workshops and the ever popular Library scavenger hunt. The 2015 summer reading program theme was "Every Hero Has a Story," and children from ages 3 to 17 participated in a variety of reading activities and programs, such as the Pop Up Art Programs featuring the work of artists Yayoi Kusama and Roy Lichtenstein, a visit with YA author A.C. Gaughen, a sweet evening of Chocolate Dipped Creations, a traditional Chinese Lion Dance performance and the Summer Reading Program finale that included water fun and a make-your-own sundae party.

The addition of a Clear Touch interactive smart board to the Children's Department, made possible through the generous donations given during the 2014 Library Fundraiser "Roam the Tomes" for the Fund-A-Need program, proved to be a big hit with children and families and features a wide range of apps for different age



levels. To all our very generous donors, we offer a sincere thank you - it has been a huge success. Other technology recently added to the Children's Department includes the addition of 22 Playaway Launchpads. These popular Launchpads are educational tablets that come preloaded with 10 apps that are grouped by subject area, theme, grade level, and age making it easy for families to select.

The Library's Technology Department saw some exciting new initiatives this year, including the development of a new and mobile-friendly website and the addition of a technology collection that offers the community an opportunity to borrow and "test drive" a wide range of equipment from Chromebooks and iPads, to Fitbits and digital cameras. The collection also features family-friendly robots to get children excited about computer coding, and select conversion equipment to help preserve family memories stored in older formats such as VHS tapes and slides to current and digitally accessible formats. The full list of technology and equipment is available on our website.

The Library's technology training room also opened this year. It offers a variety of technology workshops as well as additional conversion equipment and a staff member to help you learn how to use it! The training room staff member is available to provide one-on-one assistance to help patrons learn how to access the Library's large and ever-growing eBook collection and to offer general help in learning how to use a variety of technology programs, social media, applications and devices.

This past year, the Library was also awarded a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Preservation of Library and Archival Materials grant for \$30,000 from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners to conserve and digitize the complete correspondence of Governor John D. Long between 1850 and 1875 that is currently in the Library's historical collections. Town Archivist Jenn Williams, with the assistance of Local History Librarian Anne Dalton, were instrumental in identifying, applying for, and managing this grant opportunity that will result in greater accessibility to this important historical artifact.

Once again, the Library's Annual Fund Drive was very successful; we wish to thank Trustee Edna English for her communication skill in the effort that raised approximately \$51,000 from over 500 donors and Business Administrator Joan Allen and Assistant Mary Ellen Miller for their administrative efforts in helping to coordinate the drive. The contributions we receive through the Annual Fund Drive help us to provide essential services that contribute to our mission and to the

continued excellence of the Library. We sincerely appreciate the generosity and support of Hingham residents.

Another important source of funds that contributes to the Library's purchase of new materials is from sales of used books by the Library's Bookstore. Through the efforts of a team of dedicated volunteers who give their time and talents in running the Bookstore, the Bookstore raised over \$15,400, which includes our semi-annual two-day Book Sale. We wish to sincerely thank all our volunteers, especially to Adrienne Richardson, Irma Lauter and Marcia Sinclair for their assistance with all aspects of running and maintaining the Bookstore.

Volunteers from the community continue to invest their time and talents each week and to assist in numerous capacities throughout the Library, including working in the Bookstore, providing home delivery services, shelving and collecting books and audiovisual items, and mending and repairing both printed and non-printed items to keep them in good physical condition. We thank all our volunteers, led by Joan Newell, for their continued and valued assistance to our essential daily operations, contributing an amazing 2,209 hours of service to the Library last year.

Staffing also experienced changes in 2015, including the retirements of a number of longtime staff members: Senior Library Technician Marcia Sinclair, Head Custodian Jim Bellenis, and more recently in early 2016, Senior Library Technician Barbara Bird and Local History and Reference Librarian Anne Dalton. We thank them for their years of dedicated service to the Library and wish them a happy and enjoyable retirement. The Library also welcomed the addition of a new Assistant Director, Debbie Clifton, a former employee who joined the staff in November after having last served as the Director of the Holbrook Public Library.

Finally, we are sad to report the passing of a beloved Library Trustee, Harold Goldstein. Hal was a dedicated and caring member of the Board of Trustees for 23 years, a wonderful colleague and a true lover of the Library; he will be greatly missed by all who knew and served with him.

In conclusion, we wish to thank all the members of the Board of Trustees for their continued dedication, time and involvement that helps to make the Library such an outstanding and vital community resource, and to thank the dedicated, talented, and hard-working staff who truly make the Library such a special place for everyone.

Linda Harper
Acting Director

David J. Mehegan
Chairman of the Board

Hingham Public Schools

As of October 1, 2015, there were 4257 students enrolled in grades K-12 in the Hingham Public Schools, an increase of 33 students over October 1, 2014. In addition, the district had responsibility for funding and/or programming for 71 pre-school students in the Integrated Pre-school program, 47 out-of-district students (in special education placements), and 1 vocational student.

Operational and management changes in the Hingham Public Schools for Fall 2015 included the appointments of Andrew Hoey, Director of Social Studies K-12, Douglas Foley, Facilities and Procurement Manager, and John Walden, HPD Elementary Schools Resource Officer.

Academically, Hingham students continued to perform above state averages at every grade and subject on the 2015 MCAS. The percentage of Hingham students performing at the proficient or advanced levels increased in grade 3 English Language Arts (ELA) and math, grade 4 ELA and math, grade 5 ELA and math, grade 6 ELA and math, grade 8 math and science, and grade 10 science. In grade 10, 98% of students scored at the proficient or advanced level in ELA, 95% in math, and 92% in science, with 79% scoring at the advanced level in ELA and 78% scoring advanced in math. All members of the Class of 2015 demonstrated proficiency on the ELA, math and science MCAS tests that are required for a state certified diploma. Student Growth Percentile (SGP) reports released by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) are used to measure student performance changes on MCAS over time. In Hingham, SGPs were rated as "high" at grade 4 ELA and math, grade 5 ELA and math, grade 7 ELA, and grade 10 math.

The Massachusetts accountability system is used to classify districts and schools on a five level scale from the highest performing in Level 1 to the lowest performing in Level 5. The levels reflect both overall performance and the progress of the different subgroups of the student population. The Hingham 2015 accountability results were as follows: East School, Foster School, Plymouth River School, and Hingham High School – Level 1; South School and Hingham Middle School - Level 2. A school percentile was also reported indicating the school's overall performance relative to other schools in Massachusetts with the same grades. The Hingham school percentiles were as follows: East–94th, Foster–94th, PRS–98th, South–94th, HMS–85th, and HHS–91st.

The four elementary schools continue to enhance curriculum and instruction in literacy, math, science, and social studies through a variety of initiatives. In ELA, teachers have been piloting two new reading programs with a final adoption scheduled to begin in the 2016-17 school year. The implementation of a revised edition of our K-5 math program was completed in the 2015-16 school year. The curriculum alignment and revision of our K-5 science program has begun given the recent approval of new Massachusetts Science Curriculum Frameworks. Each of the elementary schools has designed, posted, and trained staff in school-specific behavior matrices in order to create safe and productive learning environments that foster responsibility and respect. In each of the schools, targeted instruction opportunities have been designed to respond to needs identified by analysis of district, state and standardized test results.

Hingham students continued with strong performances in the visual and performing arts, as demonstrated in building and district-wide concerts and regional music competitions. The annual all-town art show was relocated to Town Hall in Spring 2015 and featured the work of students from all six schools. A permanent ceramics display remains in the lobby there. Drama students captivated audiences with their productions of "Hello, Dolly!" in November 2015 at HHS and "Beauty and the Beast" last Spring at HMS.

The 2015 Town Election saw Aylene Calnan and Cynthia Galko elected to the School Committee to fill vacancies resulting from the expiring terms of Dennis Friedman and Caryl Falvey. Andy Shafter, Liza O'Reilly, and Aylene Calnan were elected School Committee Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary, respectively, in May 2015.

On Saturday, May 30, 281 students graduated from Hingham High School. In addition to a diploma, 40 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, 94% planned to continue their formal education. Academic accomplishments of the HHS Class of 2015 include 14 National Merit commended students, 97 Advanced Placement Scholars, 4 AP National Scholars, 2 AP International Diploma recipients, and 64 members inducted into the National Honor Society. Myriad awards were also presented in recognition of students' outstanding performance in academic areas or involvement in school organizations.

In 2015 the School Building Committee continued its post occupancy work on the Middle School Construction Project. A new well was drilled in December 2014 in support of the school's outdoor playing surfaces and work on installation of an irrigation system continued through the winter and into the spring. The School Building Committee met regularly throughout 2015 to pursue the school's LEED Silver certification, oversee commissioning and training activities and address various issues including outstanding site work, winter storm damage and initiation of steps for final project closeout, anticipated later in 2016.

The Annual School Department Operating Budget for fiscal year 2016 (school year 2015-2016) was approved at the April 2015 Town Meeting at \$45,413,720; another \$988,480 was appropriated for Capital Projects, including projects at the Depot properties benefitting several Town departments.

Throughout the spring and summer of 2015, plans for implementing Hingham's first full day Kindergarten evolved. An income-based sliding scale of tuitions approved by the MA DESE funded the program. A state planning grant supported the purchase of materials and furnishings and some training. A second grant in Fall 2015 was used to purchase additional materials and provide consultant services for curriculum development and teacher and paraeducator training as well as an initial state required program evaluation. Kindergarten classes opened in September with 300 students in four classrooms in each of the four schools. The total number of students has grown to 307 as of this writing.

In Fall 2015, the School Committee met in a Planning Session to establish goals and priorities for the then upcoming FY 17 budget season. Subsequent to that meeting, Budget Guidelines and Assumptions were developed and approved by the School Committee. At the same meeting, there was consensus among the members to continue with a sliding scale of parent tuitions as the funding source for the second year of the full day kindergarten program (Fall 2016). As well, there was consensus to move forward with initial planning and a likely Spring 2016 Warrant item to fund design for an improved health and wellness center at the High School. Also explored and supported by the full committee was the submission of a Statement of Interest (SOI) for a partially reimbursed MSBA Accelerated Repair Project (ARP) to fund window replacements at Plymouth River School. In December 2015, the School Administration developed a "needs-based budget" that is (at the time of this writing) in the process of refinement and adoption or other action by

the SC, Selectmen, Advisory Committee, and ultimately by Town Meeting.

The interscholastic athletic teams at Hingham High School have made a strong case for Hingham to be referred to as "Title Town." During the 2015 year, HHS earned 7 State Championships, 2 Sectional Championships and 6 Patriot League Championships. The boys ice hockey team won the Division I State Championship. The girls and boys rowing teams won the spring state championships. The girls rowing team won the state championship in the fall. The dance team won the state championship for the first time ever. The girls soccer team successfully defended their Division II State Championship. The girls spring track team won the state relay championship. In addition, the boys cross-country team won the Eastern MA Divisional Championship and the boys lacrosse team won the South Sectional Championship. Patriot League Championships were won by the wrestling team (3 years in a row), girls indoor track (7 years in a row), boys and girls spring track, boys' cross-country (2 years in a row) and field hockey. The following coaches hit the 100 win milestone: Bob Knife (boys basketball), Susan Petrie (field hockey) and Paul Caniff (wrestling).

Competitive endeavors such as Robotics, Quiz Bowl, and Mock Trial provided other avenues for HHS students to explore interests and talents in 2015, as did the Global Citizenship Club and Diploma Program, the Green Team, the Student Council and a variety of other co-curricular and extracurricular clubs and activities. On Earth Day in 2015, Hingham High School was awarded the prestigious US Department of Education Green Ribbon Award for environmental awareness and related actions.

The Hingham Public Schools continued to benefit from strong and long-standing community partnerships in 2015. The cooperative efforts and generosity of parents, PTOs, booster and other community groups, civic organizations, 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. At the Annual Senior Awards Night in May 2014, more than \$343,000 in local scholarship dollars was awarded to 198 HHS graduates. Myriad awards were also 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.

A special thank you goes again to the citizenry and voters of the Town for their ongoing support and financing of annual education budgets and facilities enhancement projects.

DOROTHY GALO, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Andy Shafter, Chair
Liza O'Reilly, Vice-Chair
Aylene Calnan, Secretary
Raymond Estes
Carol M. Falvey
Edward Schreyer, D.D.S.
Cynthia Galko

Recreation Commission

The Hingham Recreation Commission is a five member elected board. The Commission oversees the operations of the Recreation Department. The mission of the Recreation Commission is to provide high quality, affordable recreation programs, as well as maintaining safe and accessible fields and facilities throughout the Hingham community. The Recreation Department's program offerings strive to assist all Hingham residents in enhancing their physical, social and emotional well-being.

The Hingham Recreation (Rec) 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, is comprised of 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. 2015 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, harbor hoops, men's and women's basketball and much more. School aged students and toddlers had many program offerings including legos, a babysitting training 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 an Easter egg hunt. The Rec also partnered with the SSCC this year for tennis and golf programs. Both programs were run at SSCC, with the Rec providing tennis instructors and SSCC providing golf instructors.

The 2015 Summer Program was a huge success! Our summer staff worked diligently to design a new and exciting line up of shows and entertainers for the 2015 summer including sports and dance workshops, animal shows, music performances, and more! The new field trips were planned specifically geared to each age group. Between the Preschool, Playground, and Teen Xtreme programs the Recreation Department enrolled over 1,425 participants.



The "Funky Feet" dance program marked its first full year at Hingham Rec in 2015 and was a huge success! In May, the program held its first recital at the new, state-of-the-art middle school auditorium. Over 500 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!

"Hingham Rec Paddle Sport" had its first full summer season in 2015, 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. In addition to "Hingham Paddle Sport" 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 2016.

July 4, 2015 marked the 57th 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 tax payer. Proceeds also generate fee revenues, offset operational and overhead costs, and pay for services provided by the Rec Department. The Recreation Department would like to thank all those who make this annual race possible.



The Rec Department also made a sizable investment in the Carlson Fields in 2015. Twenty thousand dollars was put toward renovations and improvements to the field complex. Over 20,000 square feet of sod was installed as well as seeding and fertilizing the fields. The fields were also top dressed with close to 80 tons of a sand / loam mix making it more flat and safe.

In other great news CPC awarded the final \$350,000 needed for the recreation barn renovations! The construction and renovations are expected to be finished in time for the start of the 2016 summer program. The new barn space will include public restrooms, and a large, multipurpose space. In the summer, the barn will be used to house the summer program arts and crafts activities. During the fall, winter and spring months, the barn will host classes for the dance program as well as fitness classes, including yoga and pilates.

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 2015 a year to remember.

Recreation Commissioners:

Vicki Donlan, Chair
Sara Melia, Vice-Chair
Adrienne Ramsey, Secretary
Budd Thorne
Bruce Thompson

Recreation Department Staff:

Mark Thorell, Recreation Director
Kathy Walsh, Administrative Secretary
Mike Benard, Program Administrator
Nick Lombardo, Program Administrator

School Building Committee

2015 was the School Building Committee's tenth year in existence as it continued work to complete the final phase of the 2006 School Facilities Master Plan at the new Hingham Middle School. The Committee met regularly throughout 2015 and will continue to meet as needed going forward, although less frequently, to address various issues including outstanding site work, which is expected to be completed by spring 2016.

Although the Middle School opened to students in September 2014, several important construction matters still needed to be completed. A new well had been drilled in December 2014 in support of the school's outdoor playing surfaces and work on installation of an irrigation system continued through the winter. Unfortunately, record snowfalls in January and February delayed progress on that and a number of other site items until spring. Once the ground thawed, the irrigation work was completed and attention to final landscaping was renewed. Formal commissioning on building features and mechanical systems was finalized during the summer, yet a number of HVAC-related and other mechanical issues continued to require minor repairs and, in some cases, equipment replacement. After additional growing seasons, the project received final approval from the Conservation Commission. Various other issues also arose throughout the year requiring the Committee's attention, including continued interaction with abutters to address landscape concerns and improvements and consideration and awarding of a grant to partially fund materials for the construction of new garden beds for use in conjunction with the science curriculum.

Financially, the project remained significantly under budget all year despite the approval of necessary change orders and other expenditures. With project completion on the near horizon, additional expenditures are expected to be limited. Although final figures won't be available until the MSBA completes its project closeout audit, it is expected that the total project cost will be nearly \$4.5 million below the 2011 Special Town Meeting appropriation of \$60,910,920 for a net cost to Hingham taxpayers of approximately \$32,800,000, more than \$2.1 million less than originally anticipated.

In September, the new Hingham Middle School opened for its second school year welcoming and accommodating new and returning students already in excess of the building's design capacity. The school incorporates high-performance and quality design, cost-efficient construction, the inclusion of green, energy-efficient and sustainable

features, and up-to-date technology and operating systems that will yield ease of use and maintenance. This was highlighted in July when the project received formal LEED Silver certification recognizing its myriad green and sustainable attributes, which promise cost and operational efficiencies to the Town. In its second year since opening, the new Hingham Middle School provides well for the educational needs of our middle school students, continuing Hingham's long-standing tradition of excellence for generations to come.

Raymond C. Estes, Chairman
Timothy R. Collins, Vice-Chairman
Sandra Cleary, Secretary
Samantha Anderson
Peter Bradley
Robert Bucey
Stefan Vogelmann



Scholarship Fund Committee

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 2015 were \$4,153,020 compared to \$4,320,909 at the end of 2014. These figures include investment returns, deposits of \$70,320, and disbursements for scholarships and administrative fees of \$232,375. If net disbursements are included with investment returns, present and future beneficiaries experienced a return on investments of -0.1% in 2015.

2015 was a mixed year for the major asset classes. The Barclays US Aggregate, a broad domestic investment grade bond index returned +0.6%. The S&P 500, an index comprised of the 500 largest US public companies according to market capitalization, returned +1.4%. The Russell 2000 Index, an equity index that includes a broad array of small sized US companies, returned -4.4%. The MSCI EAFE Index, which measures large company equity performance domiciled in developed markets within Europe, Australasia and the Far East returned -0.4%.

The asset mix, approximately 70% equities and 30% bonds & money market equivalents, has been a consistent strategic target of the fund for the past five 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 \$230,000 in scholarship awards in 2015. 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 2014 and \$200,000 in 2013. 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:

Roger Nastou, Kurt Weisenbeck, Adam White, Matthew McGonagle, John Fitzsimons, Jean Montgomery

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE TRUST FUNDS IN CUSTODY OF THE
TREASURER

Scholarship	12/31/14	12/31/15
Rizzotto Memorial	21,532	22,000
Cyrus Bacon & Ada W. Bacon	30,754	29,002
Orvis K. & May B. Collins	65,419	61,607
Amasa J. Whiting	31,823	29,968
Second World War Memorial	79,819	75,080
Margaret McElroy	16,637	15,710
Stuart Macmillan	75,900	71,265
Anne Mulholland	7,329	7,143
John Lewis Russell	19,733	18,599
Caroline Murdock	14,979	14,053
Charles (Chuck) Martell	37,640	34,546
Francis James Thompson	2,617,879	2,475,440
Patricia Lynne Schneider	5,648	5,288
Harold L. Downing	23,870	22,479
Hingham Theater for Children	6,995	6,532
Curtis Chase	14,373	13,498
Wallis Lee Chipman	8,946	8,430
Russell H. Arkell	12,169	11,499
Hingham Basketball Boosters	16,041	15,114
Charles Berry	6,874	6,462
Edward O. Hornstra	20,786	19,652
William J. Laubenstein Jr	6,206	5,846
Mary Sheldon	8,587	8,124
Robin Karen Kurciviez	6,665	6,304
Mary J. Fee	5,956	5,596
Jacobs	37,807	35,745
John Higgins	5,650	5,290
Burditt W. Collins Memorial	8,846	8,383
Savini Music	7,271	6,809
Stuart Blake & Mary McKay Luce	251,600	236,141
Robert V. Barbuto & James C. Silipo	22,752	21,514
Herbert W. Farrar Memorial	6,811	6,399
Lane W. & Agnes Bryant	144,583	135,654
Hingham Taxpayers	66,178	63,183
Hingham Band Parents	7,253	6,841
Susan Burton	25,601	24,160
Leroy L. Eldredge	20,971	20,952
John Barba	24,608	23,268
M. Tilghman Earle	25,912	25,887
Lewis J. Ernst	15,439	14,512
Joan E. Pyne Memorial	8,408	7,893
John Peter Nionakis	14,202	13,378

Kids Cabaret	3,825	3,818
Rosemary Amoscato Shaughnessy	15,458	16,304
Field Hockey Team.....	11,220	10,397
Charles L. Vickery	39,073	37,600
Jamin Guarino	42,496	39,920
Clifford Family Memorial	12,573	11,853
Thomas J. Wallace, Jr & Michelle Wallace	13,300	12,476
Gerald M. Collins, M.D.	3,446	3,440
Hingham Scholarship Memorial	7,666	7,439
Crofoot Trust	23,517	22,384
Sam Butterfield.....	11,621	11,004
Gloria O. Lofgren	15,441	14,566
Robin Helene Ruben	17,369	17,942
Robert L. Goodrich	38,433	36,370
Helen S. Wollan	7,296	6,982
Former Students of HHS.....	15,459	14,634
Mark S. Gratta Sr Memorial.....	23,899	22,664
Hingham Women's Club	18,423	17,392
Corine Cyr Benedict Memorial	12,727	12,005
Carol & Ruth Gardner Memorial	25,232	24,392
Samantha Hooper Memorial.....	7,468	7,056
Cynthia Steven Scholarship.....	6,132	5,823
Marie Meallo Scholarship	12,721	12,000
Keith Ryan Memorial.....	3,777	3,570
Sean Ryan Memorial	62,679	59,382
Colarullo Family Scholarship.....	10,000	9,754
Neil Tompkins Memorial	0	63,910
General Fund	<u>3,210</u>	<u>2,701</u>
Total	4,320,909	4,153,020

Shade Tree Committee

A primary purpose of the Shade Tree Committee is 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. In keeping with the committee's purpose, 73 shade trees were planted in 2015. A number of these trees were replacements for trees lost due to winter storms and stress factors. Tree replacement will continue in 2016. Unfortunately, the town will continue to experience the loss of trees for the reasons just mentioned but the objective is to minimize losses where and when possible. We have been looking carefully at a number of triggers that support good tree health to include environmental factors such as drought and salt tolerance, disease resistant species, and carefully selecting the appropriate shade tree for specific planting locations.

"The Common" (School and Short Streets) was the site for the Earth Day celebration on Wednesday, April 22. The shade tree species chosen was the Northern Red Oak, *Quercus rubra*, which complements the existing Common landscape, and is widely considered a national treasure. The Northern Red Oak is especially valued for its adaptability and usefulness, including its hardiness in urban settings, brilliant fall color and great value to wildlife.

Mary Eastwood, Principal of South Elementary School, officiated at the Arbor Day tree planting ceremony. Because Arbor Day, April 24, fell on a Friday of school vacation week, the actual ceremony was held on Tuesday, April 28. During the ceremony, the Arbor Day proclamation was read and students of South Elementary assisted in planting the tree. Guests included members of the Shade Tree Committee, the Garden Club of Hingham, South School and town officials.

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

James Huse
Barbra Kardok

Dottie Manganaro
Michael Studley

Veterans' Services

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 Memorial Day 2015 observance, held at the Matthew Hawkes Square, featured Navy swift-boat captain and Hingham native, LT Dan Daly, who recounted lessons learned during his service in Vietnam.

Building upon the December 2014 selection of Town Administrator Ted Alexiades for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) Patriot Award, the Town applied for the prestigious Department of Defense Freedom Award. In June, the Town was notified that it was one of fifteen Freedom Award winners, selected from among 2,960 national applicants on the basis of the Town's support of employees and their dependents who serve in the National Guard or military reserve---an incredible honor! The Freedom Award was formally presented to Board of Selectmen Chair Paul Healey at an August Pentagon award ceremony hosted by the Secretary of Defense.

June was equally memorable for a second reason---the safe return of the Town's Veterans' Services Officer, Navy Chief Petty Officer Keith Jermyn, from a one-year tour of duty in East Africa providing construction-engineering support to joint forces throughout the area. Town residents lined Hingham's streets all the way to Town Hall where a large



contingent of Town employees, friends, reporters and citizens enthusiastically celebrated Keith's safe return with his wife, Lisa, and their children, Nico, Kalli, and JT.

In October, as has been the custom for the past several years, the Town remembered the birthday of Hingham's Medal of Honor recipient, Seaman Herbert L. Foss, with a

wreath-laying ceremony at his gravesite in the Fort Hill Street cemetery. Concurrently, the Town's Veterans' Council and the Foss Memorial Committee continued their joint efforts in coordination with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to memorialize Seaman Foss with a bronze sculpture to be installed at the newly-constructed Herbert L. Foss Hingham Terminal intermodal facility set to open at the Hingham Shipyard in the spring of 2016.

Veterans' Day was observed in Sanborn Auditorium featuring Coast Guard First District public affairs officer, LT Karen Kutkiewicz, who spoke about the Coast Guard's many and varied missions from drug interdiction to port security to hazardous rescue operations. During the ceremony, the Veteran of the Year Award was presented to Chief Petty Officer Keith A. Jermyn for his service both to the Town as well as his country during his six military deployments.

In November, Jaime Litchfield completed his 'tour' as the Department's Interim Director, when Keith Jermyn resumed full-time responsibility as the Town's Veterans' Services Officer. The Department is grateful for Jaime's willingness to fill 'big shoes' while Keith was on active duty overseas.

Throughout 2015, the Department continued to provide support for Cohasset veterans and their dependents, working closely with Cohasset's part-time Veterans' Services Officer.

Finally, 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 2015 with slightly more than \$18,200 on hand. Over the Fund's five-year history, upwards of \$10,000 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 Town's appointed Veterans' Council.

The Department wishes to thank the Board of Selectmen, the Town Administrator, the Town Accountant, Town committee and board members, and all the Town's citizens who have provided such strong support to our veterans and their dependents throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith A. Jermyn, Director

Water Company Acquisition Study Committee

From February 23 through March 2, 2015, Suffolk County Superior Court Judge Christine M. Roach presided over the trial of the Town's Complaint against the Aquarion Water Company of Massachusetts, Inc. ("Aquarion Mass") and Aquarion Water Capital of Massachusetts, Inc. ("Aquarion Capital") in the Business Litigation Session. Closing arguments by both parties were delivered on May 28, 2015.

Judge Roach issued a *Memorandum and Order of Findings and Rulings* on November 20, 2015. The Court's decision addressed specific issues in dispute between the parties regarding the Town's potential purchase of the water company, including the definition of corporate property and the formula for calculating a purchase price. The Court also directed that the parties cooperate to submit a Proposed Final Judgment with respect to the appropriate purchase price for the assets of Aquarion Mass and Aquarion Capital by early February 2016. As this report went to press, the Court's Final Judgment had not yet been issued.

Throughout 2016, the Committee intends to continue providing support as requested by the Board of Selectmen in addition to keeping the Town updated with many of the relevant documents on the Town's website under the Committee's "*Documents*" tab. Ultimately, a Town Meeting vote would be necessary to approve any purchase of the water company.

Jonathan R. Asher, Chair
Joshua C. Krumholz, Secretary
Joseph L. Bierwirth
Robert M. Higgins
Edward R. Siegfried

Water Supply Committee

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 developing a water supply policy and 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 of them featured a presentation from Aquarion, and the meetings generated discussions of Aquarion's capital improvement plans, the system's water-distribution challenges, leak-detection efforts, public outreach programs, water rates, and the water balance program operated by the company for new developments. Several discussions focused on water conservation efforts, and the Committee heard from Aquarion about its expectations that outdoor watering restrictions would be in effect more-or-less regularly from mid-Spring into Fall, as well as the consulting study it had commissioned to analyze water-use patterns. Information on many of the matters discussed, as well as some of Aquarion's powerpoint presentations, can be found in the minutes of the meetings and elsewhere on the Town of Hingham website (hingham-ma.gov), under the Water Supply Committee link.

Four years ago Town Meeting voted to authorize a separate, selectmen-appointed Water Company Acquisition Study Committee to conduct a comprehensive study of acquiring the water company's assets. That acquisition study continues, slowly, as the Town and Aquarion work their way through litigation over the appropriate cost of such an acquisition and how that cost ought to be determined. The results of this effort, of course, will depend upon what the Town learns from the work of the acquisition study and the ensuing discussion of what the Town should choose to do with the information. In any case, while the Water Supply Committee has no direct role in the acquisition study or the related legal proceedings, the Committee stands ready to participate and hopes that the perspectives of its members may help to inform the discussion with regard to operating a municipal water-supply utility. In the meantime, the Committee will continue on behalf of the Town to monitor Aquarion's operations and the Committee remains committed to looking after the Town's interests in our water supply.

Maureen Doran
Matthew Greene
Ron Kirven
Sam Mullin, Chair
Kirk Shiels, Secretary
Adam White

Weir River Estuary Park Committee



Hingham, Hull, and Cohasset share the estuary of the Weir River – from Foundry Pond and World’s End to Sunset Point and Straits Pond. Each town appoints up to three members who advocate for protecting the land and habitat, improving water quality, and promoting stewardship through education and respectful recreation.

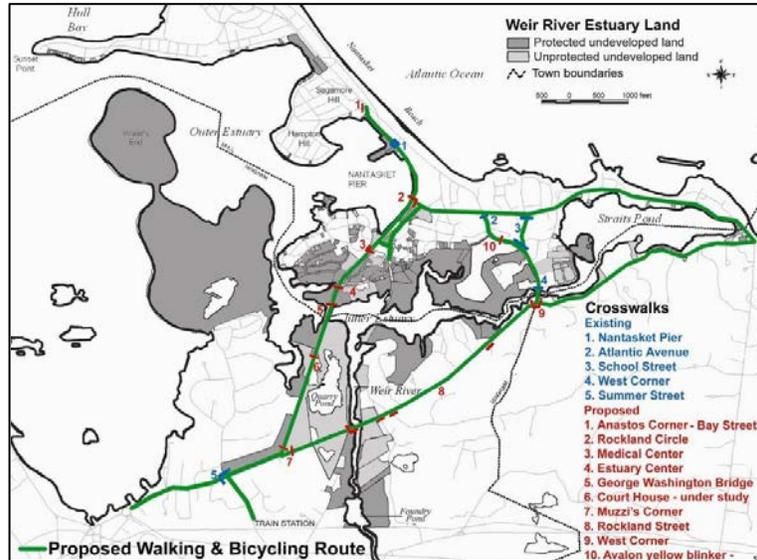
Members collaborate with the towns’ Conservation Commissions, Land Conservation Trusts, Harbormasters, Watershed Associations, MA Coastal Zone Management and the MA Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) Program to reach these goals.

The WREPComm meets monthly (except August and December) from 7pm-9pm at Hingham Town Hall or the Weir River Estuary Center (333 George Washington Blvd.) in Hull. Meeting agendas are posted on-line and at Town Hall. Our web page has a full-size map of the estuary and ACEC, the proposed Bike Path, Paddle Guide, Land Protection Plan, meeting minutes, a list of members and the Annual Report. We hope you’ll ‘like’ our Facebook page – it has photos and videos of the area, and some links to pertinent topics and websites.

The WREPComm grew out of the Weir River Estuary Open Space Committee, which was appointed by the Hull Selectmen in August 2001. In February 2002, the group recommended the creation of a Weir River Estuary Park to support the 1986 MA-designated ACEC. The tri-town committee formed later in 2002, based on the idea that the Weir River Estuary Park area is defined more by ecology than town boundaries or land ownership. Three of our current members have been on-board since 2002: Dick Avery, representing the Straits Pond Watershed Assoc. and Cohasset Conservation Trust, Faith Burbank as a director of the Weir River Watershed Assoc. and Judeth Van Hamm from WRWA and the Hull Land Conservation Trust. In 2003, a MA Watershed Initiative grant provided workshops to set the Committee’s purpose: to support each town’s Master Plan/Open Space Plan in the Weir River Estuary Park, by: Land protection, Conservation/restoration of wildlife habitat, Stewardship

education and Recreation which supports habitat protection.

During 2003-2007, grants resulted in a land inventory, Land Protection Plan and a Paddle Guide to the Estuary. In 2004, with the help from Trust for Public Lands and DCR, 60 Geo. Washington Blvd. and 3 key parcels of land in Hull were protected to restore the shellfish beds in Porters Cove. Members lent their support to the SPWA for the West Corner culvert reconstruction and the WRWA to build the Estuary Center.



Proposed "Bicycling and Walking route" in Land Protection Plan (2006)

In Hingham, Ms. Burbank successfully shepherded the transfer of lands to Conservation: Amonte Meadow (2005; closed 2008), 60 GWB (2004; DEP 21E clean-up closed 2013) and Sidney's Pond (2009; closed 2013).

Like the tide, our projects ebb and flow. In 2005-2009, WREPComm advocated, along with the neighbors and Senator Hedlund's office, for improvements to the Rockland St Bridge at Kilby St, including a Bike Path, stormwater catch basins and relocating the water main to the top of the arch, elevating the road so that kayaks/canoes can pass under the bridge to the Foundry Pond dam. The project had reached MA Highway's 75% design stage and was approved in the 2009 MA Transportation Bond bill. Town budget priorities changed, and the start date was moved from 2014 to 2020. MA Highway design requirements have changed; the Bike Path remains 'proposed'. In 2007-2008, the Harbormaster agreed to place NO WAKE buoys in the Inner Estuary. Support to protect the significant parcels at Bass Point and Porter's Cove

has lost traction over the years, and funds available in 2010 to dredge Foundry Pond were cancelled. In 2009-2010, MA Highway replaced the existing West Corner Culvert and sluice gates, providing ecological benefits to the Straits Pond salt water habitat and reducing flooding potential. In 2013-2014 WREPComm, along with the tri-town's land trusts and watershed associations, partnered with Aquarion Water Company to present five public "Water Matters" forums. The sessions were very popular, especially as summer water restrictions were implemented in this highly-stressed basin during a severe drought.

In 2015, record snowfall over five consecutive weekends in January and February was followed by drought conditions again from July into October. WREPComm members helped to complete Hingham's Trails Plan, published October 21st. Foundry Pond and Sidney's Pond are highlighted in the final Plan. The Town of Hull learned that it was awarded a \$1.5M grant plus a \$1.5M low interest loan for final design, permitting, and reconstruction of the Crescent Beach seawall at Gunrock by MA Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs in October. Among many other benefits, the minimization of the overwash resulting from this project will improve the ecological health of Straits Pond. The Hull Land Conservation Trust, with help from the Cohasset Conservation Trust, made great strides toward creating a Straits Pond Waterfowl Viewing Park this year.



The adult women's crew from Hingham's Maritime Center finished 8th (of 59) at Hull Lifesaving Museum's 2015 Head of the Weir race in October.

WREPComm members continue to: sponsor the annual spring clean-up of the Weir River Estuary; coordinate tri-town input to develop a management plan for the protected parcels; watch for any additional properties listed in the Land Protection Plan that become available for protection/purchase; participate at various meetings around the towns.

Co-chairs: Dick Avery (Cohasset), Patti Coyle (Hingham), Judeth Van Hamm (Hull). Members: Faith Burbank (Hingham), Scott Plympton (Hull) and Dave Sibor (Hingham)

Town Accountant/Finance Director

To the Citizens of the Town of Hingham, Massachusetts:

The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the year ended June 30, 2015 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, 2015 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, 2015 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 has once again begun modest increases. 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 7% while school enrollment has increased 16%.

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. Due to current 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 \$1-\$2 million range for 2016.

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 14% and no more than 18% 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 its 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 97% of all real estate taxes are collected during the year of billing with the remaining 3% 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, 2014. This was the nineteenth 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, 2015 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 Federal Office of Management & Budget's Circular A133.

Acknowledgments

A special gratitude is owed to Michael Nelligan and James Powers, partners at Powers & Sullivan, LLC, whose attention to the 2015 financial statements was invaluable. We want to express our appreciation to the accounting personnel, Steve Becker, Nancy Skillings, Lynn Phillips, Nancy Hutt and Bonnie Jones for their invaluable assistance with the preparation of this CAFR; and to Kate Richardsson (IT Department) and Betty Tower (Selectmen's Office) for their 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

Balance in the Treasury July 1, 2014	75,241,300
-Total Receipts for Fiscal Year 2015	196,407,308
-Total Paid on Selectmen's warrants.....	(195,196,592)
Balance in the Treasury June 30, 2015.....	76,452,016

Investment Return for all accounts.....794,604

During Fiscal Year 2015 the Collector's Office processed the following warrants for collection:

2015 Real Estate Tax	72,961,465
2015 Community Preservation Surcharge	951,245
2015 Personal Property Tax	1,209,106
2015 Boat Excise Tax	89,526
2015 Motor Vehicle Tax	3,741,155
2014 Motor Vehicle Tax	400,589
Betterments-Paid in Advance	65,448
Sewer Betterments & Committed Interest	168,892
Title 5 Betterments & Committed Interest	2,660
Sewer Use Liens	137,746
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	<u>600,405</u>
Total	80,328,238

Tax collections remain strong with ninety-nine percent of real estate and personal property revenue collected by fiscal year end. 45,515 bills were issued to collect real estate, personal property, and excise tax. Taxes accounted for eighty percent of general fund revenues in FY 15.

There were 11 new tax liens secured in fiscal year 2015. 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 \$188,977 in tax lien revenue during 2015 of which 45% or \$84,727 was payment of interest and fees accruing to the benefit of the general fund. Had we sold or assigned our tax liens to an outside party for collection the interest and fee revenue received through payment plans and lien redemption would have been lost to the Town. When cooperative collection efforts are unsuccessful foreclosure proceedings are initiated. The Town has several foreclosure cases currently pending in Land Court.

The total outstanding long term debt as of June 30th was \$83,688,378. 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, 2015.

In May of 2015 a competitive sale was held for the issuance of a \$39m Bond and a \$3.9m Note. The winning bid of 0.3170% on the one year note was submitted by TD Securities. The winning bid of 3.026% (true interest cost) on the Bond was submitted by Fidelity Capital Markets. With the issuance of the bond we permanently financed a number of projects approved between the years of 2011 and 2014. The purposes include the Middle School, various high school fields projects, two fire trucks, four SSCC mowers, an industrial park land acquisition and a sewer construction project.

I wish to thank the staff in the Treasurer/Collector's office for their continued dedicated service - Lori-Ann Magner, Nancy Leahy, Jacquie Berard, Linda Kelley and Regina Ledwick.

Jean M. Montgomery
Treasurer/Collector

TRUST FUNDS IN CUSTODY OF THE TREASURER
As of June 30, 2015

Trust Fund	Balance 6/30/14	Balance 6/30/15
375th Anniversary	11,957	11,608
Aid to Elderly/Disable	4,852	7,190
Affordable Housing Trust	246,917	470,124
Buttonwood Tree	1,504	815
Dr. Margaret Long Memorial	61,503	61,565
Education	15,281	15,571
Federal Withholding	5,750	5,756
Foundry Pond	6,943	6,950
Fourth of July	69,724	81,235
Hannah Lincoln Whiting	15,217	15,232
Hingham High School Fields Gift Acct	243,590	154,743
Hingham War Memorial	9,819	9,828
Light Depreciation	11,109,959	11,712,263
Light Reserve Stranded Costs	3,792,369	4,404,696
Light - Customer Deposit	1,582,141	1,632,169
MWRA I&I Grant/Loan Program	363,478	635,472
Medical Insurance	681,768	848,679
More-Brewer	84,205	84,049
OPEB Trust (Light)	1,717,220	1,717,198
OPEB Trust (Town)	5,928,515	7,317,216
Open Space Conservation	68,041	106,095
Preservation Projects	148,259	115,224
Preservation Projects - Greenbush	1,492,628	1,404,095
Scholarship*	4,398,154	4,393,247
Stabilization	1,138,385	963,861
Stabilization – Meals Tax	746,119	1,207,873
USLST – War Memorial - Shipyard	1,350	1,851
Veterans Council Beneficial Gift Account	2,566	2,534
Veterans in Need	<u>15,594</u>	<u>18,652</u>
Total	33,963,808	37,405,791

*See Scholarship Committee Report for individual scholarship balances

Board of Assessors

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.

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 over 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.

Property valuation for FY16 tax purposes is based on the valuation date of January 1, 2015. Sales from 2014 were analyzed to determine market value. The ratio of the assessment to the sales price is calculated and Hingham's ratio for Fiscal Year 16 is 94%. The fiscal 2016 tax rate is \$12.49, down 4 cents from last year. The average assessment for single family homes is \$720,642, up 4.03% from last year's average of \$692,700. The average assessment for condominiums is \$530,894, up 11.37% from last year's average of \$476,690.

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 who 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 they participate in such a worthwhile program.

Hal Goldstein, one of our treasured board members, passed away in 2015. Hal was an invaluable asset to our office and his wealth of knowledge and humor will be greatly missed. Bill Fennelly, a real estate broker and licensed real estate appraiser, stepped forward to fill the open position. Bill has over 25 years of experience in the real estate

profession and we are grateful to have him as a qualified member on our board.

Stuart G. Hall, Chairman
Michael Shaughnessy
Bill Fennelly

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 2015 contains the system's financial statements as well as membership statistics listing new members enrolled, members that were retired and members who died in 2015.

In June, Ted C. Alexiades stepped down from the board after serving 21 years as Chairman and Henry F.G. Wey III chose not to be reappointed for another three year term. Replacing Ted C. Alexiades and Henry F.G. Wey, III are Charles J. Cristello and James P. Costello respectively. Town Accountant Susan M. Nickerson was elected board Chairman.

Susan M. Nickerson, Chairman & ex-officio
Charles J. Cristello, Appointed Member
William A. Powers, Elected Member
Jean M. Montgomery, Elected Member
James P. Costello, Appointed Member

Contributory Retirement System Trial Balance as of December 31, 2015 (Pre-Close)

ASSETS

Cash – Citizens Bank	524,467.96
Checking – Citizens Bank	0.00
Pooled Domestic Equity Fund (PRIT)	25,796,886.57
Pooled International Equity (PRIT)	13,934,234.60
Pooled Value-Added Fixed Income (PRIT)	8,557,766.32

Pooled Core Fixed Income Fund (PRIT)	17,169,703.67
Pooled Alternative Investments (PRIT)	2,214,585.12
Pooled Real Estate Funds (PRIT)	11,014,577.70
Pooled Emerging Markets (PRIT)	9,413,328.68
Pooled Hedge Funds (PRIT)	4,734,093.21
Cash Fund (PRIT)	39.98
General Allocation Account (PRIT)	2,100,159.90

Accounts Receivable 80,417.13

Sub Total 95,540,071.70

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable 7,059.68

Sub Total 7,059.68

FUND BALANCES

Annuity Fund -23,174,111.87

Annuity Reserve Fund -7,473,144.66

Military Service Fund -14,525.86

Pension Fund -4,975,373.01

Pension Reserve Fund -61,491,681.77

Sub Total -97,128,837.17

REVENUES

Investment Income -2,595,090.64

Interest not Refunded -4,866.69

Miscellaneous Income 0.00

Realized Gain -3,231,495.27

Realized Loss 1,120,590.97

Unrealized Gain -11,479,432.29

Unrealized Loss 16,695,155.22

Contrib. received for Military Service 0.00

Member Deductions -2,663,996.82

Transfers from other Systems -110,381.86

Members' Make-Ups and Re-Deposits -53,889.86

Pension Fund Appropriation -4,372,277.53

Federal Grant Reimbursement -34,868.45

3(8)(c) Reimb. From other Systems -151,299.96

Received from Commonwealth COLA -46,020.31

Member Payments from Rollovers -31,387.00

Sub Total -6,959,260.49

DISBURSEMENTS

Staff Salaries 79,792.04

Management Fees 375,801.05

Consultant Fees	30,000.00
Legal Expenses	0.00
Fiduciary Insurance	5,490.00
Service Contracts	22,405.00
Actuarial Services	3,500.00
Accounting Services	9,704.45
Education and Training	752.60
Administrative Expenses	6,007.55
Furniture and Equipment	0.00
Travel	22.43
Annuities Paid	1,277,950.02
Pensions Paid	5,363,797.66
COLA's Paid	958,439.06
3(8)(c) Reimb. to other Systems	129,877.09
Transfers to other Systems	107,930.26
Refunds to Members	176,691.35
Option B Refunds	0.00
Sub Total	8,548,160.56

NEW MEMBERS 2015

Nicole Aiguier	Madeline Mahony
Tanya Ames	Jacqueline McAllister
Kaitlyn Antonowicz	Andrea McDougall
Katherine Bagley	Helen McEachen
Evelyn Barrales	Patrick McGorman
Nicholas Beauchaine	Claudia McKeon
Andrea Benedetto	Luke Miller
Kevin Bishop	Timothy Moar
Stephanie Bongarzone	Joan Moore
Judith Bowen	Michael Naymie
Allan Burrage	Roberta Nevins
Gayle Campbell	Tracey Newman
Debra Clifton	Susan Noone
Ellen Coven	Brian Norcross
Marina Cubellis	John O'Donnell
Colleen Cunningham	Megan O'Hara
Michael DeHay	Kathleen Olding
Dolores DeLisle	Cassandra Pacella
Brittany Devine	Virginia Paine
Andrea Doton	Laura Perry
Samantha Downton	Barry Pickering
Lynne Eagleson	Diane Picot
Elizabeth Fetsko	Elizabeth Pyle
Ann Fickenwirth	Julie Quinn

Douglas Foley
Loni Fournier
Emily Fowler
Evan Gadowski
Melissa Goodine
Jenna Graziano
Taylor Groleau
Melissa Guzek
Milton Hallin
Colleen Healey
Tara Ings
Karen Jenkins
Katelin Jenkins
Kevin Jenkins
Stephen Jenkins
Emily Kafel
Kara Kelley
Colleen Kelly
Stephanie Kennedy
Kathryn Konecko
Kelley Kusak Collins
Jennifer Kyle
Patricia Lanzetta-Flamos
Rene Lepore
Katherine Lirosi

Michael Regan
Maura Reilly
Daria Rindone
Kimberly Ruhl
Anthony Samuels
Cathleen Savery
Scott Semchenko
Maryann Shafter
Eaamon Shaughnessy
Renee Sisti
Sharon Stanish
Rachel Sullivan
Polina Supin
Rachel Syzman
Ashley Thomas
Matthew Thomay
Cheryl Twombly
Brittney Tworig
Elizabeth Vialle
Nancy Vialle
Patricia Wanty
John Ward
Audrey Wilcox
Darcy Woodyatt

RETIRED MEMBERS 2015

Susan Agostino
Lois Crowther
Andrea Dunlap
Margaret Fanning
Robin Keenan
Dorothy Manley
Karen O'Brien
Margaret O'Connor
Elizabeth Priestly
Michael Tierney
James Bellenis
Concetta Chapman

Dennis Corcoran
Mark Duff
Terry Fredendall
Karen Hewitt
Michael Leavitt
Michael Peraino
Marcia Sinclair
Nancy Skillings
James Taylor
Betty Tower
James Wells

DECEASED MEMBERS 2015

Kevin Bird
William Edward Foley
Arthur Paul Kress

Ronald J. Olsen
Kathleen Reichardt
Marion W. Rubbo

MEMBERSHIP STATISTIC REPORT 2015

Active Membership Dec 31, previous year	649
Inactive Membership Dec 31, previous year	118
Enrolled during current year	98
Transfers between groups	0
Reinstatements of disabled members	0
SUBTOTAL	98
Deduct	
Death	1
Withdrawal	31
Retirements	24
SUBTOTAL	56
Active Membership Dec. 31, current year	715
Inactive Membership Dec. 31, current year	96
Retired Beneficiary, and Survivor	
Membership, Dec. 31, previous year	300
Retirements during the year:	
Superannuation	24
Ordinary disability	0
Accidental disability	0
Termination Retirement Allowance	0
Beneficiary of Deceased Retiree	2
Survivor benefits from active membership	1
SUBTOTAL	27
Deduct	
Deaths of retired member's	8
Termination of Survivors Benefits	1
Reinstatement of disabled pensions	0
SUBTOTAL	9
Retired Membership Dec. 31, current year	
Superannuation	267
Ordinary disability	1
Accidental disability	10
Termination	0
Beneficiaries from accidental deaths	9

Beneficiaries from Section 100	0
Beneficiaries from Section 101	3
Beneficiaries under Option (C)	17
Option (D) Survivor Allowance	11
Section 12B Survivor Allowance	0
Total Retired, Beneficiary and Survivor Membership, Dec. 31, current year	318

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP
Active, Inactive, Retired, Beneficiary and Survivor, Dec. 31, current year **1,128**



Town Administrator Ted Alexiades was presented a framed Certificate of Appreciation from Retirement Board Chair Sue Nickerson in recognition of his 21 years of dedicated service to the Hingham Retirement Board