

TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON

MASSACHUSETTS



ANNUAL REPORTS

**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30,
2015**

IN MEMORIAM

During the year, we were saddened by the passing of the following former Town officials during the Fiscal year (July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015) and dedicate this Annual Report to their memory:

Mary A. Seelig

School Crossing Guard
August 2014

Nola Watson Lawrence

Great Barrington Historical Society
October 2014

John Edward Hassett

Berkshire Hills Regional School Committee
November 2014

Catherine S. Mielke

Berkshire Hills Regional School District
November 2014

William H. Mooney, Jr.

Board of Selectmen
Berkshire Hills Regional School District Teacher
Finance Committee Member
Elder Services
Hope Volunteer Fire Co.
Warden for Elections
December 2014

Roberta Lucy Wheeler

Historic District Commission
Great Barrington Historical Society
January 2015

Ruth C. Siok

Berkshire Hills School District Cafeteria Worker
January 2015

Aldo L. Oggiani

Housatonic Fire Department
Cemetery Commission
March 2015

Elizabeth W. Long

Teacher at Dewey School and Housatonic School
March 2015

Paul M. Baumann, Sr.

Fire Chief Housatonic Fire Department
April 2015

Benjamin "Bronus" A. Koldys, Jr.

Housatonic Fire Department
May 2015

Natalie W. Goranson

Teacher Berkshire Hills Regional School District
Library Trustee
May 2015

Jane Finn

Athletic Director Searles Middle School
Teacher Berkshire Hills Regional School District
May 2015

TABLE OF CONTENTS

GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1 U.S. Congressional Delegation
- 2 Facts About Great Barrington
- 3 Town Elected Officers
- 5 Town Appointed Officers
- 13 Business Hours of Town Offices
- 13 Committee and Board Meeting Information

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

- 14 Selectboard/Town Manager

FINANCES

- 16 Board of Assessors
- 19 Town Accountant
- 21 Treasurer/Collector
- 32 Finance Committee

HISTORIC

- 34 Historic District Commission
- 34 Historical Commission

HUMAN SERVICES/CULTURAL

- 37 Veteran's Services & DDVS Budget
- 38 Cultural Council
- 38 Southern Berkshire Elderly Transportation Corp.
- 39 Claire W. Teague Senior Center
- 40 Great Barrington Libraries
- 42 Five Town Cable Advisory Committee
- 43 Community Television for the Southern Berkshires
- 43 Great Barrington Housing Authority

PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT

- 45 Planning Board
- 46 Town Planner
- 47 Community Preservation Committee
- 48 Conservation Commission
- 49 Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force (LMITF)
- 51 Agricultural Commission
- 52 Tree Committee

- 53 Design Advisory Committee
- 53 Zoning Board of Appeals

PUBLIC SAFETY & INSPECTIONS

- 54 Police Department
- 55 Emergency Management
- 56 Fire Department
- 58 Board of Health
- 59 Building Inspector
- 59 Plumbing Inspector
- 60 Gas Inspector
- 60 Wire Inspector
- 60 Sealer of Weights & Measures

PUBLIC WORKS

- 61 Department of Public Works
- 62 Wastewater Treatment
- 63 Parks and Recreation

TOWN CLERK

- 65 Town Clerk
- 66 Annual Town Meeting Minutes (May 4, 2015)
- 81 Board of Registrars

UNITED STATES CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

GOVERNOR Charlie Baker

www.state.ma.us.gov

Massachusetts State House
Office of the Governor
Room 280
Boston, MA 02133
888-870-7770

Western Massachusetts Office of the Governor
State Office Building
436 Dwight Street, Suite 300
Springfield, MA 01103
413-784-1200

U.S. SENATOR Elizabeth Warren

www.warren.senate.gov

2400 JFK Federal Building
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203
617-565-3170

Springfield Federal Building
1550 Main Street, Suite 406
Springfield, MA 01103
413-788-2690

U.S. SENATOR Edward J. Markey

www.markey.senate.gov

975 JFK Federal Building
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203
617-565-8519

Springfield Federal Building
1550 Main Street, 4th Floor
Springfield, MA 01101
413-785-4610

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE Richard Neal (First Congressional District)

www.neal.house.gov

300 State Street, Suite 200
Springfield, MA 01105
413-785-0325

78 Center Street
Pittsfield, MA 01201
(413) 442-0946

STATE SENATOR Benjamin B. Downing (Berkshire Senatorial District)

Benjamin.Downing@masenate.gov

State House Room 413F
Boston, MA 02133
617-722-1625

7 North Street, Suite 307
Pittsfield, MA 01201
413-442-4008

STATE REPRESENTATIVE William "Smitty" Pignatelli (Fourth Berkshire Representative District)

Smitty.Pignatelli@mahouse.gov

State House Room 466
Boston, MA 02133
617-722-2017

Lenox Town Hall, P.O. Box 2228
Lenox, MA 01240
413-637-0631



FACTS ABOUT GREAT BARRINGTON

Settled	1726
Incorporated	1761
Location	Southwest Corner of Massachusetts
Population	6,933 (Annual Town Census)
Legal Voters	4,388
Form of Government	Selectboard/Town Manager Open Town Meeting
Tax Rate	\$13.56 Fiscal 2015
Public Schools	Berkshire Hills Regional School District
Police	Chief, Two Sergeants and Fourteen Patrol Officers
Town Highways	91.01 Miles, 162 Streets
Public Libraries	Mason Public Library Great Barrington Ramsdell Public Library Housatonic
State Forests	7,264 Acres
Altitude	721 Feet at Railroad Station
Area	45.86 Square Miles
Web Site	www.townofgb.org
Annual Town Meeting	May 9, 2016
Annual Town Election	May 17, 2016

CURRENT ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

Selectboard

Stephen C. Bannon.....Term Expires 2016
Daniel Bailly.....Term Expires 2016
Edward Abrahams.....Term Expires 2017
Sean Stanton.....Term Expires 2018
William Cooke.....Term Expires 2018

Berkshire Hills Regional School Committee

Frederick Clark.....Term Expires 2016
(State Election)
Richard Dohoney.....Term Expires 2016
(State Election)
Christine Reilly Shelton.....Term Expires 2016
(State Election)
Stephen C. Bannon.....Term Expires 2018
(State Election)
William Fields.....Term Expires 2018
(State Election)

Board of Health

Michael Lanoue.....Term Expires 2016
Claudia A. Ryan.....Term Expires 2017
Peter Stanton.....Term Expires 2018

Constables

Walter F. Atwood, III.....Term Expires 2018
John Broderick, Jr.....Term Expires 2018

Finance Committee

Thomas Blauvelt.....Term Expires 2016
Leigh Susan Davis.....Term Expires 2016
Michael Wise.....Term Expires 2017
Walter F. Atwood, III.....Term Expires 2018
Eugene W. Curletti.....Term Expires 2018

Great Barrington Housing Authority

Ann Condon.....Term Expires 2016
Veronica Cunningham.....Term Expires 2016
Richard Needelman.....Term Expires 2019

Nan Wile.....Term Expires 2020

Library Trustees

Edward Abrahams.....Term Expires 2016

Lauren E. Clark.....Term Expires 2016

Hilda Banks Shapiro.....Term Expires 2017

Adam Gudeon.....Term Expires 2017

Kathleen Plungis.....Term Expires 2018

G. Patrick Hollenbeck.....Term Expires 2018

Moderator

Edward G. McCormick.....Term Expires 2016

Planning Board

Brandee K. Nelson.....Term Expires 2016

Suzanne Fowle.....Term Expires 2016

Malcom Fick.....Term Expires 2017

Jonathan Hankin.....Term Expires 2017

Jack Musgrove.....Term Expires 2018

Zoning Board of Appeals

Madonna Meagher.....Term Expires 2018

Kathleen Kotleski.....Term Expires 2018

Carolyn Ivory.....Term Expires 2016

Ron Majdalany.....Term Expires 2017

Michael Wise.....Term Expires 2017

CURRENT APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS

Agricultural Commission

Laurily EpsteinTerm Expires 2016
Vivian Orlowski.....Term Expires 2016
Devan M. Arnold.....Term Expires 2017
Luke Pryjma.....Term Expires 2018
Hilda Banks Shapiro (Alternate).....Term Expires 2016

Animal Control Officer

Karen Jo Sicotte- Resigned August 2015.....Term Indefinite
Shepley Evans.....Term Indefinite

Animal Inspector

L. Locke LarkinTerm Expires 2016

Assessor, Principal

Christopher Lamarre.....Term Indefinite

Board of Assessors

Christopher Lamarre.....Term Indefinite
John Katz.....Term Expires 2016
Bruce Firger.....Term Expires 2017

Board of Registrars

Marie Ryan.....Term Indefinite
Linda A. Coons.....Term Expires 2016
Ellen Smith.....Term Expires 2018

Cable Television Advisory Committee

Thomas Hatch.....Term Indefinite

Cemetery Commissioners

Marilyn Bisiewicz.....Term Expires 2017
Walter F. Atwood, III.....Term Expires 2017
Stephen Bannon.....Term Expires 2018

Chief Procurement Officer

Jennifer Tabakin.....Term Indefinite

CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program Citizens Advisory Committee

G. Patrick Hollenbeck.....Term Expires 2017
Gaetan Lachance.....Term Expires 2017
Christopher Rembold.....Term Expires 2017

Community Preservation Committee

Edward Abrahams.....Term Expires 2017
Thomas Blauvelt.....Term Expires 2016
Jessica Dezieck.....Term Expires 2016
Martha Fick.....Term Expires 2016
Suzanne Fowle.....Term Expires 2016
Kathleen Jackson.....Term Expires 2016
William Nappo.....Term Expires 2016
Deborah Salem.....Term Expires 2016
Karen Smith.....Term Expires 2016

Conservation Commission

Gaetan Lachance.....Term Expires 2016
Andrew Mankin.....Term Expires 2016
David Shanahan.....Term Expires 2017
Jeffrey Cohen.....Term Expires 2017
William Boyer.....Term Expires 2017
Jessica Dezieck.....Term Expires 2018
Lisa Bozzuto.....Term Expires 2018

Conservation Commission Agent

Shepley Evans.....Term Indefinite

Council on Aging Members

Eileen Gaarn.....Term Expires 2016
Michele Gilligan.....Term Expires 2016
Richard Needelman.....Term Expires 2016
Cara Holcomb.....Term Expires 2017
Alan Buckes.....Term Expires 2017
Jane Green.....Term Expires 2017
Barbara Bailly.....Term Expires 2018
Amy Rutstein.....Term Expires 2018
David Rutstein.....Term Expires 2018
Grace Zbell.....Term Expires 2018

Council on Aging

Polly Mann, Director.....Term Indefinite
Margaret Hassett, Assistant Director.....Term Indefinite

Cultural Council

Hilda Banks Shapiro.....Term Expires 2016
Michael Wise.....Term Expires 2016
Rose Tannenbaum.....Term Expires 2016
Susan Pettee.....Term Expires 2017
Helen Hinkley-Grady.....Term Expires 2017
Ellen Shanahan.....Term Expires 2018
Sherry Steiner.....Term Expires 2018

Design Advisory Committee

Edwin May.....Ex-Officio
Gaetan Lachance.....Term Expires 2017
Stephan Green.....Term Expires 2019
Lisa Landry.....Term Expires 2019
Stephen Dietemann.....Term Expires 2020
Malcolm Fick (Planning Board Member).....Term Expires 2016
Jonathan Hankin (Planning Board Member).....Term Expires 2016
James Mercer (Historic Dist Com Member).....Term Expires 2016

Emergency Management Director

William R. Walsh, Jr.....Term Indefinite
William Brinker, Asst. Director.....Term Indefinite

Energy Committee

Alana Chernila.....Term Expires 2017
Brandee Nelson.....Term Expires 2018

Fence Viewers

Kurt Barbieri.....Term Expires 2016
Bernard Drew.....Term Expires 2016

Fire Department

Charles Burger, Chief.....Term Indefinite
Terrance Chamberland, Deputy Chief.....Term Indefinite
Steven Hall, Deputy Chief.....Term Indefinite
Edward G. McCormick, Deputy Chief.....Term Indefinite
James Mead, Captain.....Term Indefinite
Alan Anderson, Lieutenant.....Term Indefinite
Robert Hammer, Jr. Lieutenant.....Term Indefinite
Darryl Marks, Lieutenant.....Term Indefinite
Joshua A. Seile, Lieutenant.....Term Indefinite
Richard Aloisi.....Term Indefinite
Justin Bona.....Term Indefinite

Jacob Borden.....	Term Indefinite
Joseph Bozza.....	Term Indefinite
Marco Cando.....	Term Indefinite
James Carr.....	Term Indefinite
Elias Casey.....	Term Indefinite
Max Ehrman-Shapiro.....	Term Indefinite
Kevin Fitzpatrick.....	Term Indefinite
Robert Gaughran.....	Term Indefinite
Randall Higgins.....	Term Indefinite
George Houghtlin.....	Term Indefinite
Sam Hungate.....	Term Indefinite
Christopher Laramie.....	Term Indefinite
Thomas Lovett, Jr.....	Term Indefinite
Sean McMahon.....	Term Indefinite
Brian Mead.....	Term Indefinite
Peter Montana.....	Term Indefinite
Mohamed Morell.....	Term Indefinite
Chris Nelson.....	Term Indefinite
Justin Osak.....	Term Indefinite
Matthew Pevzner.....	Term Indefinite
James Reynolds.....	Term Indefinite
Louis Stark.....	Term Indefinite
Cameron Stephenson.....	Term Indefinite
Timothy Stevens.....	Term Indefinite
Joel Timm.....	Term Indefinite
John Woodard.....	Term Indefinite

Gas Inspector

Robert L. Gennari.....	Term Indefinite
Robert Krupski, Deputy.....	Term Indefinite

Health Agent

Jayne Smith.....	Term Indefinite
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Health Inspector

L. Locke Larkin.....	Term Indefinite
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Historical Commission

Donald Howe.....	Term Expires 2016
David Rutstein.....	Term Expires 2016
Paul Ivory.....	Term Expires 2017
William Nappo.....	Term Expires 2017
Marilyn Bisiewicz.....	Term Expires 2018
Gary Leveille.....	Term Expires 2018

Malcolm Fick.....Term Expires 2018

Historic District Commission

James Mercer.....Term Expires 2016
Patricia Ryan (Alternate).....Term Expires 2016
Daniel Bailly.....Term Expires 2017
Abby Schroeder (Alternate).....Term Expires 2017
Barbara A. Syer.....Term Expires 2017
Donald Howe.....Term Expires 2018
Holly Troiano.....Term Expires 2018

Great Barrington Housing Authority Director

Barbara Heaphy.....Term Indefinite

Inspector of Buildings

Edwin May.....Term Indefinite
Anthony Barnaba, Assistant.....Term Indefinite
Ned Baldwin, Alternate Assistant.....Term Indefinite

Keeper of the Lock-up

William Walsh, Jr.....Term Indefinite

Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force

Christine Ward, Chair	Deb Phillips
William Cooke	Kathleen Plungis
Nina Evans	Jessica Dezieck
Dale Abrams	
Brandee Nelson	

Library Director

Amanda DeGiorgis.....Term Indefinite

Parking Clerk

Deborah Ball.....Term Indefinite

Parks Commissioners

Paul Gibbons.....Term Expires 2016
Karen Smith.....Term Expires 2016
Anthony Troiano.....Term Expires 2016
Thomas Norton.....Term Expires 2017
Kathleen Plungis.....Term Expires 2017
Patricia Salvi.....Term Expires 2017
Stephen C. Bannon.....Term Expires 2018
Charles Bouteiller.....Term Expires 2018

Planning Board (Alternate Member)

Jeremy Higa.....Term Expires 2018

Plumbing Inspector

Robert Krupski.....Term Indefinite

Robert Gennari, Deputy.....Term Indefinite

Police Officers

William Walsh, Jr., Chief.....Term Indefinite

Paul Storti, Sergeant.....Term Indefinite

Kristopher M. Balestro.....Term Indefinite

James Bragdon.....Term Indefinite

Adam J. Carlotto.....Term Indefinite

Jonathan Finnerty.....Term Indefinite

Richard Keefner.....Term Indefinite

Jason LaForest.....Term Indefinite

Paul Montgomery.....Term Indefinite

Christopher Peebles.....Term Indefinite

Joseph A. O' Brien.....Term Indefinite

Chad Shimmon.....Term Indefinite

Samuel Stolar.....Term Indefinite

Ryan Storti.....Term Indefinite

Timothy Ullrich.....Term Indefinite

Victor Zucco.....Term Indefinite

Police Officers, Special

Brian Arnold.....Term Indefinite

Daniel Bartini.....Term Indefinite

Dalton Griffin.....Term Indefinite

Edward Hearn.....Term Indefinite

Andreas Huertas.....Term Indefinite

Ryan Quinto.....Term Indefinite

Timothy Roy.....Term Indefinite

Police Officers, Details Only

Daniel Bersaw.....Term Indefinite

Michael Bertelli.....Term Indefinite

Richard Congdon.....Term Indefinite

Richard Gardella.....Term Indefinite

Paul Harvey.....Term Indefinite

Craig Scott.....Term Indefinite

Sanitary Inspector

Jayne Smith.....Term Indefinite

Sealer of Weights and Measures

Paul Vacchina.....Term Indefinite

Sign Officer

Edwin May.....Term Indefinite

Town Accountant/Financial Coordinator

Lauren M. Sartori Hobgood.....Term Indefinite

Town Clerk

Marie Y. Ryan.....Term Indefinite

Town Collector

Karen Fink.....Term Indefinite

Town Counsel

Kopelman & Paige, P.C.

Town Manager

Jennifer Tabakin.....Term Indefinite

Town Treasurer

Karen Fink.....Term Indefinite

Tree Committee

Hilda Banks Shapiro.....Term Expires 2016

Jessica Wikle.....Term Expires 2016

Michael Wise.....Term Expires 2016

Lisa Bozzuto.....Term Expires 2017

Beth Moser.....Term Expires 2017

Tree Warden

Michael Peretti.....Term Indefinite

Truck Weighers

Daniel Bersaw.....Term Indefinite

Paul Storti.....Term Indefinite

Veteran's Agent

Laurie Hils.....Term Indefinite

Wire Inspector

Theodore Piontek.....Term Indefinite

Zoning Board of Appeals (Associate Members)

Donald Hagberg.....Term Expires 2016

John Katz.....Term Expires 2017

BUSINESS HOURS OF TOWN OFFICES

Assessor's Office	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
DPW Superintendent	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Health Agent	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Inspector of Buildings	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Recycling Center	Fri. 8 AM-3 PM, Sat. 7 AM- 3 PM, Sun. 10 AM- 3 PM	
Selectboard's Office	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Town Accountant	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Town Clerk	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Town Collector/Treasurer	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Town Manager's Office	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Town Planner's Office	Monday-Friday	8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Veteran's Office	Monday-Thursday	9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. (or by appt.)

COMMITTEE AND BOARD MEETING INFORMATION

(meetings are held at Town Hall, 334 Main Street
unless otherwise specified)

Agricultural Commission	Call of the Chair
Board of Assessors	As Needed
Board of Health	First Thursday of Each Month at 7:00 P.M.
Cable Advisory Committee	First Monday of Each Month at 7:30 PM, Location Varies
Cemetery Commission	Call of the Chair
Community Preservation Committee	Call of the Chair at GB Fire Station, 37 State Road
Conservation Commission	Fourth Wednesday of Each Month at 6:30 P.M.
Council on Aging	Last Wednesday of Each Month at 1:15 P.M. At the Senior Center, 917 Main Street
Cultural Council	Call of the Chair
Design Advisory Committee	Call of the Chair
Energy Committee	Call of the Chair
Finance Committee	Fourth Tuesday of Each Month at 6:30 PM
Historical Commission	Call of the Chair
Historic District Commission	Third Thursday of Each Month at 6:30 P.M.
Housing Authority	Third Thursday of Each Month at 2:15 P.M. At Bernard Gibbons Drive, Housatonic
Library Trustees	Second Thursday of Each Month at 5:30 P.M. At the Mason Library, 271 Main Street
Parks Commission	Second Monday of Each Month at 5:00 P.M. At the Mason Library, 271 Main Street
Planning Board	Second & Fourth Thursdays of Each Month at 7:00 P.M.
School Committee	Typically Twice a Month at 7:00 P.M. Location to be determined each meeting
Selectboard	Typically 2 nd & 4 th Mondays at 7:00 P.M., Call to verify
Tree Committee	First Wednesday of Each Month at 5:15 P.M. At the Mason Library, 271 Main Street
Zoning Board of Appeals	Call of the Chair

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

REPORT OF THE SELECTBOARD AND TOWN MANAGER

The Town of Great Barrington has an open Town Meeting form of government, where all registered voters may attend Town Meeting to vote on legislative and budget matters. The Town's executive authority is held by a five-member elected Selectboard, who appoints a Town Manager to serve as the Chief Administrative Officer. The Selectboard sets goals, policy and long-range plans for the Town and exercises, through the Town Manager, general supervision over all matters affecting the interest and welfare of the Town. For fiscal year 2015, the Selectboard voted Deborah Phillips to serve as Chair and Sean Stanton to serve as Vice Chair. Board members Stephen Bannon and Daniel Bailly started the second year of their terms. Newly elected Edward Abrahams was welcomed on the Board.

Summer 2014: The Main Street Reconstruction Project started in the summer of 2014. In the early summer, the Town, with the Chamber of Commerce, Lee Bank and Project for Public Spaces, held a workshop to address place making strategies to promote the business district during construction. In July, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation awarded the contract to J.H. Maxymillian, Inc. of Pittsfield. Weekly construction coordination meetings with the Town and the Chamber of Commerce started to address all project issues. At the same time, Great Barrington was active with summer events including additional bandstand concerts, the Main Street car show and Summer Fest. That season, the Great Barrington Farmer's Market moved to the Fairgrounds.

In July, Governor Patrick visited Housatonic to announce the award of a \$803,100 grant for housing rehabilitation work and drainage upgrades. The Town closed on the sale of the Castle Street Firehouse. The Selectboard reviewed and approved the special permit for the Fairground's project. The Town completed a survey of transportation needs, which was submitted to BRTA and led to a pilot implementation of a direct route to and from Pittsfield. The Fire Department installed a weather station on the roof of the fire station. Later in the summer, the Department of Public Works completed the paving project in Housatonic.

Fall 2014: In September, the Selectboard provided comments to the EPA's proposed remedy issued to General Electric outlined the required cleanup of the Housatonic River and continued to participate in the Rest of River Municipal Committee. Also, that month, Town finalized a net metering agreement with Housatonic Solar, generating savings for both the Town and the Berkshire Hills Regional School District (BHRSD). The Town's Community Preservation Committee started its first application process.

In October, the Town received the final mortgage payment from Riverschool Redevelopment LLC for the sale of the former Searles High School. The Selectboard reviewed comments on the lighting, furniture and benches for the Main Street project. A workshop on Proposition 2 ½ was held in October to address questions pertaining to the school renovation project. In November, meetings to explore revisions to the Regional School District Agreement were held with Town officials and the BHRSD.

Also that Fall, the Building Department launched an on line building permit program. The Town Clerk's office rolled out the digital version of the Town Code and on line payments. The Department of Public Works started the next phase of the Housatonic paving project, received bids for the construction of the North Plain Road retaining wall and finalized the design of the first phase of the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

In the November elections, voters elected Charlie Baker as Governor of Massachusetts and locally, voted against exempting the high school renovation project from proposition 2 ½, which was needed to obtain the local funding for the project to match the state grants. Also in November, the Town's new Charter was approved by the State Legislature – a milestone in local town history.

Winter 2015: In January, the Town held its first auction of real estate held in tax title and sold a majority of the parcels. The Fire Department started training on the new ladder truck. In March, the Town hosted a workshop for local contractors interested in obtaining state construction work. The Mass DOT held a public hearing on the

future renovation work to be done on the Park Street Bridge in Housatonic. The Planning Board updated the Selectboard on their analysis of the zoning in Housatonic. The Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force worked on the scope of work to hire a design consultant. The Town received a grant to conduct an environmental assessment of the former Reid Cleaner building on Main Street to address the barriers to redevelopment of the site. The Department of Public Works plowed snow from our streets at historic records. The Selectboard approved the establishment of a Regional Agreement Amendment Committee with members from Great Barrington, Stockbridge and West Stockbridge.

Spring 2015: In the Spring, the Town hosted a “community conversation” which shaped a series of communications initiatives that were implemented in the following months. Businesses along Bridge Street pulled together to support the Town’s application for funding to rehabilitate the Bridge Street bridge and applied for a grant for street and sidewalk repair on Bridge Street.

The Main Street Reconstruction Project started up again. The “I Dig GB” campaign promoted support for downtown during construction. Local merchants held a “no sidewalk sale”, a flash mob event was held to celebrate the old western look of Main Street as a dirt road. Two elegant dinner parties were held on long tables set up on Main Street serving over 250 residents all dressed in white and a Town Hall BBQ was held at the end of the summer to celebrate the construction. The GB Spot Saver initiative saved parking spots on the perimeter for downtown employees to save the prime spots for customers.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Tabakin
Town Manager

FINANCES

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The following is a report from the Assessors for the Fiscal Year 2015.

Fiscal Year 2015 Recapitulation:

A. <u>Total Appropriations to be Raised by Taxation</u>		\$ 26,078,105.00
B. 1. Other Amounts to be Raised by Taxation		157,917.51
2. State & County Cherry Sheet Charges		69,794.00
3. Overlay		<u>157,045.60</u>
Total Amount to be Raised		\$ 26,462,862.11
C. <u>Estimated Sources Appropriated</u>		
Estimated Receipts – State Cherry Sheet	\$ 1,001,540.00	
Total Estimated State Receipts		<u>\$1,001,540.00</u>
Estimated Receipts – Local		
1. Motor Vehicle	\$ 420,000.00	
2. Other Excise (Meals & Room)	470,000.00	
3. Penalties & interest on taxes & excise	40,000.00	
4. Payment in lieu of taxes	2,000.00	
5. Rentals	117,062.00	
6. Dept. of Revenue-libraries	15,000.00	
7. Dept. of Revenue-cemeteries	10,000.00	
8. Other Dept. of Revenue	340,938.00	
9. Licenses & Permits	55,000.00	
10. Fines & Forfeits	35,000.00	
11. Investment Income	<u>20,000.00</u>	
	\$ 1,525,000.00	
12. Enterprise Funds	<u>\$ 2,295,005.00</u>	<u>\$ 2,295,005.00</u>
D. Revenue Sources Appropriated for Particular Purposes:		
1. Free Cash	\$0	
2. Other Available Funds	\$100,000.00	
Total Available Funds		<u>\$100,000.00</u>
E. <u>Other Revenue Sources Appropriated</u> <u>to Reduce the Tax Rate</u>		
1. Free Cash appropriated before 6-30-14	\$2,225,314.00	
2. Other Source	\$82,205.00	<u>\$ 2,307,519.00</u>
F. Total Estimated Receipts & Other Revenue Sources		<u>\$7,659,614.00</u>

	<u>Tax Rate Summary FY 2015</u>	
A. Total Amount to be Raised		<u>\$26,462,862.11</u>
A. Revenue Sources	\$ 7,659,614.00	
B. Total Real & Personal Property Tax Levy	\$18,803,248.11	

	<u>TAX RATE FISCAL YEAR 2015</u>			
<u>CLASS</u>	<u>LEVY BY</u> <u>%</u>	<u>VALUATION</u> <u>BY CLASS</u>	<u>TAX</u> <u>RATE</u>	<u>LEVY BY</u> <u>CLASS</u>
RESIDENTIAL	78.7144	\$1,078,780,208	13.72	\$ 14,800,864.45
OPEN SPACE	0.	0	0	0
COMMERCIAL	17.5923	\$241,102,060	13.72	\$ 3,307,920.26
INDUSTRIAL	0.7826	\$ 10,725,322	13.72	\$ 147,151.42
PERS. PROPERTY	<u>2.9107</u>	<u>\$ 39,891,544</u>	13.72	<u>\$ 547,311.98</u>
TOTALS	100.0000	\$ 1,370,499,134		\$18,803,248.11

	<u>TAX RATE FISCAL YEAR 2014</u>			
<u>CLASS</u>	<u>LEVY BY</u> <u>%</u>	<u>VALUATION</u> <u>BY CLASS</u>	<u>TAX</u> <u>RATE</u>	<u>LEVY BY</u> <u>CLASS</u>
RESIDENTIAL	78.3594	\$ 1,036,208,286	13.56	\$ 14,050,984.36
OPEN SPACE	0	0	0	0
COMMERCIAL	17.8482	\$ 236,020,636	13.56	\$3,200,439.82
INDUSTRIAL	0.7945	\$ 10,506,107	13.56	\$ 142,462.81
PERS. PROPERTY	<u>2.9979</u>	<u>\$ 39,644,216</u>	13.56	<u>\$ 537,575.57</u>
TOTALS	100.0000	\$ 1,322,379,245		\$ 17,931,462.56

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher J. Lamarre
Principal Assessor

Board of Assessors
Bruce Firger, Member
John Katz, Member

TEN LARGEST TAXPAYERS IN FISCAL YEAR 2015

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASSESSED VALUE</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF TAX</u>
1. Big Y Foods, Inc.	\$ 11,550,280	\$ 158,469.84
2. Massachusetts Electric Co.	\$ 9,853,100	\$ 135,184.53
3. Stockbridge Road Realty, LLC	\$ 9,548,350	\$ 131,003.36
4. KIMCO Great Barrington 609, Inc.	\$ 9,409,000	\$ 129,090.48
5. Berkshire Bank	\$ 7,764,600	\$ 106,530.30
6. Educational Consultants	\$ 7,657,600	\$ 105,062.27
7. Butternut Basin	\$ 6,252,750	\$ 85,787.73
8. KSNS Stockbridge Rd Realty Trust	\$ 5,583,350	\$ 76,603.56
9. Kenneth Alpart & Jennifer Bonjean	\$ 5,224,456	\$ 71,679.54
10. Beech Tree Apartments	\$ 5,215,300	\$ 71,533.92

FIRE DISTRICT TAX RATE FISCAL YEAR 2015

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>LEVY BY</u> <u>%</u>	<u>VALUATION</u> <u>BY CLASS</u>	<u>TAX</u> <u>RATE</u>	<u>LEVY BY</u> <u>CLASS</u>
RESIDENTIAL	69.9738	\$470,338,556	\$0.85	\$399,787.77
OPEN SPACE	0	0	0	0
COMMERCIAL	29.9079	\$210,035,335	0.85	\$178,530.03
INDUSTRIAL	0.5162	\$ 3,625,122	0.85	\$ 3,081.35
PERS. PROPERTY	<u>2.6021</u>	<u>\$ 18,297,950</u>	0.85	<u>\$ 15,532.86</u>
TOTAL	100.0000	\$702,272,963		\$ 596,932.01

FIRE DISTRICT TAX RATE FISCAL YEAR 2014

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>LEVY BY</u> <u>%</u>	<u>VALUATION</u> <u>BY CLASS</u>	<u>TAX</u> <u>RATE</u>	<u>LEVY BY</u> <u>CLASS</u>
RESIDENTIAL	66.5096	\$450,080,272	\$ 0.70	\$315,056.19
OPEN SPACE	0	0	0	0
COMMERCIAL	30.2148	\$204,468,135	0.70	\$143,127.69
INDUSTRIAL	0.5343	\$ 3,615,507	0.70	\$ 2,530.85
PERS. PROPERTY	<u>2.7413</u>	<u>\$ 18,550,717</u>	0.70	<u>\$ 12,985.50</u>
TOTALS	100.0000	\$ 676,714,631		\$ 473,700.23

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher J. Lamarre
Principal Assessor

Board of Assessors
Bruce Firger, Member
John Katz, Member

REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT

To the Honorable Selectboard:

I am honored to herewith submit my report as Town Accountant for 2015 which includes the following unaudited balance sheet as of 6-30-15. Audited financial statements and other additional financial information is on the Town website at www.townofgb.org.

I would like to thank all Town Departments for their support during the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren M. Sartori Hobgood, C.P.A.
Town Accountant

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET
JUNE 30, 2015**

<u>Assets</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Capital Project</u>	<u>Enterprise</u>	<u>Trust</u>	<u>Debt</u>	<u>Totals Memo Only</u>
Cash and Investments	\$ 6,063,546.83	\$ 2,161,609.80	\$ 1,877,774.11	\$ 3,901,644.87	\$ 2,181,309.13	\$ -	\$ 16,185,884.74
Receivables:							
Property Taxes	\$ 665,850.08					\$ -	\$ 665,850.08
Excises	\$ 150,369.57					\$ -	\$ 150,369.57
Tax Liens	\$ 645,257.42					\$ -	\$ 645,257.42
Tax Possessions	\$ 45,181.47					\$ -	\$ 45,181.47
Departmental	\$ 155,564.59	\$ 68,666.99		\$ 438,011.62		\$ -	\$ 662,243.20
Due From other Gov.	\$ -	\$ 431,876.16	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 431,876.16
Due From Other Funds	\$ 224,692.03					\$ -	\$ 224,692.03
Amount to be provided-Town						\$ 10,630,000.00	\$ 10,630,000.00
Total Assets	\$ 7,950,461.99	\$ 2,662,152.95	\$ 1,877,774.11	\$ 4,339,656.49	\$ 2,181,309.13	\$ 10,630,000.00	\$ 29,641,354.67
<u>LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY</u>							
Liabilities:							
Warrants Payable	\$ 148,269.04	\$ 205,754.13	\$ 1,158,321.29	\$ 34,989.26	\$ 2,022.58	\$ -	\$ 1,549,356.30
Deferred Revenue	\$ 1,470,794.90	\$ 68,666.99				\$ -	\$ 1,539,461.89
Accrued Payroll/Withholdings	\$ 50,460.18	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 50,460.18
Due to Other Funds	\$ -	\$ 224,692.03				\$ -	\$ 224,692.03
Other Liabilities	\$ 191,428.23			\$ -		\$ -	\$ 191,428.23
Landfill Closure						\$ 165,000.00	\$ 165,000.00
BANS/Gans Payable						\$ -	\$ 2,486,013.78
Bonds Payable	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,465,000.00	\$ 10,465,000.00
Total Liabilities	\$ 1,860,952.35	\$ 499,113.15	\$ 3,644,335.07	\$ 34,989.26	\$ 2,022.58	\$ 16,671,412.41	\$ 16,671,412.41
Fund Equity:						\$ -	\$ -
Retained Earnings				\$ 3,840,753.81		\$ -	\$ 3,840,753.81
Reserved for Encumbrances	\$ 782,911.70			\$ 463,913.42		\$ -	\$ 1,246,825.12
Reserved for Expenditures	\$ 2,350,000.00	\$ 595,190.99		\$ -	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,045,190.99
Reserved for Endowments					\$ 285,165.29	\$ -	\$ 285,165.29
Reserved for Capital Projects					\$ 1,794,121.26	\$ -	\$ (1,766,560.96)
Unreserved, Undesignated	\$ 3,037,137.32	\$ 1,567,848.81				\$ -	\$ 4,604,986.13
Reserved Bond premium/debt	\$ 76,045.85					\$ -	\$ 76,045.85
Designated for deficits	\$ (156,585.23)	\$ -				\$ -	\$ (156,585.23)
Total Fund Equity	\$ 6,089,509.64	\$ 2,163,039.80	\$ (1,766,560.96)	\$ 4,304,667.23	\$ 2,179,286.55	\$ -	\$ 12,969,942.26
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	\$ 7,950,461.99	\$ 2,662,152.95	\$ 1,877,774.11	\$ 4,339,656.49	\$ 2,181,309.13	\$ 10,630,000.00	\$ 29,641,354.67

REPORT OF THE TREASURER/COLLECTOR

To the Honorable Selectboard:

I respectfully submit the following reports consisting of outstanding tax balances and monies collected by the Great Barrington Tax Collector's Office and Treasurer's Office for the Fiscal Year 2015.

I am honored to serve the people of the Town of Great Barrington and the Village of Housatonic as their Treasurer/Collector, and will continue to do my best to provide them with the best of services.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra C. Larkin
Treasurer/Collector

TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
Schedule of Taxes Receivable for Fiscal Year 2015

<u>Taxes</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>7/1/2014</u>	<u>Commitments</u>	<u>Abatements</u> <u>Adjustments</u>	<u>Transfers</u> <u>Tax Titles</u>	<u>Net</u> <u>Collections</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>6/30/2014</u>
Real Estate						
2015		18,264,551.30	(115,312.03)	(150,958.65)	(17,375,977.38)	622,303.24
2014	622,850.63	528.84	(1,813.33)	(61,040.56)	(560,525.58)	-
						-
	622,850.63	18,265,080.14	(117,125.36)	(211,999.21)	(17,936,502.96)	622,303.24
Personal Property						
2015		563,125.57	(5,493.31)		(532,698.46)	24,933.80
2014	22,631.71		(368.70)		(15,211.76)	7,051.25
2013	8,051.18		(2,281.93)		(1,454.90)	4,314.35
2012	7,215.48		(1,205.47)		(1,952.03)	4,057.98
2011	3,588.70		(559.51)		(484.48)	2,544.71
2010	1,348.41		(53.44)		(949.79)	345.18
2009	586.83		(257.26)			329.57
	43,422.31	563,125.57	(10,219.62)	-	(552,751.42)	43,576.84
Motor Vehicle						
2014/2015	56,244.87	797,385.64	(21,564.48)		(767,663.25)	64,402.78
2013	10,176.45		(822.29)		(4,163.93)	5,190.23
2012	7,044.40	-			(1,048.55)	5,995.85
2011	6,267.21				(669.69)	5,597.52
2010	5,282.61	-			(677.51)	4,605.10
2009	5,441.46	-			(96.25)	5,345.21
2008	7,468.88		-		(245.00)	7,223.88
2007	6,137.94				(41.46)	6,096.48
2006	4,771.78	-			(23.75)	4,748.03
2005	5,936.47	-	-		(23.75)	5,912.72
2004	4,941.68				(5.94)	4,935.74
2003	4,432.27				-	4,432.27
2002	4,951.80				-	4,951.80
2001	4,811.58				-	4,811.58
2000	3,651.69				(137.50)	3,514.19
1999	4,422.11				(216.25)	4,205.86
1998	8,496.89				(96.56)	8,400.33
1981-1997						-
	150,480.09	797,385.64	(22,386.77)	-	(775,109.39)	150,369.57

Other Collections

Municipal Lien Certificates	5,650.00
Tag Sale Permits	435.00
Parking Tickets	4,335.00
Parking Ticket Late Penalties	390.00
Mark & Clear Charges	4,440.00
Demand & Warrant Fees	16,200.00

Sewer Collections

User Fees	1,721,706.52
Nightsoil	238,386.00
Connections	2,200.00
Penalties	14,315.32
Liens	35,073.84
Recycling	34,165.96

TOWN TREASURER REPORT OF RECEIPTS FISCAL YEAR 2015
JULY 1, 2014 to JUNE 30, 2015

STATE TREASURER

State Owned Land	\$	188,519.00
Abatement to Blind		10,400.00
Abatements to Elderly		14,558.00
Abatements to Veterans		12,713.00
Lottery		675,303.00
Hotel/Motel Tax		482,388.48
Meals Tax		291,684.66
Other Revenue		104,006.00
Fines & Forfeitures		15,022.50
Total State Revenue	\$	1,794,594.64

TAX COLLECTOR

Personal Property Taxes	\$	552,751.42
Real Estate Taxes		17,938,440.62
Motor Vehicle Excise		778,915.98
Interest Penalties		108,236.50
Collector's Fees		16,200.00
Interest and expense Penalties		27,961.97
Minicipal Lien Certificate		5,650.00
Tag Sale Permits		435.00
Parking Tickets		4,335.00
Parking Late Fees		390.00
Mark & Clear Fees		4,440.00
Research Charges		1,894.00
Misc. Other		26,344.94
Recycling Fees		34,165.96
Total	\$	19,500,161.39

TOWN TREASURER

Tax Liens Redeemed	\$	157,555.90
Penalties on Tax Liens		54,147.44
Payment in lieu of Taxes		36,657.60
Earnings on Investments		20,830.73
Bad check charge		125.00
Bond interest		3,028.02
Sale of Foreclosed Land		42,756.98
Misc. Other		204,382.39
Total	\$	519,484.06

SELECTMEN

Alcohol Licenses	\$	49,944.12
Other Licenses & Permits		18,126.93
Total	\$	68,071.05

TOWN CLERK

Birth Certificates	\$	5,690.00
Marriage Certificates		2,140.00
Death Certificates		9,570.00
Dog Licenses		8,710.00
UCC Filing Fees		4,310.00
Marriage Intentions		2,835.00
Other		2,572.40
Total	\$	35,827.40

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Permits		1,237.50
Alarms		43,500.00
Mutual Aid	\$	1,100.00
Insurance Reports		780.00
Revolving Fund Charges		19,907.95
Drug Reimbursement		
Total	\$	66,525.45

INSPECTORS

Building Inspector	\$	170,925.15
Weights & Measures	\$	1,805.00
Total		172,730.15

LIBRARY

Fees		4,609.96
Fines		18,293.92
Ramsdell Computer		-
Total	\$	22,903.88

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

Historic District Commission	\$	80.00
Zoning Board of Appeals		750.00
Assessors		1,328.00
Conservation Commission		1,477.50
Planning Board		1,550.00
Planning/Community Developmt		225.00
Board of Health		51,335.75
Fire Department		12,977.26
Cemetery		16,784.44
Total	\$	86,507.95

REVOLVING FUND RECEIPTS

Electrical Inspector	\$	3,753.21
Gas Inspector		1,003.63
Plumbing		1,141.40
Total		5,898.24

SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND

User Fees	\$	1,756,780.36
Connection Fees		2,200.00
Septic Nightsoil		238,386.00
Interest Income		10,832.03
Interest Penalties		14,315.32
MWPAT revenue		9,690.31
Returns & refunds		663.25
Sewer Rate Relief		-
	0	-
Total	\$	2,032,867.27

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra C. Larkin
Town Treasurer

FISCAL YEAR 2015 POLICE PAYROLL

NAME	SALARY	OVERTIME*	REVOLVING**	TOTAL
Balestro, Kristopher	64,600.15	5,580.75	14,664.23	84,845.13
Bartini, William	41,631.49	4,730.90	-	46,362.39
Bragdon, James	64,375.06	5,434.15	-	69,809.21
Carlotto, Adam	63,454.53	32,660.77	18,290.12	114,405.42
Finnerty, Jonathan	61,534.75	10,851.49	7,389.26	79,775.50
Keefner, Richard	67,224.14	3,304.66	3,899.28	74,428.08
LaForest, Jason	61,021.22	14,184.68	26,973.45	102,179.35
Montgomery, Paul	71,373.59	29,060.22	62,153.15	162,586.96
O'Brien, Joseph	65,715.61	5,971.02	10,169.07	81,855.70
Peebles, Christopher	58,866.11	14,867.48	3,557.10	77,290.69
Shimmon, Chad	61,947.11	10,262.93	11,609.18	83,819.22
Stolzar, Samuel	59,980.12	27,776.86	886.18	88,643.16
Storti, Paul	72,613.91	29,096.86	6,063.45	107,774.22
Storti, Ryan	54,867.92	4,080.06	6,101.76	65,049.74
Ullrich, Timothy	65,695.70	20,740.74	18,796.51	105,232.95
Walsh, William Jr.	84,576.33			84,576.33
Zucco, Victor	70,554.29	9,525.90	2,126.88	82,207.07
TOTAL	\$ 1,090,032.03	\$ 228,129.47	\$ 192,679.62	\$ 1,510,841.12

NAME	SPECIAL DETAIL	REVOLVING	TOTAL
Arnold, Bryan	2,510.06		2,510.06
Bartini, Daniel	23,029.89	28,526.48	51,556.37
Bersaw, Daniel		21,544.58	21,544.58
Congdon, Richard	10,152.56	12,041.18	22,193.74
Gardella, Richard		34,878.56	34,878.56
Griffin, Dalton	17,222.86	11,379.44	28,602.30
Harvey, Paul		14,151.02	14,151.02
Hearn, Edward	9,043.00	354.48	9,397.48
Huertas, Andres	1,234.92		1,234.92
Quinto, Ryan	2,337.11	886.20	3,223.31
Roy, Timothy	1,524.80	2,149.01	3,673.81
Scott, Craig		28,184.13	28,184.13
TOTAL	\$ 67,055.20	\$ 154,095.08	\$ 221,150.28

* Overtime includes State Grants.

** Revolving is paid by outside contractors.

FISCAL YEAR 2015
PERSONS TO WHOM MONEY WAS PAID
NON-SALARY OR WAGES OVER \$600

5-Alarm Fire	2,915.78	Berk. South Reg. Comm. Ctr.	57,305.26
20 Castle Street	19,346.22	Big Toys	7,243.34
A. J. Abrams Co.	1,270.94	Big Y Foods	3,126.96
Able Tool & Equipment	675.00	Bilmar Small Animal Hospital	662.14
AFLAC	29,253.26	Blackboard Inc.	13,408.00
AFSCME Council 93	13,120.69	Bluetarp Financial, Inc.	3,840.14
Alert Scientific	680.00	Borden & Remington, Corp.	25,075.66
Alice Training Institute	1,785.00	Borges Construction	373,682.24
All American Fence	5,855.00	Boston Mutual Life Insurance	2,076.88
Allied Electronics	1,065.20	Boston Mutual Insurance	9,610.20
Amazon	1,023.56	Brentwood Industries, Inc.	8,044.14
American Legion Post #298	2,760.00	Brindlee Mtn. Fire Apparatus	950.00
American Trainco, Inc.	990.00	Brodart	620.78
AMS Imaging	685.00	Caligary Supply	927.27
Apple Books	2,031.18	Canaan Auto Supply	20,069.80
Arthur P. Jones & Associates	13,907.00	Carberry Auto Parts	1,618.22
Atlantic Coast Polymers	7,805.00	Carolyn Calandro	745.00
Automatic Door Doctor	2,150.00	Carr Hardware & Supply	14,459.75
B-G Mechanical Service	5,405.45	Carrott Top Industries	2,518.24
Bacher Corp. of CT	1,553.41	CCP Industries	1,071.00
Baker & Taylor	6,463.65	Center for Ecological Technology	4,095.20
Barbara Rosenbaum	1,301.44	Center Point Large Print	2,595.60
Barco Products	878.74	Christine Faber	1,050.00
Bart Truck Equipment Co.	3,924.00	Christopher Lamarre	931.70
Baystate Elevator	7,279.00	Christopher Rembold	757.52
Beaver Solutions	624.00	Christopher Schafer	1,103.21
Ben Funk	4,115.26	Chubb & Son	73,238.00
Berenson & Bloom	8,686.76	Cintas	6,566.20
Berkshire Bank	2,965.62	City of North Adams	600.00
Berkshire Communicators	887.94	Clayton Davenport Trucking	181,848.27
Berk. Community College	892.50	C.N. Wood, Inc	3,015.77
Berkshire Concrete Cutting	900.00	Colarusso Blacktop	6,333.09
Berk. County Retirement Syst.	1,024,101.88	Commonwealth of MA	4,785.00
Berk. County Sheriff's Dept.	1,481.11	Comm. Of MA Dept. Env. Protect	980.00
Berkshire Gas	48,503.06	Comm. Of MA Dept. Pub. Safety	640.00
Berkshire GMC	1,399.86	Comm. of MA Police Training	3,000.00
Berkshire Graphics	1,125.59	Community Health Programs	3,220.00
Berkshire Health Group	1,210,165.00	Comm. Preservation Coalition	1,750.00
Berk. Hills Reg. School Dist.	12,613,163.00	Communtiy Software Consortium	2,200.00
Berkshire Medical Center	1,169.98	Conserve Thru Control	1,473.40
Berk. Public Health Alliance	2,000.00	Construct	1,800.00
Berkshire Record	9,599.87	Cranes Outdoor Power Equip.	4,067.68
Berk. Regional Planning Comm.	104,369.36	Crosshair, Inc.	695.00
Berkshire Stump Grinding	3,500.00	CSS Ventures	43,261.55

CT Fire Academy Bookstore	1,169.25	Gaylord Brothers, Inc.	1,059.50
CTC, Inc.	766.95	General Code	1,195.00
Cummins Northeast	2,097.46	General Code Publishers	1,972.48
CWMars	20,066.09	Gentlemen's Painting	1,880.00
D. E. Wilber Elect. Contract.	33,110.44	Gilmore's Heating	21,441.94
Dana Green	2,775.00	Global	2,260.00
David Grover	4,000.00	Gorham & Norton	881.71
David Lotto	1,425.00	Grainger	5,138.38
David Prickett Consuting	5,272.50	Great Barrington Auto Supply	7,838.16
Dell Financial Services	758.72	Great Barrington Bagel	675.40
Demco	1,864.56	Gt. Barrington Fire Distric	658,873.10
DeRosa Dohoney LLP	1,417.50	Great Barrington Land Conserv.	1,000.00
Devries Building Supply	1,109.93	Great Barrington Police Assoc.	10,000.00
Dist. Dept. of Vets Services	29,167.00	Great West Life	103,049.48
Donovan & O'Connor	3,693.59	Green & Robinson	30,000.00
Doug Schmolze	1,245.00	Guardian Energy Mgmt. Solutions	109,038.00
Dukes Root Control	4,900.00	Guardian Uniform & Supply	18,014.48
E. Caligari & Son	1,153.59	Hacros Chemicals	31,600.80
Eagle Shoe Repair	5,213.96	Haupt Tree Company	66,954.74
Ed Herrington, Inc.	4,085.09	Health Resources	2,383.50
Edwards Angel Palmer Dodge	2,800.00	High Pressure Systems	1,270.00
Edwin May	1,435.13	Hillsdale Service Center	818.00
Elder Services	840.00	Holland Company	3,482.60
Election Systems & Software	773.30	Honda Lease Trust	681.46
Elizabeth Freeman Center	2,500.00	Housatonic Architectural Services	1,400.00
Emerg. Services Marketing	800.00	Hous. Basin Sampling & Testing	1,428.00
Envirosystems, Inc.	6,056.00	Housatonic Water Works	36,285.47
Eustis Chair	3,936.50	Housatonic Welding	838.00
Everett J. Prescott	2,338.43	Howard Fairfield	34,760.00
F.M. Generator	5,799.04	Howard Jacobs	690.00
Fairview Hospital	999.83	HP Care Pack Sales	1,031.00
Fiber Connect	792.00	Immediate Response Tech.	820.99
Fire Tech & Safety	19,815.00	Individual Laundry	975.00
Firearms Record Keeping	2,975.00	Ingram Library Services	46,283.80
Firematic Supply Co.	1,714.20	Insituform Technologies	121,139.32
Fisher Scientific	5,037.71	Integration Partners Corp.	730.00
Fleetpride	2,436.77	Ivan Kruh	1,722.53
Flynn & Dagnoli	2,000.00	J. Donovan & Son	4,252.83
Foremost Promotions	744.03	J.F. McDermott Co.	89,176.50
Fort Miller Co.	5,305.00	J & J Lock	1,471.00
Franklin Bronze Plagues	731.00	JSSJR Enterprises	1,500.00
Franklin Paint Co.	1,061.63	Jacquier Welding	2,060.01
Free Legal Clinic of S. Berk.	800.00	Jayne Smith	1,519.58
Frost Manufacturing	1,713.13	Jennifer Tabakin	1,577.95
Full Circle Technologies	12,975.00	Jerry Smith	800.00
Fuss & O'Neill	53,374.37	Joe Wilkenson Excavating	53,171.21
Garrison Fire & Rescue	15,221.23	John B. Hull, Inc.	998.70
Gasket, Seal & Packing	857.50	John Broderick Jr. Masonry	4,990.10

John S. Lane Construction	2,718.82	Midwest Tapes	21,705.60
John's Building Supply	1,140.00	Miller's Petroleum	9,731.75
John's Garage	7,513.21	Miracle Recreation Equip.	8,266.05
Junior Library Guild	6,902.40	Moore Medical Corp.	1,292.68
Just Mounts	654.23	Morton Salt	267,251.80
K-Log Inc.	2,297.79	Motion Industries	1,707.53
Karen Jo Sicotte	624.21	Mount Everett Sanitation	6,990.00
Kelly, Grainger & Parsons	1,500.00	Municipal Emergency Serv.	15,006.91
Kenneth Sold	1,847.30	Municipal Police Institute	8,931.00
KME Fire Apparatus	1,031,293.59	N.E. Environmental	28,361.35
Knowink	2,750.00	N.E. Interstate Pollution Ctrl.	1,505.00
Kofile Preservation	3,460.00	National Fire	1,330.50
Komline-Sanderson	3,386.27	National Grid	446,646.09
Kopelman & Paige	53,459.14	New England Emergency Equip.	12,092.00
Kwik Print	8,787.21	New England Newspaper	942.49
L.B. Corp.	536,349.16	New England Newspapers, Inc.	894.00
L. Locke Larkin	656.83	Norene A. Roberts	1,074.00
Lacal Equipment	1,931.03	Northeast Fasteners	1,486.47
Lane Construction Corp.	23,088.73	Northeast Slope Mowing	2,000.00
Larkin Ltd. Auto Detailing	1,287.56	Northern Safety, Co.	887.97
Lauren Saratori Hobgood	618.76	Nuco Industries	639.11
Lawrence Charette Electric	2,920.60	O'Connell Oil Assoc.	52,890.35
Lee Audio 'N Security	6,721.52	Olde Village Monogramming	654.50
Lee Hardware	11,009.53	Osterman Propane	1,424.61
LHS Associates	3,950.91	Ott to Print Green	796.00
Lipton Energy	117,705.91	Partac Peat Corp	2,658.70
Lubrication Engineers	3,710.15	Paul Storti	7,070.05
MHQ Municipal Vehicles	82,861.00	Penguin Management	1,231.00
MIIA Property & Casualty	141,699.56	Penguin Random House	904.46
MIIA Workers' Comp.	33,225.24	Perma Line of New England	11,960.35
MWPCA	860.00	Pete's Sales & Service	887.00
Macfarlane Office Products	5,662.47	Physio-Control Corp.	1,764.40
Madsen Overhead Door	14,558.50	Pio Moro	1,000.00
Maintenance Man, Inc.	16,547.50	Pitney Bowes	22,072.85
Marcotte Ford Sales, Inc.	2,670.44	Pittsfield Communication Sys.	18,976.11
Margaret Cherin	3,600.00	Pittsfield Fire & Safety	2,443.10
Marie Ryan	1,647.08	Pittsfield Lawn & Tractor	1,049.00
Markings, Inc.	5,762.21	Pittsfield News	4,542.60
MA Chiefs of Police	1,494.00	Plimpton & Hills	849.59
MA Coalition of Police	8,736.00	Polsinello Fuels, Inc.	1,373.00
MA Div. of Unemployment	3,018.89	Postmaster	852.00
Massachusetts Municipal	1,918.00	Precision Autocraft, Inc.	4,239.61
MA Police Accreditation	1,250.00	Preferred Print Solutions	2,231.89
Matthew Bender & Company	2,735.60	Priority Dispatch	1,858.00
Mayflower Valuation LTD	4,000.00	Propet Distributors	652.95
McVac Environmental Serv.	4,206.57	Purestream Inc.	806.00
Melanson Heath & Co.	21,000.00	Quill	7,655.36
Microbac Laboratories	2,869.00	R.I. Baker	5,112.66

R.W.S Inc.	744.00	Town of Monterey	34,088.09
Railroad Street Youth Project	6,871.22	Town of New Marlboro	16,419.86
Ray Allen Manufacturing	819.95	Town of Otis	908.37
Real Estate Research Consult.	1,000.00	Town of Sandisfield	3,064.91
Recorded Books, Inc.	3,385.53	Town of Sheffield	9,011.68
Republic Services #955	2,223.46	Town of Tyringham	2,392.76
Resort & Conf. Ctr. / Hyannis	631.14	Town of West Stockbridge	24,080.21
Ribco Supply	1,045.04	Toyota Motor Credit	781.36
Ryan Storti	2,857.07	Tritech Software Systems	14,150.00
S. & A. Wholesalers	11,352.17	Tyler Technologies	30,549.30
Sandy Lord	650.00	US Bank NA	1,909,768.21
Schmidt Equipment	108,885.65	US Treasury DHHS, CMS	3,021.60
Sea Crest Hotel	887.94	Uline	3,002.17
Sentry Uniforms	1,682.20	Unibank Fiscal Advisory Services	24,479.43
Seward's Tires	4,488.28	Unified Life Insurance	689.52
Shipman's Fire Equipment	6,144.15	United States Treasury	686.59
Shoppers' Guide	1,925.10	Univar USA	4,799.14
Sigrid Mitchell	2,012.72	USA Bluebook	3628.12
Simon's Rock College of Bard	11,350.00	Valley Communications	1,904.45
Simplex Grinnell	8,583.34	Valley Roll-Off	32,561.20
So. Berk. Elderly Trans.	80,678.00	Vellano Corporation	1,702.66
So. Berkshire Power Equip.	897.13	Verizon	23,427.72
So. Berk. Registry of Deeds	2,305.00	Verizon Wireless	14,860.62
So. Berk. Vol. Ambulance	800.00	Virtual Town Hall	3,275.00
Stantec Consulting Services	7,540.00	Volunteers in Medicine	2,000.00
Staples	6,166.06	W. B. Mason Company	22,057.93
Steve's Auto Repair	2,391.97	W. E. Aubuchon	659.55
Steven Smith	619.60	W. M. Schultz Construction	1,839,646.98
Stockman Associates	4,165.00	WSS, Inc.	456,016.80
Superior Industrial	4,903.96	Ward's Nursery	1,499.80
Superior Spring & Mfg.	3,773.46	Water Environment Federation	705.00
Synagro Northeast	108,450.03	Water Pollution Abatement Trust	1,000.00
Taser International	3,324.50	Werner Obermeyer	785.60
The Brien Center	1,000.00	West Group	2,492.39
The Food Bank of W. MA	1,207.65	Wheeler & Taylor, Inc.	2,988.00
The Gorman Group	5,835.36	William Ingram	634.26
The Nutrition Center	1,200.00	Winter Equipment	1,158.90
Thomson Gale	4,643.64	Wired West	1,000.00
Tighe & Bond	191,304.36	Witmer Pulic Safety Group	8,307.95
Time Warner Cable	6,600.68	Xavus Solutions	1,200.00
Toce Brothers	4,100.00	Xerox Corporation	6,070.00
Town of Great Barrington	9,288.11	Zee Medical Service	2,040.17
Town of Egremont	3,495.69	Zwack, Inc.	54,703.87
Town of Lanesborough	15,785.48	TOTAL	26,254,631.64

FISCAL YEAR 2015
SALARIES AND WAGES

Abrahams, Edward	1,500.00	Dezieck, Jessisca	166.00
Allen, William	1,000.00	Drew, Bernard	698.72
Aloisi, Richard	2,600.00	Drumm, Timothy	72,430.00
Anderson, Alan	5,294.13	Dumont, Peter	516.51
Arienti, Judith	166.00	Dymek, Frederick	166.00
Attarian, Cheryl	27,123.18	Dymek, Patricia	256.00
Atwood, Marlene	1,142.00	Ely, Paula	55,998.18
Atwood, Thomas	1,000.00	Evans, Shelpey	19,617.76
Austin, Darryl	60,487.32	Farmum, Susan	296.00
Avery, Maureen	60.00	Fields, William	256.00
Bailly, Barbara	864.00	Firger, Bruce	600.00
Bailly, Bruce	192.00	Fitzpatrick, Kevin	1,373.80
Bailly, Daniel	1,500.00	Gaughran, Robert	4,129.40
Bailly, Jennifer	39,120.32	Germain, Roxanne	2,664.75
Ball, Deborah	44,122.00	Gennari, Robert	7,686.39
Ball, Michael	49,394.17	Gibbons, Paul	60.00
Bannon, Stephen	1,500.00	Gore, Bryan	53,686.58
Bara, Irene	60.00	Greene, Paul	1,101.38
Baronaba, Anthony	9,163.71	Grochmal, Ann	48.00
Barnard, Jane	12,275.90	Hall, Steven	6,477.78
Barry, Marion	150.00	Hammer, Robert	4,738.45
Becker, Cara	14,352.06	Harrison, Laurie	40,618.22
Benham, David	48.00	Heckendorn, Matther	67.00
Bisiewicz, Marilyn	150.00	Higgins, Randall	1,919.70
Boddie, John	980.00	Holcomb, Jeanne	1,002.00
Bona, Justin	5,132.35	Hoskeer, Patricia	56.00
Bozza, Joseph	2,329.20	Houghtlin, George	3,983.19
Brinker, William	1,500.00	Howe, Donald	150.00
Brown, Donna	34,413.53	Hungate, Robert	2,157.40
Brown, Ryan	61.00	Hunt, Edward	12,829.02
Budz, Elizabeth	102.00	Ingram, William	60,962.53
Burger, Charles	70,726.83	Ivory, Carolyn	110.00
Burger, Derek	123.00	Ivory, Paul	256.00
Burt, Clinton	56,202.49	Jennings, Harry	408.00
Cando, Marco	818.00	Johnsen, Joan	30,718.02
Carr, James	1,209.00	Katz, John	600.00
Casey, Elias	2,504.20	Kelleher, Francine	178.00
Chamberland, Terrence	7,662.40	Kelleher, John	270.00
Cooke, William	201.61	Kinne, Cathleen	102.00
Coons, Christine	218.00	Kotleski, Kathleen	208.00
Coons, Linda	16,713.05	Kramer, Ethel-Jean	166.00
Coons, Richard	68.00	Krupski, Robert	12,886.30
Corbett, Judith	110.00	Kujawski, Patricia	830.00
Curtiss, Madeleine	56.00	Kuziemko, Helen	51,114.62
Degorgis, Amanda	55,079.97	Kuziemko, Matthew	1,204.00

Lagowski, Robert	11,480.04	Pruhenski, Mark	29,055.35
Lamarre, Christopher	73,605.36	Rembisz, Donald	150.00
Laramée, Christopher	3,605.60	Rembold, Christopher	73,771.65
Larkin, L. Locke	5,874.71	Renner, David	60.00
Larkin, Lois	150.00	Reynolds, James	1,540.00
Larkin, Sandra	81,125.74	Rivest, Charles	54,952.72
Leodari, Talya	35,939.35	Robitaille, John	42,029.56
Locke, Frances	56.00	Ryan, Marie	48,269.67
Lovett, Thomas	6,957.48	Santos, Linda	640.00
MacDowell, Donna	102.00	Sartori-Hobgood, Lauren	90,096.53
Magelaner, Jessica	44,119.44	Scapin, Victor	68,314.58
Malumphy, John	54,341.03	Schumacher, Rita	21,873.58
Mann, Pauline	43,656.44	Seile, Joshua	4,066.06
Marks, Darrel	21,245.80	Shaw, Kimberly	8,535.07
Martin, Dennis	1,000.00	Shimmon, Michelle	620.27
Martin, James	13,100.98	Shimmon, Richard	10,539.94
May, Edward	58,296.00	Sicotte, Karen	4,931.08
McCormick, Edward	4,580.00	Smith, Ellen	13,982.87
McFall, Molly	12,148.91	Smith, Jayne	20,517.23
McMahon, Sean	3,784.85	Smith, Karen	740.00
McMeekin, Linda	60.00	Smith, Terry	142.00
Mead, Adam	511.00	Sokul, Joseph	79,436.22
Mead, Brian	3,482.40	Soule, Margaret	1,092.00
Mead, James	4,275.00	Soules, David	59,793.90
Meagher, Madonna	56.00	Soules, Lee	49,326.30
Meier, Elizabeth	12,262.58	Soules, Peter	65,633.41
Meltzer, Leslie	33,545.38	Sparks, Corey	49,806.93
Montana, Peter	26.00	Stanton, Sean	1,500.00
Morelli, Bruce	220.00	Stark, Louis	1,185.60
Morey, Jerry	53,000.56	Stephenson, Cameron	1,563.00
Moser, William	570.00	Stevens, Timothy	2,909.10
Needelman, Richard	672.00	Strommer, Carol	38,736.79
Nelson, Christopher	2,810.00	Strommer, Stephen	952.00
Nourse, Sharon	16,810.40	Tabakin, Jennifer	120,161.60
Osak, Justin	1,631.20	Tarnawa, Christine	56.00
Ostrander, John	47,646.70	Tarnawa, Francis	7,500.00
Palumbo, Marc	2,827.00	Thomson, Charles	61,389.84
Parsons, Stephen	53,682.96	Tossavainen, John	166.00
Passetto, John	94.00	Trombley, Howard	56.00
Peretti, Michael	5,000.00	Trombley, Marcia	110.00
Pevzner, Matthew	65,242.02	Vacchina, Paul	3,700.00
Phillips, Deborah	1,298.39	Van Sant, Olivia	2,528.72
Pickert, Edward	51,956.57	Vogel, Terry	61,289.64
Piontek, Theodore	38,409.07	Walker, Terry	307.31
Plungis, Kathleen	100.00	Warner, Katherine	27,420.06
Premierani, Frances	56.00	Wichmann, Carolyn	31,921.67
Premierani, Lawrence	268.00	Woodard, John	2,445.00
		TOTAL	3,022,737.33

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The mission of the Great Barrington Finance Committee is to provide advice and assistance to the Town Manager, Selectboard and other town officials on financial matters by efficiently identifying, analyzing and making recommendations on financial matters that have a material impact on the well-being of the Town of Great Barrington. Under the town's bylaws, the Finance Committee "shall consider any and all financial questions for the purpose of making reports or recommendations to the Town", it shall hold a public hearing before town meeting on any warrant article that proposes spending money or disposing of any town property, and it "shall meet quarterly to review receipts and expenditures of all departments under its jurisdiction". Under Massachusetts law, the town finance committee recommends the budget to the town meeting, and its approval is required to transfer money from the town's reserve fund.

Highlights of the Finance Committee's work this year include:

- Budget analysis by function: The Committee asked the Town Manager to develop methods for presenting the town's annual budget that would more clearly allocate costs by function or service, particularly debt and capital costs and personnel benefits, and that would provide more detail about revenues associated with particular functions and services. A summary report with functional allocations of costs was produced for the FY16 budget.
- Health care: The Committee considered creating a task force to examine health care costs, but put that off for the time being to focus on the particular issue of how the town provides for retiree health care (often referred to as "other post-employment benefits", or OPEB). Assisted by a citizen's inquiry, the Committee examined the evolving GASB reporting requirements about OPEB for the town and the school district. The Committee sought to establish a \$50,000 fund to start the process of providing for OPEB exposure, but decided not to include it in the next budget pending clarification of the situation about pensions, which are also subject to evolving GASB reporting requirements.
- Planning and demographics: A staff expert from the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission briefed the Committee on population trends and projections, which would provide perspective for infrastructure and expense planning. Further work with the Town Planner and Town Clerk sought to reconcile differences between the town's population records and the results of the national census.
- Tax policy: On several occasions, the Committee discussed the implications of property tax policies, particularly the residential exemption and "split rate" options under state law. This work is ongoing.
- Tax collection: The Committee asked the Town Manager for a quarterly report on unpaid property taxes. A sign of progress in this long-standing effort to ensure tax collection was the auction sale of ten delinquent properties.
- "Free cash": The Committee reviewed the town's policy of planning the budget to maintain a large unallocated fund balance (so-called "free cash"), compared to having a larger reserve fund or stabilization funds.
- Economic development: The Committee proposed that the Selectboard create an Economic Development Committee to develop, consolidate and channel proposals to promote commerce and expand the tax base, focusing on tourism (by enhancing marketing programs), small business needs (by encouraging development of business services), manufacturing and distribution sectors (by promoting the town's public services and workforce), and new services (by identifying opportunities such as technology incubation).
- School reform: The Committee voted to support a petition about the regional school district.
- School district expenses: The Committee recommended that the Selectboard seek a revision in the district agreement to make compensating corrections across fiscal years for overpayments that result when the

state's calculations of the towns' contribution obligations arrive after town and school district budgets are set.

- Information and reports: The Committee asked the town and the school district to routinely provide the Committee with financial reports and information. The Committee sought a town bylaw that would require submission to the Committee of regular and special financial reports and statements of the town and its enterprise funds and of the school district. The bylaw proposal was defeated at the town meeting.
- Reserve fund transfers: The Committee approved two expenditures that had been inadvertently omitted from the annual budget, of \$1000 for membership in Wired West and \$2760 to support veterans' associations in Housatonic. To cover unanticipated expenses, the Committee approved \$2600 for storm-related public works overtime, \$49,900 for a higher-than expected bill for street lighting, and \$5743 to cover a billing and payment error, anticipating recovery of the mistaken overpayment. The Committee also authorized incurring over-budget expenses for salt and snow removal, which were later covered by state emergency funds.
- Finance Committee membership: In October 2014 the Chair and Vice Chair attended the Association of Town Finance Committee Conference in Franklin, MA, for workshops on school building finance, shared services and OPEB. In May 2015 the Committee thanked outgoing member and Chair Sharon Gregory and welcomed new member Will Curletti.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Wise, Chair

Walter F. Atwood, III

Thomas Blauvelt, Vice Chair

Will Curletti

Leigh Davis

HISTORIC

REPORT OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The Historic District has continued working with property owners and the community.

- (1) The Commission reviewed demolition of a defective balcony at the Searles Castle Main Building. The unsafe stone structure was to be removed and stored on site for reinstallation in the future.
- (2) The yearly installation of banners during early summer by the Berkshire International Film Festival was again approved.
- (3) A request by a property owner to install a tall Street Clock at the corner of Main Street and Railroad Street will coming officially before the Commission at our next July meeting.

The Commission also continues to advocate other endeavors.

- (1) The first three Bronze Historic Markers were fabricated. In the fall of 2015, these markers will be installed on the front of Town Hall, the Mason Library and the Ramsdell Library.
- (2) A replica stone Pedestal is scheduled for fabrication to replace a damaged original fountain and base at the semi-circular seating in front of Town Hall.
- (3) Burial of the Time Capsule which prepared by the Students of Bryant School is proposed to be placed at the northerly side of Town Hall next to the WWI Memorial.
- (4) The periodic maintenance of the Winged Victory Statue is being scheduled. The procedure involves waxing of the restored Bronze surfaces.

The Commission continues support of the restoration and repairs of the Front and Right Side Steps to Town Hall. Brownstone is very integral to the architectural character of the building and the base of the Winged Victory Statue.

In the fall of 2014, Chris Skelly of the Massachusetts Historical Commission presented his seminar on Demolition Delay to a combined meeting of the Planning Board, Historical Commission and Historic District Commission.

We look forward to welcoming our new Alternate Member, Abby Schroeder, who is scheduled to join us for the next fiscal year. The position of second Alternate has been unfilled for a couple of years.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald V. Howe, Chair
Daniel Bailly, Vice-Chair
Holly M. Troiano, Secretary
James Mercer, Member
Barbara A. Syer, Member
Patricia Ryan, Alternate

REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

To the Honorable Selectboard:

In FY15 the Historical Commission continued to carry out its charges under Massachusetts General Laws. Our activities focused on four strategic areas.

1. Fulfill the General Purposes of the Historical Commission to protect and develop Great Barrington's historic resources.

- With invaluable cooperation from contractors, rescued several artifacts and documented subterranean configurations during excavations for Main Street Reconstruction Project. Project helps illuminate early transportation and sanitation histories.
- In response to an eligibility requirement that applicants, not listed on the National or State Registers of Historic Places, must have their historical or cultural significance certified by the Historical Commission, drafted *Review Form for Historical Applications for CPA Grant*, for sites to complete and present at a GBHC public hearing. Determinations were made for four sites.
- With Historic District Commission, organized and sponsored a demolition delay bylaw seminar by the Massachusetts Historical Commission.
- Documented Methodist parsonage (1893) with photographs prior to its demolition by a developer.
- Completed extensive research on architectural and social histories of Searles High School.
- Attended Oral History Symposium sponsored by Housatonic Heritage and Berkshire Community College.
- At the request of the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission and Community Development Corporation, and to ensure compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, completed site surveys, photography, basic research and evaluation of historic significance and impact of project work on architectural character of eight residences scheduled for rehabilitation as part of the Great Barrington-Sheffield Housing Rehabilitation Program (funded by a FY14 Community Development Block Grant) and a CDC project to develop 314 State Rd for a mixed income housing development on-site.
- In response to the responsibility of the Historical Commission imposed by Zoning Bylaw 7.10.2, which authorizes deviation from room limits in structures judged to be historically, architecturally and/or culturally significant to Great Barrington, drafted *Review Form for Historical Site Application Zoning Bylaw 7.10.2 Room Limits* to serve as the basis for making an informed determination. In first case, declared 79 Bridge St. (Searles High School) to be culturally, architecturally and historically significant to Great Barrington.
- Answered various local history inquiries from researchers.

2. Manage and Care for Town Museum Collection in accordance with professional museum procedures.

- Awarded CPA grant of \$31,640 to help fund the conservation treatment of the *Newsboy Monument and Fountain*.
- Hired part-time contract archivist to work with Commission members and other volunteers to continue management and care of Town Historical Collection, a sizable resource of objects, records and archival materials documenting the history of Great Barrington, located on the second floor of the Ramsdell Library.
- Salient initiatives and developments regarding the Town Historical Collection, housed on the second floor of the Ramsdell Library included:
 - Greatly expanded operational space for collection with Library Board's consent to transfer use of entire second floor to Commission and Society for collection storage and administration. Prepared a detailed work plan and budget for the second floor to answer the goals of the Commission and town museum collection
 - Purchased HP laptop with sufficient power to operate the PastPerfect collections management software.
 - Achieved full intellectual and physical accessibility of historical collection on second floor through completion of *Finding Aid for the Great Barrington Historical Commission Collection, 1733 – 2014 [bulk 1800-1920]* and organization of storage shelving.
 - Purchased and installed a data logger to document the drastic fluctuations of relative humidity and temperature of the second floor which are extremely deleterious to the preservation of the collections stored there. The project will establish a baseline of data required to determine the measures that need to be taken to reach the ideal museum environment.

- Arthur Dutil, Museum Facilities and Security Consultant, toured collections facility and made recommendations for its care and configuration
 - Gifts to the Collection
 - ✓ William Morgan, The Almighty Wall. The Architecture of Henry Vaughan. New York: the Architectural History Foundation and Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 1983 from Cornelia Gilder
 - ✓ Collection of papers, photographs, records and objects pertaining to the history of the Housatonic Congregational Church (1841-2014) from Ms Judy Olds and Rev. Belle Fox-Martin.
 - ✓ Collection of Spaulding Chevrolet advertising materials and ephemera from Prudence Spaulding.
3. Market Historic Assets: develop programs that heighten public appreciation of the town's rich architectural and historical resources.
- Presented third year of Smartphone walking tour of Great Barrington's Main Street business district. Printed and distributed 750 color brochures to promote the program. Added "*Family Fun*" Activities for kids for the Mason Library and St. Peter Church tour menu.
 - Commission member Gary Leveille interpreted Great Barrington history through a school program and public lectures including: "Then and Now," PowerPoint talk on local history to 5th grade class at Monument Valley Middle School and lectures: "Legendary Locals of South Berkshire," Sheffield Historical Society; "Picture This: The History of Post Cards and the Sharing of Collections," Stockbridge Library Museum and Archives; "The Histories of Sandisfield and South County," Sandisfield Arts Center; and "Rare Vintage Photographs of Great Barrington and Housatonic," Friends of the Mason Library.
 - Worked with Historic District Commission to complete official guidelines for historic marker program, *Great Barrington Marker Program for Historic Structures*, and entered link on town website.
 - Posted period images of historic Great Barrington on Historical Commission Facebook page.
1. Historic Preservation: promote the preservation of significant structures in town
- Submitted letters of support for Monument Mills Revitalization's and Saint James Place's applications for Massachusetts Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits for proposed redevelopment of Monument Mills (various c. 1850-1917) and adaptive use of Saint James Church (1857-58).
 - Ramsdell Library listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the official list of the nation's historic sites and structures worthy of preservation.
 - Submitted letters to Community Preservation Committee in support of Ramsdell Library's and Great Barrington Historical Society's applications for preservation projects.
 - Consultant architectural historian completed Massachusetts Historical Commission Form B - *Building* for the Housatonic School (1908). Form to be submitted to the MHC as the basis for determining if it is *eligible for listing* on the National Register. A certification will make the building eligible for historic rehabilitation tax credits, an enticing advantage for developers.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul W. Ivory, Chairman
 Marilyn Bisiewicz
 Malcom Fick
 Don Howe
 Gary Leveille
 Bill Nappo
 David Rutstein

HUMAN SERVICES/CULTURAL

REPORT OF THE DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES (DDVS)

To the Honorable Selectboard:

Thank you for allowing me to service the member towns, their veterans, and widows. We have made great strides in reaching out to our veterans in our local area, letting them know the various services available to them from Elderly Services, Community Actions and also the local senior centers.

During FY 2015 we have seen a slight decrease in all areas of operation and currently have 41 active Chapter 115 claims.

Chapter 115 Submissions and Return from the State:

Town	FY 2015 Submitted 7/01/14-6/30/15	Pmt Due in FY 2016 -FY 2015 - 75%
Great Barrington	\$140,742.02	\$105,556.51

Total VA moneys received within the community for Compensation, Pension and Disabilities and retirements. This money goes back into the local communities in many different ways annually.

Great Barrington	\$1,097,084.70
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Over the last year we have completed the following for our member town's veterans:

Applications for VA Health Care	42
ALS/Disability/A&A/Appeals/Life Insurance	71
DD 214s	50
Request for Grave Markers	20
Tax Abatements/SS help/Other requests	12
Flags to funerals homes for veterans	55
Assisted with Dr. appointments	49
Home and Office Visits	471
Veterans Services Phone Calls	1521

For FY 2015 District budget has been reduced by the reserve resulting in a smaller assessment for the member towns. During these trying financial times all veterans and widows are encouraged to contact this office or the US Department of Veterans Affairs and review current entitlements as many changes have taken place.

Great Barrington's apportionment towards the FY 2015 DVS budget was \$28,231.12 – this number was based on population percentage on the 2010 Census.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie J. Hils
District Director

REPORT OF THE GREAT BARRINGTON CULTURAL COUNCIL

To the Honorable Selectboard:

This report covers the period from July 1, 2014 through June 30 2015.

The purpose of the Cultural Council is to provide grants to support the arts, humanities and interpretative sciences for the direct benefit of the residents of Great Barrington and Housatonic. Sources of revenue come from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. The council receives no financial support from the town of Great Barrington. Grants are awarded after being reviewed by the council typically from \$50 to \$500.

During the Fall of 2014 the council considered 55 applications of which 18 were awarded totaling \$4817. A complete list of grants awarded is available at the Selectboard office in the Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sherry Steiner, Co-Chair

Council Members: Hilda Banks Shapiro (Co-Chair), Marcia Stamell, Rose Tannenbaum, Michael Wise, Susan Pettee, Ellen Shanahan, Sherry Steiner (Co-Chair)

REPORT OF THE SOUTHERN BERKSHIRE ELDERLY TRANSPORTATION CORP.

To The Honorable Selectboard:

SBETC has been providing transportation to seniors, 55 years of age and older and disabled persons of any age for 30 years. We are a life-line for many people in Southern Berkshire County which allows them to reside in their homes which then enhances their quality of life and emotional well-being.

The towns we serve in Southern Berkshire County are: Alford, Egremont, Great Barrington/Housatonic, Clayton/Hartsville/Mill River/New Marlborough/Southfield, Otis, Sandisfield, Sheffield/Ashley Falls and Monterey. SBETC would like to thank the towns for their continued support and for giving their residents a very special service that most in the Berkshires do not have! We are like an insurance policy, there when you need it! Our annual mailing has been a success for another year, thank you all for your donations. A special thanks goes out to: The Barrington Foundation, The Thursday Morning Club, Sheffield Kiwanis, Rotary Club of Great Barrington, Katharine & Winthrop Crane Foundation, Salisbury Bank, Steve's Auto Repair, who keep our vehicles in top shape, all of those who supported our fundraiser and all of those who lost a loved one and were generous enough to remember us. We received a grant from the Berkshire Bank Foundation, the Mt. Everett Fund and the MarTap Grant. We also received an Incentive and Formula Grant from the Town of Great Barrington. If anyone has not been mentioned please accept our apologies and know that you are also greatly appreciated.

Again this past year we were very busy, making 13,872 trips and covering 51,694 miles. We are a true door to door service; we call ourselves "caregivers on wheels". We will shovel your path if needed, tie shoes, button coats, carry groceries, etc. Most of our travels are taking seniors, disabled of any age and nursing home persons to doctor and dentist appointments, physical therapy, hairdressers, shopping, to the hospital or to the Senior Center for lunch and activities and to Adult Day Care at Fairview Commons. We are also here for those of any age who have a temporary disability and need transportation.

We work with Berkshire Travelers and the Claire Teague Senior Center on trips. We took trips to Norman Rockwell Museum, Bright Lights, Octoberfest in Chicopee, Ghent Theatre, Foxwoods and two plays at McHayden Theatre in Chatham in NY. We also took the Monterey COA to The Clark Museum in Williamstown. Serving over 200 people!

We cannot thank the Town of Great Barrington and the Claire Teague Senior Center enough for their continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Valinaggi, E.D.

Board of Directors: Grace Zbell, Chairperson: Hilda Banks Shapiro, Vice Chairperson Jane Green & Amy Rutstein, Great Barrington; Barbara Whalen & Cathy Walker, Alford; Bruce Bernstein, Egremont; Prudence Spaulding, New Marlborough; Pat Ryan, Otis; Linda Riiska, Sandisfield and Cynthia Weber, Monterey.
FY'15

REPORT OF THE CLAIRE W. TEAGUE SENIOR CENTER

To The Honorable Selectboard:

Goals:

The goals of the Claire Teague Senior Center are to serve the needs and promote the total well-being of the seniors of Great Barrington. The senior center is available to seniors over 55 and offers a variety of services and events to the many seniors living in the Town of Great Barrington.

Services:

Some of the services include exercise classes, daily hot meals, referrals, health insurance counseling, educational information, genealogy and computer labs, socialization/recreation, trips Brown Bag, TRIAD, support groups and health clinics.

Improvements

This year the dining room was painted and new curtains added giving the congregate meal site a fresh and inviting atmosphere for the over 3664 meals served by 2 Elder Service site managers and 7 volunteer servers.

An 8 week Matter of Balance class was held for 20 seniors that attended the workshop, two elder law attorneys presented valuable information for estate planning as well as nutritionist, diabetes discussion, and a monthly caregiver support group. There were over thirteen different weekly exercise classes offered at the senior center over the year, some staffed by volunteers.

Intergenerational programs were also enjoyed by many, Monument Mountain students sang holiday tunes door to door to seniors living in senior housing, Monument Valley Middle School performed for the holiday meal, Berkshire School and Dewey Academy students all volunteered playing games and participating in the art class and discussion group.

Six Tax Accountant volunteers assisted 135 seniors with their taxes, 800 seniors were counseled about health insurance options with volunteer SHINE counselors. Approximately 960 Brown Bags were distributed to seniors provided by the Food Bank of Western Mass and assisted by 12 volunteers managing the monthly distribution.

Respectfully Submitted,

Polly Mann
Director



Great Barrington Council on Aging: Barbara Bailly Chair, Richard Needleman Treasurer, Amy Rutstein Secretary, Eileen Gaarn, David Rutstein, Cara Holcomb, Michele Gilligan and Graze Zbell

Friends of the Claire Teague Senior Center: Mel Greenberg Chair, Phyllis Weiss Secretary, Bruce Bernstein, Amy Rutstein, Barbara Bailly and Michele Gilligan

REPORT OF THE GREAT BARRINGTON LIBRARIES

To the Honorable Selectboard:

I hereby submit the report of the Great Barrington Libraries (Ramsdell and Mason) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015.

Friends and Trustees:

Both the Friends of The Great Barrington Libraries and the Library Trustees have continued to contribute many hours hosting events, including the popular First Thursday Films and the Creative Film Series at Mason and Ramsdell Libraries. The Friends again generously bought passes to local museums for use by library patrons. These passes continue to be one of our most requested items.

Staff:

2015 saw the arrival of Assistant Director of Community Outreach, Talya Leodari. Talya splits her time between Mason and Ramsdell and is responsible for programming as well as outreach. We did not see any other changes and this allowed the staff to spend time honing their skills and assisting with projects at both libraries. The library would not run as well as it does without their hard work and willingness to go above and beyond.

Notable:

The libraries have continued to serve as a regular meeting space for Town and local organizations including Parks and Recreation, the Cultural Council, the Great Barrington Tree Committee, the Brien Center and the Southern Berkshire Thyroid Support Group. Our meeting rooms and quiet rooms were used nearly 2,300 times this year.

Our computers were used 520 times at Ramsdell and 20,000 times at Mason Library. Both libraries serve as an important technological resource in their respective communities. The laptops at Ramsdell benefitted from new hard drives this year as well as improved maintenance software. A third wireless router was added to Mason to increase the range of our free wireless access.

The Great Barrington Libraries joined the Massachusetts Library System-sponsored national CSLP (Collaborative Summer Library Program) for our fourth year. We had 208 registered children who read over

125,000 minutes. The theme for this year was “Fizz Boom Read!”, which encouraged children to explore the world of science. There were weekly activities where children performed science experiments, learned about map making, played with magnets and created their own bouncy balls as well as regular reading-themed programs. In total, the libraries offered 66 children’s summer reading programs with 922 persons attending.

Hours and Visitors:

Ramsdell Library started the fiscal year with its normal opening hours of Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 12-6pm; Wednesday 12-8:30pm and Saturday 10-5pm. On January 5, 2015 the hours changed to Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10-5pm; Wednesday 12:30-8:30pm and Saturday 10-3pm. Ramsdell Library was open a total of 1,709 hours and had 8,809 patrons visit.

Mason Library continued to be open 10-7pm Monday –Friday and 10-3pm on Saturday. Mason Library was open a total of 2,486 hours with 124,889 visitors.

Circulation:

Great Barrington Libraries total circulation for FY 2015: 150,219 items.

	Adult	Young Adult	Children	Total
Mason	76,132	5,990	52,148	134,270
Ramsdell	10,847	362	4,740	15,949

Holdings:

Total Holdings: 114,746 (this includes eBooks and eAudio available via C/W MARS)

- Mason Library holds 94,815 items.
- Ramsdell Library holds 19,931 items

Materials Purchased in 2015: Mason					
Adult Books	1,982	Children’s Books	1,478	YA Books	234
Adult Audio Books	266	Children’s Audio Books	117	YA Audio Books	33
Adult DVDs	613	Children’s DVDs	245	YA DVDs	39
Adult Serials	683	Children’s Serials	80	YA Serials	6

Materials Purchased in 2015: Ramsdell					
Adult Books	708	Children’s Books	312	YA Books	16
Adult Audio Books	70	Children’s Audio Books	7	YA Audio Books	5
Adult DVDs	216	Children’s DVDs	78	YA DVDs	-
Adult Serials	282	Children’s Serials	-	YA Serials	7

Programs/Events:

GB Libraries sponsored a total of 478 events/programs and had approximately 5,914 people attend these events.

Finances:

On July 1, 2014, GB Libraries had \$33,338.52 in State Aid money. We spent \$8,457.48 last year and received \$12,005.65. As of July 1, 2015 we have \$36,886.69 in that account. This account largely pays for programs and advertising for programs, and is governed by the Trustees of the Great Barrington Libraries.

Through fines and fees the Libraries were able to turn back to the town \$22,904.

I want to express my sincerest thanks to all the employees and volunteers of the libraries for their support, cooperation and hard work throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda M. DeGiorgis, Director

REPORT OF THE FIVE TOWN CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard:

In the fiscal year July 2014 to June 2015, the CAC has met three times, September 9, 2014, March 10, 2015 and June 9, 2015. The December meeting was cancelled due to weather. The major issues covered in those meetings involved the proposed merger of Comcast and Time Warner, a question regarding a price differential between the Great Barrington and Sheffield bills and the Lee, Lenox, and Stockbridge bills and a complaint made against a vote taken at a CTSB Board of Directors meeting.

The rate difference is found in only three areas, basic cable, the digital adaptor, and discounted guide charge for additional outlets. As explained by Time Warner, the FCC has given Great Barrington and Sheffield Effective Competition status, which means that it has been shown that 15% or more residents in these two communities subscribe to a satellite TV service creating a competitive environment. This allows TW to charge slightly more for these services than the other three towns, which are considered regulated communities. All other rates are equal among the five communities.

Regarding the third item, after a discussion concerning the vote under question, it was resolved that the vote should stand, but the Board of Directors should look at tightening the language in their by-laws.

At the March meeting we were waiting for word regarding the acquisition of Time Warner by Comcast. Before the next meetings the news broke that this attempt was dropped and that Charter Communications would try to purchase TW. At our June meeting this new merger was up for discussion, but the TW representative could give us no new information. It was hoped that more information would be forthcoming by the end of July, but as of this writing, there has been no word.

Great Barrington/Housatonic can have three members on this committee. Right now there is only one. If anyone is interested, please contact me for more information.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Hatch

Great Barrington Representative
Five Town Cable Advisory Committee

REPORT of COMMUNITY TELEVISION for the SOUTHERN BERKSHIRES

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The staff and directors of CTSB are immensely gratified with our progress over the past year. Since our new building opened in June 2014, our membership has more than doubled as has the number of regular shows being produced.

The Training Center in our new facility has been active under the capable leadership of Erica Spizz, Operations Manager. Nearly 100 people have been trained in video shooting and editing. Classes are available to all members free of charge and include:

- Final Cut Pro 10 classes
- Intro to field production
- Working with stills
- Multicam editing
- Color correction

These days, it's not uncommon for all of our field equipment, including eight battery-powered cameras, to be in use by our members. A great deal of our growth in membership is attributed to word of mouth. When members take action to produce a show, they are pleased and share their experience with others.

I continue to be very pleased and proud of our professional staff: Leo Mahoney, Station Manager; Erica Spizz, Operations Manager; and Steven Borns, Production Coordinator. Coral Cook was an outstanding addition to our staff last year. In August she resigned her part-time administrative position to pursue a college degree.

As I travel around the county meeting with groups about the capabilities of CTSB, I'm struck by how many have not heard of us. CTSB is owned by the community, so it's important that South County residents know what they own and how to make effective use of the station and its 21st century capabilities. Our building at 40 Limestone Road in Lee is open Monday thru Friday from 9 to 5 and we invite residents to stop by to view the station's home and meet the staff.

Respectfully Submitted,

Will Ryan
CTSB Board President

REPORT OF THE GREAT BARRINGTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The Great Barrington Housing Authority (GBHA) administers state subsidized housing programs and manages housing properties for low-income seniors, families and people with special needs.

GBHA manages Brookside Manor which consists of 31 one bedroom apartments located at 909 South Main Street. GBHA also manages Flagrock Village which consists of 32 one bedroom apartments, three are wheelchair accessible, located at 2 Bernard Gibbons Drive. These properties are state assisted housing for low income elderly

defined as age 60 in Massachusetts, and disabled under 60 years of age. There are eighteen units of family apartments and one four bedroom house for people with special needs at Flagrock Village as well. Three family apartments are wheelchair accessible. Waitlists for elderly and family housing are in place. Anyone who works or lives in Great Barrington or Housatonic receive local preference. There is also priority given to emergency applicants per state regulations. Applications and information regarding housing at Brookside Manor and Flagrock Village are available at the office at 2 Bernard Gibbons Drive or by calling 413-274-1142.

GBHA manages Dewey Court in Sheffield for the Berkshire County Regional Housing Authority. Dewey Court consists of 22 one bedroom apartments and 8 family apartments located at 3 Dewey Way, Sheffield. This property is state assisted, therefore state regulations, local preference, priorities and eligibility requirements apply. Applications and eligibility information are available at the office at 3 Dewey Way, Sheffield or by calling 413-229-8746.

During the past year at Flagrock Village we have replaced the roof on the special needs house. We have replaced all windows in the family housing. At Brookside Manor, we have started installing bathroom fans in the apartments. The special needs house bathroom renovation is in the design stage. Funding has been approved for the replacement of two roofs at Brookside Manor.

The Housing Authority must ensure that all of our buildings are safe and secure for all of our residents. Thank you to all members of our Police, Fire and Ambulance departments for your dedication to protecting and serving our residents every day.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah Salem, **Chairman/State Appointee**

Ann Condon, **Vice Chairman**

Richard Needelman, **Treasurer**

Veronica Colley Cunningham, **Member**

Nan Wile, **Member**

Barbara Heaphy, **Executive Director**

PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT

REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD

To the Honorable Selectboard:

Throughout the time period between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015 the Planning Board held regular meetings on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Two of our meetings were held in Housatonic. Additional meetings were scheduled as necessary, including a joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen and the Conservation Commission to consider a response to the Rest of the River proposal.

The Planning Board hosted informational sessions with the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) on the Housatonic Railroad Station Study and on Smart Growth Zoning Overlay District (MGL Chapter 40 R) which will be under consideration this coming year as a tool to promote more affordable housing.

The bulk of our effort this year was directed at creating new zoning for Housatonic to reflect the village that is already there. This was assisted by a study performed by the BRPC. A new Housatonic Village Center district and a Housatonic Village Overlay District were created. Much of the R-1B district was rezoned to R-3 to allow more properties to be conforming. The B-1 zone was rewritten. The zone itself was expanded and used to replace the B-2 zone on North Plain Rd.

Two lots on Pothul Drive were rezoned to bring them into conformance with the rest of the street. Accessory uses were expanded to allow them on contiguous lots in common ownership. In addition, the allowable height of accessory structures was increased from 15' to 25' to allow a second floor and to facilitate the building of additional housing. All zoning changes were in keeping with the Master Plan, adopted by the Annual Town Meeting, passing by at least a two-thirds majority vote, and have been approved by the Attorney General.

Over the course of the year, the Planning Board endorsed fourteen ANR plans that created a total of eight new building lots.

The Planning Board made three formal site visits, issued one Common Driveway Permit, conducted five Site Plan Reviews, and made six recommendations on special permits or variance proceedings to other boards.

Jeremy Higa was jointly appointed as our new Associate Member in January 2015.

The Planning Board also recommended to the ZBA that the appeal of Building Inspector May's Cease and Desist Order to Lynn Hutchinson, 263 Long Pond Rd. be denied. It was, and apparently a reforestation plan, approved by the Conservation Commission, is in process.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Hankin, Chairman
Suzanne Fowle, Vice Chairman
Jack Musgrove
Brandee Nelson
Malcolm Fick
Jeremy Higa, Associate Member
Kimberly Shaw, Secretary

REPORT OF THE TOWN PLANNER

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The Town Planner (Department of Planning & Community Development) provides support and technical assistance to applicants, homeowners, businesses, Town staff and Boards regarding planning, zoning, and community and economic development matters. For the period of July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014 (FY 15) activities included:

A great deal of effort this past year was directed toward implementing the Town's Master Plan, including adopting new zoning to support a compact, thriving, mixed-use village in Housatonic. Drafted over the course of the year with the Planning Board and several community meetings, the new zoning was approved by a two-thirds majority at Town Meeting in May 2015 and by the Attorney General. The B-2 district was replaced with a new Housatonic Village Center district to reflect the buildings, density, and uses that have been developed in Housatonic over the last 150 years. This district brings existing properties into conformance, allows mixed-uses, and includes special provisions for the reuse of the former Housatonic School. Also a Housatonic Village Overlay District was added, the Housatonic R-1-B district was rezoned to R-3, and the B-1 zone regulations were rewritten. The new B-1 replaces the old B-1 in Risingdale and was also applied to the area north of the North Plain Rd./Main St. intersection.

Other initiatives related to Master Plan implementation include affordable housing initiatives and economic development projects. For example, the Community Development Block Grant award we received in July 2014 is providing funds for a Housing Rehabilitation Program for low and moderate income homeowners (about 10 projects in the Town of Great Barrington) and infrastructure engineering to correct stormwater problems on Front Street in Housatonic. By the close of FY15, seven housing projects were out to bid and the engineering project was 90% complete. In addition, with the receipt of Mass Development funding, we have begun an environmental assessment at Ried Cleaners in downtown. This project will be completed in FY16 and will help interested buyers understand the scope and cost of environmental cleanup. The site will remain in private hands and eventually can be put back into productive use.

Other economic development efforts include providing technical assistance to support the redevelopment of 100 Bridge Street, the former St. James Church, the reuse of 454 Main Street, and the permitting of a commercial solar array south of Rising Mill, which will generate 2.5 MW of clean power for the Town and school district and permanently protect over 45 acres of open space along the Housatonic River for public access. Other development projects include the 44-unit Barrington Brook, approved last fiscal year and now well underway.

With the Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force and the Lake Mansfield Alliance, we pioneered a new partnership program with Bard College at Simon's Rock to undertake a two-year water quality assessment at Lake Mansfield, funded by a Massachusetts Environmental Trust grant (a state fund supported by the Mass RMV's sale of three conservation license plates).

The Main Street Reconstruction Project kicked off in the summer of 2014. I participate in weekly meetings with the DPW Superintendent, Mass DOT, and the Chamber of Commerce, to review progress and coordinate the work.

I was appointed by the Town Manager to assist the Community Preservation Committee administer the Community Preservation Act (CPA). Over the course of the fiscal year, we wrote a CPA Plan, developed a CPA application process, vetted a total of 13 full CPA applications, and recommended 9 projects (1 housing, 2 open space, and 6 historic preservation) to Town Meeting for a total of \$866,640 in funding. Town Meeting approved all recommended projects.

I continue to coordinate the Town Manager's Development Review Team (Building Inspector, Conservation Agent, DPW Superintendent, Fire Chief, Health Agent, and Police Chief). A total of 10 special permits and six applications for Planning Board site plan review were received and reviewed.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Rembold, AICP, Town Planner

REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard:

I am pleased to present this report from the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) for the period of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 (FY15) to the Honorable Selectboard and the citizens of Great Barrington.

The CPC is the town board that implements the Community Preservation Act (CPA), which was adopted by the voters of Great Barrington in 2012. Through the CPA, state and local funds are collected to fund open space, affordable housing, historic preservation, and recreation projects. The CPC is comprised of nine members: two citizens-at-large and one member each from the Conservation Commission, Historical Commission, Parks Commission, Housing Authority Board, Planning Board, Select Board, and Finance Committee. The CPC administers the community preservation fund, writes and adopts a Community Preservation Plan based on community input, receives proposals from the community for expenditures from the fund, and recommends projects to Town Meeting to be considered for funding. The voters at Town Meeting must approve all CPA funding.

The CPC met 15 times in FY15, and 13 meetings were dedicated to reviewing CPA applications and preparing for Town Meeting. In October 2014, the CPC reviewed 21 projects for eligibility. These collectively were seeking a total of \$1.56 million in CPA funds (where the total budget was only \$1.2 million). All of these projects were invited to submit detailed Step 2 applications for CPA funding, but only 13 of those projects submitted the full Step 2 application by the deadline of December 1, 2014. The CPC reviewed these 13 projects over the course of five meetings in December and early January. Nine of the 13 projects were considered to be ready for CPA funding and were recommended to Town Meeting. In its recommendations, the CPC determined, among other things, that these projects meet the goals expressed Community Preservation Plan, provide a needed public benefit, demonstrate strong community support, and demonstrate that CPA funds will not be the only funds used for the project.

The CPC prepared a report to Town Meeting that was included with the 2015 Annual Town Meeting Warrant, and made a presentation to the assembled voters. All nine projects were approved by Town Meeting. They are:

COMMUNITY HOUSING

100 Bridge Street - creation of affordable housing	\$200,000
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HISTORIC PRESERVATION

St. James Place – roof repair/replacement	\$150,000
Mahaiwe PAC – foundation/basement drainage remediation	\$30,000
Wheeler Farmstead – restoration/repairs	\$50,000
Newsboy Statue & Fountain – restoration	\$31,640
Town Hall – design plans for eaves repairs	\$20,000
Mason Library – restoration/repairs of cupola and roof	\$65,000

OPEN SPACE & RECREATION

100 Bridge Street – creation of river front open space	\$300,000
The Trustees of Reservations – rehab/creation of trails	\$20,000

TOTAL: \$866,640

We look forward to seeing these projects come to fruition, and we look forward to more worthy projects in the coming year. I would like to thank the Town Planner and the CPC members for their hard work and dedication.

For the Community Preservation Committee,

Karen W. Smith, Chair

REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The Conservation Commission is charged with the following:

- To administer and uphold the Mass Wetlands Protection Act, The Great Barrington Wetland Bylaw and the Berkshire Scenic Mountains Act.
- To educate and assist homeowners, business owners and land owners regarding regulations and help them navigate the decision making and permit granting process within jurisdictional areas.
- To carefully review all applications utilizing assistance from the Department of Environmental Protection and other third party specialists when needed.
- To maintain ongoing contact with engineers, landscape architects, land owners and contractors to ensure site stabilization and permit compliance.
- To ensure a timely response to all emergencies and complaints.
- To issue Stop Work Orders and Enforcement Orders as needed to uphold the Wetlands Protection Act and the Scenic Mountains Act.
- To maintain ongoing communication and coordination with other Town Departments.
- To manage Conservation Properties: Lake Mansfield and the Lake Mansfield Conservation Forest and the McAllister Wildlife Refuge.

Last year, FY 2015, the Conservation Commission reviewed and/or issued:

- 18 Wetland Protection Act Requests for Determination of Applicability
- 11 Wetland Protection Act Notices of Intent
- 1 Berkshire Scenic Mountains Act Requests for Determination of Applicability
- 2 Berkshire Scenic Mountains Act Notice of Intent
- 4 Enforcement Orders
- 4 Special Permits
- 1 Beaver Permits

- 3 Emergency Certifications
- 7 Certificates of Compliance
- 9 Amended Orders of Conditions
- 19 Recommendations to various Town Departments or Boards
- 174 Non permit related outreach, letters, site visits and consultations

Starting in the Fall of 2014 and continuing through to the Annual Town Meeting in May 2015 the Commission has completed a full revision of the Great Barrington Wetland Protection Bylaw. It was submitted to the Annual Town Meeting and adopted by a substantial majority vote. As this report is being prepared, we are awaiting comments and approval from the State Attorney General. Once approved, the new Bylaw will take effect when published by the Town Clerk, and we look forward to revising the Great Barrington Wetland Regulations to reflect the new Bylaw.

The Commission continues to have active membership on the Lake Mansfield Alliance and we support the Lake Mansfield Improvement Taskforce whenever possible. A member of the Commission serves on the Community Preservation Committee, and the Commission collaborates with numerous local conservation councils, boards and citizen groups to fulfill our role in open space planning and the long term clean-up and restoration of the Housatonic River. We look forward to an enlightened ecological future for Great Barrington.

As always, we continue to offer administrative support to homeowners, small businesses, farmers and environmental organizations to make the Wetland and Scenic Mountain permitting process as smooth as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Mankin, Chair
Jessica Dezieck, Vice Chair

REPORT OF THE LAKE MANSFIELD IMPROVEMENT TASK FORCE (LMITF)

To the Honorable Selectboard:

LMITF continued its work in planning for and supporting the implementation of improvements in the Lake Mansfield Recreation Area with the goal of providing for public safety, use and accessibility, water quality improvements, protection of the watershed and stewardship of the resource area. I am pleased to provide the following report.

Great emphasis and many hours were given to considering improvement options to best to provide for the protection and improvement of the water and natural resource areas as well as support recreational use, public safety and community access. On September 29, 2014, LMITF presented on current conditions and concerns at the joint meeting of the Select board, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, and Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force. After thorough consideration, The Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force requests and advises that funding be allocated to hire a multi-disciplinary team to engage the community in defining its goals for the Lake Mansfield Recreation area and to provide the town with well-developed alternative options (costs, permitting, and impacts) for future work. The Task Force urges the select board to support the \$40,000 request in this year's capital budget put forward by the DPW Superintendent. A hired consultant team will be able to provide detailed cost estimates for the different phases (design, construction,

permitting) for future capital improvements for the Lake Mansfield Recreation Area. A formal request for planning support and a comprehensive Lake Mansfield Recreation Area report was submitted to the Select Board in February 2015. The Select Board voted to include this in the proposed town budget. The town voted to appropriate this funding at the May 4, 2014 Town Meeting. In June 2015 a Request For Proposals was released seeking “qualifications from experienced, qualified professional consultants and/or consultant teams to provide services in public facilitation, landscape architecture, environmental permitting, natural resource evaluation, transportation planning, stormwater and transportation engineering, cost estimating, capital improvement planning, and securing grants for the Lake Mansfield Recreation Area.” A briefing session / site visit was held on June 29, 2015, at 12:00 noon to help inform the applications of interested planning teams.

In addition, the following observations, accomplishments, and assessments were reviewed.


- I. **Water Quality Improvements and Assessments:** Sediment removal from catch basins installed with the new Castle Hill Avenue storm drain system, demonstrated the efficacy of the new system. Since installation of the new drainage system in August, 2013, the DPW Superintendent calculates that 33 tons of sediment has been captured. Before the drainage improvement this sediment and associated pollutants would go directly into the lake. Water protection labels have been installed on the improved filtration drainage basins in partnership with the Housatonic Valley Association. The unpaved parking area at the beach continues to contribute sediments the lake in form of unfiltered run-off during storm events. Unmitigated storm water is also a concern along Lake Mansfield Road and where Knob Hill Road enters Lake Mansfield Road in the boat launch area. The summer season’s water testing results, provided weekly by The Town’s Health Agent, showed that Lake Mansfield waters were healthy for swimmers throughout the 2014 and early 2015 swimming season. In July 2014 the Massachusetts Environmental Trust awarded the Town of Great Barrington a grant of \$30,000 to support a water quality monitoring program at Lake Mansfield in a collaborative project with Bard College at Simon’s Rock, the Berkshire Environmental Research Center (BERC), and the Lake Mansfield Alliance (LMA).
- II. **Protecting the Buffer Zone and Sensitive Habitats – Application of the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act:** The mowing policy developed for the Lake Mansfield Recreation Area aimed at supporting sensitive habitat area and encouraging plant growth that can help prevent erosion was followed in 2014. A two year program to eradicate invasive phragmites through contract with JMP Environment Consulting was completed in 2014. The treatment program, utilizing a carefully targeted herbicide applied by syringe to cut plant stalks, was approved and funded through the Conservation Commission. Though results were very good, a small recurrence of the invasive plant will need future treatment.
- III. **Use and Accessibility** –Recreational use of the lake, beach area, forest trails and Lake Mansfield Road increased again in through 2014 and 2015. Although the greatest number of users is noted in the summer season, the Recreation Area is a popular destination throughout the year. The accessible trail system in the conservation forest is used by many community members and visitors in all season. A listing of the recreational opportunities is available at www.Lakemansfield.org . The strong summer programming provided through the Parks Commission is essential to our safe and well maintained waterfront. In summer 2014 a total of 16,848 beach visits were documented. Documentation for 2015 was not available at the time of this report, but continued increased in use are expected. The Parks Commission and Lake Mansfield Alliance collaborated to fund the installation of new changing rooms adjacent to the porta-let area. The work was coordinated by the DPW Superintendent. Lake Mansfield Alliance (LMA), a project of Great Barrington Land Conservancy, engaged volunteers in the care of the recreation area and provided \$2,400 in funding support. Efforts included support for new changing areas, sponsoring the annual clean-

up day, volunteer days for community and student groups, regular trail maintenance, clearing of fallen trees due to storm damage, hand-pulling and cutting of invasive species, installation of new trail signage and community outreach and education. A Greenagers trail crew was hired by LMA for a day of summer trail maintenance. In addition, LMA maintains an informative Lake Mansfield website, produces an annual Lake Mansfield newsletter and provides for recreational opportunities including guided hikes, summer yoga and winter snowshoeing. The town worked at resolving private ownership of approximately 400 square feet in the boat launch. Clear ownership is needed to move forward with future drainage and access improvements.

- IV. **Public Safety** - While use increases, the safety of recreational users continues to be a priority for the Task Force. Concern over the continuing road degradation and the imperative of supporting safe use along Lake Mansfield Rd are of primary concern to the task force and will be a focal point for the upcoming improvement plans
- V. **Continued work In the Coming Year** – 2015/16 will be a very important year the planning of improvements at Lake Mansfield. Upon the selection of a planning team an intense period of public information and outreach sessions will be aimed at moving the town forward in decisions imperative for much needed improvements in the Lake Mansfield Recreation Area.

The Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force (LMITF) will continue to work to provide for the health and safe recreational use of the Lake Mansfield Recreation Area. We appreciate the Town's dedication to this invaluable natural resource and recreation area. We welcome and invite community input as we confront the complex issues inherent in the care and improvement of this much valued open space.

Provided in behalf of LMITF,



Christine Ward, Chair

2014 Task Force Members:

Christine Ward, chair (Citizen at Large), Deb Phillips (Citizen at Large), Bill Cooke (Select Board), Joseph Sokul (DPW Superintendent), Dale Abrams (Lake Mansfield Alliance) Nina Evans (Lake Mansfield Alliance alternate), Gaetan Lachance (Conservation Commission), Brandee Nelson (Planning Board), Kathy Plungis (Parks and Recreation Commission), Shep Evans (Conservation Agent, ex-officio) and Chris Rembold (Town Planner, ex officio).

REPORT OF THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

To the Honorable Selectboard:

This year the Ag Com focused on options for farmers and building up our Ag Com numbers. We spent many meetings discussing how best to help farmers connect to the information that might help them love their land and themselves better. We are proud to finally have a vision. In the next year we will be co-sponsoring an event called, "Options: What all farmers can share." Basically, we will be bringing together all kinds of farmers and have them share what they do that helps them love their job and land better. We hope to connect our farmers better to each other and their best practices. The format for our event will most likely be a collage of farmer speakers and then a round table question and answer from the audience.

I am happy to report that the Ag Com has finally gained the adequate amount of commission members. Devan Arnold and Jess Camp are our newest members. Barbara Zheutlin resigned. Laurily Epstein and Vivian Orlowski are still members.

The Ag Com looks forward to the possibility of co-sponsoring an Ag related speaker at the Co-op's Annual Meeting this year. We have given our input to Co-op and are waiting to hear their decision. The Ag Com tried to reach out to the Conservation Commission this year. The Conservation Commission Agent was unable to attend our meeting so we will try again to make a better connection between Ag Com and the Conservation Commission. We believe there is a way to manage land that both groups would agree on. In the future the Ag Com hopes to bring more awareness of food to our kids, we hope to work with Con Com to draft an herbicide, pesticide and insecticide free town landscaping program and we hope to always be available for public input in regards to agricultural in Great Barrington.

Respectfully submitted,

Luke Pryjma
Agricultural Commission Chair

REPORT OF THE TREE COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard:

During the fiscal year 2015 the Great Barrington Tree Committee met regularly on the first Wednesday of every month excepting January. The February meeting was held on the first Tuesday instead of the first Wednesday due to scheduling conflicts with the Tree Committee members. No additional meetings were scheduled.

The Committee had several membership changes. Due to loss of several members and a struggle to fill vacancies the committee, with approval from the Selectboard, amended the resolution to reduce the total number of members on the Committee. Maria Ahlin, Susan Sheridan, and Laury Epstein resigned their position on the Committee. Dennis Gibbons stepped down from his position as Chairperson and resigned from the committee as he is moving out of Great Barrington. Jess Wikle took over as Chairperson as of July 2015.

The Tree Committee was successful in completing the Tree City USA application and the Town was awarded Tree City USA status for 2014, the third consecutive year. This accolade is an important achievement in securing grant money from the state and other national organizations for tree related endeavors. The Committee is committed in continuing to remain a Tree City USA and has begun to compile necessary information for next year's application.

The tree inventory continued with the assistance of DCR representatives in an effort to make the management of the Great Barrington urban forest more efficient.

The Tree Committee submitted a matching grant application to the DCR in hopes of receiving funds to plant eight trees along the Route 7 corridor north of Belcher Square and south of the Price Chopper Plaza. If the grant is approved, the intention is to plant these trees in the spring of 2016.

In addition to these accomplishments, the Tree Committee and the Town celebrated Arbor Day with an official Arbor Day proclamation, as well as several volunteer initiatives including: the installation of one new tree, a sunset red maple, donated by Windy Hill Farm, and planted in the Mahaiwe Cemetery; pruning of publicly owned shade trees by Haupt Tree Company, also at the Mahaiwe Cemetery, and tree related artwork and poetry created by local students from Monument Valley Middle School that were exhibited in the Mason Library.

The Great Barrington Tree Committee will continue in its effort to complete their mission in the coming fiscal year and looks forward to educating the public about the beauty and value of our urban forest.

Respectfully submitted,

Jess Wikle, Chairperson
Michael Wise, Secretary
Hilda Banks Shapiro
Lisa Bozzuto
Beth Moser



REPORT OF THE DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The Design Advisory Committee (DAC) is responsible for reviewing changes to the exterior of buildings, including additions, changes in or installation of signage, changes in the painting of facades, and changes in lighting within the Village Center Overlay District (VCOD) to ensure that any changes conform to the general principles as outlined in the Great Barrington Zoning Bylaws. The goal is to “encourage improvements of 1900’s buildings and new buildings to be of complementary height and style for mixed use (commercial, retail and residential). “

In the past year, the DAC met 10 times and acted on 3 applications for alterations to a façade, 11 sign applications and 1 major renovation all within the VCOD.

Respectfully submitted,

Gaetan Lachance
Chairman

REPORT OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

To the Honorable Selectboard:

In fiscal year 2015, the Zoning Board of Appeals held or began four hearings. It granted Big Y a special permit for a reconfigured loading dock for a new Petco store, 700 Main St. It denied Lynn Hutchinson’s appeal of the decision of the building inspector regarding cutting on property on Long Pond Road. And it granted Nicki Wilson a special permit to construct a screened porch on the rear of a pre-existing, non-conforming dwelling at 80 Castle Hill Ave. The board in July 2015 opened a hearing on Construct Inc.’s Comprehensive Permit application for 11 affordable housing units in three new buildings at 316 State Road. The hearing was continued into the next fiscal year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ron Majdalany, Chairman
Carolyn Ivory, Vice-Chairman
Kathy Kotleski, Clerk
Madonna Meagher
Michael Wise
Donald G. Hagberg, Associate Member
John Katz, Associate Member

PUBLIC SAFETY & INSPECTIONS

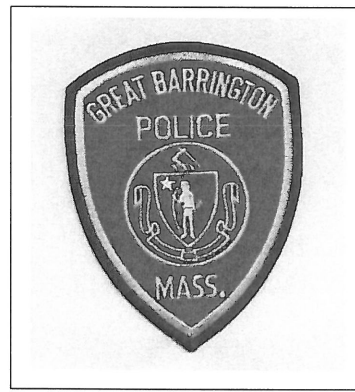
REPORT OF POLICE DEPARTMENT

To The Honorable Selectboard:

The Great Barrington Police Department is organized into a Chief, two sergeants and fourteen police officers. The sergeants work on both night shifts. On shifts not covered by a command staff member we institute an officer-in-charge system to supervise the officers. We also have seven reserve officers.

The following is a list of arrests, investigations and activities by the Great Barrington Police Department for Fiscal Year 2015:

911 Calls:	2,343
Arrests:	133
Protective Custody:	26
Accidents:	276
Breaking & Entering:	25
Larcenies:	105
Malicious Destruction:	47
Assaults:	65
Sexual Assaults:	4
Stolen Vehicles	3



Fines collected from parking tickets: \$4,300
Revenue from issued firearm licenses: \$1,237
Fines returned from the courts for motor vehicle citations & other fines: \$15,022
Revenue from administrative fees assessed for paid details: \$19,907
Revenue from regional dispatching/lock-up agreements: \$1,100
Alarm permits and false alarm charges: \$43,500

Grants:

Grant from District's Attorney's Office for Berkshire County Law Enforcement Task Force investigations: \$25,362
Federal grant for body armor: \$2,000
Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency Grant to purchase three portable radios: \$4,435
State 911 Department toward dispatcher salaries and dispatch furniture: \$30,928
State 911 Department for Emergency Medical Dispatching Training: \$11,023

I'd like to mention some of the highlights and projects the department has worked on in the past year.

We continued to work with the State Department of Transportation and other construction officials to ensure the success of the ongoing Main Street Projection. Traffic has flowed smoothly and complaints have been few.

Community Policing Programs: TRIAD—National Prescription Take Back Day-Gun Lock Program-Summer DARE Ropes Challenge Course-School Internships-House Checks. We invite local groups to use our Community Room by calling us to reserve it.

We invite everyone to check out our website under www.townofgb.org. We're located under Town Departments. You can find much information on firearms licensing, sex offender information, department activities, various forms and press releases. Also visit our FACEBOOK page for the latest developing information.

Working with the State E911 Department we're laying the groundwork for "Next Generation 911". This upgrade will allow us to receive 911 cell phone calls (which presently go to the State Police), text messages and videos.

Complaint Procedures: The procedures that the public may follow to file an employee complaint can be found on the Town's website or in the lobby of the police station.

In summary, the future holds many challenges but the ability to meet those challenges is what makes us strong and vital. To all our residents and visitors, thank you for allowing us to serve and protect a GREAT community.

Respectfully submitted,

William R. Walsh, Jr.
Chief of Police

REPORT OF THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

To the Honorable Selectboard:

This is the Great Barrington Emergency Management Agency Report for Fiscal Year 2015.

We continued to collaborate with local schools and colleges developing safety plans to better respond to critical incidents. This included regular meetings with the Berkshire Hills Regional School District School Emergency Management Team and participating in school drills.

In April Fire Chief Charles Burger and I attended an anti- terrorism exercise in Pittsfield put on by the Western Homeland Security Advisory Council.

The fire and police departments participated in one training exercise with Fairview Hospital and the Southern Berkshire Volunteer Ambulance Squad.

With a grant from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency we purchased three portable radios.

We are helping the Senior Center find and install a generator obtained through the Defense Department Surplus Equipment Program for no cost.

Respectfully submitted,

William R. Walsh, Jr.
Emergency Management Director

REPORT OF THE GREAT BARRINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The Great Barrington Fire Department responded to 561 incidents in Fiscal Year 2015. The breakdown by category is shown:

Structure Fires:	11
Other Fires:	36
Motor Vehicle Accidents	32
Rescues:	16
Hazmat:	33
Medical:	112
Service:	111
False Alarms:	174
Other:	36



The Department had a year to be proud of. All structure fires were quickly controlled and damages were limited to what was done prior to our arrival. July was one of our busiest months when we ran a working structure fire each week!

While the spring began wet with a lot of snow melt it quickly became very dry when we received almost no measureable rain from April into May. This led to many rapidly spreading brush fires. The worst was a brush fire which turned into a forest fire on the Lake Buel Road side of East Mountain. Through hard work and assistance from mutual aid departments we were able to bring the fire under control before it left a large scare on the mountain or damaged several dwellings which were threatened.

The Department believes well trained firefighters are the most important component of providing quality services to the community. Training consists of night and weekend programs from the Massachusetts Fire Academy and conferences lead by nationally recognized experts, along with weekly Department drills. The Great Barrington Firefighter's Association also raises funds to hire instructors to teach classes on subjects determined to be of specific importance. In total, the department dedicated over 7,800 hours of training throughout the year!

Several notable firefighters retired during the year. The first was Lieutenant Ryan Brown who formerly served as our Training Captain. Ryan has a gift for teaching and has left a lasting legacy on the Department with his approach to training. The second was Captain David Benham who served the Department for over 27 years. He was an outstanding leader, excellent problem solver, exuded common sense, and never got flustered even under the greatest stress. His example is one which all firefighters and officers should emulate. We wish them the best in their new endeavors.

We also had several promotions during the year to fill vacancies in our officer core. Lieutenant Marc Palumbo was promoted to House Captain at the Great Barrington Station and Firefighters Alan Anderson and Joshua Seile were promoted to Lieutenant. All three are well qualified for their positions and have done an outstanding job in leadership and performing their duties. I would also like to congratulate Firefighters Justin Bona and Elias Casey who successfully earned their National Pro Board Firefighter I and II certifications.

A highlight of the year was accepting delivery of the town's new tower ladder truck. The manufacturer provided several days of training. Additionally, the Great Barrington Firefighter's Association hired retired FDNY Lieutenant Mike Wilber, a nationally recognized expert in truck company operations, to teach a weekend class with funds privately raised. In all, firefighters dedicated over 500 hours of training prior to placing the truck in service. The design has lived up to expectations—it deploys and operates faster, flows more water, and is far more versatile in

fitting in tight locations. It has also demonstrated the need for a ladder truck in diverse situations by executing several rescues of people in non-fire related emergencies.

Another major upgrade was installing tablets in all of the Department's apparatus. We can now see who is responding, track incident times, and access preplan information with the touch of a screen. ISO, which sets the insurance classification for property insurance in town, identified the tablets as a huge asset during our recent audit.

Fire prevention continues to be a priority for the Department. A total of 775 inspections were performed, all of which are required by Massachusetts General Law. The following breakdown shows the inspections by type:

Periodic Safety	348
Liquor License	48
Smoke & CO Detectors	98
Final for C of O	34
Sprinkler Systems	4
Fire Alarm Systems	11
Blasting/Fireworks	8
Tank Removals	14
Oil Furnaces	20
Propane Tanks	48
Tank Trucks	10
Plan Reviews	83
Complaints	14
Other	35



Massachusetts adopted NFPA 1 as the new state fire code in January. Utilizing a national model code has many long term advantages. However, it generated substantial work learning to navigate the new code along with procedural and regulatory changes.

Safety Education continues as a focus of the department as time permits. Several of our volunteers took a day off from work during Fire Prevention Week to make our annual trip to the elementary school. As always, the students in each class were enthusiastic and easy to engage in discussions on how they can prevent fires and what to do if an emergency situation arises.

A new, and very successful, endeavor this year was Safety Day. Firefighters volunteered their time to team up with the Police Department at the end of the school year to put on an interactive day at Muddy Brook Elementary School. The objectives were to teach students a wide variety of safety awareness, provide hands on activities relating to our jobs, and initiate positive relationships with emergency responders at a young age. We had multiple students state it was the best day of the school year!

We are always looking to recruit more firefighters. If you are interested, talk to a firefighter you know, stop in the station, or call 413-528-0788 for more information. It is a challenging and rewarding way to serve your community.

I would like to thank the community for its support and the officers and members of the Department for their hard work and dedication. This is what makes the Great Barrington Fire Department a truly outstanding resource ready to respond to whatever the need is in our community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles Burger
Fire Chief

REPORT OF THE GREAT BARRINGTON BOARD OF HEALTH

To the Honorable Selectboard:

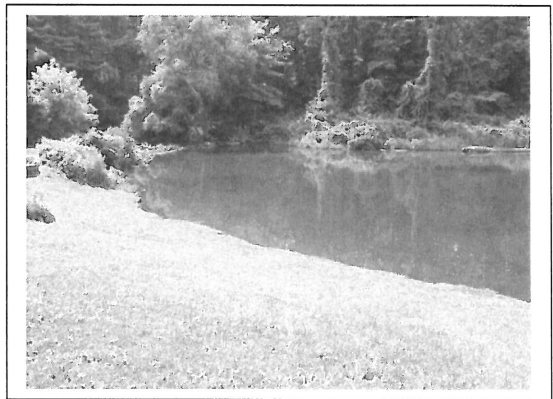
The Board of Health and the Health Department continued to provide high quality services to the Town of Great Barrington during FY 2015. The Health Department issue permits for a wide variety of activities related to public health. They also conduct the inspections and complaint follow-up that is necessary to both protect the health of the Town's occupants and ensure compliance with our various public health codes and regulations. A summary of these permits and inspections are listed below.

We are happy to report that we were also able to continue to provide 9 flu clinics to our residents with the help of Fairview Hospital, the Berkshire Public Health Alliance and the Berkshire Medical Reserve Corps (BMRC). This would not have been possible without the help of our community partners. This year, the public clinics were held at the Housatonic Community Center, Great Barrington Fire Station, Town Hall, Claire Teague Senior Center, Monument Valley Middle School, Simon's Rock and Fairview Hospital.

We continue to provide up-to-date information for our residents on our website at www.townofgb.org and through our reverse 911 phone system whenever necessary.

In FY15 the Board of Health issued the following Permits & Licenses:

- 162 Food Establishment Permits
- 104 Temporary Food Permits
- 32 Septic System Construction Permits
- 3 Well Construction Permits
- 18 Lodging Establishment Permits
- 19 Public and Semi-Public Pool Permits
- 14 Tobacco Sales Permits
- 4 Camp Permits
- 1 Beaver Trapping Permits
- 16 Septic Installer Permits
- 16 Septage and Garbage Hauler's Permits
- 5 Body Art Practitioner/Establishment Licenses



In all, 394 licenses and permits were processed and a total of \$49,600.75 in permitting and inspectional fees were collected. 451 food inspections were also completed this year.

The following is a general breakdown of the many responsibilities handled on a regular basis by the Health Department staff:

- Witnessing percolation tests and Title 5 inspections for all new and replacement septic systems;
- Permit review and on-site inspections for all septic repairs and installations;
- Routine inspections for all of the lodging houses, public pools, recreational camps, and the hundreds of annual and temporary Food Establishments;
- Housing code inspections and enforcement;
- Infectious disease investigation and reporting;
- Tobacco regulation enforcement and employee certification trainings;
- Weekly water testing and monitoring for our public beaches
- On-site inspections for all beaver conflict permits;
- Handling the numerous public health related questions and complaints

The Health Department is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jayne E. Smith- Health Agent -Great Barrington Board of Health

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS

To the Honorable Selectboard:

I hereby submit to you the Inspector of Buildings Report for FY'15

<u>BUILDING PERMITS</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>CONSTRUCTION COST</u>	<u>CONSTRUCTION FEE</u>
New Structure	24	\$ 9,032.961.00	\$62,428.00
Add/Alt/Repair	110	\$ 5,743,987.00	\$36,377.50
Commercial	51	\$ 6,992,306.00	\$47,137.50
Windows/Siding/Insulation	62	\$ 573,845.00	\$ 3,486.00
Roofing	46	\$ 470,627.00	\$ 2,516.00
Stoves/Liners	29	\$ 53,965.00	\$ 1,089.00
Signs	49	0.00	\$ 1,669.00
Demo/Selective Demo	11	\$ 85,000.00	\$ 585.00
Tent	13	0.00	\$ 435.00
Photovoltaic	30	\$ 762,591.00	\$ 4,291.00
Pools	05	\$ 24,181.00	\$ 335.00
Fences	00	0.00	0.00
Sheds	03	\$ 7,300.00	\$ 105.00
Shell/antenna/Foundation	05	0.00	0.00
Other	02	\$ 5,473.00	\$ 101.15
Sheet Metal	15	0.00	\$ 905.00
Certificate of Inspection	49	0.00	\$ 3,920.00
Trench	26	0.00	\$ 955.00
Inspections for Alcohol License	<u>46</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>\$ 3,680.00</u>
Totals	576	\$23,752,236.00	\$170,015.15

Respectfully submitted,

Edwin A. May
Building Commissioner

REPORT OF THE PLUMBING INSPECTOR

To The Honorable Selectboard:

During the year July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 this department issued 120 permits, did 228 Inspections and collected \$12,675.00 in fees.

Respectfully submitted

Robert Krupski
Plumbing Inspector

REPORT OF THE GAS INSPECTOR

To The Honorable Selectboard:

During the year July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 this department issued 122 permits, did 176 onsite inspections and collected \$8,105.00 in fees.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Gennari
Gas Inspector

REPORT OF THE WIRE INSPECTOR

To the Honorable Selectboard:

During the year July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 this department issued 480 permits, did 870 onsite inspections and collected \$42,490 in fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Piontek
Wire Inspector

REPORT OF THE SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

To the Honorable Selectboard:

I hereby submit to you the report of the Sealer of Weights and Measures. 87 retail scales were inspected and certified. There were also 76 gasoline pumps that were tested and certified.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul K. Vacchina
Sealer of Weights and Measures

PUBLIC WORKS

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

To the Honorable Selectboard:

I am pleased to submit for your review the annual report of the Department of Public Works for FY 2015. The Department of Public Works (DPW) includes the Divisions of Highway, Wastewater, Public Grounds (cemeteries, parks, and public buildings grounds), Public Buildings (facilities). The Department also manages Solid Waste Transfer and Recycling and Engineering design projects for the Town. The annual report for the Wastewater Division will be covered in a separate document.

Highway Division: The Highway Division operations include winter road maintenance (approx 98 miles), pavement repairs, roadside mowing, clearing road sides, street sweeping, litter removal, line painting (70 miles \pm plus 50+ crosswalks), traffic sign maintenance, re-establishing drainage ditches, reconstructing catch basins (1000 \pm), servicing and maintaining all equipment. Unscheduled work included answering emergency calls for automobile accidents and oil spills, fallen trees, flooding, washouts, and road icing. The division is also responsible for the overseeing of roadway Capital Improvement Projects. The department is on call "24/7".

Public Grounds Division: (Cemeteries, parks, public building grounds) along with providing support for the Highway Department during winter maintenance activities, maintains approximately 130 acres \pm of cemeteries (7), parks and green areas and building grounds throughout the Town. This includes weekly maintenance and repairs. Other work done by the division includes building picnic tables for park areas, erecting bleachers and repairing facilities in and around park areas. The Division is also responsible for the sale of cemetery lots and provides assistance during services.

Public Buildings Division: Maintains the public buildings in Town including; Town Hall, Mason Library, Ramsdell Library, Claire W. Teague Senior Center, Southern Berkshire District Court, Police Station, Great Barrington Fire Station, Housatonic Fire Station and Housatonic Community Center. The staff of the division provides daily support and responds to building emergencies and alarms when necessary. The staff provides additional support for the Highway Division during winter maintenance activities

The Solid Waste Transfer and Recycling Center continue with the new hours of operation established in FY 2013. The facility is now open Friday (8:00A – 3:00P), Saturday (7:00A – 3:00P) and Sunday (10:00A – 3:00P). A new fee structure for annual stickers and garbage bags was also established during the year. The Town continues to hold two Bulky Waste Collection days during the year for the residents. The Town also participates in the Southern Berkshire Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program with continued support and participation from Great Barrington residents. Comprehensive collection days for south county residents and several mini collection days are held throughout the year.

The DPW completed several planned road and improvement projects including, the paving of Pine St., Quarry St., Park St., Crosby St., Higgins St., Humphrey St. and Grove St. Approximately 1,000 feet of new drain lines, drain manholes and catch basins were installed in various locations in Town. A new retaining wall was also constructed on North Plain Road at Christian Hill Road.

New equipment purchased by the department included a F550 and F450 Class trucks John Deere Loader and pavement hot box.

Due to the severe winter in FY14/FY 15 the MassDOT once again released monies for pavement repairs. The Town was awarded \$63,000 and made repairs to a section of Lake Mansfield Road.

Annual contracts managed by the department include:

- FY 15 Custodial Supplies
- FY 15 WWTP Chemicals – Various suppliers
- FY 15 Sludge Management Contract
- FY 15 Catch Basin Cleaning
- FY 15 Refuse Collection (buildings)
- FY 15 Diesel Fuel
- FY 15 Heating Oil
- FY 15 Gasoline (87 Octane)
- FY 15 Elevator Service
- FY 15 Building Alarm Services
- FY 15 Building Sprinkler Systems Service
- FY 15 Landfill Monitoring
- FY 15 Uniform Services
- FY 15 Backup Generators Annual Maintenance Contracts
- FY 15 Annual Boiler Maintenance

I want again to express my sincerest thanks to all employees of the DPW for their support, cooperation and hard work throughout the year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph W. Sokul
DPW Superintendent

REPORT OF THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

To The Honorable Selectboard:

The Wastewater Division received at its treatment facilities some 382 million gallons of wastewater and 2.35 million gallons of septic tank waste from July 2014 through June 2015. The treatment of the wastewater removed 95.4% of the biological oxygen demand and 96.3% of the suspended solids before it was discharged to the Housatonic River. Additionally, some 1,250 tons of sludge cake was processed and removed off site.

Throughout the fiscal year, many wastewater issues were addressed and projects completed on the premises and throughout the town.

All pumps and equipment were maintained throughout the fiscal year.

The department is in the process of the phase one upgrade at the wastewater facilities which involves new electrical switchgear and solids handling.

Several feet of sewer main was televised for its condition and recorded for priority of repair and or replacement in coming construction seasons.

Alford Road sewer main and Castle Street sewer main were relined at a considerable cost savings and upgraded the sewer mains.

Sanitary sewer mains were replaced on Castle Hill Avenue, manholes were rebuild and various point repairs were made to the sewer system.

The department developed cost savings measures by utilizing its preventive maintenance program. This program is ongoing and will have energy saving options as it progresses.

- For the public's help, the wastewater division is asking that the sewer users please dispose of sanitary and cleaning wipes in the trash and NOT the toilet. These items along with disposable diapers have become a serious issue to the extent they are causing numerous pump failures and resulting in costly repairs that will affect the sewer rates.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Drumm
Wastewater Superintendent

REPORT OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

To the Honorable Selectboard:

The Parks and Recreation Commission has overview of and responsibility for the various parks and playgrounds of the town. As always, we are grateful for the financial support provided us by the citizens of Great Barrington at the Annual Town Meeting.

Our primary focus this past year has been to complete renovation of the Alice Bubriski Playground at the Housatonic Village Commons. We have installed age-appropriate playground structures and equipment and will continue with the installation of adult exercise equipment.

In addition we are in the process of installing various species of trees, to both provide shade for the playground as well as to enhance the attractiveness of the park for the community. We have worked in concert with the neighbors and users of the park to provide an area that will be the focal point of the community. We expect to complete this project in the early spring of 2016.

Our programs at the Memorial Field Skate Park and the Bubriski playground continue to attract youngsters and provide them with a safe environment during the summer vacation period. We are indebted to Berkshire South for providing us with the experienced staff to operate these well-received opportunities.

The citizens of Great Barrington have been gracious in voting financial support for our summer programs and for the ability to provide life-guards at Lake Mansfield. This natural body of water and its environment are visited by hundreds of residents and non-residents who enjoy the opportunity to swim and relax during the hot summer.

We will continue to upgrade our other parks, such as the baseball and softball fields at Olympian Meadows, the Grove Street Park and numerous other parks. We welcome the input of the various users of these parks and invite anyone to either contact our members or attend one of our monthly meetings (usually the second Monday of each month at the Mason Library).

A major focus of the coming year will be to renovate the facilities at Memorial Field and to study the most appropriate way to provide better access to the field. Again, we invite the users of Memorial Field to offer suggestions to make this a more user-friendly location.

We are supported in our efforts to maintain the parks by the cemetery division of the DPW and extend our gratitude to the DPW and to the cooperation we receive from Joseph Sokul. Maintenance of the parks and playgrounds is often difficult and time-consuming, but we continue to rely on the manpower provided us by the DPW and its various divisions.

However, we have been hampered in our efforts to better maintain our facilities by a lack of manpower. It has been difficult for the dedicated employees of the DPW to provide more maintenance and we must rely on the many volunteers listed below to maintain our facilities beyond mowing the various locations. Hopefully, we will be able to correct this situation in the coming year.

We are indebted to the citizens who have supported our mission by countless volunteer hours. Among the many volunteer groups are members of the Great Barrington Little League, the Lake Mansfield Alliance, the Greenagers, the Great Barrington Garden Club and the Great Barrington Millers Adult Baseball Team. Without their support and efforts we would be unable to provide our citizens with the opportunity for enjoyable sporting and recreational activities.

Again, we thank the citizens of Great Barrington for the opportunity to serve their recreational needs and, of course, their financial support at the Annual Town Meeting. We are always open to suggestions and gratefully accept all offers of volunteer support.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Gibbons, Chairperson



TOWN CLERK

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

To the Honorable Selectboard:

During the fiscal year that began July 1, 2014 and ended June 30, 2015 there were four Elections and one Annual Town Meeting.

	<u>Registered Voters</u>	<u>Ballots Cast</u>	<u>%Voted</u>
State Primary Election Sept 2014	4434	624	14%
State Election Nov 2014	4503	2816	63%
Special School District Election Nov 2014	4503	2800	62 %
Annual Town Meeting May 2015	4379	324	7%
Annual Town Election May 2015	4379	1165	27%

The Annual Town Meeting was held back at Monument Mountain Regional High School in 2015. The Annual Town Meeting was held May 4th, 2015 with voters (7%) acting on 31 warrant articles, including several bylaw changes. The articles of note were: change in Finance Committee Bylaws, update to Wetlands Protection Bylaws, updated Zoning Bylaws and revised map, Solar Facility agreement and adding Citizen Speak Time to all Agendas as a new town Bylaw. The zoning articles were all approved by the Attorney General's Office.

There were 77 marriages, 142 births and 142 deaths recorded during the fiscal year. The Annual Census was 6933 with 4,388 registered voters in the Town of Great Barrington at the end of the fiscal year.

Fees amounting to \$42,807.60 were turned over to the Treasurer for the sale of birth, marriage and death records, the filing of marriage intentions, the recording of business certificates, fuel storage registrations, pole locations, the sale of zoning bylaws, photo copies, raffle permits, and dog license fees. Also, beginning the middle of May 2015, the Clerk's Office began to collect the Transfer Station fees as well as the use of Credit Card payments in the office and online.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Ryan, CMC, CMMC
Town Clerk

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
AT MONUMENT MOUNTAIN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
STOCKBRIDGE ROAD
MAY 4, 2015 AT 6:00 PM
MINUTES**

In pursuance of the foregoing warrant the inhabitants of the Town of Great Barrington qualified to vote in Town Meetings proceeded to vote at the above named meeting place with the following results. The meeting was duly called to order at 6:01 P.M. by Moderator Edward McCormick who welcomed everyone to the 255th Great Barrington Annual Town Meeting. He noted that he hoped to conclude all business this evening but will make a determination later in the meeting if this is not possible and the meeting will be adjourned to the next night. Mr. McCormick stated that there was a quorum present and noted the return and service of the warrant. He announced that the meeting is being taped for broadcast at a later date and any use of social media during the meeting is prohibited. Mr. McCormick requested that everyone stand and join him in the Pledge of Allegiance led by the Honor Guards from the Adams-Budz Post and Boy Scout Troop #23 (Andrew Console, Kevin Robertson, Cory Keefner and Logan Willemain). A moment of silence was requested for the following town officials who passed away from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014; Paul Hammer, Joseph Aberdale, Sr., Frank Ptak, Michelle Banach, Judith Hagberg, Lydia Gerard, Dorothy "Dot" Casey, Alice Siok and Norman Roy. Mr. McCormick introduced the Town Officials seated on the stage; Town Clerk Marie Ryan, Town Accountant Lauren Sartori Hobgood, Town Council David Doneski, Town Manager Jennifer Tabakin, Selectboard Chair Deborah Phillips, Selectboard: Sean Stanton, Stephen Bannon, Daniel Bailly, Edward Abrahams; Finance Committee Members: Sharon Gregory, Chair, Thomas Blauvelt, Michael Wise, Walter Atwood, III and Leigh Davis.

The rules of the meeting were explained by Mr. McCormick. The meeting will be governed by the Massachusetts General Laws, the Bylaws of the Town of Great Barrington and Town Meeting Time. More specifically, Mr. McCormick reminded everyone of the fire/safety regulations and requested that there be no standing or sitting in the aisles. Only registered voters of the town may participate in the meeting unless permission is granted by the moderator. Before anyone addresses the Town Meeting, he/she must proceed to the microphone and when recognized by the moderator state their name and address. Mr. McCormick requested that voters speak only once per motion and limit their comments to three minutes. Comments should be limited to the merits of the motion and should not be repeated. All motions and amendments must be made in writing and any motion to reconsider must be made within 15 minutes of the announced vote. All questions are to be addressed to the moderator who will ask the appropriate person to respond. All votes to raise and appropriate by borrowing shall be done by secret ballot. Any funds in excess of the Finance Committee recommendation will be by secret ballot if twenty or more voters request it. If twenty or more voters request a secret ballot on any issue, the moderator will determine if one is necessary. Each voter has received a warrant, a yellow card and a packet of yes/no cards.

Mr. McCormick will instruct voters when these are to be used and what color to use. He noted that a counter has been assigned to each section of the auditorium and will report their numbers to the Town Clerk.

Mr. McCormick then introduced Town Manager Jennifer Tabakin who presented a power point slide presentation in regards to the articles.

Mr. McCormick requested that any preliminary motions be made at this time.

A motion was made by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, seconded by Sean Stanton to dispense with the reading of the warrant.

VOTED AT 6:32 P.M.

ARTICLE 1:

On a motion by Sharon Gregory and seconded by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, voted that the Town authorize the use of revolving funds for the following programs and purposes:

- a. Plumbing Inspector (\$15,000)
- b. Wire Inspector (\$40,000)
- c. Gas Inspector (\$15,000)
- d. Town Code Printing (\$10,000)
- e. Parks Commission (\$5,000)
- f. Recycling/Green Product Sales (\$5,000)
- g. Cemetery (\$5,000)
- h. Fire Inspectors (\$5,000)

which revolving funds together shall not exceed the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00), which shall be under the control of the Town Treasurer, which shall be accounted for separately and to which shall be credited only the departmental receipts received in connection with the programs supported by each revolving fund; further to authorize the Town Treasurer to expend from such funds in accordance with Chapter 44, §53 E 1/2 of the General Laws, provided however that said expenditures for all revolving funds shall not exceed the receipts for such funds.

VOTED AT 6:35 PM

ARTICLE 2:

On a motion by Thomas Baluvelt, seconded by Michael Wise, voted that the Town accept MGL Chapter 60, §15B to establish a tax title collection revolving fund , which shall be under the control of the Town Treasurer, which shall be accounted for separately and to which shall be credited any fees, charges, and costs collected upon the redemption of tax titles and sales of real property acquired through foreclosures of tax titles; and further to authorize the Town Treasurer to expend

from such funds in accordance with the Mass General Laws, provided however that said expenditures for such revolving fund shall not exceed the receipts for such fund; and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to start this revolving fund.

VOTED AT 6:37 PM

ARTICLE 3:

On a motion by Leigh Davis and seconded by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, voted that the Town fix the salaries of all elected officials for the period of July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 as indicated below:

Elected Officials Salaries:

Selectboard: \$7,500 (\$1,500 per Selectman)

VOTED AT 6:37 PM

ARTICLE 4:

On a motion by Walter Atwood, III and seconded by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, voted that the Town accept any and all funds being provided by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Transportation (Mass DOT), under the provisions of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, to pay for such costs as allowed by appropriate legislation in connection with the maintenance, repair, and construction of Town ways and bridges.

VOTED AT 6:38 PM

ARTICLE 5:

On a motion by Walter Atwood, III and seconded by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, voted that the sum of \$639,000 is appropriated to (i) pay the costs of constructing and equipping a Highway storage facility at a cost of approximately \$210,000, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, (ii) pay the costs of purchasing and equipping two new police cruisers at a cost of approximately \$80,000, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, (iii) pay the costs of purchasing and equipping one new Fire Chief vehicle at a cost of approximately \$40,000, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, (iv) pay the costs of purchasing and equipping two new pickup trucks for the use of the Department of Public Works at an approximate cost of \$117,000, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and (v) pay the costs of acquiring and equipping one new dump truck for the use of the Department of Public Works at an approximate cost of \$192,000, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Town is authorized to use \$52,536 of remaining bond proceeds from the borrowing authorized at the May 5, 2014 Town Meeting Article 4, towards the purchase of the dump truck and the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is authorized to borrow

\$586,464 pursuant to chapter 44, Sections 7 and 8 of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor.

Mr. McCormick read each item and asked that if any voter had a question or wanted to put a hold on any item, to call out so. There was a hold placed on the Highway Storage Facility. Mr. McCormick then informed the voters that this Article had to be voted by 2/3rd Majority secret ballot. Charles Williamson asked a question in regards to the Dump Truck. The Moderator then asked the voters to go forward with the blue yes/no slips to the ballot boxes and vote on all items except the Highway Storage Facility.

2/3RD MAJORITY DECLARED AT 7:06 PM
YES – 203 NO- 70

Selectboard Member Sean Stanton made a motion to amend the article in regards to the Highway Storage Facility. This amended motion was seconded by someone in the audience. Sean Stanton moved to amend the main motion under Article 5 by adding the following language: "Provided, however, that no sums shall be expended for the Highway Storage Facility until the Town is required to vacate the former Fire Station site on Castle Street."

AMENDMENT VOTED AT 6:46 PM

Mr. McCormick then asked if there was any further discussion, seeing none, he instructed the voters to use their white yes/no slips and go to the ballot boxes and vote on the Highway Storage Facility.

2/3RD MAJORITY DECLARED AT 7:06 PM
YES – 228 NO- 60

ARTICLE 6:

On a motion by Thomas Blauvelt and seconded by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, voted that the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,500 for the following General Fund Capital Items:

<u>General Fund</u>	
<u>Town Manager / Selectboard</u>	
Copier	\$ 10,500
Total	10,500
<u>Public Works</u>	
Pedestrian Tunnel Rehab design	10,000
Senior Center Building Repairs	15,000
Total	25,000
<u>Parks</u>	
Improvements	45,000
Total	45,000
Total Capital-General Fund	\$ 80,500

The Moderator read each item and instructed voters to make notice if they had a question or would like a hold placed on any item. There was a question on the Parks Improvement.

Patricia Ryan, Charles Williamson, and Joseph Sokul spoke on this article.

VOTED AT 6:54 PM

ARTICLE 7:

On a motion by Sharon Gregory and seconded by Sean Stanton, voted that the Town raise and appropriate such sums of money necessary for the operation of the several departments in the Town for the ensuing year as detailed in the FY16 Annual Budget for the General Fund.

Mr. McCormick read the total for each department line items and asked for anyone that requires a hold for discussion on a particular item to call out "hold". There was one hold placed on the Insurance line item 223. He then asked for a vote on the entire budget minus the Insurance line.

VOTED AT 7:01 PM

Patrick Fennell made a motion to amend the Insurance line item 223 to cut the amount to \$1,032,968. This amended motion was seconded by someone in the audience. There was no further discussion. Mr. McCormick asked for a vote on the amendment.

AMENDMENT DEFEATED AT 7:03 PM

Mr. McCormick then asked for a vote on the Insurance line item 223 as presented.

VOTED AT 7:03 PM

ARTICLE 8:

On a motion by Walter Atwood, III and seconded by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, voted that the Town appropriate from the receipts of the Wastewater Treatment Plant such sums of money necessary for the operation of the Sewer Division for the ensuing year as detailed in the FY16 Annual Budget for the Sewer Fund.

James Stark and Town Counsel David Doneski spoke on this article.

VOTED AT 7:05 PM

ARTICLE 9:

On a motion by Michael Wise and seconded by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, voted that the sum of \$500,000 is appropriated to pay costs of remodeling, reconstructing and making extraordinary repairs to the Dewey Building, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(3A) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; provided, however, that no sums shall be borrowed or expended hereunder unless and until the Town shall have voted to exclude the amounts required to repay any borrowing pursuant to this vote from the limitation on total property taxes levied within the Town set forth in Chapter 59, Section 21C of the General Laws (also known as Proposition 2 1/2).

Mr. McCormick stated that this article if passed also needs to pass on the Town Election ballot next week as well. This article has to be voted by 2/3rds Majority secret ballot. Sean Stanton and David Long spoke on this article. Mr. McCormick then asked voters to proceed to the ballot boxes using their brown yes/no slips.

2/3RD MAJORITY DECLARED AT 7:41 PM
YES – 276 NO- 13

ARTICLE 10:

On a motion by Deborah Phillips and seconded by Karen Smith, voted that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Thirteen Million, Nineteen Thousand , Seven Hundred and Sixty Nine

Dollars (\$13,019,769.00) for the operating assessment, and Five Hundred Four Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirty Five Dollars (\$504,735.00) for the capital assessment, for a total assessment of Thirteen Million, Five Hundred Twenty Four Thousand, Five Hundred Four Dollars (\$13,524,504.00) of the Berkshire Hills Regional School District.

School Superintendent Peter Dillon gave a short power point presentation on the school. Then following people spoke on this article:

David Long	George Beebe
Charles Williamson	David Jaicks
Daniel Bailly	Karen Christensen
Ellen Lahr	C. Lee Rogers
Sharon Gregory	Malcom Fick
Anthony Dapolito	

VOTED AT 7:41 PM

ARTICLE 11:

On a motion by Thomas Blauvelt and seconded by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, voted that the Town authorize the use of \$100,000 from the Pension Reserve Fund to reduce the, FY16 appropriation required under Chapter 32 of the General Laws for the Berkshire Regional Retirement System.

VOTED AT 7:42 PM

ARTICLE 12:

On a motion by Michael Wise and seconded by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, voted that the Town authorize the use of \$2,350,000 in Free Cash to reduce the tax levy for Fiscal Year 2016.

VOTED AT 7:42 PM

ARTICLE 13:

On a motion by Karen Smith and seconded by someone in the audience, voted that the Town appropriate from the **Community Preservation Fund** annual revenues the following amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses in fiscal year 2016 and for Budgeted Reserve, and reserve for future appropriation for community preservation projects the following reserve amounts, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

Appropriations:

From FY 2016 revenues for administrative expenses	\$21,525
From FY 2016 revenues for 2016 Budgeted Reserve	\$49,825
From undesignated fund balance for 2016 Budgeted Reserve	\$250,000

Reserves:

From FY 2016 revenues for Historic Resources Reserve	\$43,050
From FY 2016 revenues for Community Housing Reserve	\$43,050
From FY 2016 revenues for Open Space Reserve	\$43,050

Community Preservation Committee Chair, Karen Smith gave a short power point presentation on this article.

VOTED AT 7:46 PM

ARTICLE 14:

On a motion by Karen Smith and seconded by someone in the audience, voted that the Town appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund for fiscal year 2016 the amounts as shown in Article 14 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

	<u>Project</u>	<u>Total Appropriation</u>	<u>Source of Appropriation</u>		
			2015 budgeted reserve	reserved funds balances (housing, open space, or historic)	2016 revenues
	<u>AFFORDABLE HOUSING</u>				
1	100 Bridge Street - creation of affordable units	\$200,000	\$80,000	\$120,000	
	Total Affordable Housing	\$200,000	\$80,000	\$120,000	\$0
	<u>HISTORIC PRESERVATION</u>				
2	Mahaiwe Arts - foundation/basement drainage remediation	\$30,000	\$30,000		
3	St. James Place - roof repair/replacement	\$150,000		\$120,000	\$30,000
4	Town Newsboy Statue/Fountain - restoration	\$31,640	\$31,640		
5	Wheeler Farmstead - preservation historic buildings	\$50,000	\$50,000		
6	Town Hall - design repair plans for eaves	\$20,000	\$20,000		
7	Town Mason Library - restoration/repairs cupola and roof	\$65,000	\$65,000		
	Total Historic Preservation	\$346,640	\$196,640	\$120,000	\$30,000
	<u>OPEN SPACE</u>				
8	100 Bridge Street - riverfront open space	\$300,000		\$100,000	\$200,000
9	The Trustees of Reservations - rehab and creation of trails	\$20,000		\$20,000	
	Total OpenSpace	\$320,000	\$0	\$120,000	\$200,000
	TOTAL	\$866,640	\$276,640	\$360,000	\$230,000

Town Planner Christopher Rembold did a short power point presentation on each project. Ellen Lahr and Karen Smith each spoke on this article.

VOTED AT 7:54 PM

ARTICLE 15:

On a motion by Sharon Gregory and seconded by someone in the audience, voted that the Town amend the Finance Committee Bylaw Chapter 7, Article II of the Code of Great Barrington, by adding a new section, § 7-6.1, Financial Reports and Information, as shown in Article 15 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

The following people spoke on this article:

Sharon Gregory
Edward Abrahams
Michael Wise

Karen Christensen
Patricia Ryan
Jennifer Tabakin, Town Manager

Anthony Dapolito
Vivian Orlowski
Lauren Sartori Hobgood
Deborah Phillips

Malcom Fick
Richard Dohoney
C. Lee Rogers
Chip Elitzer

Mr. McCormick asked for a vote and was unable to determine show of hands so he then asked the counters to do a count of hands.

DEFEATED AT 8:17 PM
YES – 124 NO - 193

ARTICLE 16:

On a motion by Sean Stanton and seconded by Lauren Sartori Hobgood, voted that the Town accept the provisions of MGL chapter 143, section 3Z, in order to permit a part time building inspector to practice for hire or engage in the business for which he is certified, licensed or registered under the State Building Code, while serving as such inspector.

VOTED AT 8:18 PM

ARTICLE 17:

On a motion by Shepley Evans and seconded by Sean Stanton, voted that the Town amend Chapter 168 of the Code of Great Barrington, the Wetlands Bylaw, by deleting the existing text and replacing it with the revised text shown in Article 17 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

Conservation Commission Agent Shepley Evans gave a brief explanation on the changes to the Bylaws in this article. David Jaicks, George Beebe and Raymond Crowley each spoke on this article.

VOTED AT 8:25 PM

ARTICLE 18:

On a motion by Suzanne Fowler and seconded by Jonathan Hankin, voted that the Town amend the Zoning Bylaw by adding a new Section 9.9, Housatonic Village Center (HVC) zone, by adding a new Section 9.10, Housatonic Village Overlay District (HVO), by revising Section 3.1.4, Table of Use Regulations to provide for uses in the HVC zone, by revising Section 4.1.2, Schedule of Dimensional Requirements to add provisions for the HVC zone,, by revising Section 8.4.1 to

clarify applicability of mixed-use requirements, and by revising the Zoning Map accordingly, as shown in Article 18 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

Planning Board Member Jonathan Hankin gave a Planning Report on this article. Town Planner Christopher Rembold and James Stark each spoke on this article.

James Stark made a motion for an amendment to leave the area on the corner of Front Street and South Street (All Saints Church) as residential. This was seconded by someone in the audience. Deborah Phillips spoke on this amendment. The written motion given by Mr. Stark was deemed unacceptable by Town Counsel for lack of specific information on the parcel number. Mr. McCormick asked to pass on this article until Mr. Stark could gather that information to continue on the amendment.

Mr. McCormick later in the meeting asked for James Stark to present the information requested. Mr. Stark was not present at the time. The amendment was not accepted per Town Council. Mr. McCormick then asked for a vote on the original article.

VOTED AT 8:47 PM

ARTICLE 19:

On a motion by Jack Musgrove and seconded by Jonathan Hankin, voted that the Town amend the Zoning Map by changing the designation of the existing R1B zone in Housatonic to the R3 zone, and re-zoning the property shown on 2013 Assessors' Map 1 as parcels 62, 82, 83, 84, 161, and 162A from B2 to R3, as illustrated on the maps printed in Article 19 of the warrant for this Town Meeting, which reflect the applicable Assessors' parcels.

Planning Board Member Jonathan Hankin gave the Planning Board Report on this article.

Town Planner Christopher Rembold mentioned to the Moderator that this article should not be voted on at this point until Article 18 was voted on. If Article 18 does not pass or the amendment passes on that article, it would affect this article due to the zoning. Mr. McCormick stated that this article would be passed over until Article 18 was voted on.

Mr. McCormick later in the meeting, after the passing of Article 18 then asked for a vote on this article.

VOTED AT 8:47 PM

ARTICLE 20:

On a motion by Malcolm Fick and seconded by Karen Smith, voted that the Town amend the B1 column of Section 3.1.4 (Table of Use Regulations) and the B1 row of Section 4.1.2 (Schedule of

Dimensional Requirements) of the Zoning Bylaw, as shown in Article 20 of the warrant for this Town Meeting, and amend the Zoning Map by changing the zoning designation of the land on North Plain Road shown on 2013 Assessors' Map 26 as Parcels 10-18 from B2 to B1, and by changing the zoning designation of the land on Park Street/Route 183 shown on 2013 Assessors' Map 6 as Parcels 25, 26, 37, 38, and 39 from B2 to B1, as illustrated on the maps printed in Article 20 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

Planning Board Member Jonathan Hankin presented the Planning Board Report on this article.

VOTED AT 8:42 PM

ARTICLE 21:

On a motion by Jeremy Higa and seconded by Jonathan Hankin, voted that the Town amend the Zoning Map by rezoning the land shown on 2013 Assessors' Map 13 as Parcels 1 and 26E from R2 to R1A, as illustrated on the map printed in Article 21 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

Planning Board Member Jonathan Hankin presented the Planning Board Report on this article.

VOTED AT 8:43 PM

ARTICLE 22:

On a motion by Jack Musgrove and seconded by Karen Smith, voted that the Town amend Sections 3.2, 4.2, 8.2, and 11.0 of the Zoning Bylaw as shown in Article 22 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

Planning Board Member Jonathan Hankin presented the Planning Board Report on this article.

VOTED AT 8:46 PM

ARTICLE 23:

On a motion by Daniel Bailly and seconded by someone in the audience, voted that the Town approve, and authorize the Select Board to enter into, a Tax Agreement pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 59, section 38H(b), and Chapter 164, Section 1, and/or any other enabling authority, with Housatonic Solar 1, LLC or any successor lessee/operator for personal property taxes associated with the 2.5MW solar photovoltaic facility to be located on property at 295 Park St. in the Village of Housatonic and shown on 2013 Assessors' Map 7 as Parcel 30, for a term of up to twenty (20) years, on such terms and conditions as the Select Board deems to be in the best

interest of the Town, and to take any and all actions as may be necessary or convenient to accomplish the purpose of this article.

VOTED AT 8:49 PM

ARTICLE 24:

On a motion by Steve Bannon and seconded by Karen Smith, voted that the Town approve the Resolution in Support of Fossil Fuel Divestment and to Address the Climate Crisis printed in article 24 of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

The following people spoke on this article:

Gary Stoller	George Beebe
Deborah Phillips	Jennifer Tabakin, Town Manager
Michael Feldstein	Patrick Fennell
Karen Christensen	

VOTED AT 8:57 PM

ARTICLE 25 : (by petition)

On a motion by Patrick Fennell and seconded by Andrew Moro, that we respectfully request the Berkshire Hills Regional School be required to report in the Great Barrington Annual Town Report all payments of \$5001.00 or greater.

Patrick Fennell, Karen Smith and Andrew Moro all spoke on this article. Mr. McCormick stated that this article is a non-binding/ advisory article only.

DEFEATED AT 9:02 PM

ARTICLE 26: (by petition)

On a motion by Patrick Fennell and seconded by Andrew Moro, that we respectfully request the Berkshire Hills Regional School budget be decided by the majority of the combined vote cast by the Great Barrington, Stockbridge and West Stockbridge Annual Town Meeting.

Andrew Moro and Richard Coons spoke on this article. Mr. McCormick stated that this article is a non-binding/ advisory article only.

DEFEATED AT 9:05 PM

ARTICLE 27: (by petition)

No motion was made and the petitioner, David Magadini was not present. Mr. McCormick passed over this article.

ARTICLE 28 (by petition)

On a motion by Micelle Loubert and seconded by someone in the audience, voted that that the Town Amend the Great Barrington General Bylaw by adding the following: Every Committee or Board whether appointed or elected shall place on their agenda of public meetings an item for Citizen Speak time.

Michelle Loubert made a short power point presentation on this article. Jack Musgrove and William Cooke spoke on this article.

VOTED AT 9:11 PM

ARTICLE 29: (by petition)

On a motion by Karen Christensen and seconded by someone in the audience, voted to see if the Town will instruct Great Barrington Board of Selectmen to support leading-edge education with fair share taxation by taking the steps outlined in Article 29 of the warrant.

The following people spoke on this article:

Malcom Fick	Steve Bannon
Sharon Gregory	Edward Abrahams
Chip Elitzer	David Long

McCormick stated that this article is a non-binding/ advisory article only.

DEFEATED AT 9:25 PM

ARTICLE 30: (by petition)

On a motion by Ronald Banks and seconded by Patrick Fennell, voted to see if the Town will instruct Great Barrington Board of Selectmen to support leading-edge education with fair share taxation by taking the steps outlined in Article 30 of the warrant.

Ronald Banks, Deborah Phillips and Chip Elitzer all spoke on this article.

McCormick stated that this article is a non-binding/ advisory article only. He asked for a vote and then asked for the counters to do a hand count.

VOTED AT 9:42 PM
YES – 68 NO – 54

ARTICLE 31: (by petition)

On a motion by Vivian Orlowski and seconded by someone in the audience, voted to see if the Town will instruct Great Barrington Board of Selectmen to support leading-edge education with fair share taxation by taking the steps outlined in Article 31 of the warrant.

McCormick stated that this article is a non-binding/ advisory article only. He asked for a vote and then asked for the counters to do a hand count.

DEFEATED AT 9:45 PM
YES – 37 NO – 52

Sean Stanton made a motion for adjournment, seconded by the audience.
Adjourned at 9:46 PM.

There were 324 voters at the meeting out of the 4379 registered voters. (7%)

Respectfully Submitted,
Marie Y. Ryan, CMC, CMMC
Town Clerk
Town of Great Barrington

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGISTRARS

To the Honorable Selectboard:

During the fiscal year there were two voter registration sessions held.

As of June 30, 2015 there were 4,388 registered voters in Great Barrington. Registered voters by party affiliation were:

Democrats	1785	Libertarian	9	Green Rainbow	16
Republicans	320	American Ind.	1	Inter. 3 rd Party	1
Unenrolled	2250	Mass Ind. Party	2		
Conservative	1	Green Party USA	3		

The annual census/street list was completed in June. Based on the forms that were returned to the office, our resident count as of June 30, 2015 was 6,933.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Ryan, Town Clerk
Linda Coons
Ellen Smith
Board of Registrars

About the Town Report...The Town Report was typed and formatted entirely in-house, with thanks to Helen Kuziemko for formatting and to Jennifer Bailly for typing and proofreading. Printing and binding was done by Kwik Print.

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY OF TOWN SERVICES

Local Emergency Numbers

All Emergencies	911
Fire Department: Great Barrington	528-0788
Housatonic	274-3391
Ambulance	528-3900
Police	528-0306
State Police	243-0600

<u>DEPARTMENT:</u>	<u>CALL:</u>	<u>TELEPHONE:</u>
Board of Health	Jayne Smith	528-0680
Cemeteries	Stephen Parsons	528-1800
DPW Superintendent	Joseph Sokul	528-0867
Emergency Communications	William R. Walsh, Jr.	528-0306
Fence Viewers:	Bernard Drew	528-4953
	Kurt Barbieri	528-6278
Fire Chief	Charles Burger	528-0788
Gas Inspector	Robert Gennari	274-0267
Highway	Peter Soules	528-2500
Housatonic Community Center	Francis Tarnawa	274-8375
Housatonic Water Works Company	James Mercer	528-1780
Housing Authority	Barbara Heaphy	274-1142
Inspector of Buildings	Edwin May	528-3206
Libraries: (Mason Library, GB)	Amanda DeGiorgis	528-2403
(Ramsdell, Housatonic)		274-3738
Plumbing Inspector	Robert Krupski	229-8019
Recycling Center	Friday's (8 AM - 3 PM)	528-5011
	Saturday's (7 AM - 3 PM)	
	Sunday's (10 AM - 3 PM)	
Schools- Berkshire Hills Regional	Monument Mountain High School	528-3346
	Monument Valley Middle	644-2300
	Muddy Brook Elementary	644-2350
School Superintendent	Peter Dillon	298-4017
Sealer of Weights & Measures	Paul Vacchina	637-2743
Senior Center/Council on Aging	Polly Mann	528-1881
Sewer Treatment Plant	Timothy Drumm	528-0650
TOWN HALL:		528-1619
<u>Assessor's Office</u>	Chris Lamarre	x 5
<u>Conservation Commission</u>	Shepley Evans, Agent	x 122
<u>Selectmen</u>	Helen Kuziemko	x 2
<u>Town Accountant</u>	Lauren Sartori	x 6
<u>Tax Collector/Treasurer</u>	Karen Fink	x 4
*Parking Clerk, Tag Sale Permits, Tax Bills (Real Estate & Motor Vehicle), Sewer Bills		
<u>Town Clerk</u>	Marie Ryan	x 3
*Birth/Marriage/Death Certificates, Dog Licenses, Voter Registration		
<u>Town Manager</u>	Jennifer Tabakin	x 2
<u>Town Planner</u>	Christopher Rembold	x 7
Tree Warden	Michael Peretti	528-5552
Veteran's Services	Laurie Hils	528-1580
Water Department (G.B. Fire District)	Cindy Ullrich	528-0133
Wire Inspector	Theodore Piontek	274-6605