

# Annual Report



## Town of Stow

Massachusetts

for the year ending

December 31, 2006



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**IN MEMORIAM**

**MOZELLE B. WINTER**

1919 - 2006

*Council on Aging 1984 - 2004*

\*\*\*\*\*

**WINTHROP W. ADDY**

1905 - 2006

*Police Chief 1951 - 1971*

\*\*\*\*\*

**LOUIS A. FLORIO**

1932 - 2006

*Building Code Board of Appeals 1966 - 1969*

\*\*\*\*\*

**ALBERT COHEN**

1927 - 2006

*School Committee 1975*

*School Building Needs Committee 1966 - 1971*

\*\*\*\*\*

**GLEN F. PIPPERT**

1920 - 2006

*School Building Needs Committee 1966 - 1967*

*Elementary School Building Committee 1968*

*Stow School Committee 1968 - 1971*

*Regional Vocational School Planning Comm. 1969*

*Minuteman Regional Vocational School District*

*Representative 1971 - 1973*



## FEDERAL & STATE OFFICIALS

### United States Senators

Edward M. Kennedy  
2400 Kennedy Federal Bldg.  
Boston, MA 02203

John F. Kerry  
One Bowdoin Square, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02114

### Representative in Congress

#### Fifth District

Martin T. Meehan  
11 Kearney Square  
Lowell, MA 01852

### Officials of the Commonwealth

Governor Mitt Romney

### Senator – Middlesex & Worcester

Pamela P. Resor  
State House, Room 410  
Boston, MA 02133

### Representative in General Court

#### Third Middlesex District

Patricia A. Walrath  
State House, Room 236  
Boston, MA 02133

## TOWN OFFICERS ELECTED

### Moderator

Edward E. Newman (2007)

### Selectmen

Janet G. Wheeler (2007), Chairman  
Stephen M. Dungan (2008)  
Carole A. Makary (2007)  
Jason S. Robart (2009)  
Thomas H. Ruggiero (2009)

### Assessors

John Paul Bolton (2009), Chairman  
Walter L. Schwall (2007)  
John E. Smith (2008)

### Nashoba Regional School District Committee

Brian P. Burke (2008)  
David C. Horne (2009)  
Ellen S. Sturgis (2007)

### Board of Health

Marcia B. Rising (2009), Chairman  
Sylvia Daley (2007)  
Mary E. Cormier (2008)

### Planning Board

Ernest E. Dodd (2008), Chairman  
Malcolm S. FitzPatrick (2007)  
Leonard H. Golder (2011)  
Laura Y. Spear (2009)  
Kathleen A. Willis (2010)

### Trustees, Randall Library

Peter B. Masters (2007), Chairman  
Robert A. Aldape (2007)  
Alison M. Campbell (2007)  
Harold B. Donahue, Jr. (2009)  
Carolyn C. Howe (2008)  
Pierie L. O'Connor (2009)  
Timothy H. Reed (2008)

### Stow Housing Authority

Robert W. Larkin (2009), Chairman  
John J. Kendra (2011)  
John C. Toole (2010)  
Vacancy (2007)  
State Appointee W. Robert Dilling, Jr. 1/20/07

### Field Drivers

Selectmen

## APPOINTMENTS BY SELECTMEN

### **Town Administrator**

William J. Wrigley

### **Town Counsel**

Jonathan D. Witten & Patricia Daley  
Daley & Witten, LLC

### **Town Accountant**

Jacquelyn M. Cronin -resigned

### **Town Clerk**

Linda E. Hathaway

### **Treasurer-Collector**

Pamela M. Landry (6/14/08)  
Donna Kunst, Asst. Treasurer-Collector

### **Superintendent of Streets**

Michael E. Clayton  
Bruce E. Fletcher, Assistant Superintendent

### **Tree Warden**

Bruce E. Fletcher

### **Surveyor of Wood & Lumber**

Richard Mortenson -resigned

### **Constables**

Robert A. Kirchman (2007)  
Mark H. Trefry (2007) - resigned  
Lawrence E. Hartnett (2008)

### **Inspector of Buildings**

Richard A. Roggeveen  
Ray A. Renzoni, Local Inspector  
Douglas Hyde, Local Inspector

### **Wire Inspector**

Charles A. Saari  
Kenneth A. Desmond, Deputy  
Robert W. Norton, Deputy

### **Gas Inspector**

Paul J. Dickhaut  
Ray A. Smith, Deputy

### **Plumbing Inspector**

Eric S. Sahlberg  
Paul J. Dickhaut, Deputy

### **Veterans' Agent (aka Veterans' Service Officer)**

Donald P. Hawkes

### **Veterans' Graves Committee**

Jaffrey J. Lance  
Francis R. Milak  
George A. Veracka

### **Cemetery Committee**

Roy Dudley, Chairman (2007)  
Frederick J. Dodge, Jr. (2009)  
Clarissa E. Potter (2008)  
Robert Gledhill, Superintendent

### **Emergency Management Officer**

David B. Soar

### **Forest Fire Warden**

David B. Soar

### **Firefighters – full-time**

David B. Soar, Chief (2007)  
John Paul Benoit, Captain.  
Gregory A. Vogel  
Mark W. Guerin  
Barry Evers

### **On-Call Members Stow Fire Rescue**

Charlie Boyle	Lisa McNiff
James Byrne	Tim Neufell
Christopher Camelio	Tom Neufell
Kristin Clayton	Paul Nevala
Christopher Devoe	Liana Pratt
David Doucette	James Rodgers
Rene Doucette	Michael Scimera
Scott Dwinells	Suzanne Siewierski
Jeremy Fiorvanti	Larry Stafford
Michael Gallagher	George Taylor
Tim Gray	Michael Trioli
Peter Holman	Eddie Warren
Scott Landry	Christopher Whitley
Stephen Landry	Shawn Whitney
Christopher Lazuka	

### **Sealer of Weights & Measures**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## APPOINTMENTS BY SELECTMEN

### **Police Officers –full-time**

Mark H. Trefry, Chief (2007)  
Vacancy – Lt.  
William L. Bosworth, Sgt. (2007)  
Ralph Marino, Sgt. (2007)  
Timothy J. Lima, Sgt. (2007)  
Steven B. Sturtevant, Detective (2007)  
Gary P. Murphy (2007)  
David J. Goguen (2007)  
Kimberly H. Doughty (2007)  
Darren J. Thraen (2007)  
Sean M. Collins (2007)  
Michael J. Sallese (2007)

### **Special Police Officers**

Robert E. Blanton  
Jonathan Butler, Dispatcher  
John Connors  
John Fantasia, Dispatcher  
James F. Finneran  
Lee Heron  
Sherry J. Morton-Pelly, Dispatch Sprvr  
Tracy Thibaudeau-Dispatcher

### **Auxiliary Police Officers**

Timothy Neufell  
Jeremy G. Trefry  
Enrico F. Maldari

### **Police Matrons**

Deborah L. Richardson  
Rachel R. Belanger  
Darlene D. Trefry-Dispatcher

### **Zoning Board of Appeals**

Donald B. Hyde, Jr. (2007)  
Donald E. Dwinells (2007)  
John Clayton, Jr. (2008)  
Edmund C. Tarnuzzer (2008)  
Arthur R. Lowden (2009)  
Michele L. Shoemaker, Assoc. (2007)  
Richard S. Martin, Assoc. (2008)  
Charles A. Barney, Assoc. (2008)  
Lee Heron, Assoc. (2009)  
William F. Byron, Jr., Assoc. (2010)

### **Recreation Commission**

Michael Busch, Chairman  
Corinne B. Green  
Mark S. Pieper  
John A. Sangermano  
Christine P. Way

### **Conservation Commission**

Kathleen V. Sferra, Chairman (2008)  
David A. Cobb (2008)  
Ingeborg Heggemann-Clark (2007)  
Stephan F. Jablon (2008)  
Rebecca G. Mattison (2009)  
Douglas E. Moffat (2007)  
David W. Coppes (2007)

### **Historical Commission**

John A. Makey, Chairman (2008)  
Wayne A. Fletcher (2008)  
Karen C. Gray (2009)  
Joseph J. Mishley (2007)  
Elizabeth C. Painter (2007)

### **Lake Boon Commission**

Cindy J. Curley (2008)  
Lee Heron (2007)  
Conray Wharff, Hudson, Chairman

### **Council on Aging**

James V. Sauta, Chairman  
George C. Dargaty  
Betty Holly  
Nancy P. Kyle  
Alice L. Olsen  
Rita M. Sharkey – resigned  
Newton P. Wesley  
Vacancy  
Suzanne Morin, Director

### **Trustees, Randall Relief Fund**

Louise E. Peacock, (2009)  
Jeffrey D. Smith (2008)  
Dorothy G. Sonnichsen (2007)

### **Trustees, Randall Town Fund**

Louise E. Peacock, (2009)  
Jeffrey D. Smith (2008)  
Dorothy G. Sonnichsen (2007)

### **Trustees, Randall Town Fund**

(Life Tenure)  
Ray S. Frost, Chairman  
Robert F. Derby  
Wayne A. Fletcher  
Linda E. Hathaway  
Jeffrey D. Smith

## APPOINTMENTS BY SELECTMEN

### **Registrars of Voters**

John D. O'Connell (2007)  
Edward R. Perry, Sr. (2009)  
Pamela J. Weathers (2008)  
Linda E. Hathaway, clerk ex-officio

### **Stow Cultural Council**

Elizabeth B. Stepp (11/25/06) Chairman  
Anne C. Draudt (8/22/09)  
Robert M. Glorioso (12/14/07)  
Catherine J. Hammill (2/26/07)  
Donnalisa Johnson (12/14/07)  
Lynne W. Juster (11/10/06)  
Dorothy G. Sonnichsen (12/14/07)

### **Assabet River Trail Committee Rep.**

Donald B. Rising

### **Metropolitan Area Planning Council Representative (MAPC)**

Donna M. Jacobs (2008)

### **Minuteman Advisory Group on Interlocal Coordination (MAGIC)**

Donna M. Jacobs (2008)  
Janet G. Wheeler- Bd. of Selectmen

### **Master Plan Committee**

Donna M. Jacobs – Chair – resigned  
Marcia B. Rising, V. Chair–Bd. of Health  
Janet G. Wheeler- Bd. of Selectmen  
Rebecca G. Mattison - ConCom  
Charles Kern – FinCom  
Ernest E. Dodd - Planning Board  
AT-LARGE  
Karen Kelleher  
John H. Halpern  
Roy W. Miller

### **SpringFest Committee**

Patricia A. Heron  
Deborah A. Woods  
Vacancy

### **Cable TV Advisory Committee**

Lewis H. Halprin, Chairman  
Robert C. Mong  
Arnold R. Buckman  
Patricia L. Crawford  
George A. Scraggs

### **General Bylaw Review Committee**

Kathleen M. Pavlechek  
John Clayton, Jr.  
George G. Cormier  
Linda E. Hathaway  
Deborah A. Woods

### **Open Space Committee**

Robert T. Wilber, Chairman  
Jean H. Lynch  
William H. Maxfield  
Kathleen V. Sferra  
Eve K. Donahue  
Christopher B. Rodstrom  
Vincent J. Antil

### **Local Access Cable Advisory Committee**

(formerly PEG)  
Stephen M. Dungan  
Robert M. Glorioso  
Leonard H. Golder  
Lisa R. Lavina  
James L. Parr

### **Housing Partnership**

Eric K. Bachtell, Chairman (2007)  
Robert R. Billups (2008)  
Gregory D. Jones (2008)  
Margaret A. Lynch (2009)  
Suzanne Morin (2008) -resigned  
Michael Kopczynski (2007)  
Patricia L. Settles (2009)

### **Stow Advisory Member of the Hudson Light and Power Board**

Edward A. Brown

### **Agricultural Commission**

Dwight P. Sipler  
Julie Martin-Sullivan  
Steven R. Mong  
Elizabeth C. Painter  
Katherine C. Steege

### **Fence Viewers**

Selectmen

### **Street Numbers**

Catherine A. Desmond

### **Town Report**

Susan McLaughlin

## APPOINTMENTS BY MODERATOR

### Finance Committee

Patricia A. Heron, Chair (2007)  
Charles Kern (2009)  
Pamela J. Glauner (2008)  
Henry Hagopian, III (2007)  
David E. Walrath (2008)  
Gary M. Bernklow, Assoc. (2007)  
Joseph C. Hogan, III, Assoc. (2007)  
William S. Nelson, Assoc. (2007)  
Stephen P. Piotte, Assoc. (2007)  
James H. Salvie, Assoc. (2007)

### Ancient Documents Committee

Barbara P. Sipler, Chairman (2008)  
Robert E. Walrath (2011)  
Karen C. Gray (2008)  
Karen V. Green (2009)  
Lewis H. Halprin (2007)

### Deputy Moderator

Gary L. Horowitz

### Assistant Moderator

Elizabeth C. Painter

### Minuteman Regional Voc-Tech School District Representative

Alice B. Deluca (7/1/05-6/30/08)

### Charter Review Committee

Elizabeth C. Painter, Chairman  
Robert R. Billups  
Stewart Dalzell  
Douglas Hyde  
Marcia B. Rising  
Linda E. Hathaway, Associate  
Robert J. Kaufman, Associate

## APPOINTMENTS BY BOARD OF HEALTH

### Health Agent

John P. Wallace

### Animal Control Officer

Susan G. Latham

### Assistant Animal Control Officer

Michael J. Sallese

### School Health Committee

Sylvia Daley

### Burial Agents

Town Clerk  
John Erb

### Inspector of Animals

Phyllis Tower

### Assistant Inspector of Animals

Michael J. Sallese

### Medical Reserve Corp Executive Committee

Sarah R. Robart, Chairman  
Marilyn Driscoll  
Dianne E. Oelberger  
Louise E. Peacock  
John A. Sangermano  
Vickery E. Trinkaus-Randall

## APPOINTMENT BY TOWN CLERK

Assistant Town Clerk: Catherine A. Desmond

## APPOINTMENT BY TREASURER-COLLECTOR

Deputy Collector & Special Constable: Frederick J. Kelley, Jr.

## APPOINTMENTS BY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

### Open Space & Recreation Plan Committee

Robert T. Wilbur	Dwight P. Sipler
William H. Maxfield	Douglas E. Moffat
Kathleen V. Sferra	Pamela J. Weathers, associate

**APPOINTMENTS BY PLANNING BOARD**

**Light Pollution Study Committee**

Warrington R. Willis, Chairman  
William J. Chiarchiaro  
Gregory D. Troxel

**Lower Village Subcommittee**

Donald G. McPherson, Chairman  
Bruce E. Fletcher  
Karen Kelleher  
Lucille King –business owner  
Barbara P. Sipler  
Laura Spear  
Warrington R. Willis

**JOINT APPOINTMENTS**

**Capital Planning Committee**

Jean H. Lynch, Chairman (2007) – Moderator  
David P. Arsenaault (2009) – Moderator  
Stephen F. Jelinek (2008) - Moderator  
Carole A. Makary (2007) – Selectmen  
Kathleen K. Farrell (2007) - Fin Com. Designee

**Associates appointed by the Moderator**

James M. Medeiros (2007)  
Edward R. Perry, Jr. (2007)  
Margery R. Yvanovich (2007)

**Community Preservation Committee**

Robert T. Wilber, Chairman –Open Space Committee  
Laura Y. Spear - Planning Board  
Kathleen V. Sferra – Conservation Commission  
John P. Bolton. - Board of Assessors  
Karen C. Gray - Historical Commission  
David E. Walrath – Finance Committee  
George C. Dargaty – Council on Aging  
John C. Toole – Stow Housing Authority  
Corinne B. Green - Recreation Commission

**Municipal Land Use Committee**

Margaret A. Lynch, chairman - Housing Partnership  
Stephen M. Dungan - Selectmen  
Jean H. Lynch - Capital Planning  
George C. Dargaty - Council on Aging  
Donna M. Jacobs – Master Plan Committee  
Ellen S. Sturgis - Nashoba Reg. School Dist. Comm  
William H. Maxfield - Open Space Committee  
John Clayton, Jr. - Public Safety Study Committee  
Michael Busch - Recreation Commission

**Nashoba Regional School District Audit Committee, Stow Representative**

(Joint appointment by Finance Committee. & Board of Selectmen)

James M. Medeiros

**Public Safety Planning Committee**

David B. Soar, Fire Chief  
Mark H. Trefry, Police Chief  
Michael E. Clayton Superintendent of Streets  
William J. Wrigley, Town Administrator  
Robert Braceland, Citizens' Representative  
John Clayton, Jr., Board of Selectmen  
Patricia A. Heron, Finance Committee  
David P. Arsenaault, Capital Planning Committee

**School Building Task Force**

Joint appointment Board of Selectmen & Stow NRSD Committee Representatives

Ellen S. Sturgis, Chairman  
Gary M. Bernklow  
William F. Byron, Jr.  
Lynn Colletti  
Lisa M. D'Alessio  
C. Norman Farris  
Sara G. Kilkenny  
George S. Nisotel  
Stephen C. Quinn  
Peter K. Rhodes  
Thomas E. Ryan, III  
Michael Woods, Superintendent NRSD, Ex-Officio  
Robert Kaufman, Facilitator

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

As part of longer-term planning and oversight by the Board of Selectmen, a Special Town Meeting (STM) was held in December 2005 for the purpose of the residents voting on whether or not the Town should purchase the Minuteman property (104 acres for \$4 million) under the State's right-of-first refusal section of Chapter 61. The process the Selectmen have incorporated over the past couple of years regarding land that is coming out of Chapter 61 status is to have various boards/committees review the property for potential municipal use. If there is enough interest in a property, the Board exercises the Town's right-of-first refusal. The property then comes before a Town Meeting where the residents decide whether or not the Town will actually buy the parcel.

During the December 2005 Special Town Meeting, the School Building Committee (SBC) made a presentation of a potential school use for the property. Voters rejected both the school proposal as well as the purchase of the Minuteman property by the Town.

Following the voters' rejection of the recommendation of the SBC, the Board met in January with representatives of the SBC and the School Committee to discuss an alternate approach. The following month, the Board voted to create an 11-member "School Building Task Force" (SBTF) with very specific objectives and expectations for a presentation at the 2007 Annual Town Meeting in May 2007. Membership of the SBTF was designed to reflect a broad range of perspectives on the school facilities issue. In addition, a non-voting facilitator was also included on the team to enable the chairperson to participate fully in the deliberations as well as to facilitate the conversation at meetings. During February, interviews of applicants were completed and appointments were made jointly by the Board and Stow members of the Regional School Committee.

Another issue addressed during the year was land banking. A majority of the Board that was in place in 2005 voted in favor of this strategy as did a majority of the 2006 Board. Basically land banking is the purchase of land for a variety of municipal needs, even if there is no specific need identified at the time of the purchase. Several Board members are concerned that the town has very little land for such things as affordable housing, a community center, expanded schools, a larger fire station, etc. The majority opinion is that property acquired for land banking is really an investment in the town's long-term future and that such proactive planning is very important; much like the right-of-first refusal mechanism regarding Chapter 61 land. The Board expects to use the findings of the Municipal Land Use Committee along with the Master Plan and Open Space Committee report to help establish priorities for any land acquired through land banking plan and/or right-of-first refusal on Chapter 61 land.

The Special Town Meeting in December 2005 approved creation of an Agricultural Commission, and the Board appointed members the following February. The purpose of this Commission is to serve as a facilitator and advocate for farming and agriculture in Stow. The Commission will also provide dispute resolution services and help the Town promote and protect agricultural interests.

The Board has been looking at the town's organization chart in an effort to identify areas of overlapping responsibilities and opportunities to eliminate committees that have completed their work. In this regard, the Board wishes to thank the members of the Municipal Land Use Committee. After presenting their final report in September, the Board agreed with their request to be disbanded.

On May 10, just after the Annual Town Meeting and election, the Board welcomed the two newest members: Tom Ruggiero and Jason Robart. Janet Wheeler and Steve Dungan were elected Chair and Clerk, respectively, for the new term.

Every Board member serves as a liaison to one or more other boards and committees. These liaisons provide updates at nearly every meeting in an effort to stay abreast of activities across the community. In addition, at least one Board member attends the monthly "TriTown" meetings of officials from Stow, Lancaster, and Bolton. These sessions have been helpful in sharing ideas and developing synergies.

Every year, the Board must perform various administrative tasks, and 2006 was no exception. Examples include:

- Approving numerous appointments
- Conducting hearings related to animal complaints, street acceptances, tax classification, utility pole locations, and unregistered vehicles
- Approving various licenses
- Approving documents related to debt activity
- Conducting budget reviews
- Approving labor contracts
- Granting permits for special events
- Responding to requests for documents under the Freedom of Information Act.

During a discussion late in the year, the Board considered ways to identify the issues with the most strategic impact on the town. There was agreement that more time should be devoted to the priorities, and it is possible the Board may begin holding an extra meeting each month if necessary.

Creation of more affordable housing received renewed attention when the Housing Partnership visited the Board in October. During the May 2005 Annual Town Meeting, voters agreed to accept a new state law allowing cities and towns to establish Municipal Affordable Housing Trusts. The Partnership requested that the Board implement this vote by appointing trustees, and the Board expects to do so early in 2007. The law authorizing these trusts allows communities to collect funds for housing and to segregate them out of the general budget into an Affordable Housing Trust.

A very critical issue that arose in 2006 was the lack of a central water supply in Lower Village and the likely impact on the business owners in the area. After a long hiatus, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) began enforcing setback requirements that mandate a minimum distance between wells and septic systems. Lots in Lower Village are relatively small and some owners cannot comply with these requirements. In November, the Board asked Town Administrator, Bill Wrigley, to set up a working group with the objective of identifying one or more possible locations for a well to serve Lower Village. A report of their findings will be available prior to the May 2007 Annual Town Meeting.

In November, the Board received a petition from some citizens who requested that the Board hold a special meeting for the purpose of electing a new chairman. The entire Board concluded this step was premature and mediation was presented as an alternative. A majority of the Board voted to enter a contract with a specific mediator to work with all five members and certain town employees.

The Board noted increased resident attendance at many meetings during the year. We are also aware that more voters are watching the proceedings on the local cable access channel. These are

very positive developments, and we encourage all residents to stay in touch and communicate with us on any issue of concern.

The Board would like to recognize Jacquelyn Cronin, the Town's former accountant. We also want to thank Ross Perry and Jack Clayton for their many years of service on the Board. Finally, we want to acknowledge all other Town employees for their hard work and the many volunteers who devote endless hours of their time to help Stow be a stronger community.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet G. Wheeler, Chairman  
Stephen Dungan, Clerk  
Carole Makary  
Jason Robart

Thomas Ruggiero  
  
Susan McLaughlin, Administrative Assistant

### **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

The Stow Town Administrator, by Charter, serves as the Town's chief administrative officer. In this capacity, the Town Administrator manages the day-to-day operations of the Town, function as its chief fiscal officer, chief procurement officer, chief personnel officer and chief contract negotiator. In addition, this position serves the Town as chairman of the dispatch communications administrative body, as the labor union grievance hearing appeal officer, the sexual harassment officer and the public records management officer. Throughout the year 2006, functioning in these various administrative positions, the Town Administrator was engaged in several significant matters.

At the Annual Town Meeting in May 2006, for the first time in four years, the Town Administrator recommended a FY-07 balanced budget that did not require general override. The FY-06 operating budget needed \$350,000 in the form of a general override to be balanced and the FY-05 operating budget required a general override of \$250,000. In FY-04, the Town faced a one million dollar budget deficit and was required to utilize both an approval of a general override of \$414,500 together with budget cuts and the expenditure of stored assets to balance the operating budget.

The FY-07 municipal budget is a reasonably tight operational budget. Total spending for the general municipal budget, which includes all of the Town departments (excluding the two school districts), increased by only 5.8%. The Nashoba Regional School District assessment increased by 6.2%; and the Minuteman Vocational Technical District assessment decreased by 1.6%. The Town's capital improvement project costs for non-bonded projects decreased in FY-07 by 26% to \$415,728. The Town's non-capital special articles budget decreased in FY-07 by 11.2% compared to FY-06; falling from \$298,618 to \$265,080. However, the Town's annual debt payment increased by 25.2% from \$1,294,683 to \$1,621,305. The annual debt payment budget funds pays the principal and interest on bond notes for the Town's building projects such as the Hale School, modular classrooms, Pompositicut school improvements, the police station and the Town Building. We also have borrowed money for property acquisition and the purchase of fire and ambulance trucks.

For the current fiscal year, the Town is utilizing \$158,798 in Free Cash to balance the operating budget. And \$100,000 has been transferred from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund in a continuing effort to increase the amount of the Town's savings. Also, \$113,672 in Free Cash has

been provided in FY-07 to fund a number of capital improvement projects. Included in this list of capital projects, the Town has purchased a new police cruiser for \$33,000 along with a new backhoe for the highway department for \$80,000. Hales school improvements have been made to the Hale school totaling \$58,175. Additionally, the School Building Taskforce has been provided \$117,255 to enable the due diligence process to continue toward a school building project affecting Center and Pompositicut schools.

There were two primary reasons that allowed the Town to balance its FY-07 operating budget without a general override. First, the Department of Education School Building Assistance program audit for the Hale school construction project was completed late 2005, and the one time financial benefit resulting from the completed audit of \$196,000 was applied to reduce the amount of FY-07 taxes that otherwise would have been necessary to balance the budget. Also, the FY-07 Minuteman Vocational High School assessment actually decreased compared to FY-06.

Looking forward to next year's budget, FY-08, there is a possibility that another general override will be necessary to balance any budget recommendation that exceeds an approximate total expenditure growth rate of greater than 5% above the current fiscal year. Stow possesses several structural fiscal impediments, which is making it increasingly more difficult to balance annual operating budgets without overrides.

The Town's tax base represents approximately 88 percent of the Town's total annual budget revenues and this revenue source is providing an increasingly larger percentage of the Town's total revenues each year. Annual municipal state aid to Stow only represents between 2 to 4 percent of the Town's total annual revenues each year with little expectation that this contribution percentage will increase in the foreseeable future. On the contrary, Stow experienced cuts in municipal state aid just two years ago. Further, approximately 50 percent of the Town's total taxable property is either totally exempted from being taxed or is taxed at a significantly reduced rate through different tax abatement programs. Stow's tax base is almost completely undiversified. The only growth in the Town's tax base results primarily from annual housing development and increases in housing values. Stow residential taxpayers receive negligible tax relief from the commercial and industrial contributors to the Town's tax base.

Until last year, the Town had been successful in delaying the inevitable collision of these two competing fiscal trends by primarily utilizing local funding sources: unused levy capacity and savings. Over several fiscal years up until the late 1990's, the Town on an annual basis had generally experienced total budget expenditures in amounts less than its total annual revenues. During that time, the Town's unused levy capacity grew annually until it peaked eventually at \$372,000. The Town's Free Cash and Stabilization Fund, our stored assets or savings accounts, peaked at approximately \$1,400,000. For FY-07, July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007, the Town's total amount of Free Cash and Stabilization Fund is only \$472,768. Between the years FY-98 and FY-06, the Town had expended approximately \$4,495,262 in Free Cash and Stabilization Fund money both to balance the Town's annual operating budgets and to fund various capital improvement projects.

The Town administrator is directly responsible for managing and controlling the Town's legal budget. In the area of legal services provided during the year 2006, lawsuits relating to previously approved cell tower site permits continued unresolved as they had for the last several years and a new cell tower related lawsuit was filed. I have been involved in managing more than ten separate cell tower litigation cases over the last several years. There are three cell tower litigation cases remaining to be resolved. Beyond the cell tower litigation in 2006, the Town has been engaged in several other court cases during the last year.

The Town is currently litigating two Land Court cases involving Massachusetts General Law Chapter 61B. This statute allows the Town to purchase, or assign its right to purchase to a qualified non-profit organization, recreation, agricultural or conservation land that has been protected from development in returned for reduced taxes. in their opinion, had not perfected its statutory rights pursuant to MGL Chapter 61B. The Town is involved in another major lawsuit as a defendant. The Town faces a charge of sexual harassment, and wrongful termination of a prior public safety dispatcher. It is not known when adjudicative process will be completed on these cases.

In 2006, the Town Administrator organized a working group to assist the Town's Lower Village area commercial property owners in analyzing and assessing the water and sewer problems they are currently facing. This working group is hopeful that it can facilitate a process that is successful in locating a common water source that will enable a private water company to invest in constructing a water supply system to service the Lower Village area.

Also in 2006, the Town Administrator was successful in negotiating separately with representatives of the fire, police, clerical and dispatch unions to execute new labor contracts.

Beyond serving the Town's interests and needs by attending to specific management issues such as the matters detailed above, the Town Administrator in general is engaged regularly attending to the routine matters associated with the day-to-day operations of the Town. In performing these duties, the Town Administrator is in frequently in direct contact with municipal staff, Town board and committee members, local, state and federal agencies and officials, the public and various private groups and individuals. The Town Administrator continues to be diligent in the performance of these duties and responsibilities.

Respectfully submitted,

William Wrigley, Town Administrator

Susan McLaughlin, Administrative Assistant

## **PLANNING BOARD**

A five-member elected board with one appointed associate voting member, the Planning Board has specific statutory requirements. The Board reviews and approves the division of land under the State Subdivision Control Law (MGL c. 41) and the Stow Subdivision Rules and Regulations; serves as a special permit granting authority under the State Zoning Act and the Stow Zoning Bylaw; and guides the process of Zoning Bylaw amendments under the State Zoning Act (MGL c. 40A).

By statute, the Board is charged with the responsibility of protecting the health, safety and welfare of Stow's residents. Guided by the Massachusetts General Laws, the Stow Zoning Bylaw, the 1996 Stow Master Plan, and citizens' comments and concerns, the Board strives to preserve and enhance the integrity of Stow's character through the use of these regulatory tools, while safeguarding property owners' rights. We recommend and specify changes to development proposals to achieve these goals. Board members and staff strive to work with both applicants and residents to help shape projects so as to minimize impact to the community.

## **Organization**

At the annual election, Leonard H. Golder was elected to a 5-year term, filling Bruce Fletcher's expired term. Bruce, who served for five years and chose not to seek re-election, has been a tremendous asset to the Board. We are fortunate that he continues to assist the Board as a voting Associate Member and a member of the Lower Village Sub-Committee.

Following the election, the Board elected Ernest Dodd to serve as Chairman, Laura Spear as Vice-Chairman and Kathleen Willis as Clerk. Bruce Fletcher was appointed as the Voting Associate Member. The Associate Member's voting power is limited to special permit applications, in the case of absence, inability to act or conflict of interest on the part of any member of the Planning Board or in the event of a vacancy on the Board. Malcolm FitzPatrick and Karen Kelleher were designated to endorse ANR Plans (Subdivision Approval Not Required). The Board appointed representatives to various Committees:

Community Preservation Committee: Laura Spear.

Master Plan Committee: Ernie Dodd.

Metropolitan Area Planning Council: Donna Jacobs.

School Building Task Force: Ernie Dodd

## **Development Activity**

In 2006, the Planning Board met with developers and discussed the potential for:

A 5,552 sq. ft. retail/restaurant space:

- Great Road, expansion of an existing commercial complex with (3) businesses to a seven (7)-business plaza) - APPROVED

2 Wireless Service Antennas:

- Cingular at Gleasondale Mill – DENIED
- Nextel at Gleasondale Mill – WITHDRAWN

132 Active Adult Neighborhood/Townhouse style units:

- Arbor Glen, off of Hudson Road – 66-units APPROVED
- RidgeWood at Stow – 66 units UNDER REVIEW

1 Hammerhead Lot on Boxboro Road – APPROVED

1 Accessory Apartment on Old Bolton Road – APPROVED

14 single-family dwelling units:

- Taylor Road 5-lot Planned Conservation Development – APPROVED
- Riverhill Estates 5-lot Conventional Subdivision – UNDER REVIEW
- Pine Point Road/Barton Road ANR Plan, creating one new lot - DENIED
- Hudson Road/Maguire Lane, ANR Plan, creating one new lot – UNDER REVIEW
- Homestead Lane ANR Plan, creating 2 new lots - APPROVED

With the assistance of the Board's Consulting Engineer, Susan C. Sullivan, P. E., the Board monitored ongoing construction of seven (7) Subdivisions and two (2) Special Permits:

- Country Club Estates (Fairway Drive), a 7-lot subdivision, located off of Edson Street
- Wildlife Woods, a 67-lot subdivision, located off of Sudbury Road
- Red Fox Run (Cranberry Circle), a 5-lot subdivision, located off of Hudson Road

- Orchard View (Brandymeade Circle) a 12-lot subdivision, located off of West Acton Road
- Meadowbrook (Trefry Lane), a 17-lot subdivision, located off of Boxboro Road
- Derby Woods (Sylvan Drive and Dunster Drive extension), a 33-lot subdivision, located off of Harvard Road
- Butternut Farm Golf Course
- Arbor Glen Active Adult Neighborhood
- Whispering Woods (Kettell Plain Road), a 14-lot subdivision, located off of Maple Street
- Marble Hill (Asa Whitcomb Way), a 3-lot subdivision, located off of Taylor Road

The Board recommended Town Meeting acceptance of Farm Road, Militia Circle and Whispering Way.

**Fees Collected:**

Fees collected in 2006 in the amount of \$12,203.00 offset expenses incurred for processing these applications and for miscellaneous copies. Plan review and inspections are paid for by the Applicant.

**Zoning Bylaw And Rules And Regulations Amendments:**

Two Zoning Bylaw amendments were brought forth to Town Meeting in May by the Board and were unanimously adopted:

Section 3.8.1.9 (Drainage)

Sections 8.6.1.2 and 8.6.13 (Phasing of Growth)

The Board Continued to review Special Permit and Subdivision Rules and Regulations to be updated in 2007.

**Work Plan:**

The Board’s work plan continues to include efforts to maintain Stow’s rural character, Lower Village and Gleasondale Village Planning, pathways/sidewalk planning, assessment of the Town’s future land needs, the potential need for a public water supply in Lower Village and Gleasondale, updating Rules and Regulations and Zoning Bylaws, light pollution, and affordable housing. The Board held many extra meetings dedicated to reviewing the Zoning Bylaw and Rules and Regulations with plans for extensive changes to encourage Smart Growth and Low Impact Development Techniques.

**Lower Village**

The Lower Village Sub-Committee continued working with the Planning Board to enhance the Lower Village area, our vital Business District.

Lower Village Traffic Study

The Board and its Lower Village Sub-Committee feels strongly that any changes in the traffic pattern for Lower Village shall be in harmony with the Town’s goal to enhance the Lower Village as the vital business center of our community, focusing on creating an identity for our historic Lower Village, consistent with the rural character of Stow.

The Board and its Lower Village Sub-Committee continued to work with Fay Spofford and Thorndike (FST) in conducting a Traffic Planning Study for the Lower Village to evaluate a series of alternative traffic calming recommendations to address vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle

transportation conflicts. The Board conducted a detailed evaluation and recommended a 'Preferred Alternative' for implementation:

- Modern roundabout at Red Acre Road and Pompositicut Street to allow easier access to Great Road
- West Gateway modern roundabout to improve Elm Ridge Road and Bradley Lane access to Great Road and accommodate reverse direction from the east
- East Gateway incorporated into a reconfigured White Pond Road intersection
- Optional future signal at a Shopping Center entrance – only to be considered if the proposed roundabouts are infeasible
- Incorporate the Lower Village Streetscape plan (sidewalks, landscaping, etc.)
- Pedestrian Islands
- Curb cut consolidations

The Board and its Lower Village Sub-Committee's goal is to continue to seek input from residents; work with the Highway Department to implement pedestrian refuge islands and seek funding for design in 2007; and seek funding for construction (grants, private funds and Town funds) in 2008.

#### Lower Village Water

The Department of Environmental Protection is currently looking at several businesses in the Stow Lower Village Area with regard to drinking water. One of the businesses is under a consent order and another was denied plans for expansion. The Planning Board and its Lower Village Sub-Committee recognize the fact that any plans for a Mixed-Use Village Overlay District cannot be accomplished without providing water and/or wastewater treatment for the Village - whether it be through a municipal agreement with an abutting town or establishment of a community water supply in the Lower Village. The Planning Board and its Lower Village Sub-Committee requested that the Board of Selectmen take the lead on the issue.

#### **West Stow Planning**

West Stow Planning remains a priority. This area of town has a large amount of open land at risk of development and little protected Open Space. Several key parcels are currently being developed or are in the planning stage.

In its review of concept development plans for this area, the Board has and will continue to stress its goal for any proposed development to make provisions for an open space corridor and trail network from the Hudson Town Line to Great Road, Low Impact Development, Diversity in Housing Stock and Village feel.

#### **Light Pollution**

The Light Pollution Sub-Committee continued working with the Planning Board on proposed lighting bylaw changes. A "Final" recommendation was submitted to the Planning Board for presentation to Town Meeting in 2007 for a Zoning Bylaw amendment. In addition, the Committee worked with developers and the Planning Board to ensure that lighting will comply with existing and proposed new bylaw. The Planning Board and its Light Pollution Study Sub-Committee extends our appreciation for the changes made to the lighting at the Bose Facility to comply with the Special Permit. We are especially thankful that, even though not required, Bose Corporation also lowered the light output. The current level is more appropriate and in keeping with the rural nature of Stow. The Committee continues to urge residents to confine their lighting to their property by re-aiming or replacing fixtures to achieve better lighting, which is not bothersome to others.

**Other Activities**

The Board reviewed and commented on the Environmental Notification Form for the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, the Town of Stow Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan, and various applications before the Conservation Commission, the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Building Department.

**Thanks**

None of the planning efforts would be possible without the enormous contributions by Stow residents, who serve as volunteers on the boards and committees and Town staff. It is a pleasure to continue working with all of you.

The Board thanks the following Sub-Committee members for their ongoing efforts:

Lower Village Sub-Committee: Chairman Don McPherson, Bruce Fletcher, Karen Kelleher, Lucille King, Barbara Sipler, Laura Spear and Russ Willis and Associate Members Phil Moseley, Tom Farnsworth and T. L. Neff.

Light Pollution Sub-Committee - Chairman Russ Willis, Bill Chiarchiaro and Greg Troxel.

Our very capable professional consultants were Susan Sullivan, Town Counsels Jon Witten and Patty Daley of Daley and Witten, LLC.

As can be seen by this report, the Board had another busy year, but this amount of work would never have been possible without the tireless and competent efforts of Karen Kelleher and Lois Costello, who not only work hard for the Board, but also for the general public with whom they interact on a daily basis.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernest E. Dodd, Chairman  
Laura Y. Spear, Vice Chairman  
Kathleen A. Willis, Clerk  
Malcolm S. FitzPatrick  
Leonard H. Golder  
Donna Jacobs, Voting Associate

Bruce E. Fletcher, R Voting Associate  
Ruth Kennedy, Non-Voting Associate  
  
Karen Kelleher, Planning Coordinator  
Lois Costello, Administrative Assistant

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

The Conservation Commission consists of up to seven members appointed by the Board of Selectmen to administer and enforce both the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Town of Stow Wetlands Protection Bylaw. Areas subject to protection under these regulations include wetlands, rivers, streams, other water bodies and their banks, and flood plains, among others. In addition to these resource areas, the Commission must review and if appropriate, stipulate conditions under which proposed activities within 100 feet of the resource or 200 feet of ponds and streams except for Lake Boon must be conducted. The Commission also works to manage over 1,200 acres of conservation land throughout the community and to protect additional high priority lands. Trail maps and permit applications are available in the Conservation Commission office, which is located in the Town Building.

Presently, the Commission consists of seven members with varied backgrounds and a common interest in environmental issues. In addition, we have the strong support of several associate members who work on special projects, such as wetland delineation, drainage issues, trail mapping, forestry management, community gardens and open space planning.

### **Conservation Land Updates**

Eagle Scout Ceremony: Scott Sacra, Geoffrey Tyler and Ben Langelo were awarded certificates from the Land Stewardship Committee on behalf of the Conservation Commission for their contributions to Flagg Hill and Marble Hill Conservation Areas.

The Commission approved a permit submitted by Dennis Walsh for the study of the amphibians that inhabit the Gardner Hill Conservation Area (Town Forest). The results of the study will be submitted to the Commission yearly. Vernal pools will be certified as a result of Mr. Walsh's work.

Five permits were issued for guided walks and educational activities at the Flagg Hill Conservation Area and Heath Hen Meadow Brook Woodland. There were several reported instances of trees down across trails after high winds, Land Steward, Bruce Trefry, checked the trails and removed obstructions and potential hazards. The overgrown trail entrances were cleared at Wheeler Road and Gates Lane for improved access to Spindle Hill; and from the rear of Pompositticut School for Marble Hill. The meadow located on the Woodhead parcel of Flagg Hill was mowed to control successional species and enhance habitat for Eastern Bluebirds. David Schroeder installed a new side-entrance door at the garage located on the Flagg Hill property. The funds for the door were raised as part of the Eagle Scout project undertaken by Geoffrey Tyler.

The Stow Community Gardens is located at the Captain Sargent Conservation Area just off Tuttle Lane on the eastern side of Stow. During the past year, the Community Garden's Steward, Joyce Bunce supervised the creation of 30 x 50 foot garden plots. The Commission received twenty-six applications for the use of the garden plots from residents and non-residents which more than doubled from 2005. Community interest and support is particularly noteworthy. Scott Morse harrowed the existing plots in the spring and again at the end of the growing season in early November. A pitcher pump was installed in April, which made a huge difference in both production and in the number of the gardeners interested in farming at the site. Thank you Joyce!

Hale Woodlands Conservation Restriction was approved and signed by the Secretary of Environmental Affairs and a base line monitoring report will be prepared in 2007. The Commission also purchased a 3.6-acre parcel of land in the Delaney watershed for the protection of numerous wetland resources and wildlife habitat.

The Stow Highway Department deserves high praise for keeping the conservation area parking lots in good condition, plowing them during the winter and assisting the Commission in keeping trails passable and safe, as do the Stow Fire Department and Police Department for rescue efforts, fire protection, and assistance in enforcing the regulations and trail inspections when called upon.

Conservation Land Volunteers: The majority of our 43 volunteers are Stow residents, some are from neighboring towns, and everyone shares a common interest in conservation related projects. This work force has provided 861 hours of volunteer labor in the Flagg Hill Conservation Area and Heath Hen Meadow Brook Woodland over the past 7 years. A heartfelt Thank You to all of the volunteers for their contribution to our community. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact the Commission at 978-897-8615.

### **Public Hearings**

Hearings for residential construction, wetland delineations/resources and restoration projects as a result of enforcement action continued at a brisk pace, including Minute Man Airfield for their Vegetative Management Plan, Arbor Glen Active Adult Community, Villages at Stow, Bose Corporation, Massachusetts Fire Fighting Academy, and several small subdivisions. Commission members continued their participation in several town-wide planning projects, including updating of the Master Plan, School Building Committee, Lower Village Water Study Committee, Open Space and Recreation Plan and Community Preservation Committee.

The Commission held 47 public hearings for projects during the year. A total of \$7,000 was generated for the Town by these hearings and applications. License Agreements, Regulations for Wetland Protection Bylaw, Trail Guides, copy fees and donations also generated \$820.

### **Cooperative Efforts and Long Range Planning**

Work plan priorities for the coming year include but are not limited to the publication of an approved Open Space and Recreation Plan, revisions to the Wetland Protection Regulations, the Land Stewardship Committee, baseline monitoring for conservation restrictions, vernal pool education and invasive species identification. The commission also works collaboratively with local conservation organizations including the Stow Conservation Trust and Sudbury Valley Trustees on both land protection and land management issues.

### **Administration**

Becky Mattison is the liaison to the Master Plan Committee and Kathy Sferra is the Commission's liaison to the Community Preservation Committee. Doug Moffat and Kathy Sferra are the Commission's liaisons to the Open Space & Recreation Plan Committee. Kathy Sferra is also a member of the Open Space Committee. David Cobb is the Commission's liaison to the Land Stewardship Committee. Due to the dedication and hard work of these committees, a Community Preservation Plan has been drafted, the development of a Community Development Plan is in progress, a Draft Open Space & Recreation Plan has been completed and is now being finalized and the formation of a Stewardship Committee is in the beginning phase.

Bruce Trefry is the Commission's Land Steward and the parcel steward for Flagg Hill Conservation Area and Heath Hen Meadow Brook Woodland. Bruce provides overall management of these sensitive resource areas and does an outstanding job for the Commission.

Joyce Bunce is the steward and a former assistant steward for the community gardens at the Captain Sargent Conservation Area on Tuttle Lane. She is also a member of Stow's Garden Club. Joyce has done a wonderful job coordinating participants, laying out plots and educating the gardeners on organic farming. Thank you, Joyce!

Due to work and family commitments, Stephen O'Riorden resigned from the Conservation Commission in May after a three-year term, which included a year as Chairman. The Commission would like to take the opportunity to thank Stephen for his contributions and sincere concern for the preservation of the town's wetland resources, agriculture and conservation lands.

David Coppes was appointed in October to fill the vacant seat. David has a background in Civil Engineering and a former member of the Conservation Commission in Arlington. David is the Director of Western Operations for the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority.

Pat Perry's consistent management of daily operations is outstanding. We all thank Pat for her efforts. Thanks to her hard work, the Commission has maintained and improved its high standard

of professionalism in its interactions with town residents, other town boards and commissions, and state regulatory and enforcement bodies. As we add more conservation land to that already under management by the Commission, and as development activity in Stow accelerates, it becomes more and more important to coordinate the activities of the Commission with other town boards and effectively maintain required documentation. Pat continues to do an outstanding job in her role of coordinating daily operations and the successes of the Conservation Commission are due in large part to her dedication and effort.

In October Pat was honored by the Stow Conservation Trust at their annual Harvest Ball and presented with their first ever 2006 Land Conservation Award in recognition of her past 17 years of dedication and future commitment as Administrator for the Stow Conservation Commission in which she plays a leadership role in Town Conservation matters as well as a valuable liaison to the Commonwealth and to various parties and organizations involved in this work.

The Commission benefits from working with town departments, land trusts, associate members and the community. Your input and assistance are invaluable to the Commission. **THANK YOU!**

If you have an interest, expertise or experience in conservation or environmental protection and would like to be a member, an associate member or volunteer, please call the office at 897-8615 or attend a meeting. Meetings are generally held on the first and third Tuesday of every month.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Sferra, Chairman  
Doug Moffat, Vice Chairman  
Stephan Jablon  
David Cobb  
Rebecca Mattison  
David Coppes  
Ingeborg Hegemann Clark  
Bruce Trefry, Associate

Dwight Sipler, Associate  
Stewart Dalzell, Associate  
John Harding, Associate  
Pamela Weathers, Associate  
Joyce Bunce, Associate  
Kathy Tarbi, Associate  
  
Patricia Perry, Administrative Assistant

## **BOARD OF HEALTH**

The Board of Health is the local authority responsible for disease prevention and control, public health and environmental protection, and promoting a healthy community. The Board serves as the local arm of both the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). We are charged by state laws to develop, implement, and enforce health policies, oversee inspections to maintain minimum standards for sanitation in housing and food service, and assure that the basic health needs of our community are being met.

We continue to work with the Fire and Police Chiefs on the town's emergency planning program. Since the Town is a member of a 34 town coalition, (one of 5 coalitions that were created in the state), we are eligible for grants from the Department of Homeland Security and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to establish plans and programs for dealing with natural as well as terrorist caused catastrophes. This year also saw the startup of the Medical Reserve Corps program.

### **Medical Reserve Corps**

During the events of September 11, 2001, it became clear that volunteers showing up at disaster scenes, though well meaning, required training, credentialing, and skills enabling them to work as a team. Subsequently, it was determined that communities needed to act on a local level to promote public health and safety during emergencies and eventually the Medical Reserve Corps was formed with its mission to provide public health volunteer medical services that supplement existing resources in time of disaster.

During 2006 grant money became available enabling the Board to hold a meeting to encourage people, not only those with medical credentials, but others who would become trained and credentialed volunteers able to respond to public health emergencies and mass casualty incidents. Approximately 80 people came forward and indicated their willingness to participate and offer their skills.

The Board appointed an Executive Committee in July for the purposes of maintaining and promoting the MRC in Stow. Since then the committee has held meetings to encourage townspeople to prepare themselves and their homes for a disaster and has been able to purchase medical supplies through regional funding and a grant. A database has been established to ensure that volunteer information is accurate and updated. Ongoing tasks include: ensuring that volunteers become credentialed, offering training opportunities, recruiting new volunteers, maintaining a working relationship with Police, Fire, and Highway Departments, and educating Stow's population on matters of public health and safety.

### **Health Services**

We still maintain a contract with Emerson Hospital Home Care and under their direction the following is provided: annual flu clinic, home health services, nursing care at home, and follow-up to communicable diseases. In 2006 we inoculated anyone over the age of 65, teachers, people at risk, and town employees/personnel. We offered pneumonia and tetanus inoculations for those who requested them. A total of 178 flu, 6 pneumonia, and 6 tetanus inoculations were given. The Department of Public Health recommended the additional shots.

Our community outreach program to senior citizens continued this year with the monthly blood pressure clinics staffed by our wonderful volunteer nurses who live in Stow. For a complete list of our services please come to or call the office and we will be happy to talk with you about any needs you might have.

### **Hazardous Waste and Recycling**

Our Hazardous Waste Collection Day in the fall of 2006 was a huge success. We had an excellent turnout with a total of 122 vehicles equaling 202 full households and 15 half households (25 gallons/pounds = full, 10 gallons/pounds = half). We again requested a \$10.00 donation from each participant to help offset some of our expenses. The total cost for holding this event was \$13,275.69.

### **Mosquito Control**

The Town of Stow belongs to the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project to provide control of this pest, which is a carrier of such diseases as Equine Encephalitis and West Nile Virus. The Project is committed to an Integrated Mosquito Management program. The primary control options are breeding habitat removal and larvicide, which kills the mosquito larvae in the waters where they hatch, and is not toxic to humans or other animals. Also, the Project attempts to control the adult mosquito by spraying on a **request-only** basis.

**Animal Control**

In July of 2006 we established two new positions for dealing with animal control and animal inspections. We have an Animal Control Officer who is also the Assistant Animal Inspector and we have an Animal Inspector who is also the Assistant Animal Control Officer. These two positions provide excellent coverage throughout the town with the ability to respond quickly to any situation. We take this opportunity to remind all dog owners that they are required to have an up-to-date dog license and proof of rabies inoculation. We offer a rabies clinic every spring for dogs and cats. If you are a cat owner it is very important for you to make sure your cat is protected against rabies, even indoor cats should be inoculated. The following is a report of activity for the past year:

Dog Complaints – 69	Cat Complaints – 5	Animal Complaints – 39
Injured Animals – 4	Found Dogs – 12	Found Cats – 6
Lost Dogs – 32	Lost Cats – 40	Cruelty/Neglect – 6
Information – 49	Dead Animals on Roads – 35	Dogs Impounded – 6
Dogs Returned to Owners – 5	Dogs Placed in New Homes -1	

Citations Issued:	Quartines:	Animal Bites - 6
Written Warnings – 3	10 day – dogs 3, cats 0	
\$50.00 fines – 1	45 day – dogs 5, cats 14	
\$25.00 fines – 4	6 month – dogs 0, cats 5	

Livestock:		
Horses – 139	Goats – 27	Sheep - 57
Chickens – 164	Waterfowl – 30	Rabbits – 12
Alpacas – 7	Llamas – 2	Dairy Cattle – 4
Beef Cattle – 18	Turkeys – 3	Game Birds – 5
Swine – 10	Donkeys – 1	

**Permitting & Revenues**

Revenue of \$29,376.36 was remitted to the General Fund from permits issued by the Board in 2006. The following permits were issued:

Bed & Breakfast – 4	Camps – 3	Cider Mills – 4
Ice – 4	Dumpsters – 12	Stables – 28
Tobacco – 7	Food Service – 47	Massage Therapists – 7
Pet Shop – 1	Rubbish Haulers – 3	Pools – 2
Septage Haulers – 11	Title 5 Inspections - 76	Wells - 27
Disposal Works Construction Permits- 57		
Disposal Works Construction Installers – 48		

We welcome the public to take advantage of our informational brochures. These are at the Board of Health office. We are open from 9AM to 5PM Monday through Friday. Do not hesitate to contact us if you need information or our help. We are ready to help you in any way we can.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia B. Rising, Chairman	Lynn Fishman, Clerk
Betty Cormier	Jack Wallace, Health Agent
Sylvia Daley	Susan Latham, Animal Control Officer
Theora S. Cole, Administrative Assistant	Phyllis Tower, Animal Inspector

## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The year 2006 brought forth 21 applications for public hearing submitted to the Board. This was the first decrease in a number of years. In 2003 there were 29 applications, 38 in 2004 and 46 in 2005. The trend continues to be either home enlargement or complete replacement.

There were thirteen petitions for Variance from the provisions of the Zoning Bylaws of the Town: nine were granted, two were denied, one was denied as unnecessary, and one has yet to be decided due to requests for hearing continuance. One of the denial decisions has been appealed to Land Court.

There were seven applications for Special Permit, as required by the Zoning Bylaw: three were granted, three were denied and one was withdrawn.

One Appeal was filed with regard to an action of the Building Inspector. The Board found for and supported the action of the Building Inspector.

The Board of Appeals meets on the first Monday of each month in the Town Building. Applications for hearing may be obtained at the Town Clerk's office. The Secretary to the Board may be contacted for information and/or guidance in the process.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald B. Hyde, Jr.  
Arthur R. Lowden  
John Clayton Jr., Clerk  
Edmund C. Tarnuzzer, Jr.  
Donald E. Dwinells  
Richard S. Martin, Associate

Charles A. Barney, Associate  
Michele Shoemaker, Associate  
Lee Heron, Associate  
William F. Byron, Jr., Associate  
Catherine A. Desmond, Secretary

## HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The Winter of 2006 gave us 17 different events of precipitation to deal with here in town. 7 of these storms had this department out plowing the streets in full force and at the end of the winter season we saw an unofficial total of about 55" of snow.

All throughout 2006 this department spent quite a bit of time trimming roadside trees and brush. A total of 6 ½ weeks were spent cutting roadside brush, removing fallen trees and limbs from the streets, and cutting down and removing 18 dead or hazardous trees from the roadsides around town.

Beyond our routine maintenance of the town's roads and infrastructure, this department had Randall Road resurfaced with bituminous concrete from Gleasondale Road to Edson Street. We also completed the construction of Kettell Plain Road, which involved the installation of bituminous concrete berm, a finish coat of bituminous concrete on the road, the installation of trees along the roadside and filling shoulders along the road with loam or fill as needed.

During the Fall, we assisted a private contractor in the construction of the Highway Department's new sand/salt storage facility located in back of the existing Highway Department garage. We also assisted the Stow Garden Club in the removal of several shrubs deemed invasive species' that were in the gardens in front of the Town Building. We will continue to assist the Garden Club in the installation of new plantings at the Town Building in the Spring of 2007.

In August we took delivery of the departments new JCB backhoe/loader. Money for this purchase was appropriated at the Spring Town Meeting. This replaces our 1993 Caterpillar Backhoe, which was purchased back in FY 94.

In closing I would like to thank all of the employees here at the Highway Department for all their dedication and hard work and I would also like to thank the Town Administrator, the Selectmen and their administrative assistant, and the Police and Fire department's for their continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael E. Clayton, Superintendent of Streets

Bruce Fletcher, Asst Superintendent  
Scott Morse, Foreman  
Rachael Belanger  
Brian Hatch

Joe Landry  
Bill Tuttle  
Albeo Duguay  
Steve Landry  
Jim Rogers  
Scott Landry  
Tim Gray

## **BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

The Building Department had a very busy year issuing 296 Building Permits. We inspected the construction of new homes, remodeling and additions, and attended classes to keep up with the continuing education requirements as set forth by the Board of Building Regulation and Standards. In addition to the duties as Building Inspector, we are also in charge of the municipal properties that include the Town Building, Town Hall, West School, and the Crescent Street Garage building.

### **Town Buildings**

As a result of the budget constraint, no new projects have been started. We have maintained the existing buildings, as follows:

### **Town Hall**

We did spend time on regular maintenance. One thing that we did do was put together an estimate to get a sprinkler system with up graded fire alarm system installed within this very fine old building.

### **Town Building**

This was the year of water problems. In August the well pump motor burnt out because we had many small holes within the well to the 2-inch drop pipe. The problem occurred when the pump motor ran continually because of the holes in the pipe and burnt out the motor. Therefore we replaced the well pump and the 80 feet of drop pipe. The second problem that we had was that the water treatment equipment broke a gear and shut off the complete water supply a short time after the well problems. The treatment system is made up of 2 tanks. When 1 tank is in operation the other tank is back flushing and then shut off. The small gear that broke a tooth allowed the first tank to close except the 2<sup>nd</sup> tank valve did not open, therefore no water.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Roggeveen, Building Commissioner

Ray Renzoni, Local Inspector

Douglas Hyde, Local Inspector

Charles Saari, Wire Inspector

Kenneth Desmond, Deputy Wire Inspector

Robert Norton, Deputy Wire Inspector

Eric Sahlberg, Plumbing Inspector

Paul Dickhaut, Gas Inspector

Paul Dickhaut, Deputy Plumbing Inspector

Raymond Smith, Deputy Gas & Plumbing Inspector

Judith Scraggs, Administrative Assistant

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT  
PERMITS ISSUED IN 2006**

Number of Permits	Fees Collected
296 Building Permits	\$71,396.60
227 Electrical Permits	\$20,960.00
121 Plumbing Permits	\$ 9,742.00
103 Gas Permits	\$ 4,435.00
<hr/>	<hr/>
747 Total Permits	\$106,533.60

**BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED**

Number of Permits	Type of Construction	Construction Value
37	Single Family Dwelling	\$7,920,900.00
120	Remodeling and Additions	\$3,867,005.00
37	Strip and Re-roof	\$ 351,068.00
30	Re-siding & Windows	\$ 417,336.00
7	Swimming Pools	\$ 99,600.00
9	Annual Inspections	N/A
14	Temporary Tents	N/A
18	Wood Stoves	\$ 21,500.00
20	Sign Permits	\$194.00
4	Demolition Permits	N/A
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
296		\$12,677,603.00

## RECREATION COMMISSION

This past year has been exciting and eventful for the Recreation Commission. Laura Greenough has brought many new and fresh improvements to the Recreation Commission. Town wide brochures are distributed throughout the year highlighting the many new programs that have been established as well as the existing programs. Some of the programs include Rock Climbing, Aerobic and Tai Chi classes, and Art classes. The Recreation Department has also expanded its tennis program and now offer a Fall tennis program as well.

The Recreation Commission is dedicated to providing town wide programming for all ages. During the past year the Recreation Commission has outlined its short and long term goals and the steps needed to achieve success. The Commission is excited about the possibilities that can be accomplished in the years ahead to make recreation in Stow an important ingredient to maintaining and improving the quality of life. The Commission would like to encourage others within the community to participate, either as an associate member or to assist in the development and implementation of programs. Also, please feel free to bring any issues or ideas to the Commission. We would welcome your input. Thanks to all the workers and volunteers who helped with the programs throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Busch, Chairman  
Mark Pieper  
John Sangermano  
Christine Way

Corinne Green

Laura Greenough, Recreation Director

## COUNCIL ON AGING

### **COA Mission Statement**

The Stow Council On Aging is here to provide support to seniors by being a resource of information on elder affairs, provide social activities, outreach services, and help seniors to remain in their homes as long as safely possible.

### **Executive Summary**

Services that the Council on Aging (COA) provides are listed in detail below. They include but are not limited to, congregate meals, meals on wheels, drop in center, health and educational classes, transportation, social events, newsletters, fuel assistance, AARP tax preparation, outreach and referral services and much more.

**Congregate meals** are served in Stow on Tuesdays and Thursdays of each week. Stow does not have a Senior Center that can provide meals five days a week, therefore meals are served at First Parish Church of Stow and Acton in their Fellowship Hall two days only. The average number of people that attend the Meal Site is 23. For a small fee of \$2.00, the Meal Site not only provides nutritional meals but also provides social interaction. The Council On Aging Van Service transports many of the people that attend the Meal Site.

Meals On Wheels is an important part of our Nutritional program. Meals are provided to people who would not be preparing meals for themselves otherwise. These people may be unable to prepare meals for themselves due to recovering from a recent hospital stay, an illness, or frailty.

Volunteers contribute many hours working at the Meal Site or delivering Meals On Wheels. Without their help many Stow seniors would not enjoy the quality of life good nutrition brings.

We thank First Parish Church for their generosity in letting us use their hall for the Meal Site.

**The Drop-In Center** is located in the Friendship Room in the lower level of the Town Building. It is open five days a week, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Many social, cultural, Health and educational events are held in the Friendship Room through out the year. It is also available for people to come in, sit, read the newspaper, drink coffee, and chat.

The Director, Suzanne Morin, is available five days a week, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. unless out of the office on business. The Outreach Coordinator, Sharon Funkhouser, works, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays and the Outreach Worker, Betty Scesny, is in the office from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. This staff is here to service seniors and people with disabilities. They are also a good resource to others who are concerned with care and services for their loved ones.

**Studio Art Classes** explore several mediums for the beginner to advanced artist. Under the director of Instructor Cynthia Durost of Wild Rose Studio in Acton, seniors are able to explore their hidden talents and creativity through acrylics, oils, pastels, charcoal, etc. in a relaxed and self-paced environment. Classes meet on Monday mornings from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. in the Friendship Room at Town Building. A donation of \$8.00 is requested to assist in the funding of this class. A private donor and the artists themselves and the Friends of the COA fund this class in large part.

**Exercise aerobic classes** are held on Mondays, Wednesday, and Fridays at St. Isidore's Church Hall from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., September through June. This wellness activity is funded in part by a grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs, The Friends of the COA, and a donation of \$2.00 per student/per class. We thank St. Isidore's Church for their generosity in letting us use their hall for these classes. Classes are for ages 50+.

**Tai Chi** is held in Town Hall on Thursday mornings from 9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Donations are welcome.

**Health Clinics** are held through out the year. The Podiatry Clinic is held monthly in the Friendship Room, by appointment.

**Transportation** is provided to all seniors and disabled and/or handicapped persons of Stow. This service continues to grow each year, and remains the number one service provided to seniors by the COA. The vans provide transportation for food shopping, errands, doctor and hospital appointments, exercise programs, hair appointments, club meetings, wellness clinics, congregate meals, Town Meeting and Town Elections, Drop-In Center activities, special events and meetings. The van operates regularly Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. We request a 24-hour notice for these appointments. Doctor and hospital appointments should be at least 48 hours in advance or as soon as they are made. The vans will provide transportation to Acton, Concord, Hudson, Marlborough, Maynard, and Lincoln and within Stow. We are still waiting for the van which we will receive as a result of a mobility grant from the State of Massachusetts to replace our most used van which has a wheel chair lift and is needed to transport our non-ambulatory riders. The Grant was applied for in the fall of 2005. The current

van is old, rusting and has many mechanical problems. Thanks to The Friends of the COA for helping to pay for repairs to keep the van on the road as long as possible.

The Board would like to thank van drivers Beverly Benoit, Jim and Betty Sauta, Janet Fritz, and especially Martha Wheeler who retired this year, for their continued dedication and service to this program. Contact the C.O.A. office for reservations 897-1880

The COA will also arrange for a volunteer driver for special doctor or hospital appointments that are out of the area covered by the van.

**The Staff of the COA with approval of the Director arranges events.** Activities are planned with the hope that they will meet the varied interest of the people of Stow. Some trips are cultural, while others may be social. Day trips are scheduled throughout the year. Trips and events are beneficial to the social and recreational needs of our seniors. Due to the inadequate space we have in the basement of the Town Building we are limited in the number and type of events we can schedule.

**Monthly Newsletter:** A monthly newsletter is prepared with the approval of the Director and mailed to all seniors in Stow. The effort of several dedicated seniors enables us to get this publication mailed. We thank all the Newsletter Volunteers for their hard work in getting it out each month. This is our most important vehicle in getting information to the Stow senior population. The Patrons who advertise, the Community Chest, the Friends of the COA and the E.O.E.A make the printing and mailing of the newsletter possible.

**S.M.O.C.:** Fuel assistance applications are accepted by all office staff member of the COA from November through March. Assistance is available to all income-eligible persons of Stow. To receive information on fuel assistance or to request an appointment, call the Council office at 897-1880. All information is kept in strictest confidentiality.

**Tax Preparation Assistance** is a free service sponsored by A.A.R.P. An A.A.R.P. volunteer will meet with seniors of Stow from February thru April for tax preparation and to apply for "Circuit Breaker". To schedule an appointment the client must call the C.O.A.

**State Representative Patricia Walrath** takes time from her busy schedule to meet with our seniors to discuss issues of concern to elders and to inform them of legislation, which may affect them. These meetings take place on the third Thursday of each month between 12:00 and 1:00 p.m. at the First Parish Church during the meal site. All seniors are welcome.

**Outreach and Referrals** are provided to assist those elders of Stow who may be homebound, frail or lonely, and not receiving services from outside agencies. Sharon Funkhouser, our Outreach Volunteer and her team of volunteers will visit, shop or assist in any way to inform and refer our elders of services that are available to them through the COA and outside services such as Minuteman Home Care, Emerson Home Care and other local agencies. If you are interested in becoming a valued volunteer in our Outreach Program, call the C.O.A. office at 897-1880. Volunteers are needed during the weekday, even if just for one hour.

**Friends of the Council on Aging Board** is composed of volunteer members of the community at large, citizens of Stow, and the Council on Aging Director (non voted member.) The Board meets the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. in the Friendship Room at Town Building. All interested citizens and are welcome to attend. The goal of the Friends of the C.O.A. is to raise funds to supplement the programs and activities of the Council on Aging. They raise funds for

the Van Operating Fund, Meal Site Coordinator salary, Meal Site supplies, and special projects, programs, or activities of the C.O.A.

You may become a “Friend” of the C.O.A. by either volunteering, sponsoring a special project, or to make a monetary contribution. Call the C.O.A. office at 897-1880, or any of the Friends of the COA Board members. We thank the Friends of the COA members and volunteers for all their hard work this past year and the support they offer the Stow C.O.A. all year long.

**Minuteman Home Care** provides many thousands of dollars worth of services to the senior population of Stow each year in return for our contribution of more than \$900. Minuteman Home Care is sponsored by state and federal grants. We wish to thank them for all their services and assistance to the seniors and the Council office.

**Senior Tax Work-Off Program** is a program offered by the Town of Stow for seniors 60+ who have lived in the town of Stow for at least six months, are a home owner, and meet the income requirements. An eligible senior may “work” up to 111 hours or \$700 worth of rebate on their real estate taxes. “Jobs” are filled within participating town departments. This is a double benefit to both the client and the town. For more information call the C.O.A. office at 897-1880. All information is kept in the strictest confidence.

**Senior Computers** is a program that allows us to offer seniors used and upgraded computers. With the help of Ronald Hill of Stow, we are able to give computers to seniors for use in their own homes. Ron takes used computers, updates them, delivers and sets them up. He also will provide user training. This program is funded by a small donation from the seniors and by the Stow Friends of C.O.A. We thank the Friends for their generous support of this highly successful new program.

**Thank you** to all the volunteers that help out in the office. The Seniors of Stow and the Council On Aging, rely on the many hours the volunteers who put in of time and dedication to making the quality of life for the seniors of Stow much better. Without their help the Council On Aging could not function.

There is much talk lately of the aging of the “Baby Boomers” and how it will impact the services offered. I feel that this age group will be an asset to towns. These are people that are technologically aware, tend to live a healthy life style, and therefore are less physically limited. These people will be available to volunteer in a few years and I hope they will think of the Council On Aging when they are looking for someplace to put their energy and talents. They have many talents and will be a great resource.

Thank you St. Isidore’s, the Union Church, and the First Parish Church of Stow for allowing us to use their facilities to conduct programs throughout the year. We extend our sincere appreciation to all of the volunteers who assist the Council on Aging in so many capacities. They are the “life-line” of our department.

We would also like to extend our appreciation to the citizens of Stow for their support at Town Meeting this past year in assisting the Council on Aging with their goals of providing the seniors of Stow with a meaningful quality of life as they age.

We wish to extend our gratitude to the Stow Highway Department for their continuous assistance in keeping our vans serviced and safe for the roads.

Without the Friends of the COA we would not be able to exist. They provide financial support that is needed to sustain a thriving Council on Aging for the Town of Stow. Stow is very fortunate to have such a caring and devoted Friends group.

Last of all we wish to thank the Senior Citizens of Stow who give so much of their time and talents to help make the Council on Aging a place where a Stow Senior can explore personal growth, new opportunities, friendship and camaraderie, and contribute to the community as a volunteer. So many of our seniors may be “retired” but are still very productive and “working” individuals. The seniors help themselves and others day in and day out. We are grateful for all you do and admire their spirit of enthusiasm.

Respectfully submitted,

James Sauta, Chairman  
Newton Wesley, Vice Chairman  
Nancy Kyle  
Brian Burke  
Betty Holly  
George Dargaty  
Nancy Chaisson

Alice Olsen  
Jo Langley, Associate  
Eleanor Beaudette, Secretary  
  
Suzanne Morin, Director  
Sharon Funkhouser, Outreach Coordinator  
Elizabeth Scesny, Outreach Worker

## **HOUSING AUTHORITY**

The Stow Housing Authority, founded by town meeting, is authorized by and operates under the provisions of Chapter 121B of the Massachusetts General Laws. The Stow Housing Authority manages and administers low-rent housing programs, which are funded by the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The operations of the Authority are supported entirely by grants or contracts with the state or federal governments.

The Stow Housing Authority is governed by a Board of five commissioners, four of which are locally elected with the fifth member appointed by the Commonwealth. Mr. W. Robert Dilling, Jr. serves as the state appointee. The Board of Commissioners schedules meetings as necessary.

The mission of the Stow Housing Authority is to provide decent and safe housing to income eligible persons. The Stow Housing Authority administers federal Section 8 Voucher and state rental assistance programs. These programs provide participant property owners with a direct payment on behalf of the family. Family participants contribute no more than 40% of their gross monthly income toward the rent with the Housing Authority contributing the difference. Presently, the Authority administers a total of 24 vouchers with a budget of over \$185,000.00. The wait lists for both programs are currently closed.

The Stow Housing Authority was named a High Performer by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Hudson Housing Authority staff conducts the day-to-day program administration. Program information may be obtained by contacting the Hudson Housing Authority at 8 Brigham Circle, Hudson, Massachusetts.

This year the Stow Housing Authority has been working with the various town boards to address the need for affordable housing. The Stow Housing Authority may provide monitoring services for the 40B development.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Larkin, Chairman  
Mark Carrig  
W. Robert Dilling, Jr.

Jack Kendra  
John Toole  
Robert Barrell, Administrator

### **CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

The Cemetery Committee is composed of three members serving year terms under supervision and control of the Board of Selectmen. The Committee maintains the Cemeteries of the Town and with and with the approval of the Board of Selectmen for any employees needed to maintain said Cemeteries. Robb, G. H. Gledhill is the Town's Superintendent of Cemeteries.

There are three cemeteries in Stow: Hillside on Crescent Street, Lower Village at Great Road and Pompositicut Street, and Brookside Cemetery, consisting of the original cemetery and Extension 1 (Horseshoe), Extension 11 Section 1 & 1 A, & 2A, Extension 11 Section 11. Brookside is on Gleasondale and Box Mill Roads.

The Cemetery's Maintenance Department weather season had a moderate Spring with rain and blossoms, while lawn care is improving with a long growing and mowing season, while the Fall season came and went. The snow never arrived. Please let the Superintendent know of any maintenance concerns.

We are bringing forth plans on the newest extension development, roadways and more burial plots. We hope to bring in power and an artesian well.

I should like to thank all the Boards and Town Administrator as well as Highway Department for all of their support.

To all the folks who visit the cemeteries and bring the warmth and beauty to one and all,  
"Thanks." G.H.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy Dudley, Chairman  
Clarissa Potter  
Fred Dodge

Ann Anderson, Associate  
Robb GH Gledhill, Superintendent

## **CULTURAL COUNCIL**

The Stow Cultural Council awarded \$4685 to 13 of the 23 applications for 2007.

The 2007 funds will go to support:

- \$300 for The Lake Boon Water Carnival Music Boat
- \$500 for The Community Arts Festival by Friends of the Arts
- \$650 for The Randall Library Summer Reading Program
- \$250 for An Evening with Billy and Guy
- \$640 for The Stow West School Open Houses
- \$750 for The Hale Middle School Play
- \$850 for The Sounds of Stow 2006/2007 Concert Season
- \$50 for Three Apples Story Telling Festival
- \$100 for The Rivers Edge Community Concert
- \$70 for The 72<sup>nd</sup> Exhibition of Arts and Crafts at the Fitchburg Art Museum
- \$525 for Two Grade Level trips to the DeCordova Art Museum

The Stow Cultural Council consists of seven members. Members are appointed by the Board of Selectmen for three-year terms. The Council is currently looking to expand and is seeking new members.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Stepp, Chairman  
Anne Draudt  
Robert Glorioso  
Catherine Hammill

Donnalisa Johnson  
Lynne Juster  
Dorothy Sonnichsen

## **VETERAN'S SERVICES**

Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 115 requires that the selectmen of each town in the Commonwealth annually appoint a Veterans' Services Officer (VSO) "...to act for them in the disbursement of veterans' benefits..." (Until a change in state regulations in 2005, this position was known as the Veterans' Agent.)

The Town of Stow, as well as the federal and state governments, honors the dedicated and selfless service performed by members of all branches of our armed forces. With the continuing conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq, it becomes increasingly clear that the town will see its share of responsibilities to military veterans increase.

There are various benefits available to military veterans residing in Stow. These services/benefits are separate and distinct from those administered by the federal Veterans' Administration. Some are direct financial assistance benefits determined by a "needs-based" formula. This assistance is paid by the town with a subsequent 75% reimbursement from the state. Other programs are available without regard to any "means" test of the applicant and which do not require the expenditure of municipal funds.

Various services were provided to eligible Stow resident veterans during 2006. Temporary financial aid was provided (anonymously) in accordance with state regulations governing eligibility requirements and level of support. Assistance was provided to family members in applying to a federal program that provides grave markers for deceased Stow resident veterans. The VSO also serves as a liaison to other federal veterans' programs, and works in conjunction with the full-time VSOs in neighboring towns and cities.

Inasmuch as the VSO is a part-time position in Stow town government, regular office hours are not scheduled. However, I am available on request to discuss individual situations and to determine eligibility for various local services. Stow veterans (or their surviving spouses) may contact me directly at (978) 562-6630, by email at [Donhawkes@Comcast.net](mailto:Donhawkes@Comcast.net), or through the Town Clerk's office.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald P. Hawkes, Veterans' Services Officer

## **COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

The Community Preservation Act (CPA), MGL c.44B, was enacted into legislation on September 14, 2000. Under this legislation, municipalities opt to participate by adopting a property tax surcharge to create a locally controlled Community Preservation Fund. The state provides a match, up to a maximum of 100 percent, depending on what percentage surcharge is adopted and the number of communities participating statewide. The Community Preservation Fund can be used to fund projects related to the acquisition and preservation of open space, the creation and support of affordable housing, and the acquisition and preservation of historic buildings, landscapes and documents. The goal of the Community Preservation Act is to provide communities with the means to expand their ability to pursue and implement projects that preserve or enhance their quality of life.

Stow voters accepted the provisions of the Community Preservation Act (CPA) at the Town Meeting in May of 2001. At the subsequent Annual Town Election, Stow voters opted to enact a property tax surcharge of 3 percent to create the Stow Community Preservation Fund. Stow voters also opted to adopt all of the possible exemptions to the surcharge, including: those properties occupied by low income property owners and those properties occupied by low or moderate income senior property owners, if such property owners show proof of income eligibility. The other exemption is on the first \$100,000 of assessed real property, which is taken automatically and reflected in the amount assessed to each property owner. As a result, Stow is participating in a manner that maximizes the state matching funds with the least possible financial impact to the community.

The fiscal year ending June 30, 2006 was the fifth year of collections and state matching grants. On October 5, 2006 Stow was awarded \$364,777 - a 100 percent match - effectively doubling our community's ability to take action in the three specified areas. State matching funds have been awarded each year that Stow has participated (a total of \$1,510,408 awarded to date). Community Preservation funds are deposited in a locally controlled interest-bearing account.

Pursuant to the adoption of the CPA in May 2001, the Community Preservation Committee was formed to develop a Community Preservation Plan to facilitate implementation of the CPA in Stow. The Committee's role is to study the existing resources of the town, identify critical needs,

evaluate various options for addressing those needs, and recommend specific projects for Town Meeting consideration. All projects recommended by the Committee must also be approved by a majority vote at Town Meeting before expenditures can be made from Stow's Community Preservation Fund.

### **Highlights of 2006**

In January of 2006, the House Bill 1680, An Act Relative to Community Preservation Funds was passed. This amendment allows Community Preservation funds to be used for the preservation of historic documents and artifacts.

In May of 2006, Town Meeting voters approved two Community Preservation warrant articles appropriating funds for administrative purposes (\$35,000), and to make the annual reserves required under the Community Preservation Act: Acquisition and Preservation of Historic Buildings and Landscapes (\$75,000), Acquisition and Preservation of Open Space and Recreation Land (\$75,000), and Acquisition and Support of Affordable Housing (\$75,000.)

In July of 2006 Stow's Pilot Grove affordable housing apartments were chosen, by the Massachusetts Community Preservation Coalition, to be photographed for a CPA publication project (photographer T. Luke Young.) In May of 2004, Town Meeting voters approved appropriating funds for the purchase of thirty-seven (37) permanent affordability restrictions on dwelling units at the Pilot Grove Apartments on Warren Road (\$350,000).

The Committee continues to work on the Spring Hill Project approved at a Special Town Meeting in October of 2005. Voters approved one warrant article to acquire 70± acres of land under a Chapter 61 Right of First Refusal for \$1,800,000. The property, known as the "Cushing Property", was proposed for a mix of uses under the Community Preservation Act including, open space, active and passive recreation, affordable housing, and municipal uses. In March of 2006, all interested parties (owner, original buyer, and the Town) went to court for a request for summary judgment documents. The Committee anticipates seeing the project through litigation successfully.

In December of 2006 the Conservation Restriction on the Hale Woodlands was finalized and recorded at the Registry of Deeds. Thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) of CPA funds (appropriated at Town Meeting in May 2005) was paid to the Stow Conservation Trust for the restriction that will keep 23 acres of land, off of Maple Street, open space permanently.

In 2006 the Committee continued its work on their innovative affordable housing deed restriction program. In this affordable housing program, the Town will purchase deed restrictions on existing housing units in Stow, ensuring that the unit remains functionally affordable in perpetuity. To be affordable, housing units, when they are sold, must be sold to individuals or families who earn less than 80% of the median household income for this area. The program has received substantial interest and support from other communities. The Committee plans to submit the final proposal to the Department of Housing and Community Development in early 2007.

The Committee looks forward to implementing additional community preservation projects selected by Town Meeting voters in the years to come. Some projects currently being proposed are a Historic Documents Preservation project, a Historic Stone Wall preservation project, a sprinkler system to preserve the Town Hall, a Lake Boon Restoration project, and a new Recreational Complex. The prospects for continued substantial state matching funds look very promising. Stow voters are to be commended for deciding five years ago to be one of first of the

119 communities (representing more than one third of the state) in Massachusetts that are accruing the many and varied benefits of local adoption of the Community Preservation Act.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Wilber, Open Space, Chairman  
David Walrath, Finance, Vice Chairman  
Laura Spear, Planning Board  
Kathy Sferra, Conservation Commission  
Karen Gray, Historical Commission  
George Dargaty, Council on Aging  
Corinne Green, Recreation Commission  
JT Toole, Housing Authority  
John Bolton, Assessors Office

Jim Sauta, Council on Aging, Associate  
Margie Lynch, Housing Partnership,  
Associate  
Bill Maxfield, Open Space, Associate  
Bruce Fletcher, Planning Board, Associate  
Pat Perry, Conservation, Associate  
  
Deb Seith, Administrative Assistant

### **HOUSING PARTNERSHIP**

The Housing Partnership was formed in 2005 to advocate for increased housing choice for low and moderate income residents and advise policy decisions for other town committees and boards on housing matters. The members of the committee had varying degrees of experience with housing issues when joining the group, and the first months were spent learning about housing issues and establishing objectives for the Partnership.

SHP activities included meeting with the other groups in Stow who deal with housing, such as the Planning Board, Stow Housing Authority, and Community Preservation Committee, as well as State and local groups to see models of how other towns have increased housing diversity. These efforts and other analysis led us to understand that many if not most of the residents of town could not afford to buy their homes at current market prices and to see our town's situation as part of the larger Regional lack of affordable housing. The lack of housing options affects even moderate income residents in concrete ways: seniors who may wish to move to a smaller home but stay in Stow; young adults who are leaving their parents homes in town but can't afford local homes, and Town employees who must look beyond an hour's drive to find homes in their price range.

The Partnership compiled a report to the Board of Selectmen in October 2006 summarizing the current housing situation and our activities, which can be found on the Town web site: <http://www.stow-ma.gov>.

The SHP is moving forward to recommend better definition of the interactions of the various town groups that deal with housing, to complete an analysis of all municipally-owned property for potential residential development, to develop a vision for creation of affordable housing within "village" setting and to establish guidelines for the most effective use of available funds to increase housing choice in Stow.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Bachtell, Chairman  
Bob Billups  
Greg Jones  
Mike Kopczynski

Margie Lynch  
Suzanne Morin  
Trish Settles

## **AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION**

The Agricultural Commission was formed by vote of Town Meeting in December 2005. The five current members were appointed by the Selectmen in February of 2006.

The Commission prepared a notification of the Right to Farm bylaw, also passed by Town Meeting in December, 2005. The notification was sent out to all property owners in the February 2007 tax bills. The Commission also worked on publicity and educational materials and events such as the 2007 Springfest.

The Commission started work on revision of the Town's sign bylaw as it applies to farms.

Respectfully submitted,

Dwight Sipler, Chairman  
Liz Painter, Clerk  
Julie Martin Sullivan

Steve Mong  
Kathy Steege  
Jean Lynch, Associate

## **LOCAL ACCESS CHANNEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The Board of Selectmen established and appointed the Public, Education, and Government (PEG) Advisory Committee in November 2002 for the purpose of establishing a local cable TV access channel for the Town of Stow to provide programming in areas of public affairs, education and town government. As part of the governance agreement established by the Board of Selectman on August 9, 2005, the name of the committee was changed to the Local Access Channel Advisory Committee (LACAC). Funding for operations of the channel is currently provided solely through a license agreement, originally with AT&T and now with Comcast. The cable station is referred to as "Stow TV."

The committee held nine meetings in 2006, fewer than in past years because the station is now operating on a stable basis with established policies. The committee made minor policy revisions, recorded in the *Stow TV Handbook*. Efforts were focused on consolidating and expanding the services begun in the previous year. We gained additional volunteers, increased the volume of local programming, and systematized operations. We built infrastructure to make it easier to record events at designated locations, and improved video technique and equipment.

Stow TV cablecast about 30 Board of Selectmen and Joint Board meetings. It cablecast six School Building Committee information sessions, and several other town board hearings and public information sessions. Additionally, Stow TV recorded and cablecast the Annual Town Meeting in May. It cablecast a "Candidates Night Debate" and an educational video on voting processes, and encouraged voter registration on the bulletin board with guidelines and election dates. Stow TV also contributed video selections from several Stow Town Meetings which Ed Newman helped incorporate into an educational video by the Massachusetts Association of Moderators.

Stow TV cablecast over 65 new locally-produced programs of local events during 2006. These included various local and school concerts, other school events, Memorial Day ceremonies, "Springfest," the Lake Boon water carnival, library and historical commission programs, educational speakers, school graduations, fire department events, Scout events, and more.

Stow TV implemented about 350 announcements during this time period. Many of these announcements used two or three slides for the complete message. A wide variety of local event announcements are continuously shown on the Stow TV bulletin board and updated regularly based on requests from community organizations.

About 40 “photo shows” were featured on the bulletin board, contributed by many citizens. These included pictures of library programs for children, Council on Aging trips, public and school concerts, school plays and programs, museum programs, parades, town festivities and memorials, scenes of Stow, and many other subjects and events.

Stow TV made its program schedules available to the public on the town web site, through publicity to local newspapers and school newsletters, email distribution lists, on the TV announcement bulletin board, and posted at Randall Library and the Council on Aging..

Stow TV volunteers equipped Hale school auditorium and Town Hall with infrastructure to support easier setup and breakdown for recording and cablecast of events. George Scraggs and Lew Halprin built two custom cabinets that provide permanent housing for video equipment. Lew also installed permanent wiring in Hale auditorium and First Parish Church. These improvements make it much easier to record town government, school, and community events at these locations with a minimum of setup. We also purchased accessories that facilitate recording of events at sites with no permanent installations.

Volunteers Linda Stokes and Evan Ciriani recorded nearly all the Selectmen meetings. Linda also recorded all the School Building Taskforce monthly updates, and other events. Mike Jordan joined late in the year to provide technical advice and record several events. Jerry Horne, Tom Zimmerman, and Dan Magnussen helped with Town Meeting sound. Additional volunteers who helped with recording include Claire Lavina, Lori Hawkes, Jean McFedries, and Ted Perry. Scott Glorioso assisted with some concert recordings and provided technical advice.

Stow citizens who produced or submitted video or photo shows include Lew Halprin, Ellen Sturgis, Stow Webelos, Dwight Sipler, Brian Walsh, Dennis Wash, Beth Tobey, Carl Howe, Bonnie Willoughby, Jill Kern, Ross and Susan Perry, George Dargaty, David Gray, the Stow Board of Health, Highway Department, and Medical Reserve Corps.

Bob Mong and Robert Evans contributed technical help with installations and operation. Bob Glorioso helped with installation of wiring and technical advice. Linda Hathaway, Susan McLaughlin, Denise Flynn, Suzanne Morin, and the COA staff collaborated to help us operate successfully. A great many citizens contributed to forty photo displays on the bulletin board, including Greg Troxel, Lew Halprin, Ann DeCristofaro, and Jim Sauta.

Coordinator Anne VanTine managed the day to day operations of Channel 9, coordinating volunteer activities, implementing program schedules, managing the bulletin board, and handling equipment and administrative issues. Volunteer Lew Halprin contributed countless hours, producing many video recordings, providing technical services, and advising on station direction. Stow TV is intended to operate with volunteers and provide video access to town residents . If you are interested in volunteering or contributing video or photos, please contact the Coordinator at **978-897-7732 or by e-mail [stowtv@stow-ma.gov](mailto:stowtv@stow-ma.gov)**.

Several members of the committee stepped down this year. Town Moderator Ed Newman was a founding member who contributed much to shape the direction of Stow TV. Selectman Ross Perry provided excellent guidance, and video professional Andy Dunn helped with technical advice. Andy Dunn and Chris Funkhouser currently serve as Associate members.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Dungan  
Robert Glorioso  
Len Golder  
Lisa Lavina

James Parr

Anne VanTine, Program Coordinator

### **CABLE LICENSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

During 2006, the committee has been mostly dormant with only the need of a few meetings during the year. This is because the Town of Stow is currently in its 4<sup>th</sup> year of a 10-year license with Comcast with no significant problems in their cable service taking place during the year. The primary complaints received by the Cable Committee from Stow residents had to do with service price and content, neither of which is under any local control.

In July, the committee contacted Verizon about the potential to provide video cable service to the residents of Stow, similar to that being provided to larger towns in Massachusetts, so that Stow residents could have an option other than Comcast or satellite for obtaining video service. Verizon's initial response was very positive and the committee met with their regional director on Aug 1 to discuss potential service and the steps needed to arrange for granting a license for Verizon to provide video cable service. This was followed by notifying the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy (DTE) of our solicitation, then by issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for any video cable company to provide this service. Only Verizon was expected to respond to this RFP, but we were notified on the last day of the RFP that Verizon had decided to delay cable franchise discussions with Stow (and most other towns in Massachusetts). It is the committee's understanding that Verizon is negotiating with the DTE to have the DTE issue the necessary approval to provide video service to towns within Massachusetts rather than licensing directly with the towns, similar to how Verizon is licensed to provide telephone service. While this negotiation is going on, Verizon has stopped negotiating with the towns directly. The Committee is hopeful that a license of some sort will allow Verizon to provide the residents of Stow with an alternate video cable service, and although we will continue to monitor this area, we don't expect any potential for this service to occur within the next year or two.

In the mean time, license payments from Comcast to the Town, mostly in support of our local video channel 9, have been received at the appropriate times and provide the funds that support the operating costs of the channel and the cost of equipment purchases and repairs. Members of the Committee continue to provide the Stow PEG Advisory Committee (LACAC) with technical assistance when requested

Committee members are working with the Bolton and Lancaster local access channels to resolve technical problems so that Stow subscribers can in the future share the viewing of events that take place at the Nashoba High School and the Nashoba Regional School District school committee meetings, both of which take place in Bolton. When the technical and security problems are

resolved, those events will be seen on Bolton's local access cable channel 10, which Stow subscribers can view.

As of the middle of 2006, Stow had 1850 subscribers to the Comcast cable system. We encourage the rest of the residents of Stow to obtain at least a basic cable service so you can share the great local coverage that is being provided by Stow Channel 9 of the Selectmen's meetings, other government meetings, activities going on around the town, and the local bulletin board full of announcements of Stow events. For only \$14.00 per month (Senior discount available), this basic service provides our local channels, all Boston area TV stations, and several cable channels. If you already have broadband Internet service from Comcast, the basic service can be added for **FREE** (the discount for multiple services pays the cost of basic video service). When used with a 'dish' satellite video system, this basic cable service could provide local stations as well as the Stow cable channel for about the same cost as the 'local-station option' with the dish company. So, unless your house is a long distance from the road, there is no excuse for missing out on the great Stow Channel 9 programming.

Any complaints about cable service should first be made directly to Comcast through their Customer Service line at (888) 633-4266. If satisfactory service is not obtained there, then call John Fouhy, Senior Director of Community Relations for Comcast, at (978) 692-1906. If a resolution to the problem could still not be obtained, then the complaint should be passed on to the Stow Cable Advisory Committee, care of the Selectmen's Office (Stow Town Building, 380 Great Road, Stow, MA 01775) to see if we can help resolve the problem.

Respectfully submitted,

Lewis Halprin, Chairman  
Arny Buckman  
Robert Mong

George Scraggs  
Patricia Crawford

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

### **Introduction to the Finance Committee**

Every town in Massachusetts with a property valuation of \$1 million or more is required by state law to have a Finance Committee (sometimes called an advisory or appropriation committee) to "consider any or all municipal questions for the purpose of making reports or recommendations to the town."<sup>1</sup> The Finance Committee's primary responsibility is advisory. It closely examines all warrant articles, including the budget, that will be presented to Town Meeting and makes recommendations to the voters on the course of action that it believes the Town should follow. It also administers the reserve fund, set aside by Town Meeting to provide for urgent or unforeseen expenditures that might arise between town meetings. The Finance Committee also attempts to give the people of the town a clear picture of the financial condition of the town with some commentary about how we got in that condition.

In Stow, the Moderator appoints five voting and up to five associate members to the Finance Committee. Any voter registered in Stow is eligible to join. At the end of 2006 there were five voting members and five associate members on the committee.

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<sup>1</sup> Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 39, Section 16

### **Overview of Town Finances and the Fiscal Year 2007 budget**

Creating a balanced budget for fiscal year 2007 (July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007) was easier than in the past several years. Stow did not need an override to balance the FY07 budget, in contrast to the past 3 years. One significant one-time source of new revenue was an increase of approximately \$200,000 in state reimbursement for the Hale Middle School construction project, due to the state audit being completed. Without this revenue, an override would have been needed.

The constraints on our finances are unchanged from prior years: an undiversified tax base forcing the town to rely heavily on residential taxation, large amounts of land exempted or abated from taxes, and relatively low amounts of state aid. Future years may not enjoy the same freedom from overrides if revenue and spending patterns continue. In fact, if the budget continues to grow at its current rate, Stow will likely require an override to balance the budget most years. It is also important to remember that the spending approved at Town Meeting directly controls the rate of growth of town expenses.

### **Town Meetings**

Stow held only one town meeting in 2006, the annual town meeting in May. This town meeting approved the annual budget and various capital items, including an \$80,000 backhoe for the Highway Department and \$58,175 for several items at the Hale Middle School. The School Building Task Force was funded \$117,255 from a combination of free cash and unused monies remaining in prior school-related Special Articles. \$100,000 was added to the Stabilization Fund. Stow did not need an override to balance the FY07 budget. It was an unusually short town meeting, finishing in just one night.

### **School Budgets**

The Nashoba Regional School District continues to represent Stow's largest budget category, 57.3% of total spending (including debt) in FY07 (\$11,522,329 / \$20,093,558). The School Committee requested a budget of \$37,083,659 for FY07, and this budget was approved by Town Meetings in all three district towns. Eliminating debt expense of \$1,138,922 (H.S. Building project and Deficit Bond) left an operations budget of \$35,944,737. This represented an increase of \$2,375,758, or 7.1%, over last fiscal year's operations budget of \$33,568,979.

The district used \$240,000 from its reserve account (generated largely by under-spending in previous fiscal years) as FY07 revenue, the same amount as was taken from this account in FY06. For the past several years, the NRSD has steadily been building reserves in their Excess & Deficiency account, an account similar to the town's Free Cash account.

In contrast to the past several years, the NRSD did not return state aid received in excess of budgeted revenue to the towns. In prior years, Stow's share of the increased state aid had been returned to the town in time to slightly reduce the year's tax rate. Due to uncertainties in the receipt of the money, the district opted to retain the increased aid, and incorporate it into the next budget cycle.

For Minuteman Tech, the Town's assessment for FY07 was \$971,371, a decrease of 1.6% over the prior fiscal year's assessment of \$987,068. This unusual decrease was caused primarily by Stow's student population at the school decreasing.

	<b>FY04</b>	<b>FY05</b>	<b>FY06</b>	<b>FY07</b>	<b>% Change FY06-FY07</b>
NRSD (incl. debt)	\$9,831,106	\$10,127,918	\$10,848,015	\$11,522,329	6.2%
Minuteman	839,901	920,276	987,068	971,371	(1.6)%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,671,007</b>	<b>\$11,048,194</b>	<b>\$11,835,083</b>	<b>\$12,493,700</b>	<b>5.6%</b>

**Town Expenditures**

Total Stow expenditures increased 7.4% in FY07. These expenditures can be divided into two large groups: Municipal Government, which increased 10.4% and Education, which increased 5.6%. Table 2 shows a comparison of total Stow expenditures for FY06 and FY07.

The growth in total Municipal Government was 10.4%. The largest line items, Public Safety and Debt Service grew by 6.3 and 25.2% respectively. Debt Service is an increasingly significant component of town expenses, up by \$326,622 in FY07 due to FY06 voted spending on a fire truck, modular classrooms for Pompo, and the Cushing property. (The Cushing money, though budgeted, has not actually been borrowed due to legal issues.) Although Debt Service will decrease slightly in FY08, it will remain a significant expense in the years to come.

	<b>FY06</b>	<b>FY06</b>	<b>FY07</b>	<b>FY07</b>	<b>\$ Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
	<b>Voted</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>FY06-FY07</b>	<b>FY06-FY07</b>
<b>Municipal Govt</b>						
General	\$725,190	3.9%	\$797,093	4.0%	\$71,903	9.9%
Public Safety	1,638,492	8.8%	1,742,086	8.7%	103,594	6.3%
Public Works	761,198	4.1%	776,249	3.9%	15,051	2.0%
Human Services	194,894	1.0%	211,033	1.1%	16,139	8.3%
Library & Recreation	231,097	1.2%	246,598	1.2%	15,501	6.7%
Town Wide Expense	587,530	3.1%	677,550	3.4%	90,020	15.3%
Special Articles	379,457	2.0%	565,287	2.8%	185,830	49.0%
Recap Items	503,673	2.7%	546,929	2.7%	43,256	8.6%
Capital Spending	565,862	3.0%	415,728	2.1%	(150,134)	(26.5)%
Debt Service	1,294,683	6.9%	1,621,305	8.1%	326,622	25.2%
<b>Total Municipal Govt</b>	<b>\$6,882,076</b>	<b>36.8%</b>	<b>\$7,184,130</b>	<b>37.8%</b>	<b>\$717,782</b>	<b>10.4%</b>
<b>Education</b>	<b>\$11,835,083</b>	<b>63.2%</b>	<b>\$12,493,700</b>	<b>62.2%</b>	<b>\$658,617</b>	<b>5.6%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$18,717,159</b>		<b>\$20,093,558</b>		<b>\$1,376,399</b>	<b>7.4%</b>

Source: Town Administrator, Budget Report, Annual Town Meeting

--- Departmental operating budgets include wages and expenses.

**Town Revenues**

Town Revenue increased 5.5% in FY07. Table 3 shows a comparison of revenue sources for FY06 and FY07. Property Tax, the largest source of town revenue, increased 7% in FY07. State Aid increased 36% in FY07, primarily from increased state reimbursement for the Hale Middle School construction project. Local receipts increased 5% in FY07. Local receipts include excise tax, investment income, and fines collected by various departments.

<b>Table 3: Revenue Sources</b>						
	<b>FY06 Voted</b>	<b>FY06 % of Total</b>	<b>FY07 Voted</b>	<b>FY07 % of Total</b>	<b>\$ Change FY06-FY07</b>	<b>% Change FY06-FY07</b>
<b>Property Tax</b>	\$15,912,029	83.1%	\$17,033,240	84.3%	\$1,121,211	7.0%
<b>State Aid</b>	791,811	4.1%	1,076,984	5.3%	285,173	36.0%
<b>Local Receipts</b>	1,458,100	7.6%	1,531,005	7.6%	72,905	5.0%
<b>Savings</b>	233,262	1.3%	213,672	1.1%	(19,590)	(8.4)%
<b>Override</b>	350,000	1.8%	0	0.0%	(350,000)	(100.0)%
<b>Other</b>	405,838	2.1%	343,465	1.7%	(62,373)	(15.4)%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$19,151,040</b>		<b>\$20,198,366</b>		<b>\$1,047,326</b>	<b>5.5%</b>

Source: Town Administrator, Budget Report, Annual Town Meeting

**Town Savings**

Town Savings increased only \$10,226 or 1.3% in FY07. Town Savings are “rainy day” accounts that are built up during good times and drawn down in bad times. Town Savings is a key determinant of the town credit rating and the credit rating will affect the rate the town would pay should it decide to borrow money for some future use. There are two major Town Savings accounts: Free Cash and Stabilization Fund. Table 4 shows the status of our Stored Assets.

Free cash is unrestricted funds from operations of the previous fiscal year. It is certified by the state before calendar year end 12/31. These funds are not considered to be a “luxury” and while the fund is available for appropriation it should also be maintained as a balance to unforeseen expenditures. For the past 2 fiscal years, the town has used Free Cash to fund certain capital articles.

The Stabilization Fund is designed to accumulate amounts for capital and other future spending purposes. A two-thirds vote of town meeting is required to appropriate funds to deposit into the stabilization fund. In FY06 and 07, respectively, Stow moved \$50,000 and \$100,000 from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund, in part to help protect the town’s current bond rating.

Town Savings is about 4% of Stow’s total budget (\$807,102 / \$20,093,558). The Finance Committee would recommend that Town Savings be in the range of 5 to 10%. This would require an increase of between \$200,000 and \$1.2 million in total savings amounts.

<b>Table 4: Town Savings</b>					<b>\$ Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
	<b>FY 04</b>	<b>FY 05</b>	<b>FY 06</b>	<b>FY 07</b>	<b>FY06- FY07</b>	<b>FY06- FY07</b>
Free Cash	\$651,578	\$478,754	\$573,586	\$472,768	\$(100,818)	(17.6)%
Stabilization Fund	435,841	170,407	223,290	334,334	111,044	49.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,087,419</b>	<b>\$649,161</b>	<b>\$796,876</b>	<b>\$807,102</b>	<b>\$10,226</b>	<b>1.3%</b>

\*Balances at start of fiscal year (July 1)

**Effect on Property Taxes**

The average valuation of a single-family house in Stow is \$483,765. The effect of changes to the budget on your tax bill is shown in Table 5:

<b>Table 5: Effect on Property Taxes</b>						<b>% Change</b>
	<b>FY 03</b>	<b>FY 04</b>	<b>FY 05</b>	<b>FY 06</b>	<b>FY 07</b>	<b>FY06- FY07</b>
Tax Rate (per \$1,000 of Valuation)	\$14.48	\$14.64	\$14.36	\$14.04	\$13.82	(1.6)%
Average Single Family Valuation	\$365,842	\$388,311	\$423,000	\$457,435	\$483,765	5.8%
Average Single Family Tax Bill	\$5,297	\$5,685	\$6,074	\$6,422	\$6,686	4.1%

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Robart, Chairman (Jan to April)  
Patti Heron, Acting Chair (May to Dec)  
Pamela Glauner  
Henry Hagopian  
Charles Kern  
David Walrath  
Gary Bernklow, Associate  
Joseph Hogan, Associate

William Nelson, Associate  
Stephen Piotte, Associate  
James Salvie, Associate

Elizabeth Tobey, Administrative Assistant

## CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Capital Planning Committee is charged by the Town Charter to review and recommend, or not, any department request which is over \$10,000 and has a useful life of three or more years, as well as any land purchase.

For the fiscal '07 budget we reviewed the following departmental requests: dump truck for the Cemetery Department - \$27,298, backhoe for Highway - \$80,000, and a 4WD SUV cruiser for the Police Department - \$33,000. The school requests included kitchen equipment at Hale School - \$14,675, Hale roof survey and repair - \$25,000, and Hale locker replacement - \$18,500. All of these items were recommended by Capital Planning to the Town Meeting and subsequently approved.

The Town Meeting took no action on several school articles: Air conditioning for certain classrooms at Hale School did not receive enough support to be brought before the meeting. No action was taken on a school district request for funds to replace the gym ceiling and floor and ceiling tiles at Center School. These repairs were made with funds available from articles approved by previous Town Meeting votes which had a balance remaining. Pompo driveway improvements did not receive the support of Capital Planning, and there no action was taken on this request at Town Meeting.

As we enter the '08 budget process, we welcome back Steve Jelinek who has graciously agreed to be our clerk and guru of record keeping (thank you, Steve!), and we welcome three associates: Jim Medeiros, Ross Perry, and Myie Yvanovich. In spite of associates having no vote, we welcome their opinions and their collective wisdom.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Lynch, Chair, Moderator's Appointee  
Davis Arsenault, Moderator's Appointee  
Kathleen Farrell, Finance Appointee

Steve Jelinek, Moderator's Appointee  
Carole Makary, Selectmen's Appointee

## BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Since the real estate market has begun to slow down, the overall result during 2006 yielded a smaller increase in values than previous years for residential and commercial property. The total assessed value for FY2007 is \$1,218,117,280, up from \$1,133,335,400 in FY2006, and represents a 7.5% increase overall. New Growth again played a large part in this figure, comprising about 40% of the total increase. Existing property increased by 4.5% on average, with the remaining part of the overall increase accounted for by new growth. Land values continued to increase in all sectors, with land on the water experiencing the largest rise.

The town of Stow has just completed a certification year (FY2007), and the Massachusetts Department of Revenue has certified that property assessments are uniform throughout town and are representative of the real estate market. The Assessors' office adjusts values each year to represent market values, but in a certification year, the DOR Commissioner must certify these values before the town can set the new tax rate.

Seniors on fixed incomes can be particularly vulnerable to tax increases. A notebook at the Assessors' window contains information on the details of the various exemptions, deferrals, and other programs designed to help with taxes. The 41C tax exemption of \$1000 is available for those over the age of 65 with limited income and assets. The disabled veteran's exemption has also increased significantly this year. In addition, an article was passed at Town Meeting increasing all exemptions by up to 100%. Another article reduced the interest rate on Tax Deferrals to 4%. Do not hesitate to check to see whether you qualify for any of these programs.

The Community Preservation Act (CPA) surcharge system continues to be administered by the Assessors' office. The total CPA surcharge raised during FY2006 was \$364,777 with matching funds received in September. Exemptions from the surcharge are available for certain income brackets. Check with the Assessors' office for more information.

The composition of the Board is unchanged again this year. John Bolton was re-elected to the position he has held for the last three years. We welcome a new part time clerk, Isabel Prokopovich, to the Assessors' office. In addition, from time to time, you may see one of two sub-contractors collecting data on property in Stow. We hope you will allow these representatives of the Assessors' office to do their job. Our property assessments are only as good as our data.

The Board of Assessors encourages taxpayers to ask any questions or discuss any matter that might help them better understand their assessments. The staff in the Assessors' office is available every day to assist the public.

Respectfully submitted,

John P. Bolton, Chairman  
John E. Smith  
Walter L. Schwall

Dorothy K. Wilbur, Principal Assessor  
Louise A. Nejad, Assistant Assessor  
Isabel Prokopovich, Assessors' Clerk

## FISCAL 2006 TAX RATE RECAPITULATION

### TAX RATE SUMMARY

A.	Total Amount to be Raised	\$20,649,660.50
B.	Total Estimated Receipts & Other Revenue	\$ 3,815,279.69
C.	Tax Levy	\$16,834,380.81
D.	Distribution of Tax Rates & Levies	

CLASS	LEVY PERCENTAGE	LEVY BY CLASS	VALUATION BY CLASS	TAX RATES
Residential	92.0229%	\$15,491,485.42	\$1,120,947,300	\$13.82
Open Space	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Commercial	4.6157%	777,024.52	56,224,500	\$13.82
Industrial	2.0691%	348,320.17	25,204,500	\$13.82
Personal	1.2923%	217,550.70	15,740,980	\$13.82
<hr/>				
TOTAL	100%	\$16,834,380.81	\$1,218,117,280	

Prepared by Dorothy Wilbur  
Principal Assessor



**TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT**

	<b>FY 2005</b>	<b>FY 2006</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>BEGINNING CASH BALANCE (TREASURER):</b>	3,276,776	3,533,944	7.8%
<b>RECEIPTS:</b>			
Property Tax	14,637,989	15,787,553	7.9%
Community Preservation Surcharge	330,980	364,197	10.0%
Motor Vehicle & Other Taxes	1,115,658	1,032,687	-7.4%
Tax Titles & Deferrals	22,608	45,163	99.8%
Transfers from Trust Funds	14,042	11,880	-15.4%
Department & Misc Revenue	939,057	1,053,280	12.2%
State Aid & Grants	891,045	867,421	-2.7%
Interest on Investments	58,369	134,944	131.2%
Offset Payroll Deductions	885,854	970,715	9.6%
Bond/Note Receipts	1,035,000	1,530,000	47.8%
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS:</b>	<b>19,930,602</b>	<b>21,797,840</b>	<b>9.4%</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>			
Payroll	2,926,915	3,161,946	8.0%
Vendor	4,272,024	3,869,886	-9.4%
School District Assessments	10,701,699	11,292,508	5.5%
Retirement Assessment	278,060	320,422	15.2%
Debt Payments	1,488,786	2,187,677	46.9%
Transfer to Trust Funds	5,950	155,230	2508.9%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES:</b>	<b>19,673,434</b>	<b>20,987,669</b>	<b>6.7%</b>
<b>ENDING CASH BALANCE (TREASURER):</b>	<b>3,533,944</b>	<b>4,344,115</b>	<b>22.9%</b>
<b>YEAR END ACCRUALS:</b>	507,005	508,478	0.3%
<b>ENDING CASH BALANCE (TOWN ACCOUNTANT):</b>	4,040,949	4,852,593	20.1%
<b>TREASURER HELD TRUST FUNDS:</b>	464,555	640,093	37.8%
<b>YEAR END TOTAL CASH BALANCE:</b>	<b>4,505,504</b>	<b>5,492,686</b>	<b>21.9%</b>

Prepared by Pamela Landry  
Treasurer-Collector

**TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT FY 2006**

Tax & Levy Year	Tax Outstanding as of 7/1/05	New Commitments	Amount Collected	Exemptions & Abatements	Refunds	Tax Takings & Deferrals	Tax Outstanding as of 6/30/06
2006 Real Estate	\$0.00	\$15,709,876.68	\$15,442,983.25	\$45,463.29	\$8,096.41	\$43,363.58	\$186,162.97
2005 Real Estate	\$147,167.79	\$0.00	\$136,641.69	\$1,660.01	\$705.07	\$9,567.32	\$3.84
2006 Supplemental RE Tax	\$0.00	\$85,459.13	\$76,065.42	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,393.71
2005 Supplemental RE Tax	\$21,207.80	\$0.00	\$21,207.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Chapter 61 Rollback Tax	\$3,763.44	\$120,119.11	\$62,101.10	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$61,781.45
2006 Comm Pres Act	\$0.00	\$373,680.99	\$360,979.19	\$8,706.61	\$448.16	\$773.79	\$3,669.56
2005 Comm Pres Act	\$3,355.57	\$0.00	\$3,217.59	\$159.13	\$21.15	\$0.00	\$0.00
2006 Personal Property	\$0.00	\$211,391.86	\$207,490.16	\$0.00	\$358.15	\$0.00	\$4,259.85
2005 Personal Property	\$1,086.38	\$0.00	\$414.46	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$671.92
2004 Personal Property	\$932.70	\$0.00	\$23.42	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$909.28
2006 Motor Vehicle	\$0.00	\$779,781.14	\$692,909.11	\$23,665.91	\$2,097.51	\$0.00	\$65,303.63
2005 Motor Vehicle	\$64,840.92	\$117,692.78	\$170,492.55	\$10,691.51	\$4,710.22	\$0.00	\$6,059.86
2004 Motor Vehicle	\$7,978.77	\$3,252.53	\$4,717.19	\$1,844.49	\$483.10	\$0.00	\$5,152.72
2003 Motor Vehicle	\$2,966.47	\$0.00	\$510.42	\$651.77	\$651.77	\$0.00	\$2,456.05
2002 Motor Vehicle	\$2,830.01	\$0.00	\$828.33	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,001.68
2001 & Prior Motor Vehicle	\$4,715.99	\$0.00	\$62.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,653.49
Farm & Forest Excise Tax	\$0.00	\$3,792.30	\$3,792.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Totals: \$260,845.84 \$17,405,046.52 \$17,184,436.48 \$92,842.72 \$17,571.54 \$53,704.69 \$352,480.01

Interest & Fees Collected: \$53,192.10

**Total Collected: \$17,237,628.58**

Prepared by: Pamela Landry  
Treasurer-Collector

**TOWN OF STOW**  
**COMBINED BALANCE SHEET (Unaudited)**  
**ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUP**  
**June 30, 2006**

	Governmental Funds			Fiduciary Funds		General Long-Term Debt Account Group	Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Capital Project Funds	Trust And Agency Funds			
<b>Assets</b>							
Cash and Interest Bearing Deposits	\$ 1,622,000	\$ 2,418,110	\$ 433,266	\$ 1,019,310	\$ -	\$ -	5,492,686
Cash and Investments Held by Trustees				909,497			909,497
Receivables:							
Real Estate Taxes	186,167						186,167
Personal Property Taxes	5,841						5,841
Less Allowance for Abatements and Exemptions	(71,432)						(71,432)
Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes	85,627						85,627
Tax Liens	74,904	1,145					76,049
Rollback Taxes Receivable	61,781						61,781
Deferred Real Estate Taxes	33,855						33,855
Supplemental Taxes	9,394						9,394
Tax Foreclosures	104,072						104,072
Ambulance	86,751						86,751
CPA Surcharge		3,670					3,670
Other	5,720	20,651					26,371
Due From Other Funds	250,376	509,376	79,755	250			839,757
Due From Other Governments	20,434	222,747					243,181
Amount to be Provided for Notes and Bonds Payable					9,980,000	9,980,000	9,980,000
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,475,490</b>	<b>\$ 3,175,699</b>	<b>\$ 513,021</b>	<b>\$ 1,929,057</b>	<b>\$ 9,980,000</b>	<b>\$ 9,980,000</b>	<b>\$ 18,073,267</b>

**TOWN OF STOW**  
**COMBINED BALANCE SHEET (Unaudited)**  
**ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUP**  
**June 30, 2006**

	Governmental Funds			Fiduciary Funds		General Long-Term Debt Account Group	Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Capital Project Funds	Trust And Agency Funds			
<b>Liabilities and Fund Equity</b>							
<b>Liabilities</b>							
Warrants Payable	\$ 56,866	\$ -	\$ -	-	\$ -	\$ -	56,866
Accounts Payable	8,045	24,393	49,578				82,016
Accrued Payroll	72,071						72,071
Amounts Withheld from Employees and Other Liabilities	50,433			322,459			372,892
Due to Other Funds	589,381	192,050		58,326			839,757
<b>Deferred Revenue:</b>							
Personal Property and Real Estate Taxes	120,576						120,576
Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes	85,627						85,627
Tax Liens	74,904	1,145					76,049
Rollback Taxes	61,781						61,781
Deferred Real Estate Taxes	33,855						33,855
Supplemental Taxes	9,394						9,394
Tax Foreclosures	104,072						104,072
Ambulance	86,594						86,594
CPA Surcharge		3,670					3,670
Other		16,152					16,152
Bonds Payable			1,230,000			9,980,000	11,210,000
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>1,353,599</b>	<b>237,410</b>	<b>1,279,578</b>	<b>380,785</b>	<b>9,980,000</b>	<b>9,980,000</b>	<b>13,231,372</b>

**TOWN OF STOW**  
**COMBINED BALANCE SHEET (Unaudited)**  
**ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUP**  
**June 30, 2006**

	Governmental Funds			Fiduciary Funds		General Long-Term Debt Account Group	Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Capital Project Funds	Trust And Agency Funds			
<b>Fund Equity</b>							
Retained Earnings (Deficit)			(1,035,692)				(1,035,692)
Reserved for Expenditure	341,294	2,244,828	120,400				2,706,522
Reserved for Encumbrances		2,825	148,735				151,560
Reserved for Appropriation		313,631					313,631
Reserved for Endowment				309,352			309,352
Designated for Revolving Funds		102,085					102,085
Undesignated	556,162	274,920		1,238,920			2,070,002
Undesignated - Reduction of Future Debt	224,435						224,435
<b>Total Fund Equity</b>	<b>1,121,891</b>	<b>2,938,289</b>	<b>(766,557)</b>	<b>1,548,272</b>			<b>4,841,895</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Equity</b>	<b>\$ 2,475,490</b>	<b>\$ 3,175,699</b>	<b>\$ 513,021</b>	<b>\$ 1,929,057</b>		<b>\$ 9,980,000</b>	<b>\$ 18,073,267</b>

Prepared by: Julie Costello  
Town Accountant

**TOWN OF STOW**  
**SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN FUND EQUITY**  
**STATE GRANTS & REVOLVING FUNDS**  
**June 30, 2006**

	Beginning Fund Equity	Revenues	Expenditures	Ending Fund Equity
<b>STATE GRANTS:</b>				
Public Safety	\$ 25,317	\$ 46,183	\$ 63,361	\$ 8,139
Education Grant	2,469	-	-	2,469
Culture & Recreation	1,636	2,506	1,225	2,917
Council on Aging	-	4,414	3,796	618
Library	2,765	8,792	4,250	7,307
Other Grants	9	1,512	718	803
<b>TOTAL STATE GRANTS:</b>	<u>\$ 32,196</u>	<u>\$ 63,407</u>	<u>\$ 73,350</u>	<u>\$ 22,253</u>
<b>REVOLVING FUNDS:</b>				
Recreation	\$ 4,359	\$ 91,302	\$ 88,259	\$ 7,402
Inspectors	9,485	27,583	27,587	9,481
Ambulances Services	-	7,312	7,312	-
<b>TOTAL REVOLVING FUNDS:</b>	<u>\$ 13,844</u>	<u>\$ 126,198</u>	<u>\$ 123,158</u>	<u>\$ 16,884</u>

Prepared by:  
Julie Costello  
Town Accountant

## TRUST FUND FINANCIAL REPORT - FY 2006

The following Town trust funds were managed by Morgan Stanley of Boston, Massachusetts and were invested as follows:  
 Certificates of Deposit (29%), Government Money Market Fund (24%), Municipal Bonds (23%), Equities (13%), and Mutual Funds (11%).

<b>Stabilization Fund</b>	Beginning Balance 7/1/2005	\$171,469.14
	Disbursements	\$0.00
	Receipts - Article 50 of 5/2005 & Article 42 of 5/2006	\$150,000.00
	Investment Earnings	\$12,864.52
	Ending Balance 6/30/2006	<b>\$334,333.66</b>
<b>Conservation Fund</b>	Beginning Balance 7/1/2005	\$50,414.99
	Disbursements	(\$9,755.00)
	Receipts - Article 12 of 5/2005	\$5,230.00
	Investment Earnings	\$2,805.82
	Ending Balance 6/30/2006	<b>\$48,695.81</b>
<b>Town Farm</b>	Unexpended Original Deposit	<b>\$8,751.96</b>
	Beginning Expendable Balance 7/1/2005	\$28,305.91
	Investment Earnings	\$2,163.31
	Ending Expendable Balance 6/30/2006	<b>\$30,469.22</b>

**Cemetery Perpetual Care  
Non-Expendable**

Beginning Balance 7/1/2005 \$91,145.00  
 Receipts \$2,350.00  
 Ending Balance 6/30/2006 **\$93,495.00**

**Expendable**

Beginning Balance 7/1/2005 \$25,064.86  
 Disbursements (\$1,742.05)  
 Investment Earnings \$6,804.21  
 Ending Balance 6/30/2006 **\$30,127.02**

**Mabel Hale**

Unexpendable Bequest **\$35,000.00**

Beginning Expendable Balance 7/1/2005 \$4,603.11  
 Disbursements \$0.00  
 Investment Earnings \$2,311.88  
 Ending Expendable Balance 6/30/2006 **\$6,914.99**

**Cyrus H. Whitney Central Common Fund**

Unexpendable Bequest **\$1,000.00**

Beginning Expendable Balance 7/1/2005 \$250.45  
 Disbursements \$0.00  
 Investment Earnings \$73.01  
 Ending Expendable Balance 6/30/2006 **\$323.46**



<b>Mabel Hallock - Common Memorial &amp; Flag</b>			
Unexpendable Bequest			<b>\$1,000.00</b>
Beginning Expendable Balance 7/1/2005	\$1,400.95		
Disbursements	(231.49)		
Investment Earnings	\$127.53		
Ending Expendable Balance 6/30/2006			<b>\$1,296.99</b>
<b>Unexpendable Bequest</b>			
			<b>\$18,810.00</b>
<b>Otto &amp; Aina Stein Fund</b>			
Beginning Expendable Balance 7/1/2005	\$12,567.91		
Disbursements	\$0.00		
Investment Earnings	\$1,831.73		
Ending Expendable Balance 6/30/2006			<b>\$14,399.64</b>
<b>TOTAL TRUST FUND BALANCE:</b>			<b>\$ 640,093.24</b>

Prepared by: Pamela Landry  
Treasurer-Collector

## TRUST FUNDS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE RANDALL LIBRARY

The policy of the Randall Library Trustees is to spend interest and capital gains in excess of inflation generated by the trust funds for the purchase of library materials, primarily books. Trust funds are combined and are managed by the Board of Trustees to target a 60%/40% split between equity and income-based securities, respectively. Highly rated, professionally managed mutual funds are primarily used as investment vehicles.

Based on the Beusch formula method of calculating annual disbursements by the Trustees, a disbursement of \$20,000 was authorized and used for the benefit of Randall Library patrons. The current and past year ending values, cash flow and fund performance for the 2006 Calendar Year are shown in the CY'06 Report.

Respectively submitted,

Rob Aldape  
Treasurer, Randall Library Trustees  
February 28, 2007

### Statement of Sources & Uses of Funds, CY '06:

**January 1, 2006 Opening Balance     \$   516,149.40**

#### Sources of Funds:

##### Contributions and Donations

Hale High School Fund	\$	12,000.00
Merwin Memorial	\$	500.00
Randall Library Friends	\$	2,668.00
Book Sales	\$	383.65
Net Investment Income	\$	19,780.27
Capital Gain	\$	39,474.30
Total	\$	74,806.22

#### Uses of Funds:

Books	\$	(13,325.46)
Periodicals	\$	(2,953.97)
Reference	\$	(6,873.32)
DVD	\$	(4,494.02)
Children's Programming	\$	(2,186.58)
Audio	\$	(3,599.75)
Equipment	\$	(1,592.79)
Miscellaneous	\$	(29.73)
Total	\$	(35,055.62)

**December 31, 2006 Ending Balance     \$   555,900.00**

RANDALL RELIEF FUND

RANDALL TOWN FUND

RANDALL RELIEF FUND

Balance January 1, 2006	\$ 59,134.25
Interest received	858.16
Contributions Received	0
Repayments Received	0
Payments	(2,602.27)
	<hr/>
Balance December 31, 2006	\$ 57,390.14
(Citizens Bank Insured Money Market Account)	

RANDALL TOWN FUND

Balance January 1, 2006	\$ 20,000.00
Interest earned	696.08
Payment to Town Treasurer	(696.08)
	<hr/>
Balance December 31, 2006	\$ 20,000.00
(Citizens Bank 2-year Certificate of Deposit)	

Louise E. Peacock  
Jeffrey D. Smith  
Dorothy G. Sonnichsen, Treasurer  
Trustees

**HALE HIGH SCHOOL FUND  
INCOME/EXPENSE  
7/1/05 - 6/30/06**

**INCOME**

Dividends	\$ 6,715.38
Bond Interest	12,115.31
Mutual Fund Income	<u>1,217.39</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 20,048.08</b>

**EXPENSE**

Randall Memorial Library	\$ 18,000.00
Hudson Savings Bank - Management Services	<u>4,167.98</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$ 22,167.98</b>

**Trustees of the Hale High School Fund**

Ray S. Frost  
Jeffery D. Smith  
Wayne A. Fletcher  
Robert F. Derby  
Linda Hathaway

**HALE HIGH SCHOOL FUND  
PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS  
AS OF 6/30/06**

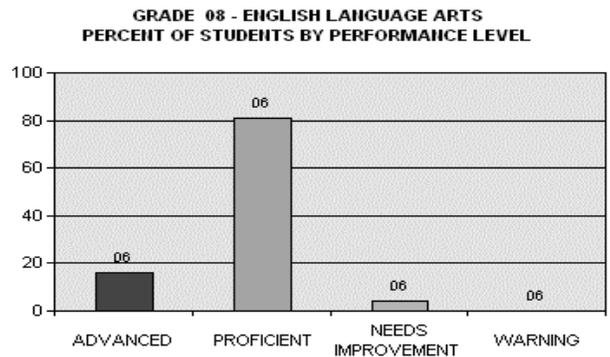
<u>Assets Held</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Percent of Portfolio</u>
<b><u>Stocks</u></b>		
ADRS	\$ 6,907.25	
Common Stock	\$180,428.88	
Funds – Domestic	\$ 30,168.49	
Funds – International	<u>\$ 32,775.46</u>	
<b>Total Stocks:</b>	\$250,280.08	49.3%
<b><u>Bonds</u></b>		
Agencies	\$ 70,025.59	
Corporate	<u>\$164,413.83</u>	
<b>Total Bonds:</b>	\$234,439.42	46.2%
<b><u>Money Market</u></b>		
Money Market	\$ 22,710.18	4.5%
<hr/>		
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$507,429.68</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

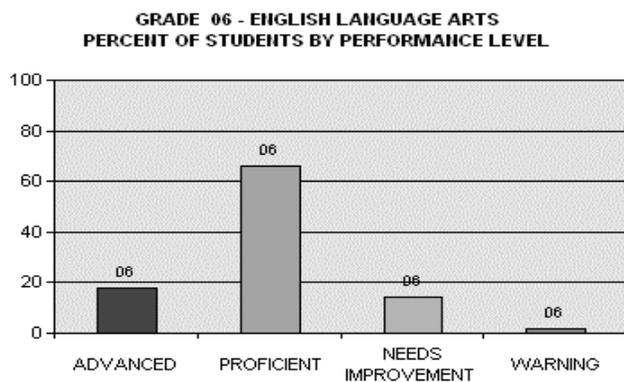
Nashoba Regional School District had a very strong year in 2006, both academically and fiscally. The District has kindergarten through second grade classes located at the Pompositticut Elementary School, with grade three through five classes at the Center School, and grades six through eight classes at Mabel Hale Middle School. High school students from Stow attend Nashoba Regional High School in Bolton along with students from Lancaster and Bolton completing our regional school system.

The elementary school population is growing. There are now over eight hundred (846) students attending kindergarten through eighth grade in Stow. Programming space continues to be an issue for our elementary schools. The Town of Stow has an active building task force with a timeline to submit choices to the Town at the May Town Meeting.

The District expanded Technology and Engineering to the fifth grades this year at Center School with the assistance of the Hale Middle School tech ed teacher. Pompositticut and Center sent thirteen teachers to Responsive Classroom training this past summer with the help of a grant from the Alice Eaton Foundation. Pompositticut and Center have begun a guided reading and assessment initiative at the grade 1-3 level. Mr. Greg Irvine, Pompo and Center Principal, wrote and received a \$2000 grant from the Hanscom Air Force Base to purchase technology education supplies for the students to use in their science class.



Former teacher, Carol Kelley, and her volunteers have organized science materials for the teachers to use to offer hands on activities for the students at Pompo. Due to retirements and leaves, our schools welcomed thirteen new staff members to the Pompositticut and Center faculty this year. We were successful in adding a full time librarian shared between Pompositticut and Center Schools. We continue to be a training site for student teachers from Framingham State and Lesley College. Our new "Teacher Instructional Coaches" are facilitating staff discussion and projects in various areas of the curriculum. We rededicated the flagpole outside of Center School with a ceremony on Constitution Day with a flag given to us by the U.S. Navy.



Hale Middle School has implemented an advisory program for all students in grades six, seven and eight. The purpose of the program is to strengthen the partnerships between staff and students through ensuring each child has a significant adult to whom to turn to talk, share what's going on their lives, and to seek counsel. The Adventure Learning Program has been implemented as part of the Grade 6 physical education and health programs. Six Hale Middle School Students won awards at the Global Classrooms Middle School Model United Nations at Northeastern University. The Model UN Club is currently preparing for our next conference

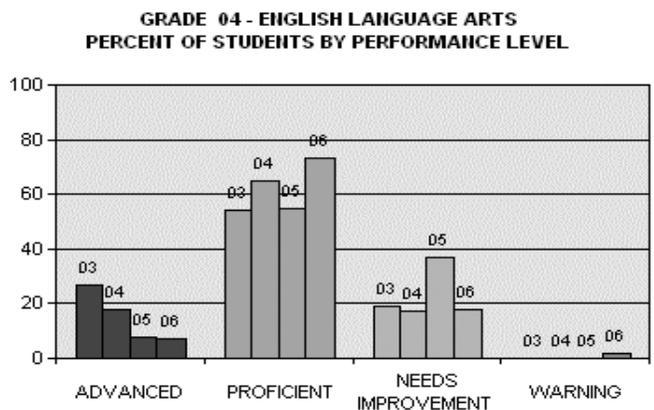
at Bentley College.

In 2006 we were fortunate to have our health program restored for grades kindergarten through five and expanded at the eighth grade level. For the first time in the District's short history we have also had a district wide

schedule for all of our middle schools and elementary schools that allowed us to increase the academic time as well as even it out across curriculum areas throughout the District. The District has also made considerable progress on a complete revision of our English and Language Arts curriculum and our Social Studies curriculum. Both will be fully implemented over the 2007 – 2008 school year.

Academically our students continue to perform well as evidenced by their most recent scores (2006) on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System. The data indicates strong performance by our students in Stow with each successive year showing improvement. The goal of a standards based assessment system is to see growth over time, and while this assessment system measures how each group of students compares in terms of how we deliver the curriculum, we know that when we look at individual performance students are showing growth and improvement.

Fiscally, our District has never been stronger. Our most recent audit for FY 06 shows no material findings. This is an incredible feat for any organization, but especially one that is only four years from a significant fiscal event. Mr. George King, the Assistant Superintendent for Finance, through the management of his business team, has developed a handle on the fiscal capacity of our system and is creating a top notch response to the demands of operating under the fiscal constraints of running a regional school district in today's economic times. The FY 07 Budget increased 7.51% to \$37,083,658 and Stow's contribution increased 6.22%. This was in part due to changes in the Chapter 70 formula and Stow's growing population.



We are fortunate to have a great partnership with the Town of Stow's Capital Needs Committee so that the capital needs of the schools are being met. Mr. Bill Spratt, the District's Director of Facilities, has been instrumental in keeping people informed and responsive to their questions about facilities needs. This has translated into support of significant capital improvements over the last year. There has been work on the roof at Hale Middle School, the roof at Center cafeteria, and interior fans have been added at Hale to address the excessive heat in the late summer and late spring. The Town also purchased a modular unit that houses two classrooms for the Pompositticut School. There are now four temporary classrooms at Pompositticut. The District is also benefiting from a lease agreement approved in 2006 by all three communities. This lease documents the relationship between the Town of Stow and the District as it relates to managing the capital needs of the schools.

The schools have also benefited from the excellent work of the school council and the donations committee. Stow's students, teachers and staff also benefit from many gifts including the gift of time from numerous volunteers throughout the school year.

The District has been honored by the recognition of those who have come to know the quality of our staff from outside our system. Ms. Ann Farrell was chosen as the Nurse Administrator of the Year by the Massachusetts Association of School Nurses. Mr. Peter Richards was chosen as the Athletic Director of the Year by the Massachusetts Association of Athletic Directors. The District is truly fortunate to have such strong participation in these competitive award programs.

The Town of Stow has every reason to have great pride in its elementary schools, middle school and its contribution to Nashoba Regional High School. Our students are continuously improving and demonstrating their competitiveness in the classroom, on the field and in the world around us.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael L. Wood, Superintendent

Brian Burke, Stow Representative  
Ellen Sturgis, Stow Representative  
Christine Way, Stow Representative

## NASHOBA REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2006

Donald Allison III	Floor de Veer	Shaun Kuehne
Duncan Amos	Brian Dienst	Laura Lakin
Elisha Arsenault	Shana DiMasi	Matthew Lane
Nicholas Ashman	Andrew Dion	Benjamin Langelo
Jillian Aucoin	Jocelyn Donnelly	Lindsay Lapen
Laura Balducci	Megan Doran	Patrick Leach
Joseph Basile	James Dorazio	Taylor LeFrancois
Daniel Bates	Caroline Driscoll	Oliver Leland IV
Ryan Bates	Christina Duplease	Sebastian Lena
Jessica Batsford	Ariana Elmi	Alan Levin
Stephanie Bearce	Stephanie Enterkin	Britney Lewis
Brad Belliveau	Samuel Ewing	Erik Loescher
Natalya Betzig	William Fawcett	Jeffrey Lovington
Mark Bilancieri	Danielle Feely	Michael MacBrien
Tiffany Bitto	Emalee Fenner	Ashley MacLeod
Jared Blanchflower	Alastair Ferrie	Matthew Maki
Zachary Blanchflower	Margaux Fischer	Casey Maloney
Jenelle Bonazzoli	Leigh Fitzgerald	Robert Maloney
Everett Bonczek	Lindsay Flores	Joel Mandell
Catherine Bonner	Kelsey Fly	Robert Manley
Cassandra Boston-Johnson	Luis Forte'	Brian Martinek
Leah Boutotte	Marta Forte'	Max Martinson
Kristina Boyle	Seth Freidus	Grace Masters
Benjamin Brideau	Lindsey Garsik	Alexandra Matlock
Meghan Brown	Hannah Gavalis	Amy Maule
Thomas Bucciero	Michael Generoso	Elizabeth Maxwell
Jessica Burgoyne	Justine Gentuso	Jonathan McAlpine
Brennan Burns	Richard Goodnow	Sean McCarthy
Jillian Camilleri	Michael Gorham	Martha McKean
Sarah Case	Robert Granger	Kayla McNally
Kleber Ceron	Denver Greene	Vicki Melanson
Leah Chow	Emily Griffin	Hillary Merritt
Francesca Chubb-Confer	Christopher Gunderson	Cheri Miakisz
Elbert Clark III	John Hagermoser	Emily Michaud
Jake Cole	Sarah Hart	Benjamin Moore
Jacob Combs	Erik Hartwell	Katherine Moore
Timothy Connelly	Connor Hogan	Peter Morse
Emily Coppenrath	Scott Hogan	Catherine Mullane
Timothy Corley	Brandon Hoover	Lindsey Murray
Angela Costa	Jonathan Janda	Roger Myrthil
Brittany Crooker	Timothy Janson	Gayle Nelson
Courtney Cutler	Jethro Jean-Baptiste	Heather Nelson
Brett Dalzell	Kristen Jones	Lauryn Nosek
Hannah Daman	Przemyslaw Kawka	Christine O'Brien
Natalie D'Angona	Michael Kennedy	Kelly O'Kane
Jennifer Danowitz	Lysanne Kester	Roald Osvold
William Dawson	Sean Kotlarz	Ashley Owen

Andrew Parenteau  
Krystal Parker  
Matthew Partridge  
Garrett Patterson  
Taylor Patti  
Jeremy Pendleton  
David Perry  
Jonathan Peters  
Linnea Petterson  
Andrew Philbin  
Ricky Piermarini  
Ashley Pirez  
Elizabeth Polido  
Kevin Poore  
Courtney Poulson  
Mariana Pradas  
Brandon Prichard  
Pengzhou Qian  
Meghan Rauber  
Marilyn Rios  
Francesca Rizzo  
Michael Robinson  
Curtis Roemer  
Nathaniel Rugo  
Jordan Runtagh  
Scott Sacra  
Al Salas  
Alexander Salhany  
Andrea Santoro  
Verity Sayles  
Matthew Schultze  
Jeffrey Schumacher

Ragnhild Schwartz  
Benjamin Sefton  
Abby Shields  
Heather Siewierski  
Barbara Sirois  
Joya Smith  
Sarah Smith  
Jessenia Soto  
Danielle Southcotte  
Alyse Staake  
Madeleine Starkey  
Lucas Steere  
Dana Steigerwalt  
Kelly Sullivan  
Taylor Tamblyn  
Nathan Taylor  
Carmen Thurston  
Monique Tremblay  
Christopher Trinkaus-Randall  
Julianne Vaccaro  
Jessenia Velez  
Gregory Vigneaux  
Stephanie Villegas-Hoag  
Matthew Vittorioso  
Lauryn Wachs  
Justin Walters  
Jonathan Wheeler  
Ross Wheeler  
Zachary Whitcomb  
Ian White  
Sara Wilson  
Meagan Zadroga

## MINUTEMAN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL OF APPLIED ARTS & SCIENCES

### Class of 2006 Graduate Achievement Highlights

- 96% of the Class of 2006 graduated into college, employed in their field of study or enlisted in the US military.
- Commercial & Human Services graduates achieved 98% placement rate with 76% enrolled in college, 21% employed in their field of study, and 1% in the military.
- Science Technology graduates achieved 98% placement with 81% enrolled in college, 7% employed in their field of study and 10% enlisted in the US military with 100% of Electromechanical Engineering, Environmental Science, Office Technology and Graphic Communications students attending college.
- Construction-Trades graduates achieved 92% placement rate 35% enrolled in college, 49% entering the workplace in their field of study and 8% enlisting in the US military.
- 100% of Dental graduates passed the National Dental Board examination.
- 100% of Early Childhood Education graduates were certified by the Office for Child Care Services.
- 100% of Cosmetology graduates passed the state board examination to become a licensed hair stylist.
- Medical Occupations graduates achieved 100% placement in college.
- Daniel Ceddia, a Plumbing graduate from Sudbury, was honored as an Outstanding Vocational Student of the Year by the Minuteman Regional School Committee, the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators and State Commissioner of Education, Dr. David Driscoll.
- John Pelletier, a Computer Technology student from Lancaster, graduated Valedictorian in the Class of 2006.
- Student speakers at the Class of 2006 graduation ceremony were Valedictorian John Pelletier of Lancaster, Salutatorian Victoria Coffey of Watertown and Class President Nicholas Radl of Stow.

### The Class of 2006, Stow

Alexander Blake	HVAC	<i>President's Award of Academic Achievement</i>
Dennis Dauplaise	Plumbing	
Gregory Dawkins	Landscape Management	
Mary Dunn	Cosmetology	<i>President's Award of Academic Achievement</i>
David Ellis	Plumbing	
William Ewing	Computer Programming	
Patrick Flynn	Culinary Arts	<i>President's Award of Academic Achievement</i>
Anthony Lenox	Plumbing	
Kimberly March	Biotechnology Academy	<i>President's Award of Academic Achievement</i>
Alex Mong	Electrical Wiring	<i>President's Award of Academic Achievement</i>
Stephen Nisotel	Computer Programming	
Nicholas Radl	Graphic Communications	<i>President's Award of Academic Achievement</i>
Alex Spencer	Welding	

### Academic Division Highlights

- Minuteman Regional High School sophomores had a 98% pass rate on the English Language Arts MCAS Test taken in May 2006.

- Thirty-eight students took advantage of college level pre-calculus and calculus courses under an articulation agreement with Middlesex Community College.
- Minuteman students on the Math Team competed strongly at all levels against academically diverse groups of area schools finishing the year ranked in first place in the state vocational conference for the third year in a row.
- A Latin course was expanded to serve the growing number of students interested in medical careers, biotechnology and science.
- The Minuteman Players, the school's drama students, produced and performed a full production of Tim Kelley's murder mystery comedy, "*Love is Murder.*"
- The Special Education Department teamed with mainstream teachers to help students achieve one of the highest levels of special education MCAS "pass" scores in the state.
- Faculty members from English, Math, Science and several vocational fields designed a series of MCAS Science curriculum standards for use throughout each of the school's 22 vocational majors.
- Chemistry Teacher Gary Sypteras was awarded the "2006 Theodore William Richards Award for Excellence in Teaching Secondary School Chemistry" presented by the American Chemical Society.

#### **Science & Technology Division Highlights**

- The first state-approved high school pre-engineering program entered its seventh year and graduated its third class of students, again with 100% attending college.
- Electromechanical Robotics students Max Cane of Acton and George McKenna of Winchester took National Third Place in Skills USA National Competition on Team Robotics and Automation held in Kansas City, MO in June 2006.
- Many new business/industry projects were achieved, including - - Verizon supporting with after-school technology training for middle school students, Cognex Corporation of Natick providing weekly on-line interactive training on Visions Systems, GTE helping with new physics units for biotechnology, the Northeast Center for Telecommunications providing grant assistance, a \$80,000 gift from Adept Robots for the Electromechanical Engineering/Robotics program, etc.
- Approximately 82% of the division seniors graduating received certification in their respective area, while approximately 92% were planning to continue their education or training upon graduation.
- This past summer, Sam Rogers of Concord served as an intern at Harvard University's Molecular Biology Laboratory.
- A Team of two Pre-Engineering students placed second in the "West Point Bridge Design" contest – A National Internet-based software design contest.
- Minuteman is now an authorized CertiPort Testing Center for Microsoft Office Specialist Certifications.

#### **Construction – Power Mechanics – Building Trades Division Highlights**

- The Automotive Technology Department won the industry's Most Outstanding Automotive Program in Massachusetts award for the sixth year in a row.
- Students in Carpentry, Electrical Wiring, Plumbing and HVAC completed construction of the 3000 square foot two-family Gambrel home for the Lexington Housing Authority in partnership with the Lexington Rotary Club.
- Underclassmen created four scaled New England style homes for display at the New England Home Show in Boston. Minuteman is the only participating vocational high school in MA.

- In Landscape Management, two graduates won the two most prestigious scholarships given by the Mass Arborist Association
- Electrical Wiring students completely wired two residential units in Lexington.
- Carpentry was invited to attend the Secretary's Award for Excellence in Environmental Education as an honorable mention. This award honors individual schools, teacher and students across the commonwealth who have distinguished themselves in environmental education initiatives.

### **Commercial & Human Services Division Highlights**

- For the third year in a row, Culinary Arts students won first-place in the annual culinary competition at Newbury College and in so doing earned \$7,000 in scholarships for enrollment at Newbury College.
- As a community service project a team of junior Graphic Communications students worked with the Lahey Clinic in designing and printing a 2005 calendar incorporating artwork drawn by elementary age students who are patients in the "young hearts" clinic.
- Krista Burgoyne of Bolton, a junior Culinary Arts Baking student won National First Place in the SkillsUSA skills competition held in Kansas City, MO in June 2006. Krista also placed first in this competition for the past three consecutive years.
- The Cosmetology Class of 2006 had a 100% success rate when taking the State Board Exams.

### **National Honor Society**

The Minuteman Chapter of the National Honor Society proudly served the school and the community with thousands of volunteer hours maintaining a solid and diverse membership while inducting thirteen new members.

### **Overall School Highlights**

- A new Freshmen Exploratory program was designed and implemented as a means to ensure that members of the Class of 2010 have a full opportunity to experience each of Minuteman's twenty-two technical programs before choosing a major. This new exploratory program runs half of grade 9 and allows students to develop a better understanding of their talents and interests while exposing them to diverse careers.
- New and/or updated college articulation and advance credit agreements with numerous top colleges in over 78 different courses and programs at over 17 colleges and universities.
- Community Education services, including After School programs for middle school students, Adult High School services, Evening and Continuing Education courses and Summer School programs and camps, provided to member town residents continued at one of the highest participation and success levels in the state.
- The Facilities Management Department completed major campus renovation and facility improvement projects including renovation of the school's Special Education administrative areas, renovation of elevators, upgrade of grades 9 & 10 Cosmetology Training Rooms, and updating of a Technical literacy Mac Lab and Training Room.

### **Art and Literary Magazine Celebrates 21st Anniversary**

The ink is dry on the twenty-first edition of Minuteman Regional High School's Art & Literary Magazine, and as usual, the publication contains many outstanding examples of student-generated poetry and art. This year's magazine showcases 19 poets and 20 artists.

The winners of school-wide poetry and art contests provide the content for the magazine. This year, approximately 150 poems from about 80 poets were submitted. In the art contest, 40 artists submitted 70 pieces of artwork. Originality is the primary criteria used in selecting work for inclusion in the magazine, and selection committee members also try to ensure a mixture of styles.

“We really have quite an artistic community at the school,” Mr. Donovan said. “We used to just get block printing, but now, it’s quite a variety. We added photography to the art contest three or four years ago. This year, there are quite a few pieces of artwork done in anime style. “Anime has become very popular in the school,” he said. “They had an Anime Club this year for the first time.

A third contest, open to juniors in the Graphics department, determines who designs the magazine’s cover. Jasmine Sanders of Needham won this year’s cover design contest. Jasmine also did the magazine’s entire layout.

Former Minuteman English teacher Denise R. Donovan served as the Copyright Editor, and the Graphics Coordinator was Graphics Department senior teacher Daniel Vardaro. The school’s Office Technology department did the word processing. “The magazine is truly an integrated student effort,” Mr. Donovan said. “By the time it’s done, many students from all majors and departments have played a part in its creation.”

The student artists featured in this year’s magazine are Sean Chicosky and Arielle Shander of Acton; Pat Cooney, Geoffrey Landskov, Nate O’Farrell, Shanon Rogers, Rebecca Rowe and Ashley Val all of Arlington; Courtney Lindhorst and Isaac Tsavalakoglou of Belmont; Elizabeth Mullane of Cambridge; Erin Guertin, Tim Overton and Will Roche of Concord; Lily Altshuler of Maynard; Keith Frankston of Newton; Collin Aucoin, Elizabeth Haberkorn, both of Stow; and Montana Mirabella of Winchester.

The student poets featured in this year’s magazine are Francis Gassert, David Keyworth, and Morgan Quirk of Acton; Molly McDowell and Ashley Val of Arlington; Andrea Bergstrom of Belmont; Joanna Rosario of Cambridge; Gabe Gerzon and Sam Rogers of Concord; Nick Solano of Everett; Ashley Cobuzzi and Pierre Etienne of Lexington; Eliza Leahy and Jasmine Sanders of Needham; Marissa Gabel, Avi Love, and Niles Radl all of Stow; Leo Jordan of Watertown; and Montana Mirabella of Winchester.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Markham, Assistant Superintendent  
Alice DeLuca, Stow Representative

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Over the past year the Police Department continued its technology growth. The department continued building repairs and improvements. We also held training classes for police officers and dispatchers.

We have had several changes in personnel over the year. In October, Tracy Thibaudeau left the department to spend more time with her children. We hired Rebecca Loiselle, who resigned in December to pursue a career with the Virginia Beach Police Department.

Thanks to a Community Policing Grant the department was able to purchase an additional mobile data terminal (MDT). We now have five police cruisers using this valuable technology. This technology allows our officers to access law enforcement databases from the safety of their cruisers.

The Police Department first installed a LoJack stolen vehicle recovery system about twenty years ago. This system allows the police to track a signal from a vehicle that is equipped with a sending unit. This year the department upgraded to the newest LoJack system and installed LoJack in two additional police vehicles.

We have used some of the Community Policing funds for a "Family Fun Day" during Springfest. This Springfest event featured rides for kids, food and Stow Police baseball caps for all kids, at no cost to the town.

Homeland Security has been a priority in our country since September 11, 2001. All department personnel have completed mandated Incident Command Training.

The department participated in the Youth Public Safety Academy Program under the auspices of the Middlesex County Sheriff's department. This is a program for boys and girls ages 9-12. This educational program gives them an opportunity to see police officers and firefighters at work up close and personal.

We are the first department in Stow to have a paper recycling bin. This service actually pays to recycle paper at \$5.00 per ton. Further we save money because we have fewer trash pickups and recycling is a good thing. All proceeds are given to the Board of Health. Thanks to Beth Tobey for the idea.

Our department first developed a mold problem when we lost our air conditioner last summer. Mold was found in the back portion of the building on clothes, equipment, walls, and furniture. We contacted our insurance company and the building was cleaned of visible mold. Duct work will be replaced and the work will continue into 2007.

We purchased a new security camera system for our building. The new camera system will improve our ability to watch subjects held in custody from the time they enter the parking lot, garage, and booking room and cell area. A monitor in the dispatch center allows the dispatcher to monitor our parking lot area for added security. All video and audio is digitally recorded.

The Police Department participated in the "Click It or Ticket It Program" sponsored by the Governor's Highway Safety Bureau. We were awarded \$3,000 for our efforts and chose to purchase pedestrian crossing signs and reflective traffic cones to be used for motor vehicle accidents or fire scenes.

Special vehicles that were purchased by the Police Department years ago are now shared with the Fire Department. The police boat, which is docked off Davis Road with the permission of Cathy Miles, is used by the Police Department to monitor Lake Boon during the summer months. The Fire Department has full access to using the boat should an emergency situation occur. The All-Terrain Vehicle, which is stored and maintained at the Fire Station, is utilized by the Police and Fire Departments for emergencies in wooded areas, brush fires and department drills. Sharing this equipment has helped speed response times to incidents.

In closing I wish to thank the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, the ITAC Committee, and all other departments. Most importantly, I wish to thank members of the Police, Fire and Highway, and Public Safety Dispatchers for their continued support of the Police Department. Last, but not least, a special thanks to the residents of Stow for their continued support throughout the year.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Accidental 911 Calls	82	108	103	Domestic Disturbances	6	11	12
911 Calls	960	721	985	Found/Lost Property	39	48	26
Alarms	165	205	212	General Complaints	415	455	358
Animal Calls	84	121	104	House Checks	2173	2253	2248
Annoying Phone Calls	5	7	9	Larcenies	45	38	38
Assaults	3	6	41	Medical Calls	288	326	171
Assist Citizens	334	440	243	Missing Persons	8	10	3
Assist Other Agency	193	171	139	MV Accidents	150	187	141
Auto Theft	1	2	2	MV Stops	2886	2105	3026
Burglary	11	9	17	Suspicious Activity	270	286	207
Bylaw Violations	39	38	9	Threats	1	7	7
Citations	1885	1058	1384	Vandalism	32	39	51
Disturbances	27	30	63				
Disabled MV Calls	102	127	71				

Respectfully submitted,

Mark H. Trefry, Chief of Police

Full-time Officers:

William L. Bosworth, Sgt.  
 Ralph Marino, Sgt.  
 Timothy J. Lima, Sgt.  
 Steven B. Sturtevant, Detective  
 Gary P. Murphy, Prosecutor  
 David J. Goguen  
 Kimberly H. Doughty  
 Darren J. Thraen  
 Sean M. Collins  
 Michael Sallese

Special Police Officers:

Robert E. Blanton

John Connors  
 John Fantasia  
 James F. Finneran  
 Lee Heron  
 Sherry J. Morton-Pelly  
 Tracy Thibaudeau  
 Jeremy G. Trefry  
 Enrico F. Maldari

Police Matrons:

Deborah L. Richardson  
 Rachel R. Belanger  
 Darlene D. Trefry

Rachel R. Belanger, Admin. Assistant

## **FIRE / RESCUE DEPARTMENT**

The Fire Department continues to support the town of Stow with emergency fire and EMS services. The dedicated individuals of this department work tirelessly, around the clock, to respond to a variety of emergency calls.

The year 2006 was again a very busy year for the Fire Department. Your department responded to 706 combined fire and medical calls. Some of the major calls we answered are as follows. We responded to one structure fire at 227 Boxboro Road, two kitchen fires on Warren Road, as well as responding mutual aid to Maynard's structure fire on Concord Street. The department responded to 91 motor vehicle accidents, one was a difficult extrication on Gleasondale Road and one evolving a Motor Home on Great Road. Both accidents taxed our resources in long difficult extrications. Lifeflight was called once this year to transport a patient extricated from the Motor Home accident. Three people were transported to area hospitals with serious injuries from two separate incidents involving falls from roofs.

Fire Prevention was once again a major focus for your Fire Department in the year 2006. Under the direction of Captain John Paul Beniot (who was promoted from Lieutenant in 2006), the Fire Department completed 350 inspections for smoke detectors, wood stoves, oil burners and propane tank installation for all new construction as well as homes being sold. Our department also issued 631 Open Burning Permits.

The Fire Department continues to upgrade our education program for the children of Stow. During Fire Prevention Week, the Fire Department, in conjunction with the S.A.F.E. program, visited schools and day care centers to teach the children about general safety. At other times during the year, again working with the S.A.F.E. program, we perform other educational events (such as an open house) where the children learn about fire prevention. The Fire Department members also conduct many tours and safety talks throughout the year.

Training for our emergency personnel continues to be a major focus. As the scope of our jobs continue to change and broaden, it is essential that your Fire Fighters and E.M.Ts be properly trained in all areas of Firefighting and E.M.S. services as well as Hazardous Materials, Confined Space Rescues, Auto Extrication, Firefighter and E.M.T. Safety and Survival, and Water and Ice Rescue. Members of the department conduct drills monthly and on weekends. We also attend classes offered by the Massachusetts Fire Academy and the National Fire Academy.

### **Apparatus and Maintenance**

Firefighters Greg Vogel with the assistance of call members continue to provide maintenance to the equipment and current apparatus in-house whenever possible. Keeping maintenance in house help keep cost down and assures that vehicles are ready when needed.

### **Thanks From the Chief**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Fire Department for your help and support during this year. Your dedication, commitment and professionalism makes a department that we can all be proud of.

I would also like to thank all the citizens of the town of Stow, the business community, the town administrator, the board of selectmen, and all other town departments for their support of the Fire Department. I would also like to thank the police department and the Highway Department for all your help during the year. The State Fire Marshall, Steve Coan also deserves special thanks for his help and support over this past year.

Thank to you all! I look forward to another year of progress and forward movement in the town of Stow.

Respectively submitted,

David B. Soar, Fire Chief

Full-time Firefighters:

John Paul Benoit, Lt.  
Gregory A. Vogel  
Mark W. Guerin  
Lisa McNiff

Call Firefighters:

Charlie Boyle  
James Byrne  
Christopher Camelio  
Kristin Clayton  
Christopher Devoe  
David Doucette  
Rene Doucette  
Scott Dwinells  
Richard Ellis  
Jeremy Fiorvanti  
Michael Gallagher  
Tim Gray  
Becky Hagarty  
Ray Hegarty

Peter Holman  
Scott Landry  
Stephen Landry  
Christopher Lazuka  
Lisa McNiff  
Tim Neufell  
Tom Neufell  
Paul Nevala  
Liana Pratt  
James Rodgers  
Michael Scimera  
Suzanne Siewierski  
Larry Stafford  
Larry Stafford  
George Taylor  
Michael Trioli  
Eddie Warren  
Christopher Whitley  
Shawn Whitney

Lisa McNiff, Administrative Assistant

## **FOREST FIRE WARDEN**

The Stow Fire Department responded to 19 Brush Fires, 31 permit fire investigations and outdoor smoke calls in the year 2006.

The Town Forest and other conservation lands were patrolled regularly for down trees and limbs that block the fire roads. Brush cutting was also performed where required to keep the roads open for Fire Apparatus.

The open burning season was once again very busy for the Fire Department. 631 burning permits were issued from January 15 until May 1<sup>st</sup>. Those who wish to burn brush must be sure to come to the Stow Fire Station to obtain a burning permit for the day you wish to burn. You must also call the Fire Department before you begin burning (after 9:00am). The number to call is 897-4537. We allow burning between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm with permission from the Fire Department depending on staffing and weather conditions. This allows us to have the appropriate personnel available in case your fire gets out of control.

I would like to thank the State Forest Fire Division and the Sudbury Fire Tower for all their help in locating and extinguishing some of these fires.

Respectfully submitted,

David B. Soar, Fire Chief

## **MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE**

In 2006 the Master Plan Committee neared completion of Stow's comprehensive master plan. The membership consists of representatives from the Board of Selectmen, Board of Health, Finance Committee, Conservation Committee, Planning Board and four members at large.

Our primary concern has been housing because housing policy has a major effect on almost every major issue confronting Stow. We want Stow to be a multigenerational community with a variety of housing options that does not exclude either younger or older populations. We would prefer a Stow where young people can afford to live and start a family and older residents can afford to stay instead of moving away because they can no longer bear the high real estate tax burden on a fixed income.

We want to protect open space in Stow, but we acknowledge that our current zoning rules encourage sprawl. We believe that village development (i.e. zoning changes that would permit smaller lots and provide for mixed use zoning) is suitable for the Lower Village and Gleasondale. Village development and housing partnerships working together can promote a multigenerational community and help mitigate further sprawl.

We cherish the rural flavor of Stow but we recognize that the state's laws require Stow to accept further growth and development. We feel that it is critical that Stow should find an equitable way to share both the benefits and burdens of development.

The Master Plan Committee continues to solicit input from the citizens of Stow. The update of the plan is really an ongoing process and all interested citizens are encouraged to become informed and educated about Master Plans, what they entail, and their purpose. We meet at the Stow Town Building twice a month, usually the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month. Schedules do change, however, due to commitments of committee members. The meetings are posted on the bulletin board by the entrance to the Town Building. The meetings are open to the public and we encourage you to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernie Dodd  
John Halpern  
Ron Ham  
Greg Jones  
Karen Kelleher

Charles Kern  
Becky Mattison  
Roy Miller  
Marcia Rising, Chair  
Janet Wheeler

## **GENERAL BYLAWS REVIEW COMMITTEE**

The Town of Stow Charter mandates that the Town's General Bylaw be reviewed by a committee of five voters every five years. In January 2005, the Board of Selectmen appointed the current General Bylaw Review Committee to complete this task. The committee's first meeting was held on February 3, 2005 and has scheduled regular bi-monthly meetings since March 24, 2005.

The committee recognized that our mandate was to review and search for possible updates to the Town's General Bylaw. Our major focus was to identify any inconsistencies as a result of recent Charter amendments and within the current bylaws themselves. We agreed that we would ask for comments, advice and suggestions from all Town boards, commissions, and committees to identify sections of the current General Bylaw that required clarification or update. The committee actively sought input from all Town departments, committees, and boards. (Exhibit B lists all the interested parties we contacted for comments.)

During our regular meetings, the committee read and discussed each bylaw article and section in detail. We reviewed suggestions received, requesting additional information as needed. Meeting dates, time, and agendas were filed with the Town Clerk as were approved minutes and committee correspondence.

Some sections of the General Bylaw which have not been updated in some time are of a technical nature. These include the Underground Storage and Hazardous Material bylaws. The General Bylaw committee defers to the expertise of the Boards and Commissions which administer these sections. At this time, these groups do not have specific changes to recommend. It is our understanding that these Board and Commissions are conducting their own reviews of the current bylaws and may propose changes in the future.

This report identifies amendments to the General Bylaw that the committee intends to bring to a public hearing in early March. Exhibit A gives a summary of these changes. We are presenting proposed changes as provided to the General Bylaw Review Committee by other Town committees and departments, with only one exception. The proposed amendment to Article 11; Section 17 was drafted by the General Bylaw Review Committee.

The committee intends to submit an updated report to the Selectmen after the public hearing and will prepare a final report for presentation at Town Meeting in accordance with the Stow Town Charter.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen M. Pavelchek, Chairman  
George G. Cormier, Clerk  
John Clayton, Jr.

Linda E. Hathaway  
Deborah A. Woods

### **SCHOOL BUILDING TASK FORCE**

A joint committee of the Selectmen and the Stow representatives to the Nashoba Regional School District convened a new building committee following the dissolution of the previous School Building Committee in January 2006.

The objective of the new "School Building Task Force" was "to collaborate and develop a consensus on two or more building and/or renovation options for grades Prek-5 and present them, with cost estimates, at the May 2007 Annual Town Meeting, or sooner if possible".

Twenty residents applied to membership and ultimately the joint board appointed 11 voting members as well as a non-voting facilitator (listed at the end of this report). Excerpts from the charge, as revised and approved on March 7, 2006 read as follows:

### Duties and Scope:

1. Agree on the needs.
2. Prioritize those needs and determine their costs.
3. Understand and use the information and data already compiled by the School Building Committee; i.e., don't "reinvent the wheel".
4. Provide sufficient space for the ten-year projected enrollment
5. Provide space for the preK-5 students that is acceptable by today's educational standards.
6. Minimize cost and tax impact.
7. Maximize state reimbursement.
8. Prepare two to three proposals reflecting various costs and the associated priority needs that are included.

### Considerations:

1. Retain at least part of the grade school operation in or near the center of town.
2. Keep Center as a school.
3. Include future space needs for grades 6-8.
4. Examine other grade schools in the area to help benchmark land and building space requirements.

The task force met for the first time on March 20, 2006. From that time forward, the committee met weekly in an effort to resolve the long standing challenge of meeting the needs of our elementary school space. Below is a summary of the progress on key duties through the end of December.

Needs: We spent many meetings educating ourselves on the education program needs of our schools as well as on the structural needs/limitations/strengths of the current buildings. This developed into two sets of criteria which we called "Pre-screen" and "Evaluative" or in other words needs and wants. Over time we refined these and agreed on an extensive list which we planned to use to evaluate any future solutions developed with our architects. We asked the community in October at an open forum for their ideas on what should be included in these lists and then presented our evolved list at a second community forum in January 2007.

Enrollment: The state agency, Mass School Building Authority (MSBA), requires that 10 year enrollment projections be addressed as part of any new proposed building project. This had been a topic of much discussion over the last years, so we requested updated figures which were received in the fall of 2006. Because of the recent downturn in the housing market statewide, NESDEC was no longer using an "accelerated growth model" which would acknowledge that Stow is actually still in a high rate of development mode (for example, acknowledging the 40B developments already permitted and under construction). Committee members studied and reviewed both old and new enrollment projections and, acknowledging that demographics is not a pure science, felt we had to project something higher than the new 623 figure. Because the architect needed to have a firm figure with which to work, the committee agreed in December to use an enrollment number of 660 with core facilities built around the need of 700 students. This was due to the fact that core space (cafeteria, gymnasium, library, etc) is harder to expand later and is often the weak point in renovating schools.

Space for educational standards: Incorporating projected enrollment is only one portion of the space needs of our buildings. Educational programs and legal requirements have changed dramatically since our schools were built, leaving us with insufficient space even if enrollment did not change. Working with the Superintendent and Symmes Maini McKee Architects

(SMMA), we have identified which areas are particularly lacking in program areas. These square footage requirements will be incorporated into our criteria and evaluated against existing and potential changes in room sizes and quantities.

Location: There was a feeling among many that last year's Town Meeting message included a preference for at least part of the elementary schools to remain near the center of town. Because of the lack of town-owned land elsewhere, the Committee has operated under the assumption that we'll exhaust the possibilities of using existing school property before we consider a new location.

Future space needs at Grades 6-8: When we received the updated enrollment figures, it was clear that Hale is on the brink of having a space shortage. This had been a discussion within our committee, as it was with the previous SBC. In late December, we asked SMMA to add a site analysis of Hale Middle School to their scope: the goal was to identify what flexibility incorporating Hale into our solution might give us as well as what possible options Hale has in terms of addressing its own enrollment growth.

Viewing other schools for benchmarks: The committee has viewed a half dozen schools around eastern Massachusetts to both understand the breadth of solutions available to us and to specifically review sustainable design options which are part of the MSBA program.

As this Town Report is distributed, the citizens of Stow will know what our final proposals are for solving the elementary school building challenges. Our committee by its make up represents the breadth of concerns and ideals of our community and so we are confident that our proposals will be in line with the majority of the residents' personal goals.

As Chairman, I want to thank each of my committee members for putting in a huge effort to moving this challenge forward to a successful conclusion. It's hard enough to have this charge after a difficult town meeting discussion that created many hard feelings, but a committee of eleven (plus 3-4 regular attendees) is not easy to keep focused! Each member has been extremely committed to our requirements of keeping an open mind, learning from each other, asking excellent questions and thinking creatively. I thank you all.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Sturgis, Chairman  
Gary Bernklow  
William Byron  
Lynn Colletti  
Lisa D'Alessio  
Norm Farris  
Sara Kilkenny  
George Nisotel  
Steven Quinn

Peter Rhoads  
Thomas Ryan  
Michael Wood, Ex-officio  
Rob Kaufman, Facilitator  
Rick Lent, Associate Facilitator  
Ernie Dodd, Planning Board Liaison  
George Dargaty, Council on Aging Liaison  
Carole Makary, Selectmen Liaison

## **MUNICIPAL LAND USE COMMITTEE**

In February 2005, the Board of Selectmen agreed at a Joint Boards meeting to create a Municipal Land Use Committee. The Committee was asked to prepare a plan for the land and building space needs of the various departments and boards in Stow, details regarding the proposed use of the

land and/or space, a timeline for when such land/space is needed, and the amount, type and location of needed land/space.

The Committee prepared and distributed a land use survey in the fall of 2005 to more than 30 public and charitable entities with an interest in land or building space in the town. Over the course of 2006, the Committee reviewed the responses and conducted follow up meetings with several of the entities that had completed the survey.

On September 29, 2006, the Municipal Land Use Committee presented a comprehensive summary of its survey results in the form of a chart to the Board of Selectmen. The chart included the amount of land and/or building space requested by the surveyees, when the space would be needed, the population served by the land/building use, any special requirements for the land/building space, and whether the space could be shared. The chart was organized according to whether land was needed, building space was needed, or just file space was needed. It may be found on the Municipal Land Use Committee page of the Town's web site. The Committee presented the best data it was able to obtain, but decided that determinations regarding the priority of the various needs were most appropriately made initially by the Board of Selectmen and ultimately by town voters. At the end of the meeting, the Selectmen disbanded the Municipal Land Use Committee, its work having been completed.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Lynch, Chairman, Housing  
Partnership  
Unfilled, Master Plan  
Mike Busch, Recreation  
Bob Braceland, Public Safety  
George Dargaty, Council on Aging  
Jean Lynch, Capital Planning

Bill Maxfield, Open Space  
Ross Perry, Board of Selectmen (Jan to  
April 2006)  
Steve Dungan, Board of Selectmen (May to  
Dec 2006)  
Ellen Sturgis, Nashoba Regional

## **HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

In 2006 the Stow Historical Commission continued its work of managing the Stow West School Museum, exploring restoration of the Larsen Blacksmith Shop, planning installation of a sprinkler system in Town Hall and preserving antique buildings and artifacts in Stow.

The Commission continued its stewardship of the Stow West School Museum, hosting four summer Sunday afternoon programs financed by generous grants from the Stow Cultural Council with the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Our first program, Surviving the Revolution, featured Dan and Judy Grillo discussing with visitors the principals of medicine and medicinal herbs of the Revolutionary War period. Our second program, Surviving the Depression, invited discussions of the Depression era, with examples of economies and styles of the period and toe-taping music by Ed and Louise Heztler. Surviving the Heat was our third program, in which we demonstrated means of surviving the heat before air conditioning from fans to homemade ice cream. Our final program, Going back to School, allowed our costumed school teacher, Jennifer Hofmann, to show visitors what it was like in past years to attend a one-room schoolhouse, complete with a spelling bee.

These programs brought many new visitors to the museum and the Commission looks forward to continued patronage of our 2007 programs. On several occasions, museum visitors filled to

capacity the newly constructed parking area funded by proceeds collected by the town under the Community Preservation Act. Our thanks go to those who assisted the Commission with these programs and to Karen Gray, our Vice-Chair, for her hard work and dedication in making these programs successful. Grants from the Stow Cultural Council with the Massachusetts Cultural Council will permit the Commission to continue these programs in 2007.

The Commission also continued to explore possibilities for restoring the Larsen Blacksmith Shop on Great Road. To pique public interest and support for the project, the Commission retained a working blacksmith to demonstrate his trade in front of the Larsen Blacksmith Shop during Spring Fest. Visitors found the demonstration intriguing and expressed interest in our restoring the building. The Commission retained an artist to prepare a visionary sketch of the restored building and offered printed postcards of the drawing to Spring Fest attendees. The Commission continues to explore possible uses for the restored building and hopes to make significant progress on the project in 2007.

The Commission spent considerable time in 2006 planning a sprinkler system for the Town Hall, to be funded by proceeds collected by the town under the Community Preservation Act. The Commission continues to work diligently on this project and hopes for completion in 2007. The Commission further assisted the town by reviewing building permits, responding to inquiries about developments in potentially historic areas and attempting to preserve historical artifacts.

The Commission meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm in the Commission office in the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

John Makey, Chairman  
Karen Gray, Vice-Chair, Recording  
Secretary  
Liz Painter, Treasurer, Corresponding  
Secretary  
Wayne Fletcher  
Joseph Mishley

Carol Dudley, Associate  
Lew Halprin, Associate  
Jennifer Hoffman, Associate  
Bob MacDonald, Associate  
Ruth Delmonico, Associate

### **ANCIENT DOCUMENTS COMMITTEE**

A collection of 16 reproductions of early flags in this nation's history was donated to the town this year by Bobby Hill, former Girl Scout Cadette leader. The flags, sewn by Troop 864 Cadettes; a booklet describing each flag and its history, and a display rack were all part of the gift and will be made available for loan to schools, organizations or special events.

The Ancient Documents Committee, formed in 1973 to catalogue and preserve historical records of Stow in the Town Vault, welcomes donations of old records. The gavel used by Herbert S. Potter, Jr., town moderator from 1952 to 1970, was donated by his wife, Chris Potter, and now hangs in the Town Clerk's office. An outstanding collection of materials of Gleasondale history was given by the Clifford Fuller family of New Hampshire.

Another special gift of mementos of the Gates-Peck family was given by Jean Roemer. Thanks also go to other donors: Ralph Crowell, Martha Perkins, John Makey, Betty Holly, Patty Selin,

Paul Boothroyd, and Eva Morin. Thanks are extended to all these donors for enriching the historical collection of this town.

A computerized inventory of old maps is nearing completion by Bob Walrath, map curator. Lew Halprin continues his fine work of computerizing photographs and other materials. Dick and Ann Luxner are using their vast library skills to organize special collections, and Bill Byron, Karen Gray and Jody Newman are always available for special projects. Thanks go to Dorothy MacDonald and Maxine Buckman for their endless searches for genealogical information.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Sipler, Chairman  
Karen Gray  
Karen Green  
Lew Halprin  
Bob Walrath  
Linda Hathaway, Ex-officio

Maxine Buckman, Associate  
Bill Byron, Associate  
Dick and Ann Luxner, Associate  
Jody Newman, Associate  
Dorothy MacDonald, Associate

## TOWN CLERK

2006 was a busy year in the town clerk's office. In addition to May's annual town meeting and election, there were two state elections, the September State Primary and the November State Election. The May annual town meeting was a record setting event because it was the first time in many years that all of the forty plus town meeting warrant articles were acted upon in one evening. A typical annual town meeting may take two or three nights to complete the same number of warrant articles. We set another record with voter attendance with only one hundred ninety-nine voters attending and approximately eighty-seven of those town meeting voters were required to be in attendance, i.e. Moderator, Deputy Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk, Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, Capital Planning, School Committee, town meeting workers and volunteers.

The work in the Town Clerk's office continues to increase as the town grows and requirements increase. There are seventy-three chapters and four hundred fifty-one statutes of the Massachusetts General Laws that direct the Town Clerk's duties. This office interacts with all of Stow's town boards, as well as, several state agencies on a regular basis. All of the municipal committee meeting minutes and agendas are required to be filed in the town clerk's office. There are approximately 1000 dogs to license, 4300 voters and 6300 residents to enter into the voter/census database, and numerous filings by the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals. Due to the Homeland Security Act, banks are now requiring business certificates from all businesses when previously only companies 'doing business as' (DBA's) had to apply for business certificates. The town clerk assisted with the official town website ([www.stow-ma.gov](http://www.stow-ma.gov)) by updating information and assisting other departments with their web pages.

I am especially appreciative of the people who assisted me in the office this year. Kay Desmond, assistant town clerk, was responsible for street numbering, typing all of the vital record index cards and the vitals log book. She also assisted with town meeting, elections and various other projects over the course of the year. Ellie Beaudette worked in the office ten- fifteen hours per week assisting with filing, dog licensing, and a multitude of other clerical tasks. Pam Weathers, a Registrar of Voters, completed a lot of the census data entry in 2006. The remaining Registrars, Ted Perry and John O'Connell, also assisted with data entry and/or absentee ballots. The town clerk is a member of the Board of Registrars. Volunteer Bill Byron assisted with the tedious task of opening all the census envelopes again this year. Thank you to all of you for all of your help.

### 2006 VITAL RECORDS

Births	78
Deaths	29
Marriages	11

*Individual vital record listings are omitted as a security precaution to deter identity theft.*

### Town Clerk 2006 Financial Transactions

Fees Collected	
Vital record copies, bylaws, maps, etc	\$ 2,817.22
Fines, bylaw violations, late fees	2,405.00
Uniform Commercial Code filings	95.50
Business Certificate filings	510.00
Fuel storage tank registrations	20.00
Raffle permit	40.00
Dog Licenses	10,207.00
Kennel Licenses	370.00
<b>Total Fees Collected</b>	<b>\$ 16,369.22</b>

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
MAY 1, 2006**

Pursuant to the Selectmen's warrant of March 28, 2006, posted by the Constable on April 20, 2006, the annual town meeting was called to order by Moderator Edward Newman at 7:05 p.m. in Hugh Mill Auditorium at Hale School.

The meeting was led in the *Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag* by two Destination Imagination teams that will be participating in competitions later in the month in Tennessee. Proclamations on behalf of the Town were presented by Selectman Carole Makary in recognition of their accomplishments. Moderator Newman recited an invocation.

At the request of Mr. Newman, the meeting approved appointment of Elizabeth Painter as Deputy Moderator and Gary Horowitz as Assistant Moderator. The Moderator introduced the Selectmen, Town Administrator, Town Counsel, Selectmen's Administrative Assistant, Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk, Finance Committee members and other town officials in attendance. Volunteers who assist in setting up and maintaining the sound system and video taping were recognized.

Selectman Chair Edward Perry, Jr. presented resolutions from the Massachusetts House of Representatives to Selectman John Clayton, Jr. and to former Selectmen Kathleen Farrell, Gregory Jones and Douglas Hyde in recognition of their service to the Town in that capacity. Town Administrator William Wrigley presented a House resolution to Mr. Perry. Messrs. Clayton and Perry were not seeking re-election.

On motion of Selectman Edward Perry, it was voted unanimously that the reading of the warrant and return of the constable thereon be waived but made a part of the record of this meeting, and that the Moderator be permitted to refer to each article by subject matter instead of reading each article in its entirety.

**ARTICLE 1. Town Officers Not Elected by Ballot**

On motion of Selectman John Clayton, it was voted unanimously that the members of the Board of Selectmen be elected to serve as Field Drivers for the ensuing year.

**ARTICLE 2. Reports of Selectmen and Other Officers and Committees**

On motion of Selectman Stephen Dungan, it was voted unanimously that the reports of the Selectmen and other Town Officers, Boards, Committees and Commissions be accepted as printed in the Town Report for 2005.

**ARTICLE 3. Reports of Special Committees**

On motion of Selectman Carole Makary, it was voted unanimously that the reports of the Ancient Documents Committee, Cable License Advisory Committee, Charter Review Committee, Community Preservation Committee, General Bylaw Review Committee, Housing Partnership, Local Access Channel Advisory Committee, Master Plan Committee, Metropolitan Area Planning Council, Municipal Land Use Committee and School Building Committee be accepted as printed in the Town Report for 2005.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

On motion of Selectman Janet Wheeler, it was voted unanimously to take the following articles out of the order in the warrant and take action on Articles 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29, as said motions are printed in the Consent Calendar, a copy of which has been provided to the voters at this meeting, without debate on any such articles, including the following change: the sum to be moved in Article 25 from the FY2005 Overlay Surplus account is \$25,950.82, and provided that upon the request of any voter at this meeting made before the vote is taken on this motion, an article shall be dropped from the Consent Calendar and shall be acted upon in the ordinary course and order of business at this town meeting.

The Finance Committee recommended approval of the articles within the Consent Calendar. The report of the Community Preservation Committee is to be filed with the minutes of this meeting.

### **ARTICLE 7. Reserve Fund**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,000.00 for a Reserve Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006.

### **ARTICLE 8. Tax Title Proceedings**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,500.00 to be added to any balance remaining and previously appropriated for Land Court proceedings for tax taking and land court foreclosure, including costs and legal expenses related thereto, to be expended by the Treasurer-Collector.

### **ARTICLE 9. Audit of Financial Records**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,800.00 to fund the Town's annual financial audit.

### **ARTICLE 10. Revolving Fund for Inspection Fees**

Voted to authorize, upon the recommendation of the Selectmen, a revolving fund for certain inspection fees, pursuant to Mass. General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E-1/2 for Fiscal Year 2007, to which shall be credited all permitting fees received for wire, gas, plumbing and fire alarm permits and for weights and measures sealing, to a limit of \$40,000.00 for Fiscal 2007, to be expended by the Selectmen without further appropriation for the purpose of payment of fees to the inspectors administering such permits and reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the Town.

### **ARTICLE 11. Revolving Fund for Advanced Life Support Services**

Voted to authorize, upon the recommendation of the Selectmen, the establishment of a revolving fund pursuant to Mass. General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E-1/2 for Fiscal Year 2007, to which shall be credited all fees received for advanced life support services provided by the Town of Stow to a limit of \$40,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2007, to be expended by the Fire Department without further appropriation for the purpose of payment of all costs associated with providing advanced life support services.

### **ARTICLE 12. Transfer to Conservation Fund**

Voted to appropriate and transfer from the Conservation Land Maintenance Account to the Conservation Fund the sum of \$1,100.00, to be expended by the Conservation Commission.

### **ARTICLE 13. Conservation Fund Addition**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 to be added to the balance remaining in the Conservation Fund, to be expended by the Conservation Commission.

**ARTICLE 14. Transfer from Wetlands Protection Fund**

Voted to appropriate and transfer from the Wetlands Protection Fund the sum of \$10,795.00 as an additional appropriation to the Conservation Commission, to be expended by the Conservation Commission in performing its duties under the Wetlands Protection Act.

**ARTICLE 15. Update of Property Valuations**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 to be added to the balance remaining from the amount previously appropriated for the purpose of updating property valuations in the town to full and fair cash value; to be expended by the Assessors.

**ARTICLE 16. Town Records Binding and Repair**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$200.00 to be added to any balance previously appropriated for the purpose of binding and repairing town records in accordance with Mass. General Laws Chapter 66, Section 9; to be expended by the Town Clerk.

**ARTICLE 17. Highway Department**

Voted to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for Highway Department purposes, as set forth below:

1. For the Road Machinery Account: the sum of \$32,127.00
2. For repairs on private ways: the sum of \$10,000.00

**ARTICLE 18. Federal Safe Drinking Water Act**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 to be added to any balance remaining from previous appropriation for the purpose of satisfying the compliance requirements of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended, in accordance with State regulations; to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health.

**ARTICLE 19. Household Hazardous Waste Collection**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00, to be added to any balance remaining from previous appropriation, to be expended by the Board of Health for the purpose of providing for household hazardous waste collection.

**ARTICLE 20. Emerson Hospital Home Care**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00, to be added to any balance remaining from previous appropriation, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health for the purpose of providing home care services and communicable disease follow-up services to Stow residents.

**ARTICLE 21. Solid Waste Disposal Container**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00, to be added to any balance remaining from previous appropriation, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health for the purpose of renting a container and disposing of solid waste which has been dumped on town land and roadsides.

**ARTICLE 22. Stow Cultural Council**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500.00, to be added to any balance remaining from previous appropriations, to produce cultural activities and programming in Stow, including \$2,000.00 of these funds to be used to support Springfest activities; to be expended under the direction of the Town Administrator.

**ARTICLE 23. Planning Board Engineering/Consulting and Master Plan Expenses**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00, to be added to any balance and previously appropriated for this purpose, to be expended by the Planning Board for Planning Board engineering and consulting services and Master Plan expenses.

**ARTICLE 24. Purchase of Information Technology Equipment**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$41,553.00, to be added to any balance remaining from previous appropriation, to be expended under the direction of the Town Administrator for the purchase of computer equipment and software for various town departments; and to authorize the Town Administrator to sell, trade or otherwise dispose of existing equipment in connection therewith.

**ARTICLE 25. FY2006 Legal Services**

Voted to appropriate from the FY2004 Overlay Surplus account the sum of \$2,361.28, and appropriate from the FY2005 Overlay Surplus account the sum of \$25,950.82, both account balances to be transferred to the Town's FY2006 general Legal account. (total \$28,312.10)

**ARTICLE 26. FY2007 Legal Services**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00, to be added to any balance remaining from previous appropriation, for the purpose of funding the Town's FY2007 Legal Account.

**ARTICLE 27. Policemen and Firemen Medical Payments**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$400.00, to be added to any balance remaining and previously appropriated, in anticipation of possible claims presented to the Town under the provisions of Chapter 41, Section 100 of the General Laws, for the payment of medical and other allowable expenses incurred by police officers or firefighters injured in the performance of and within the scope of duty.

**ARTICLE 28. Community Preservation Committee Expenses**

Voted to appropriate from FY2007 Community Preservation Fund Annual Revenues the sum of \$35,000.00 to be expended for wages and expenses associated with the creation, implementation and maintenance of Community Preservation programs, in accordance with the provisions of Mass. General Laws Chapter 44B, the Community Preservation Act, including but not limited to office supplies, clerical assistance, property surveys, appraisals, attorneys' fees and other professional services, recording fees, printing and all other necessary and proper expenses for Fiscal Year 2007, in accordance with a budget to be prepared for the Town Administrator.

**ARTICLE 29. Community Preservation Reserves**

Voted to reserve for later appropriation monies collected from Fiscal Year 2007 Community Preservation Fund Annual Revenues for the undertaking of Community Preservation projects:

Acquisition and Preservation of Historic Buildings and Landscapes:	\$75,000.00
Acquisition and Preservation of Open Space and Recreation Land:	\$75,000.00
Acquisition and Support of Affordable Housing:	\$75,000.00

*Report of Community Preservation Committee to Town Clerk:*

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the two warrant articles submitted by the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) for the 2006 Stow Annual Town Meeting – appropriating funds for administrative expenses and setting aside the reserves required by law – were unanimously approved by the CPC at a property posted meeting of that committee, with a quorum present, held on March 13, 2006.

===== End of Consent Calendar =====

**ARTICLE 4. Wage and Salary Schedules**

On motion of Selectman Edward Perry, it was voted unanimously to amend Article 11 of the General Bylaws of the Town, Personnel Administration, by deleting from Section 20.h. the existing Salary Schedules A, B, C, D, E and F and inserting in place thereof new Schedules A, B, C, D, E and F, as printed in the warrant.

**TOWN OF STOW  
WAGE & SALARY SCHEDULES  
Effective July 1, 2006 (3%)**

**SCHEDULE A  
ANNUAL RATE POSITIONS**

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Police Chief	\$65,927	\$68,325	\$71,921	\$77,913	\$88,132
Supt. of Streets	58,989	62,674	66,364	70,048	73,738
Fire Chief	58,509	60,850	64,362	70,216	76,063
Town Accountant	54,117	57,480	60,866	64,250	67,636
Police Lieutenant	59,652	64,154	67,531	70,907	73,159
Treasurer-Collector	46,544	49,454	52,363	55,270	58,180
Building Inspector	45,563	48,409	51,257	54,106	56,954
Planning, Zoning & Environmental Coord.	46,153	49,039	51,922	54,811	57,696
Library Director	43,357	46,068	48,777	51,491	54,198
Town Clerk	38,963	41,278	43,707	46,132	48,561

**SCHEDULE B  
HOURLY RATE POSITIONS**

<u>GROUP A</u>					
<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Parks & Commons Worker	\$9.90	\$10.75	\$11.66	\$12.51	\$13.37
Cemetery Worker	9.90	10.75	11.66	12.51	13.37
Custodian	9.90	10.75	11.66	12.51	13.37

<u>GROUP B</u>					
<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Assistant Town Clerk	\$14.60	\$15.72	\$16.89	\$18.30	\$19.66
Capital Prog. Comm. Secretary.	11.24	12.09	13.00	14.08	15.13

<u>GROUP C</u>					
<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Board of Appeals Secretary	\$15.36	\$16.73	\$18.05	\$19.44	\$20.76
Town Secretary	12.09	13.17	14.21	15.31	16.36
Highway/Tree/ Grounds Worker	12.09	13.17	14.21	15.31	16.36

<u>GROUP D</u>					
<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Highway/Tree Grounds Driver- Laborer	\$14.97	\$15.92	\$16.85	\$17.77	\$18.69

<u>GROUP E</u>					
<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Highway Dept. Equipment Operator	\$16.35	\$17.37	\$18.38	\$19.42	\$20.41
Tree Worker (Moth)	16.35	17.37	18.38	19.42	20.41
Maintenance Person	16.35	17.37	18.38	19.42	20.41

<u>GROUP F</u>					
<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Highway Dept. Mechanic	\$17.33	\$18.34	\$19.51	\$20.59	\$21.65
Crew Chief	18.03	19.08	20.29	21.41	22.52

<u>GROUP G</u>					
<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Highway Dept. Foreman	\$19.25	\$20.46	\$21.64	\$22.85	\$24.03

**SCHEDULE C**  
**SINGLE RATE POSITIONS PAID ANNUALLY**

<b><u>Position Title</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>
Registrar of Voters	\$116
Assistant Registrar of Voters	233
Animal Control Officer	14,757
Director of Summerthing	2,337
Beach Director	5,035
Cemetery Superintendent	29,973
Animal Inspector	3,063
Veterans' Agent	1,266
Council on Aging Secretary	810

**SCHEDULE D**  
**SINGLE RATE POSITIONS PAID HOURLY**

<b><u>Position Title</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>
Election Warden	\$8.90
Election Clerk	8.90
Election Teller	7.88
Election Clerical Assistance	7.88
Lifeguard	9.79
Lifeguard (W.S.I.)	11.55
Beach Checker	7.88
Street Lister	8.50
Street Listing Clerk	7.88
Street Numberer	7.88
Per Diem Firefighter (call)	12.36
Apprentice Firefighter (call)	11.98
Firefighter (call)	13.69
Emergency Medical Technician (call)	13.69
Firefighter/EMT (call)	14.31
EMT - w/Defib & Epi Pen (call)	14.94
Firefighter/EMT - w/Defib & Epi Pen (call)	15.56
Officers - Fire or Medical (call)	16.82
Police Officer, part-time	19.14

*Schedule D (continued)*

Police Matron	\$16.88
Auxiliary Police Officer	12.49
Dispatcher, part-time	12.49
Summerthing Assistants	7.88

**SCHEDULE E**  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL SINGLE RATES**

<b><u>Position Title</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>
Deputy Fire Chief (call)	\$845
Fire Engineer	732
Fire Captain (call)	562
Fire Lieutenant (call)	450
Fire Medical Officer	338
EMS Quartermaster	225
EMS Schedule Coordinator	170
EMS Assistant Coordinator	282
EMS Records Coordinator	338

An employee who qualifies to receive benefits from the Town's Educational Incentive Program will earn a 5%, 10% or 15% annual bonus above his or her base Step Schedule wage or salary.

**SCHEDULE F**  
**FEE RATE POSITIONS**

Wire Inspector	90% of fees collected
Deputy Wire Inspector	90% of fees collected
Gas Inspector	90% of fees collected
Assistant Gas Inspector	90% of fees collected
Animal Disposal Officer	\$10 per animal
Sealer of Weights & Measures	Total fees collected

Jason Robart of the Finance Committee gave a brief overview of the Town's financial situation and the fact that the budget proposed for FY2007 is presented without a request for Proposition 2-1/2 override.

Robert Wilber of the Community Preservation Committee presented an overview of accomplishment since adoption of the Community Preservation Act in October 2002. The Town has received 100% match from the State of the 3% tax surcharge that resulted in \$1,145,631 to the Town.

Elizabeth Painter of the Charter Review Committee called attention to the annual town election ballot and the eighteen questions, representing amendments to the Charter that the voters are requested to ratify. The amendments were voted at the 2005 annual town meeting and have been reviewed and approved by the Attorney General's office.

**ARTICLE 5. General Budget for Fiscal Year 2007**

Selectman John Clayton moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$18,565,614.00, as recommended by the Town Administrator and Selectmen for Items 1 through 74 inclusive, as printed in the warrant under the column entitled, "FY2007 Budget Town Admin/Selectmen Recommended", each item to be considered a separate appropriation for the purposes designated and the same to be expended only for such purposes.

Moderator Newman read off each group of line items. No requests to "hold" for discussion or clarification were forthcoming from the floor. It was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$18,565,614.00 for Items 1 through 74 inclusive.

General Government

1 Moderator Salary	\$ 35.00
2 Moderator Expenses	43.00
3 Selectmen Administrative Asst. Salary	40,121.00
4 Selectmen Expenses	8,611.00
5 Town Administrator Salary	98,194.00
6 Town Administrator Expenses	500.00
7 Town Building Clerical Wages	14,898.00
8 Finance Committee Wages	3,302.00
9 Finance Committee Expenses	375.00
10 Accountant Salary	35,338.00
11 Accountant Clerk Salary	4,254.00
12 Accountant Expenses	1,525.00
13 Principal Assessor's Salary	53,906.00
14 Assessors' Clerical Wages	50,804.00
15 Assessors' Expenses	6,600.00
16 Treasurer-Collector Salary	49,955.00
17 Treasurer-Collector Clerical Wages	40,636.00
18 Treasurer-Collector Expenses	37,600.00
19 Town Clerk Salary	48,561.00
20 Town Clerk Other Wages	23,067.00
21 Town Clerk Expenses	12,785.00
22 Conservation Commission Wages	55,915.00
23 Conservation Commission Expenses	4,280.00
24 Planning Board Wages	93,090.00
25 Planning Board Expenses	4,510.00
26 Board of Appeals Wages	6,832.00
27 Board of Appeals Expenses	3,420.00
28 Municipal Building & Property Wages	23,514.00
29 Municipal Building & Property Expenses	65,422.00
30 Town Reports Expenses	<u>9,000.00</u>
General Government Total	\$797,093.00

Public Safety

31 Police Chief Salary	\$ 88,632.00
32 Police & Dispatch Wages	950,563.00
33 Police & Dispatch Expenses	81,430.00

34	Fire Chief Salary	76,063.00
35	Fire & EMS Wages	393,860.00
36	Fire & EMS Expenses	74,114.00
37	Building Inspector Salary	56,954.00
38	Building Dept. Clerical Wages	15,495.00
39	Building Department Expenses	<u>4,975.00</u>

Public Safety Total \$1,742,086.00

Public Works and Facilities

40	Supt. of Streets Salary	\$ 70,548.00
41	Highways & Grounds Wages	393,295.00
42	Highways & Grounds Expenses	103,500.00
43	Snow & Ice Removal Expense	100,000.00
44	Municipal Lighting	12,558.00
45	Gasoline & Diesel Fuel Expense	55,000.00
46	Cemetery Salary & Wages	36,134.00
47	Cemetery Expenses	<u>5,214.00</u>

Public Works and Facilities Total \$ 776,249.00

Human Services

48	Sanitary Agent Wages	\$ 17,471.00
49	Health Department Wages	71,782.00
50	Health Department Expenses	8,000.00
51	Council on Aging Executive Director Salary	43,384.00
52	Council on Aging Wages	55,120.00
53	Council on Aging Expenses	13,811.00
54	Veterans' Agent Salary	1,265.00
55	Veterans' Agent Expenses	<u>200.00</u>

Human Services Total \$ 211,033.00

Culture and Recreation

56	Library Director Salary	\$ 54,748.00
57	Library Wages	69,101.00
58	Library Expenses	52,929.00
59	Recreation Wages	42,665.00
60	Recreation Expenses	22,150.00
61	Lake Boon Commission Wages	2,745.00
62	Lake Boon Commission Expenses	710.00
63	Historical Commission Expenses	500.00
64	Memorial Day Expenses	950.00
65	Lighting of Clock Expenses	<u>100.00</u>

Culture and Recreation Total \$ 246,598.00

Town-Wide Expenses

66 Educational Incentive	\$ 37,000.00
67 Group Insurance	503,850.00
68 Insurance & Bonds	114,700.00
69 Telephone	<u>22,000.00</u>
Town-Wide Expenses Total	\$ 677,550.00

Education

70 Nashoba Regional School District Assessment	\$11,522,329.00
71 Minuteman Voc-Tech Assessment	<u>971,371.00</u>
Education Total	\$12,493,700.00

Debt Service

72 Principal, Long-Term Debt	\$ 1,115,000.00
73 Interest, Long-Term Debt – Bonds	503,305.00
74 Interest, Temporary Loans – Revenue	<u>3,000.00</u>
Debt Service Total	\$1,621,305.00

**TOTAL GENERAL BUDGET.....\$18,565,614.00**

**ARTICLE 6. Rescission of Borrowing under Article 44 of 2004B**

On motion of Selectman Stephen Dungan, it was voted unanimously to rescind the borrowing authority granted under Article 44 of the 2004 Annual Town Meeting to purchase an interest in a certain parcel of land between Sudbury Road and White Pond Road, formerly owned by Boston & Maine Railroad, and shown on a plan marked "Land in Stow and Maynard, Mass. Boston and Maine Railroad – to George Morey, JF Kerwin, Asst. Chief Engineer 1961", recorded with the Middlesex Registry of Deeds in Book 9920, Page 557, a portion of the so-called Assabet River Rail Trail.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

**ARTICLE 7. Reserve Fund :** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 8. Tax Title Proceedings:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 9. Audit of Financial Records:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 10. Revolving Fund for Inspection Fees:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 11. Revolving Fund for Advanced Life Support Services:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 12. Transfer to Conservation Fund:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 13. Conservation Fund Addition:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 14. Transfer from Wetlands Protection Fund:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 15. Update of Property Valuations:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 16. Town Records Binding and Repair:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 17. Highway Department:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 18. Federal Safe Drinking Water Act:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 19. Household Hazardous Waste Collection:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 20. Emerson Hospital Home Care:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 21. Solid Waste Disposal Container:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 22. Stow Cultural Council:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 23. Planning Board Engineering/Consulting and Master Plan Expenses:**  
See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 24. Purchase of Information Technology Equipment:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 25. FY2006 Legal Services:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 26. FY2007 Legal Services:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 27. Policemen and Firemen Medical Payments:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 28. Community Preservation Committee Expenses:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 29. Community Preservation Reserves:** See Consent Calendar

**ARTICLE 30. Capital Requests**

On motion of Selectman Carole Makary, it was voted unanimously to discuss the items of this article individually and vote upon each separately as to the amount to be appropriated for each item, as set forth in separate motions proposed.

**ARTICLE 30-1. Cemetery Truck**

On motion of Selectman Makary, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$27,298.00 for the purpose of purchasing a truck for use by the Cemetery Department.

The Finance Committee and the Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

**ARTICLE 30-2. Highway Backhoe**

On motion of Selectman Makary, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000.00 for the purpose of purchasing a backhoe for use by the Highway Department.

The Finance Committee and the Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

**ARTICLE 30-3. Police Department Four-Wheel Drive SUV**

On motion of Selectman Makary, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$33,000.00 for the purpose of purchasing a four-wheel drive SUV for use by the Police Department.

The Finance Committee and the Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

**ARTICLE 30-4. Hale School Roof Repair**

On motion of Selectman Makary, it was voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$25,000.00 for the purpose of repairing the Hale School roof, for use by the Nashoba Regional School District.

The Finance Committee and the Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

**ARTICLE 30-5. Hale School Air Conditioning**

On motion of Selectman Makary, it was voted unanimously to take **no action** on this article that had originally sought appropriation of \$125,000.00.

**ARTICLE 30-6. Hale School Locker Replacements**

On motion of Selectman Makary, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$18,500.00 for the purpose of replacing lockers at the Hale School, for use by the Nashoba Regional School District.

The Finance Committee and the Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

**ARTICLE 30-7. Hale School Kitchen Updates**

On motion of Selectman Makary, it was voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$14,675.00 for the purpose of kitchen updates at the Hale School, for use by the Nashoba Regional School District.

The Finance Committee and the Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

**ARTICLE 30-8. Center School Ceiling Repair**

On motion of Selectman Makary, it was voted by majority to take **no action** on this article that had originally sought appropriation of \$50,000.00. There are existing funds to cover this expenditure.

**ARTICLE 30-9. Center School Floor and Ceiling Replacements**

On motion of Selectman Makary, it was voted unanimously to take **no action** on this article that had originally sought appropriation of \$15,000.00.

**ARTICLE 30-10. Pompositticut School Driveway Repair**

On motion of Selectman Makary, it was voted unanimously to take **no action** on this article that had originally sought appropriation of \$15,000.00.

**ARTICLE 31. New High School Athletic Track**

On motion of Selectman John Clayton, it was voted to take **no action** on this article that sought approval of borrowing \$170,000.00 by the Nashoba Regional School District to construct a new athletic track at the high school.

**ARTICLE 32. Transfer of Funds to School Building Task Force**

On motion of Selectman Stephen Dungan, it was voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$43,258.14 remaining from the various School Building Committee accounts: from the Feasibility account, as established by an affirmative vote on Article 28 at the annual town meeting in May 2002 (*\*\$931.78*); from the Conceptual Planning account, as established by an affirmative vote on Article 30 at the annual town meeting in May 2004 (*\*\$19,880.64*); from the Land Exploration account, as established by an affirmative vote on Article 34 at the annual town meeting in May 2004 (*\*\$11,749.49*); from the Pompositticut Amphitheater account, as established by an affirmative vote on Article 35-3 at the annual town meeting in May 2004 (*\*\$2,471.74*); and from the Evaluations account, as established by an affirmative vote on Article 36 at the annual town meeting in May 2005 (*\*\$8,224.49, for a total of \$43,258.14*); and further to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$73,997.00, for a total of \$117,255.14, all for the purpose of funding the work of the School Building Task Force, including but not limited to site evaluations, building upgrades/renovations, new construction, preparation of cost estimates, conceptual plans, and other documents required to submit one or more proposals at a future town meeting.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

*\*NOTE: The figures in italics were not included in the motion and are added for future reference..*

At this point, Deputy Moderator Elizabeth Painter assumed the gavel.

**ARTICLE 33. Senior Tax Relief**

On motion of Selectman Janet Wheeler, it was voted unanimously to reduce the rate of interest that accrues on property taxes deferred by eligible seniors under General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41A, as amended by Chapter 136, Section 1 of the Acts of 2005, from eight (8) percent to four (4) percent, with such reduced rate to apply to taxes assessed for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2006.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

**ARTICLE 34. Senior Tax Relief**

On motion of Selectman Edward Perry, it was voted unanimously to accept the provisions of Section 4 of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 1986, as amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988, and further to act under the aforesaid statutes to increase by 100 percent the amount of property tax exemption granted to persons who qualify for said exemption under Clauses 17, 17C, 17D, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 37, 37A, 41, 41B and 41C of Section 5 of Chapter 59 of the Massachusetts General Laws and Acts and amendments thereof or additions thereto.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

**ARTICLE 35. Land Management Transfer to Conservation Commission**

On motion of Selectman John Clayton, it was voted unanimously to take **no action** that sought transfer to the management of the Conservation Commission a 23-acre parcel of land off West Acton Road shown on Stow Property Map R-20 as parcels 31 and 31A.

**ARTICLE 36. Zoning Bylaw Amendment - Drainage**

On motion of Selectman Stephen Dungan, it was voted unanimously to amend the Zoning Bylaw Section 3.8.1.9 by deleting subsection 2, so that Section 3.8.1.9 shall read in its entirety as printed in the warrant.

3.8.1.9 Drainage - When a subdivision approval or a Site Plan Approval or a Special Permit is required, drainage shall be designed so that the following conditions shall be met during an after construction and development:

1. Pre-development surface water runoff rates and volumes shall not be increased;
2. - *This subsection deleted at the May 1, 2006 Annual Town Meeting -*
3. Pre-development erosion and sedimentation rates shall not be increased; and
4. No building permit, special permit or subdivision approval shall be granted if these

conditions cannot be met.

*Report of the Planning Board re Article 36:*

The Planning Board held a duly noticed public hearing on March 21, 2006 in the Stow Town Building to consider the following proposed amendments to the Stow Zoning Bylaw:

Section 3.8.1.9 - This proposed change eliminates the provision that requires there be no increase in groundwater infiltration rates on sites being developed. The loss of annual recharge to groundwater as a result of the proliferation of impervious surfaces has been recognized as a significant problem in the Assabet River Basin. The current language also conflicts with language in the DEP Stormwater Policy Handbook that states that the loss of annual recharge to groundwater should be minimized through the use of infiltration measures to the maximum extent practicable.

At its meeting of March 21, 2006, the Planning Board voted to recommend that Town Meeting ADOPT the proposed amendment to Section 3.8.1.9 by deleting subsection 2, as printed in the warrant.

**ARTICLE 37. Zoning Bylaw Amendment - Phasing of Growth**

On motion of Selectman Carole Makary, it was voted unanimously to amend the Zoning Bylaw Sections 8.6.1.2 and 8.6.1.3 to read in their entirety as printed in the warrant.

8.6.1.2 DWELLING UNITS shall be considered as part of a single development if located either on a single parcel or contiguous parcels of land which have been in the same ownership at any time subsequent to the date of adoption of this Section.

8.6.1.3 All newly authorized residential units for which individual or several building permits have been issued pursuant to the Massachusetts State Building Code, 780 CMR shall count toward the growth rate limit of 35 DWELLING UNITS defined in Section 8.6.2.1 of the Zoning Bylaw.

*Report of the Planning Board re Article 37:*

The Planning Board held a duly noticed public hearing on March 21, 2006 in the Stow Town Building to consider the following proposed amendments to the Stow Zoning Bylaw:

Sections 8.6.1.2 and 8.6.1.3 - The proposed amendment of Section 8.6.1.2 to insert the word "same" is for clarification purposes.

The proposed amendment to Section 8.6.1.3 deletes the section number reference to the Massachusetts State Building Code because the current section number is incorrect, and because the State Board of Building Regulations and Standards is currently preparing the 7th Edition of the State Building Code, which may change section numbers.

At its meeting of March 21, 2006, the Planning Board voted to recommend that Town Meeting ADOPT this proposed Zoning Bylaw amendment, as printed in the warrant.

*Note: The amendments to the Zoning Bylaws adopted under Articles 36 and 37 were approved by the Attorney General on June 14, 2006. Posted as a Town Bulletin on June 21, 2006.*

**ARTICLE 38. Street Acceptance - Farm Road**

On motion of Selectman Janet Wheeler, it was voted unanimously to accept the laying out of Farm Road and establish it as a town way, together with all drainage and other easements related thereto and included in the Order of Layout, the boundaries and measurements shown on the plan referred to in the description, which plan shall be included in the Order of Layout of the Selectmen to be adopted with respect to such way and related easements and filed in the office of the Town Clerk in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 32, Section 21-23, shown on the plans referred to therein: (1) dated January 14, 1988, revised March 4, 1988, revised March 23, 1988; (2) dated December 21, 1988, revised January 27, 1989; and (3) dated March 8, 1989; and to authorize the Selectmen to acquire by purchase, eminent domain, gift or otherwise for highway purposes the fee or any lessor interests that may be necessary for such town ways.

**ARTICLE 39. Street Acceptance - Militia Circle**

On motion of Selectman Edward Perry, it was voted unanimously to accept the laying out of Militia Circle and establish it as a town way, together with all drainage and other easements related thereto and included in the Order of Layout, the boundaries and measurements shown on the plan referred to in the description, which plan shall be included in the Order of Layout of the Selectmen to be adopted with respect to such way and related easements and filed in the office of the Town Clerk in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 32, Section 21-23; shown on the plans referred to therein: (1) dated January 14, 1988, revised March 4, 1988, revised March 23, 1988; (2) dated December 21, 1988, revised January 27, 1989; and (3) dated March 8, 1989; and to authorize the Selectmen to acquire by purchase, eminent domain, gift or otherwise for highway purposes the fee or any lessor interests that may be necessary for such town ways.

**ARTICLE 40. Street Acceptance - Trefry Lane**

On motion of Selectman John Clayton, it was voted to take **no action** on the proposal to accept Trefry Lane as a public way as several requirements necessary for acceptance are incomplete.

**ARTICLE 41. Street Acceptance - Whispering Way (portion)**

On motion of Selectman Stephen Dungan, it was voted unanimously to accept the laying out of Whispering Way in the Wildlife Woods Subdivision from Station 0+48.16 to Station 9+85.83 and establish it as a town way, together with all drainage and other easements related thereto and included in the Order of Layout, the boundaries and measurements shown on the plan referred to in the description, which plan shall be included in the Order of Layout of the Selectmen to be adopted with respect to such way and related easements and filed in the office of the Town Clerk in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 82, Section 21-23; shown on the plan referred to therein dated May 15, 1997 and revised through October 27, 1999; and to authorize the Selectmen to acquire by purchase, eminent domain, gift or otherwise for highway purposes the fee or any lessor interests that may be necessary for such town ways.

At this point, Moderator Edward Newman assumed the gavel.

**ARTICLE 42. Stabilization Fund**

On motion of Selectman Carole Makary, it was voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$100,000.00 to be added to the Stabilization Fund.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

**ARTICLE 43. Balance the FY2007 Budget**

On motion of Selectman Janet Wheeler, it was voted to take **no action** on this article.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

**ARTICLE 44. Town Election**

On motion of Selectman John Clayton, it was voted unanimously that the meeting be adjourned until the Annual Election on Tuesday, May 9, 2006, commencing at 7:00 a.m., then and there to act on Article 44 for such election of officers and ballot questions as listed in the warrant; and thereafter, at the close of the polls, to dissolve this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m. to reconvene on May 9, 2006 at 7:00 a.m. for the Annual Election.

Checkers at the Door: Janet Derby, Carol Dudley, Utahna Hallet, Nancy Harris, Elizabeth MacGilvra, Eila Makey, Judith Scraggs, Newton Wesley

Tellers for the Town Meeting: Robert Aldape, Allan Fierce, Margaret Lynch, Richard Mortenson, Joanne Newman, Robin Riley, Marcia Rising, Thomas Ruggiero, Thomas Ryan, Kent Seith, Kathleen Sferra, Elizabeth Tobey, Pamela Weathers, Robert Wilber

Timekeeper: Catherine Desmond

Number of Voters Checked: 199

Number of Registered Voters: 4,353

*Note: The amendments to the Zoning Bylaws adopted under Articles 36 and 37 were approved by the Attorney General on June 14, 2006. Posted as a Town Bulletin on June 21, 2006.*

**ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION  
MAY 9, 2006**

Pursuant to the Selectmen's warrant of March 28, 2006, the annual town election was held in Center School Gymnasium/Auditorium and was called to order at 7:00 a.m. to act on Article 44 of the annual town meeting warrant.

After examining the ballot box and finding it empty and in good order, the counter was set to zero. The ballot box was then locked and the keys delivered to the Warden who declared the polls open.

During polling hours forty-six absentee ballots were opened, recorded and cast into the ballot box. There were nineteen spoiled ballots received from voters and these voters were given a replacement ballot. The polls were declared closed at 8:00 p.m., with 1391 ballots cast. The total number of registered voters in Stow was 4348. Thirty-one percent of the registered voters voted at this election.

At 10:30 p.m. the final results were announced as follows:

<b>Selectman*</b> <b>(two - three year terms)</b>		<b>Randall Library Trustee*</b> <b>(two – three year terms)</b>	
Joseph C. Hogan, III	608	Harold B. Donahue, Jr. (Incumbent)	959
Domenic A. Lamorticelli	58	Pierie O’Connor	92
Jason S. Robart	909	Blanks	1715
Thomas H. Ruggiero	845	Scatterings	16
Blanks	329		
Scatterings	33		

<b>Assessor</b> <b>(one - three year term)</b>		<b>Randall Library Trustee</b> <b>(one – one year term)</b>	
John Paul Bolton (Incumbent)	1002	Alison M. Campbell (Incumbent)	996
Blanks	387	Blanks	386
Scatterings	2	Scatterings	9
<b>Nashoba Reg. School District</b> <b>Committee (one - three year term)</b>		<b>Stow Housing Authority</b> <b>(one – five year term)</b>	
David C. Horne	998	John J. Kendra (Incumbent)	972
Blanks	381	Blanks	416
Scatterings	12	Scatterings	3
<b>Board of Health</b> <b>(one - three year term)</b>		<b>Stow Housing Authority</b> <b>(one – one year term)</b>	
Marcia B. Rising (Incumbent)	1061	Write-ins:	
Blanks	328	Greg Jones (Declined election)	4
Scatterings	2	Michael Kopcynski	3
<b>Planning Board</b> <b>(one –five year term)</b>		Write-ins (one vote each)	28
Leonard H. Golder	883	Blanks	1356
Blanks	489		
Scatterings	19		

*\*Please note: total number of votes in the ‘vote for two’ races will be twice the number of ballots cast.*

**QUESTION 1.** Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article VIII Transitional Provisions

Amendment deletes transitional provisions in their entirety as they are no longer applicable.

Yes 1021      No 104      Blanks 266

**QUESTION 2.** Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article IV Town Administrator – Section 4-6: Selecting a Town Administrator

Amendment adds new Section 4-6, language of which formerly appeared in deleted Article VIII Transitional Provisions, and amends provisions for formation of a screening committee.

Yes 1010      No 106      Blanks 275

**QUESTION 3.** Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article V Administrative Organization – Section 5-5:

Town Administrative Organization

Amendment adds new Section 5-5, language of which formerly appeared in deleted Article VIII Transitional Provisions, and updates list of those officers and staff to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Health.

Yes 1009      No 98      Blanks 284

QUESTION 4. Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article IV Town Administrator – Section 4-1: Appointment Qualifications; Term  
Amendment changes reference to screening committee establishment from deleted Section 8-5(b) to new Section 4-6.

Yes 977            No 106            Blanks 308

QUESTION 5. Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article IV Town Administrator – Section 4-4: Acting Town Administrator,  
(b) Vacancy

Amendment to (b) changes reference of deleted Section 8-4(b) to new Section 4-6.

Yes 973            No 105            Blanks 313

QUESTION 6. Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article VI Finance and Fiscal Procedures – Section 7: Capital Outlay Program

Amendment requires submission of a capital outlay program by the Capital Planning Committee, rather than by the Town Administrator. Also changes submission to approximately 60 days from town meeting rather than 120 days. The capital outlay program to be revised annually and a report to be distributed with the Finance Committee report.

Yes 953            No 327            Blanks 111

QUESTION 7. Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article VII General Provisions Section 7-5: Definitions

Amendment deletes (a) "Capital Outlays", adds a new definition "Town Bulletin Board", and re-letters the section accordingly.

Yes 939            No 94            Blanks 358

QUESTION 8. Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article III Elected Officials Section 3-1: General Provisions

(a) Elected Offices

Amendment intends to eliminate confusion with regard to school committees and deletes the wording "unless superseded by a regional agreement" after the words "school committee(s)".

Yes 975            No 73            Blanks 343

QUESTION 9. Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article III Elected Officials Section 3-3: School Committee(s)

Amendment adds the sentence: "There shall be schools governed by local or regional school committees as determined by town meeting vote." Revisions made to (b) regional school committee.

Yes 972            No 84            Blanks 335

QUESTION 10. Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article IV Town Administrator Section 4-2(h): Powers and Duties

The paragraph concerns rental and use of all town facilities and property except school property and property under control of the Conservation Commission. The Town Administrator may become responsible for school property if so voted by the local school committee. (added "local")

Yes 928            No 119            Blanks 344

QUESTION 11. Shall this town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article IV Town Administrator Section 4-2(j): Powers and Duties

The paragraph concerns inventory of all property of the town, including that under the jurisdiction of the local school committee. (added "local")

Yes 943 No 90 Blanks 358

QUESTION 12. Shall the town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article VI Finance and Fiscal Procedure Section 6.6:

Local School Committee Budget

Amendment adds the word "local" before the words "school committee" wherever they appear.

Yes 952 No 81 Blanks 358

QUESTION 13. Shall the town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article VII General Provisions Section 7-7: Periodic Review of Charter and Bylaws (c) Master Plan Committee

Amendment removes Zoning Bylaw review from this section as the Planning Board is charged with presentation of revisions to that document. Amendment changes membership of the Master Plan Committee from 9 to 7 and from 4 to 2 at large.

Yes 878 No 142 Blanks 371

QUESTION 14. Shall the town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article II Legislative Branch Section 2-2: Presiding Officer

Amendment broadens the scope of the purposes for which the moderator may appoint a deputy moderator and clarifies the term "temporary moderator".

Yes 932 No 97 Blanks 362

QUESTION 15. Shall the town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article II Legislative Branch Section 2-7 (a) and (c)

Amends the reference to town meeting from "regular" to "annual" for consistency with bylaws and town documents.

Yes 960 No 69 Blanks 362

QUESTION 16. Shall the town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article VII General Provisions Section 7-7: Periodic Review of Charter and Bylaws (a) Charter Review

Amendment clarifies the date upon which the charter shall be reviewed: at least once in every ten years.

Yes 968 No 65 Blanks 358

QUESTION 17. Shall the town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article VII General Provisions Section 7-8: Procedures Governing Multiple Member Bodies (a) Meetings

Amendment clarifies the procedures by which a multiple member body may call a special meeting.

Yes 943      No 87      Blanks 361

QUESTION 18. Shall the town approve the charter amendment as previously approved by the town meeting summarized below?

Article VI Finance and Fiscal Procedures Section 6-2: Submission of Budget and Budget Message (a)

Amendment deletes paragraph (a) concerning submission of budgets for the town meeting as this paragraph is now included in the general bylaws as Section 10 of Article 4.

Yes 932      No 87      Blanks 372

#### **Election Workers**

Warden

Philip J. Detsch

Ballot Box Officers

Carol J. Dudley

Ballot Counters

Anne C. Draudt

Utahna G. Hallet

Nancy L. Harris

Joanne C. Newman

Diane L. Parker

Ellen S. Sturgis

Deputy Warden

Newton P. Wesley

Checkers

Janet Derby

Betty Holly

Elizabeth D. MacGilvra

Eila J. Makey

Judith A. Scraggs – Deputy Clerk

Clerk

Helen R. Faford

#### **STATE PRIMARY SEPTEMBER 19, 2006**

Pursuant to the Selectmen's warrant of August 8, 2006, the State Primary was held in Center School Gymnasium/Auditorium and was called to order at 7:00 a.m.

After examining the ballot box and finding it empty and in good order, the counter was set to zero. The ballot box was then locked and the keys delivered to the Warden who declared the polls open.

During polling hours forty-three absentee ballots (two Republican, forty-one Democratic) were opened, recorded and cast into the ballot box. There were five spoiled ballots (one Republican and four Democratic) received from voters and these voters were given a replacement ballot.

There were two Democratic provisional ballots provided. The polls were declared closed at 8:00 p.m., with 1177 ballots cast with the following breakdown: 1071 Democratic, 106 Republican. The total number of registered voters in Stow was 4348. The final results were announced as follows:

<b>Democratic Party Results</b>			
<b>Senator in Congress</b>			
Edward M. Kennedy	895	<b>Auditor</b>	
Blanks	169	A. Joseph DeNucci	756
All Others	7	Blanks	315
<b>Governor</b>		<b>Representative in Congress</b>	
Christopher F. Gabrieli	257	Martin T. Meehan	850
Deval L. Patrick	690	Blanks	220
Thomas F. Reilly	121	All Others	1
Blanks	2	<b>Councillor</b>	
All Others	1	Marilyn Petitto Devaney	676
<b>Lt. Governor</b>		Blanks	395
Deborah B. Goldberg	260	<b>Senator in General Court</b>	
Timothy P. Murray	510	Pamela P. Resor	871
Andrea C. Silbert	212	Blanks	199
Blanks	88	All Others	1
All Others	1	<b>Representative in General Court</b>	
<b>Attorney General</b>		Patricia A. Walrath	894
Martha Coakley	841	Blanks	176
Blanks	228	All Others	1
All Others	2	<b>District Attorney</b>	
<b>Secretary of State</b>		Gerald T. Leone, Jr.	709
William Francis Galvin	733	Blanks	362
John Bonifaz	163	<b>Registrar of Deeds</b>	
Blanks	174	Eugene C. Brune	697
All Others	1	Blanks	374
<b>Democratic Party Results</b>		(cont.)	
<b>Treasurer</b>		<b>Clerk of Courts</b>	
Timothy P. Cahill	795	Bruce M. Desmond	201
Blanks	276	Michael A. Sullivan	545
		Blanks	325

<b>REPUBLICAN PARTY RESULTS</b>			
<b>Senator in Congress</b>		<b>Auditor</b>	
Kenneth G. Chase	50	Blanks	106
Kevin P. Scott	38	<b>Representative in Congress</b>	
Blanks	17	Blanks	104
Ted Kennedy	1	All Others	2
<b>Governor</b>		<b>Councillor</b>	
Kerry Healy	81	Blanks	106
Blanks	21	<b>Senator in General Court</b>	
Deval Patrick	2	Blanks	106
Chris Gabrieli	2		

<b>Lt. Governor</b>		<b>Representative in General Court</b>	
Reed Hillman	80	Blanks	106
Blanks	26		
<b>Attorney General</b>		<b>District Attorney</b>	
Larry Frisoli	81	Blanks	106
Blanks	25		
<b>Secretary of State</b>		<b>Treasurer</b>	
Blanks	105	Blanks	105
All Others	1	All Others	1
<b>Clerk of Courts</b>		<b>Register of Deeds</b>	
Blanks	106	Blanks	106

### ELECTION WORKERS

<u>Warden</u>	<u>Checkers</u>	<u>Ballot Counters</u>
Philip J. Detsch	Janet Derby	Utahna G. Hallet
	Carol J. Dudley	Diane I. Lowden
<u>Deputy Warden</u>	Elizabeth D. MacGilvra	Diane L. Parker
Newton P. Wesley	Eila J. Makey	Ellen S. Sturgis
	Ann F. Luxner	
<u>Deputy Clerk</u>		<u>Ballot Box Officer</u>
Judith A. Scraggs		Dolores M. Wesley

### STATE ELECTION NOVEMBER 7, 2006

Pursuant to the Selectmen's warrant of October 10, 2006, the State Election was held in Center School Gymnasium/Auditorium, 403 Great Road. The polls were open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

After examining the ballot box and finding it empty and in good order, the counter was set to zero. The ballot box was then locked and the keys delivered to the Warden who declared the polls open.

During polling hours, there were 170 absentee ballots opened, recorded and cast into the ballot box. There were twenty-five spoiled ballots received from voters and these voters were given a replacement ballot. There were four provisional ballots provided. The election night tabulation was done at Center School. There were 3115 votes cast on election night and two overseas ballots were received after the polls closed. The two overseas ballots were opened and counted by the Board of Registrars of Voters, at the Town Building, on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

A total 3117 votes were cast for the State Election representing seventy percent (70%) of the town's 4436 registered voters. (Active 4129, Inactive 307) The final certified results are as follows:

<b>Senator in Congress</b>		<b>Councillor</b>	
Edward M. Kennedy	1918	Marilyn M. Petitto Devaney	2027
Kenneth G. Chase	1096	Blanks & Scatterings	1090
Blanks & Scatterings	103		

**Governor**

Healy and Hillman	1194
Patrick and Murray	1626
Mihos and Sullivan	195
Ross and Robinson	81
Blanks & Scatterings	21

**Attorney General**

Martha Coakley	2016
Larry Frisoli	966
Blanks & Scatterings	135

**Secretary of State**

William Francis Galvin	2112
Jill E. Stein	601
Blanks & Scatterings	404

**Treasurer**

Timothy P. Cahill	2189
James O'Keefe	501
Blanks & Scatterings	427

**Representative in Congress**

Martin T. Meehan	2300
Blanks & Scatterings	817

**QUESTION 1**

Sale of Wine in Food Stores	
<b>YES</b>	1461
<b>NO</b>	1498
<b>BLANK</b>	158

**QUESTION 2**

Nomination of Candidates For Public Office	
<b>YES</b>	292
<b>NO</b>	1073
<b>BLANK</b>	1752

**Senator in General Court**

Pamela P. Resor	2332
Blanks & Scatterings	785

**Representative in General Court**

Patricia A. Walrath	2492
Blanks & Scatterings	625

**District Attorney**

Gerard T. Leone, Jr.	2071
Blanks & Scatterings	1046

**Clerk of Courts**

Michael A. Sullivan	2065
Blanks & Scatterings	1052

**Register of Deeds**

Eugene C. Brune	2059
Blanks & Scatterings	1058

**Auditor**

A. Joseph DeNucci	2108
Rand Wilson	515
Blanks & Scatterings	494

**QUESTION 3**

<b>Family Child Care Providers</b>	
<b>YES</b>	313
<b>NO</b>	1166
<b>BLANK</b>	1638

**ELECTION WORKERS**Warden

Philip J. Detsch

Deputy Warden

Newton P. Wesley

Deputy Clerk

Judith A. Scraggs

Checkers

Janet Derby

Carol J. Dudley

Diane I. Lowden

Elizabeth D. MacGilvra

Eila J. Makey

Betty M. Sauta

Dolores M. Wesley

Ballot Counters

Anne C. Draudt

Ellen S. Sturgis

Joanne C. Newman

Ballot Box Officer

Elizabeth A. Lindberg

Utahna G. Hallet (&amp; ballot counter)

A true copy. Attest: Linda E. Hathaway  
Stow Town Clerk



# ***TOWN OF STOW***

***County of Middlesex  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts***



*Established as the Plantation of Pompositicut, 1669*

*Incorporated as a Town, May 16, 1683*



*Land area given to seven surrounding towns*



*Area today 17.94 Square Miles*

*11,311.4 Acres Land; 167 Acres Water*

*11,478.4 Acres Total*



*Longitude:71<sup>0</sup> Latitude:42<sup>0</sup>·26'*

*Altitude (above sea level) at Town Hall: 231 feet*



*Population per 2000 Federal Census: 5902*

*Population per 2006 Stow Census: 6,385*



## TOWN CALENDAR

Meetings held at Town Building unless otherwise noted.

SELECTMEN:	Second & fourth Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m.
CEMETERY COMMITTEE	Third Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE:	Second & fourth Mondays, 7:30 p.m.
CONSERVATION COMMISSION:	First & third Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.
COUNCIL ON AGING:	Second Thursday, 9:00 a.m.
FINANCE COMMITTEE:	Second & fourth Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.
HISTORICAL COMMISSION:	Second Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall
HOUSING PARTNERSHIP:	First & third Mondays, 7 p.m.
MINUTEMAN REGIONAL VOC-TECH SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE:	Third Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Minuteman Regional, 758 Marrett Road, Lexington
NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE (Full committee)	Second & fourth Thursdays, 6 p.m., Emerson Building, 50 Mechanic Street, Bolton
PLANNING BOARD:	Second & fourth Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m.
RANDALL LIBRARY TRUSTEES:	Third Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Library
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:	First Monday, 7:30 p.m.

### MONTHLY MEETINGS:

The following boards meet monthly, but meeting dates vary.

Board of Assessors, Board of Health, Lake Boon Commission, Local Access Channel Advisory Committee, Master Plan Committee, and Recreation Commission.

### AS NEEDED MEETINGS:

The following boards meet on an 'as needed' basis:

Cable License Advisory Committee, Capital Planning Committee, Cultural Council, Housing Authority, Open Space Committee.

### DISCLAIMER: This calendar is a reference guide only.

It is not an official meeting notice posting. Meeting dates are subject to change. To confirm, contact a board member, check the meeting notices on the town bulletin board at Town Building or in the Town Clerk's office. Official meeting notices are posted a minimum of 48 hours prior to the meeting per Open Meeting Law requirements.

## TOWN DEPARTMENT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

<b>POLICE DEPARTMENT .....</b>	<b>.....EMERGENCY.....</b>	<b>911</b>
	Other calls....	978-897-4545
<b>FIRE/RESCUE DEPARTMENT .....</b>	<b>.....EMERGENCY.....</b>	<b>911</b>
	Other calls....	978-897-4537
<b>AMBULANCE .....</b>	<b>.....EMERGENCY.....</b>	<b>911</b>
Animal Control Officer .....	.....	978-897-2784
Assessors.....	.....	978-897-4597
Building Department .....	.....	978-897-2193
Building Inspector, Electric Inspector, Gas Inspector, and Plumbing Inspector		
Cemetery Committee.....	.....	978-461-1403
Conservation Commission.....	.....	978-897-8615
Council on Aging .....	.....	978-897-1880
Health, Board of.....	.....	978-897-4592
Highway Department.....	.....	978-897-8071
Planning Board .....	.....	978-897-5098
Randall Library .....	.....	978-897-8572
Recreation Commission .....	.....	978-461-1411
Schools:		
Nashoba Regional School District .....	.....	978-779-0539
Center School .....	.....	978-897-0290
Hale Middle School.....	.....	978-897-4788
Pompositticut School.....	.....	978-897-5774
Nashoba Regional High School....	.....	978-779-2257
Minuteman Regional High School .....	.....	781-861-6500
Selectmen, Board of.....	.....	978-897-4515
Stow TV Office.....	.....	978-897-7732
Town Accountant .....	.....	978-897-5012
Town Administrator .....	.....	978-897-2927
Town Clerk.....	.....	978-897-4514 x1
Treasurer-Collector.....	.....	978-897-2834
Tree Warden.....	.....	978-897-8071
Veterans' Services Officer.....	.....	978-562-6630 (H)

Mail: 380 Great Rd., Stow, MA 01775-2127, FAX: 978- 897-4534, website: [www.stow-ma.gov](http://www.stow-ma.gov)