

# Town of Northfield

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## *Annual Town Report*



*Main St. Sidewalk Project*

# 2 0 0 9

69 Main St. \* Northfield, MA 01360 \* 413-498-2901

[www.northfield.ma.us](http://www.northfield.ma.us)

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## **Federal, State & County Officials**

### **President of the United States**

Barack H. Obama (D)  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave  
Washington, DC 20500  
202-456-1111

### **United States Senators**

Edward M. Kennedy (D) passed August 27, 2009  
Seat filled by Paul G. Kirk(D) until special election

Scott Brown (R)  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
202-224-4543

John F. Kerry (D)  
304 Russell Senate Office  
Washington, DC 20510  
202-224-2742

Martha Coakley **Representative in Congress**  
1350 Main St. 4<sup>th</sup> Floor John Olver (D) 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Springfield, MA 01103 1111 Longworth HOB  
413-784-1240 Washington, DC 20515  
202-225-5335

Linda Dunlavy  
Executive Director  
425 Main Street, Suite 40  
Greenfield, MA 01301  
413-774-3167

### **Massachusetts State Legislation**

#### **Governor**

Deval Patrick (D)  
State House  
Office of the Governor, Room 360  
Boston, MA 02133  
617-725-4005

#### **Lt. Governor**

Tim Murray  
State Office Building  
436 Dwight St. Ste. 300  
Springfield, MA 01103  
413-784-1200

#### **State Senator**

Stanley C. Rosenberg (D)  
State House, Room 320  
Boston, MA 02133  
617-722-1532

#### **Representative in General Court**

Denis E. Guyer (D)  
State House, Room 443  
Boston, MA 02133  
617-722-2460

#### **Attorney General**

#### **Franklin Regional Council of Government**

## **TOWN HALL OFFICE HOURS**

### **Accounting**

Tuesday & Wednesday  
Friday

9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
9:00 am - noon

### **Administrative Assistant**

Monday - Thursday  
Friday

9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
9:00 am - Noon

### **Assessors Office**

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday  
Wednesday  
  
Friday

9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
9:00 am - 2:00 pm  
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
CLOSED

### **Building Inspector**

Tuesday & Thursday

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

### **Tax Collector/Treasurer**

Monday  
Wednesday

9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

### **Town Clerk**

Monday & Tuesday  
Wednesday (2<sup>nd</sup>)  
Wednesday (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>)

9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
9:00 am - Noon  
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Thursday & Friday

**CLOSED**

### **Town Secretary**

Monday through Thursday  
Friday

8:00 am - 4:00 pm  
8:00 am - Noon

**TOWN HALL CLOSING AT NOON ON FRIDAY**

## **TOWN BOARDS / COMMITTEES & MEETING TIMES**

Meeting dates and times are subject to change.

<b><u>Agricultural Commission</u></b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs. 7:00 pm Jan. Mar. May. Jul. Sep. Nov.
<b><u>Board of Assessors</u></b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed 7:00 pm
<b><u>Board of Health</u></b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs 4:30 pm
<b><u>Board of Library Trustees</u></b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Tues 6:00 pm Library
<b><u>Board Of Selectmen</u></b>	*Tues. 7 pm *Summer months Mon. 7pm
<b><u>Conservation Commission</u></b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed 7:30 pm
<b><u>Council on Aging</u></b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs 9:00 am
<b><u>Cultural Council</u></b>	As Needed
<b><u>Energy Committee</u></b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Tue. 10:00 am Library
<b><u>Finance Committee</u></b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon 7:00 pm
<b><u>Historical Commission</u></b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs 7:00 pm
<b><u>Open Space Committee</u></b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues 7:30 pm
<b><u>Planning Board</u></b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed 7:00 pm-ANR 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed. 7:00 pm-Subdivision
<b><u>PVRS District Committee</u></b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Thu 7:00 pm PVRS
<b><u>Recreation Commission</u></b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues. 7:00 pm
<b><u>Sewer Commission</u></b>	Quarterly: Mar. Jun. Sep. Dec. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tue 3:30 pm
<b><u>Zoning Board of Appeals</u></b>	Wednesday as needed

## **DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF EMPLOYEES AND BOARD MEMBERS**

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### **ACCOUNTANT**

Appointed by the Board of Selectmen for a 3-year term. The Accountant examines all bills, drafts, orders and payrolls for accuracy, legality and proper signatures. S/he prepares warrants for submission to the Treasurer for payment; keeps a complete set of books for the Town showing appropriations, amounts and purposes of expenditures; receipts from all sources and amount of assessments levied and abatements made; prepares monthly appropriation statements for all departments; receives all budgets in preparation for the coming fiscal year and serves as liaison to, provides revenue statements and works closely with, the Finance Committee and other Town officials in preparing the town budget and in monitoring the Town's fiscal condition; prepares annual reports to the State and Town as required by law.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The AA implements and administers the wide range of policies and programs which come before the Board, researches and provides background for policy decisions, serves as liaison between the Selectmen's office and other town departments, as well as with State and other Municipal offices and the general public; contacts Town Counsel with the approval of the Board, prepares bid specifications for goods and services; assists with the budget and prepares grant applications.

### **BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

Comprised of three members, elected for a 3-year term. In addition a full time assistant assessor and a part time property inspector staff the office. The Board meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7 pm, unless otherwise posted. The Assessors are required by MA Law to value all real & personal property based on "full and fair cash value" and are responsible for setting the tax rate; committing real and personal property to the Tax Collector; updating property records for new construction, all abatements and motor vehicle excise. The Board also updates town tax maps, changes of address and reviews all applications for abatements, exemptions and special land use qualifications.

### **BOARD OF HEALTH**

Comprised of five members elected for a 3-year term. The Board meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7 pm, unless otherwise posted. The Board performs duties relative to the protection of public health, the control of disease, the promotion of sanitary living conditions and the protection of the environment from damage and pollution. Mandated duties include health care and disease control; enforcement of housing and dwelling codes; monitoring of and providing for hazardous waste disposal; monitoring the Transfer Station; enforcement of Title 5; investigating nuisances which may be injurious to health; enforcing the State Sanitary Code involving food service establishments and enforcing the State Environmental Code regarding safety and sanitation of pools and beaches. The Board has a part-time Health Agent, through the Town's membership in the Eastern Franklin County Health District. This is a very valuable service to the Town and the Board of Health.

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Comprised of three members elected for a 3-year term. The Board meets each Tuesday at 7 pm unless otherwise posted. The Selectboard are the Chief Administrative Officers of the town and supervise all matters that are not specifically delegated by law or vote to some other board or office. One of the most important functions of the Selectboard is the preparation of the Town Meeting Warrant. The warrant is composed of articles outlining each subject on which the town meeting must vote. Articles for town finances, zoning changes, accepting funds and grants, or disposing of property are a few examples of town warrant articles. Once voted, it is the Board's responsibilities to see to the implementation of the wishes of the voters. The Selectmen have the authority and responsibility to provide general policy direction, issue administrative orders, appoint and serve as hiring authority for most of the Town Boards, Committees and officials who administer Town Government; engage and supervise Town legal counsel and approve actions; authorize all borrowing and all expenditures, including payroll; act as the Town Licensing Board, issuing alcohol, livery, auctioneer and new & used car sales licenses and common victualers; publish the Annual Town Report and oversee municipal property and risk management for the Town, and enter into contracts on behalf of the Town.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Comprised of six members appointed by the Town Moderator for a 3-year term each. The Committee meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month @ 7 p.m. and as otherwise posted. This committee's prime responsibility is to make recommendations on all financial matters, including the budget, to town meeting. In order to do this, the Committee initiates annual budget requests and capital requests to all Town Boards and Committees then reviews and analyzes these requests, interviewing Department

Heads and Board/Committee Chairs as appropriate. The committee has oversight responsibility for all municipal financial matters.

### **PLANNING BOARD**

Comprised of five members elected for a 5-year term. The Board meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7 pm, unless otherwise posted. The Board is mandated by MA State law to prepare and maintain the Town's Master Plan and Official Map; prepare, adopt and administer Subdivision Rules and Regulations; review all subdivision plans submitted under state and local by-laws and regulations; supervise construction of subdivision roads and drainage systems; prepare and present zoning amendments at Town Meeting and review site plans for any changes in land use.

### **SEWER COMMISSIONERS**

Comprised of three members elected for a 3-year term. The Board meets quarterly and as needed. The Board oversees the Wastewater Treatment Plant, the Collection System, and its employees. They develop the annual budget with the chief operator's assistance. The Board sets the sewer rate yearly. They develop and oversee repairs and expansion of the Collection System and Treatment Plant.

### **TAX COLLECTOR**

Elected for a 3-year term. Collector receives a list and warrant from the Assessors, to collect taxes, together with any interest due; reports to the Treasurer all taxes, including charges, fees and interest received and deposited in any bank and turns funds over to the Treasurer for deposit. The Collector maintains collection accounts on real estate, personal property and motor vehicle excise tax bills. Delinquent bills are subsequently billed by means of demand notices and a series of delinquency letters. Unpaid tax bills may be advertised and the property eventually foreclosed by the Town for nonpayment. Unpaid motor vehicle excise tax bills are reported to the Registry for non-renewal of license or registration.

### **TOWN CLERK**

Elected for a 3-year term. The Clerk serves as Chief Election Officer and Local Registrar of Vital Records and Statistics, including Birth, Marriage and Death certificates; records and certifies all official actions of the Town and manages public access to information. S/he issues marriage, dog and fishing licenses; serves ex-officio as a member of the Board of Registrars and is responsible for carrying out the functions of the Board in preparation, publication and circulation of lists of voters; prepares the annual Street List and Town Census; submits all by-laws passed by Town Meeting to the MA State Attorney General for approval.

### **TREASURER**

Elected for a 3-year term. The Treasurer receives all money from municipal departments, including the Tax Collector; deposits funds; borrows for cash flow purposes and for approved capital projects; expends and accounts for funds after proper approval of the Town Accountant and Board of Selectmen; pays employees and withholds and maintains records on taxes; maintains and reconciles all of the Town's bank accounts and investments; performs monthly cash reconciliation with the Accountant, as well as quarterly cash reconciliation.

### **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

Comprised of five Regular members for a 5-year term and 3 Associate members for a 3-year term appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Board meets on Wednesdays as needed. The ZBA acts in a quasi-judicial capacity on the issuance of certain special permit applications; petitions for variances from the requirements of the Zoning By-Laws and Appeals from the acts of the Building Inspector, or from the failure of the Building Inspector to act in response to a complaint from a citizen. The Board has power to receive testimony under oath. Most decisions of the ZBA may be appealed by an aggrieved party to the District, Superior or Land Court.

## **ELECTED OFFICIALS**

As of January 2010

### **Board of Assessors**

Alice B. Lord		2010
Doris Balk		2011
OPEN		

### **Board of Health**

OPEN		2010
Thomas Walker		2010
Dan Gray	Chair	2011
David Balk		2012
Robert MacEwen		2012

### **Board of Library Trustees**

Margot Fleck		2010
Janet Wood		2010
Lloyd E. Parrill		2011
Jon McGowan	Chair	2011
Nolan Kitfield		2012
Pauline Borrego		2012

### **Board of Selectmen**

Kathleen Wright		2010
Richard C. Fleck Jr.		2011
John Spanbauer	Chair	2012

### **Board of Trustees of Veterans Memorials**

Daniel Ryan	Chair	2010
Eleanor Dean		2010
Denis Brennan		2011
John Williams		2011
Mark Remillard		2012

### **Constables**

David Brassor		2010
Fredd Fuller		2010
James O'Shea		2010
John Ware		2010

### **Moderator**

Nathan L'Etoile		2012
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### **Planning Board**

Jerry Wagener		2012
James Holloway	Chair	2013
Richard Fitzgerald		2014
OPEN		2010
Tammy Pelletier		2011

### **PVRS Northfield**

William Wahlstrom		2010
Patricia Shearer	Chair	2012
Jed Proujansky		2012



**Recreation Committee**

Cheri Wheeler		2012
Tim Hoisington		2011
David Adams	Chair	2010
Scott Milton		2010
Theresa Peters		2011

**Sewer Commission**

Dan Gray	Chair	2010
Everett Wickline		2011
Raymond Zukowski		2012

**Tax Collector**

Barbara Brassor		2011
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**Town Clerk**

Gail Zukowski		2012
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**Treasurer**

Barbara Brassor		2012
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**APPOINTED BY MODERATOR****Finance Committee**

Lois Stearns	Chair	2012
Gail St. Clair		2012
William Roberts		2010
Penny Betsold		2010
Dan Campbell		2011
Chad Glover		2011

**Franklin County Technical School District**

Gail Zukowski		2012
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**Non Partisan Caucus**

Susan Lloyd		2010
Betty Gibson		2010
Pamela Veith		2010

**APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN****Agricultural Commission**

William Ames-		2012
OPEN		
Stewart Balk	Chair	2010
David Brown		2010
Eugene L'Etoile		2011
William Llewelyn		2011
Jerry Wagener		2011
William Roberts	Third Alternate	2011
Dave Kalinowski	First Alternate	2011
Alan Stone	Second Alternate	2011

**Building Utilization and Planning Committee**

OPEN		
Ellen Hunter		2012
Chadwick Glover		2010
OPEN		
William Roberts		2010

**Conservation Commission**

OPEN		
OPEN		
Joan Deely		2010
Mike Barry		2010
Charles Blanker		2011
William Llewelyn	Chair	2011
Dave Thomas		2011

**Council on Aging**

OPEN		
Irene Jurkowski		2010
John Blazejewski		2010
Shirley Nelson		2011
Mary Jane Porter		2011
OPEN SEAT		
Eleanor Goodman	Chair	2012
Ruth Gallagher		2012
Genevieve Clark		2010

**Cultural Council-3year term; 2 consecutive appointments only**

OPEN SEAT			
Deb Potee (2006)		2012	Final term
Chuck Levin (2004)	Chair	2010	Final term
Tammy Pelletier (2005)		2011	Final term
Bruce Kahn (2008)		2011	First term
Karina Berenson (2008)		2011	First term
Crystal McNeill (2006)		2012	Final term
Amy Boyden (2009)		2012	First term

**Election Officers**

Helen Gorzokoski		2010
Ruth Gallagher		2010
Linda Leavis		2010
OPEN		
Helen Monroe		2010
Nina Sibley		2010
OPEN		
Deborah Taricano	Warden	2010
Carol O'Brien		2010
Kay Snow		2010
Kathy Malsch		2010
Keri Peila		2010
Ruth Johnson		2010
OPEN		2010
OPEN		2010
Bob MacEwen	Precinct Clerk	2010
Ed Finch		2010
Alice Fortier		2010
Betty Gibson		2010
Irene Hoisington		2010
Jane Abbott		2010

**Electronic Communications and Cable Television Advisory Committee**

Brian Brault	2012
OPEN	
Bruce Kahn	2012
OPEN	
OPEN	

**Emergency Services Facility Committee**

Floyd Dunnell	2014
Kathleen Wright	2014
John Spanbauer	2014
Raymond Zukowski	2014
Mark Fortier	2014
Len Crossman	2014
OPEN	
OPEN	
OPEN	
OPEN	
OPEN	

**Energy Committee**

OPEN		
John Cevsco	2012	
Walton Congdon	Co-Chair	2012
Robert Pasteris	Co-Chair	2012
Peter Talmage		2012
Rich Fitzgerald		2012

**Historical Commission**

Mary Jane Porter		2012
William Schweikert		2010
Marie Ferre	Chair	2010
Joel Fowler		2010
Homer Stavely		2011
Jessie Wiggin		2011
Ruth Potee		2012

**Main Street Revitalization Committee**

Peter Talmage	2012
Heather Tower	2012
John Spanbauer	2012
Chadwick Glover	2012
Jean Kozlowski	2012
Kathleen Wright	2010
Nick Fleck	2011
OPEN	
OPEN	
OPEN	

**Northfield Board of Registrars**

OPEN	
Susan Lloyd	2010
Edward Fortier	2011
Kim Farmer	2012

**NMH Transition Committee**

Randy Foster		2012
Chadwick Glover		2012
Ed Finch		2012
Nick Fleck		2012
OPEN		
Marguerite Lentz		2012
Kathleen Wright		2012
OPEN		
OPEN		
OPEN		
Susan Ross		2012
John Spanbauer	Chair	2012
Alexander Stewart		2012
OPEN		
Erin Jaworski		2012
Bruce Kahn		2012

**Open Space Committee**

Joanne McGee		2010
Samuel Richardson		2010
OPEN		2011
Sue Ross		2011
Mike Barry		2012
Ruth Gallagher		2012
Kate Rossiter		2011
Jen Tufts		2012
Jerry Wagener	Chair	2012

**School Use Committee****Trust Fund Committee**

Ruth Gallagher		2012
Jessie Wiggin		2012
Mary Jane Porter		2010
OPEN		
Janet Wood		2010

**Trustee, Fred W. Wells Will**

Theodore Penick		2010
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**Veteran Graves Officer**

Ed Doolittle		2010
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**Zoning Board of Appeals-5 year appointments for members, 3 year appts for alternates**

Edward Shearer		2011
William Forrest		2012
Raymond Clark	Alternate-3yr	2011
Marguerite Lentz	Clerk	2013
Mary King		2014
Samuel Richardson	Chair	2010
Erin Jaworski	Alternate-3yr	2010
Bob Barnes	Alternate-3yr	2012

***Community Preservation Committee***

Dan Campbell	Finance	2010
Ruth Potee	Historical-Chair	2010
Charles Blanker	Conservation Commission	2010
Tammy Pelletier	Planning Board	2010
Sam Richardson	Open Space Committee	2010
William Llewelyn	At Large	2010
Rhoda Yucavitch	At Large	2010
OPEN	Recreation Commission	2010
OPEN	Housing	2010

***Organization of the Police Department***

Nick Fleck	Chair	2010
Ray Zukowski		2010
Jason Platek		2010
Dan Campbell		2010
Dave Brasseur		2010
Andrea Dale		2010
Bonnie L'Etoile		2010

## **ANNUAL REPORTS**

### **Selectboard and Administrative Assistant**

Fiscal Year 2009 (July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009) ended with joy! On May 9, legislators and town officials gathered at Town Hall for the official groundbreaking ceremony for our sidewalk renovation and streetscape project along our two-mile linear common. The project, which has been in the works for over 20 years, was funded by a \$1.7 million grant that was part of President Barrack Obama's federal stimulus package. In attendance was James Aloisi, Jr., Massachusetts' secretary of transportation, Senator Stan Rosenberg, Albert Stegemann, MassHighway District 2 Director and a host of other well wishers from the region as well as local residents. The Northfield Elementary School Chorus delighted us with "This Land is Your Land". Guest enjoyed refreshments provided by Town Hall employees, Mim's, Rooster's and the IGA. Fairview Gardens provided floral displays and the sun shone down, at least part of the time!

Also, the Selectboard declared May 28, 2009, the "Elm Tree Returns to Northfield" day, which was celebrated at the Elementary School. The Elm Research Institute, home of the American Liberty Elm, donated a disease-resistant tree that was planted in front of the Elementary School. The Village Improvement Society sponsored the dedication and obtained a commemorative plaque to honor the occasion. We hope this is the beginning of restoring Elm Trees to our Town.

Economically, the year 2009 opened with comparisons to the Great Depression: financial market crashes, widespread unemployment, and fears of an enormous global crash. State revenues fell off, resulting in significant cuts to school and local aid. Despite these midyear cuts by the State, both Town and School District were able to avoid corresponding slashes in services.

Although the Town funded the operating budget in fiscal year 2009, all is not well. Capital improvements have fallen along the wayside because they must be funded by an override of Proposition 2 1/2. In the past five years, the few capital improvements that have passed have been primarily for items of a critical nature. One of the items slashed by the state this year was the Community Policing Grant. It provided approximately \$40,000 annually and enabled the Town to provide additional coverage, purchase technical equipment and replace police cruisers. For 15 years the Town did not have to appropriate funds for police cruisers. Henceforth, police cruisers must be added to the capital plan, along with fire trucks, and highway trucks and building repairs. These are "big buck" items.

Just as we save for a new roof for our home, the Town must start saving for its capital repairs. Our fire chief and highway superintendent have each had opportunities to purchase used vehicles that would do the job at significant savings but no money to do so. A prime example of taking advantage of a good deal is the fire rescue truck. Several years ago the Town set aside an amount of money to replace it. It wasn't enough and none more was appropriated. However, through great diligence, the Fire Department located an older vehicle in Pennsylvania that would serve the purpose. They brought it back, repaired it, painted it and it looks right off the showroom floor and will provide many years of service. Would you rather a good deal or are you willing to wait until a failure that must be replaced immediately at market price? The Selectboard highly recommends setting aside funds for capital purchases. In the long run, the additional cost each year would be offset by the savings of better purchasing practices. This is our job –to recommend what is best for the Town of Northfield.

Thank you for your support during fiscal year 2009!

Kathleen Wright, Chair  
John Spanbauer  
Richard Fleck

## **BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

### Amount to be Raised:

Appropriations	\$ 6,584,235.73
Overlay Deficits prior Years	2,957.40
Cherry Sheet Offsets	3,344.00
State & County Cherry Sheet Charges	6, 808.00
Overlay	50,602.61
Misc.	110,004.00

Total Amount to be Raised \$ 6,757,951.74

### Estimated Receipts & Other Revenue Sources:

Est. Rec. State	\$ 370,762.00
Est. Rec. Local	651,500.00
Community Preservation Fund	110,004.00
Rev. Appropriated Specific	3,500.00
Rev. to Reduce Tax Rate	140,000.00

Total Receipts & Revenue \$ 1,275,766.00

Real Estate and Personal Property Tax Levy \$ 5,482,185.74

### TAX RATE RECAPITULATION

CLASS	VALUATION	LEVY
Residential	291,039,327	4,048,357.04
Commercial	14,093,999	196,047.53
Industrial	72,105,977	1,002,994.14
Personal Property	16,879,010	234,787.03
TOTAL	394,118,313	5,482,185.74

Tax Rate Fiscal Year 2010: \$13.91 (per thousand of value)

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Lord, Chairperson  
Doris Balk  
Carol Holden, Clerk

## **Board of Health**

The Board of Health is an elected Board that is made up of 5 members and a Secretary. The BOH meets monthly in the evening, on the second Thursday, with additional meetings as required.

The Board has many responsibilities; foremost in terms of budget and time is managing the Transfer Station. The two trash compactors installed last year are operating well and efficiently. They produce better trash compaction, reducing the cost of the hauling Northfield's 420 tons of trash to the incinerator in West Springfield. Savings of around \$4,000.00 resulted this year thanks to 15 fewer hauls. The compactors were paid for with money returned from recycling, no tax dollars were used. Northfield along with twenty other valley Towns are members of the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District (FCSWMD).

FCSWMD oversees our recycling efforts; coordinating and contracting with agencies that help Northfield get the most money for our recyclables and the lowest hauling costs for the trash and recyclables. FCSWMD also organizes and manages the collection drives that we utilize. The Annual Hazardous Waste Collection day cost the Town approximately \$1,500.00 for items disposed of by residents. Both Bulky Waste Collection days and two electronic collection events occurred without cost to Northfield this year. The District conducts inspections of the Transfer Station, which now meets all State and OSHA regulations.

Compost collection has been successful. It currently saves approximately \$200.00 per week over putting this volume of material into the trash compactors. The material fills a two yard dumpster weekly and is transported to Martins Farm, in Greenfield to become garden compost.

The "Got Books" collection box accepts hard and soft cover books, CD's, DVD's, and VHS tapes. Help keep these items out of the wastestream. The Town receives \$150.00 or more each time the container is emptied, this is deposited into the Town's General Fund. Please use this resource.

The "ReUse Shed" will reopen with milder weather in the spring. Volunteers are sought to help staff and operate the shed. Remember the Salvation Army collection box, for serviceable clothing items – keep it out of the wastestream.

Membership in the Eastern Franklin County Health District continues. We receive great and professional assistance from our Health Agents, Dave Zarozinski and Deb Palmer. They perform inspections twice annually of food establishments. Also inspections of Farmers Markets, camps, and public pools. They investigate any public health or housing issues and complaints and will represent the Town in housing court if necessary. The BOH issues septic haulers permits, food permits, camp permits, pool permits and bed & breakfast permits. This year 970 Transfer Station stickers were sold.

Board members examine and approve septic system designs. A member must be present at every PERC test and final inspection of each system. This maybe for new construction, system replacement or repairs.

Presently, two BOH members are appointed by the State as Animal Inspectors. Inspector responsibilities are to provide annual barn inspections and to investigate and enforce State rabies protocols.

The BOH, with assistance from the Town Clerk, accept sharps and provide sharps containers at no cost.

Potassium Iodide tablets are provided to residents, call the BOH office to arrange pick up.

The BOH members continue to work hard for the Town of Northfield. We train, travel to meetings of the FCSWMD, EFCHD, MAHB and the Emergency Dispensing Site (EDS). We as a Board work to save money with innovative programs. During these times of increasing costs we have been reducing our budgetary requests, by an average of 8% annually. The PAYT bag cost and sticker fees have not been increased in the last five years. If we as a Town can continue to improve our recycling efforts and can further remove compostable food wastes from our trash, utilize the compost bin for these items, we can continue to save money as individuals and a Town.

Submitted

David Balk  
Dan Gray, Chair  
Robert MacEwen  
Pamela Veith  
Thomas Walker



## **Dickinson Memorial Library**

Under the leadership of the Board of Library Trustees – Chair, Jon McGowan, Janet Wood, Margot Fleck, Nolan Kitfield, Paulina Borrego and Lloyd Parrill - and Library Director Deb Kern, the Dickinson Memorial Library continued providing resources and programming to enrich the lives of Northfield residents. In 2009, the Library remained a place of refuge, a meeting place and a community center.

### **Building Improvements**

An energy audit was performed to guide future improvements. New sidewalks enhanced the outside of the library including a distinct curb cut for both improved safety and better drainage when it rains. The sidewalks attracted more visitors to the library. People parked their cars out back, walked the length of the sidewalks through town and returned to relax, browse, and borrow library materials. A hot-water utility sink was installed. An art space, funded by gifts made in memory of Martha Jones, was created to display the work of local artists. The first exhibit featured 8 paintings by Northfield resident Dot Persons.

With donations made in memory of Rex Baker and Lucille Bolton, and a contribution from the Rustic Ridge Association, work on a local history room began in earnest. The mission of the Northfield History Room, as developed and approved by the Trustees, is “to collect, preserve and make accessible materials pertaining to the history of Northfield.” A wing in the southwest corner of the second floor was cleaned out. Solar protection shades were installed. Measurements for shelves were taken. The books unpacked and sorted. The room should be open to the public by early summer 2010.

### **Bequests**

Even in this tough economic climate, the library received many generous gifts and donations. A bequest from former postmaster Thomas Herlihy will endow many projects in the years to come.

### **Programs**

“On the Same Page,” a community-wide granted-funded reading program, kicked off with over 100 people attending a snowy cookout, sponsored and organized by the Friends of the Library; and a bonfire - built, managed and extinguished - by Jack and Andy Leary. From mid-February to the end of March the library offered a myriad of programs, from yoga to hiking to book discussions, centered on the themes found in Bill Bryson’s *A Walk in the Woods*

In addition to the weekly preschool storytime and two monthly book discussion groups, three author programs were held. Tyler Boudreau, *Packing Inferno*; Eve Waite Brown, *First Comes Love then Comes Malaria*; and Roland Merullo, author of many books including *A Little Love Story*, *Breakfast with Buddha* and *Golfing with God* discussed their books and answered questions from the audience.

### **Friends of the Dickinson Memorial Library**

All year the Friends of the Library raised money to sponsor library programs. Among the many things supported this year were new monthly movie programs, the library website and a successful Summer Reading Program where 77 adults read 594 books and 127 children logged 2,058 hours of reading.

### **Staff and Community**

The staff – Jane Lyle-Jaworski, Angela Rovatti-Leonard, Molly Chapin and Dan Morgan - worked hard to welcome everyone who patronized the library. Our volunteers, an essential part of the smooth running of the library, were always reliable and ever ready to take on more tasks. As we know, the library can only be as successful as the community that supports it, and in

2009 residents continued to make the Dickinson Memorial Library a vital part of Northfield.

Number of books, magazines, movies and audios borrowed	59,255
Number of items requested from other libraries	8,781
Number of items sent to other libraries	5,946
Number of items renewed from home	3,809
Number of library visits	24,875
Number of audiobooks, books and videos downloaded electronically	111
Number of people with Northfield library cards as of 12/31/2009	2,211

## **Planning Board**

### Members:

Jim Holloway, Chairman  
Jerry Wagener  
Tammy Pelletier  
Richard Fitzgerald (*new member since May*)  
  
Alan Rogers (*retired in April*)  
John Foster (*Chairman till September, retired in September*)  
  
Sarah Goodwin, Administrative Assistant

The Northfield Planning Board holds its monthly meetings at the Town Hall, every second Wednesday of the month. In April longstanding Board member Alan Rogers retired from the Board and John Foster was elected to take his place. In July John Foster retired from the position of Chairman as well as from the Planning Board and at the following meeting, in August, Jim Holloway was elected Chairman. New member, Richard Fitzgerald, joined the Planning Board in May and volunteer residents are still being sought to fill three open positions.

The Board began holding secondary meetings on the fourth Wednesday of every month, beginning in September, in order to address the concerns of updating the Town's outdated Subdivision Bylaws. The current Subdivision Bylaws of surrounding towns have been reviewed as well as Massachusetts' recommended guidelines. Revisions and updating possibilities are ongoing and residents are welcome to come and participate.

The Northfield Planning Board met eleven times throughout the year for its monthly meetings, held three Subdivision Update meetings, met once for a Special Meeting with members of the ZBA & residents of Hidden Pond Lane and held one Public Hearing on four possible bylaw updates.

### Our work for this year consisted of:

- 12 ANRs came before the Board
  - 9 Approved
  - 0 Declined Approval
  - 3 Withdrawn
- 0 Access Not Off Frontage permits came before the Board
- 0 Special Permits came before the Board
- 3 Workshops attended by members

The Planning Board accepted the gracious assistance of FRCOG Representative, Peggy Sloan, who made a presentation to the Board in regard to the Village Center concept and answer questions. Further concepts discussed throughout the year included the possibilities of a Main Street Village District and/or establishing a Local Historical District.

Jerry Wagner attended several FRCOG meetings and external workshops, obtaining valuable insights and information for the Planning Board. He also presented the Board with a good deal of information, reviewed memos & made presentations of his findings as well as addressed causes for the Board to get behind for the benefit of the town. Jerry created several charts, graphs, and programs to aid the Board in its organization of information and decision making processes. The Planning Board is extremely grateful for all the extra time and effort made by Jerry Wagener on its behalf.

Board members met with residents of Hidden Pond Lane and again with Selectboard members to discuss the possibilities of changing the status of the Road from Private to Public and having the town take over maintenance of the road. The Board also pursued the concept of a "reverse ANR", as well as updated its ANR application in January and again in October to make it easier for applicants to follow. The Planning Board would like to thank residents who attended their meetings and looks forward to hearing from folks interested in work they believe the Board should focus on in the future.

## **Recreation Commission**

In Fiscal year 2009 the Recreation Commission saw a new member. Terri Peters was voted on as a result of the last elections. Terri has become a great asset to our group, by taking over the finances of the Recreation Commission. We will also see the terms of Scott Milton and David Adams be ending this May. This will leave two vacated positions on the Recreation Commission. It is always easier to accomplish all of our tasks through out the year when we are at our maximum of five members, so if you are at all interested in serving on this Commission please see Gail for information.

While many of our programs are designed around the youth of our town, we also offer a variety of different events and classes for the other ages of town. There are Pilates classes, and Martial classes. We had a full bus go to one of the Red Sox games last year. We even have a group of kids who are going to a Celtics game to do their Twirling routine during the halftime. We've had some young men talk to us on the idea of possibly putting a skate park in town somewhere, and that is in the beginning stages as well. We also saw a great response to the Mount Hermon School letting us use the swimming pool at the golf course.

Our Youth programs have seen much success over the last year as well. We had two baseball teams compete in the playoffs after a great season. Our Softball program continues to grow slowly but surely. We had a real good turn out of kids that participated in the Soccer program.

Our Basketball program saw five teams come out of our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders this year. Two out of our three teams played each other for the Vernon Invitational Tournament Championship.

We also had great success from our Summer Rec. program. We were not sure of how well moving the program to a full day instead of half a day was going to work, but with great leadership from Amy Hendricks, and her councilors, we have seen an awesome program. The finances were one of our concerns, but we quickly found out that we were actually much more affordable than many other programs.

While all these events and activities go on, we are constantly watching our budget. Last year we requested to be level funded, and we survived. Many of our programs are designed to self fund themselves, but on occasion we do see some of the programs go over budget. So far we have avoided going into the negative.

As usual, there is always someone somewhere that never gets the proper recognition they deserve, but I can say for all of us on the Recreation Commission that without the aid and help of Wendy Trill pulling in many loose ends for us, our jobs would be much harder, and for that we'd like to extend a great debt of gratitude for all that she does for us.

Respectfully Submitted,  
David R. Adams  
Commission Chairman of Northfield Recreation Commission

## **Sewer Commission**

The Board of Sewer Commissioners set the sewer rate for fiscal year 2009 at \$323.08 per hookup (Base Rate), which was 40% of the total Budget, and \$6.54 per hundred cubic feet (HCF) of water usage. Total Budget for the year was \$219,693. There was one new sewer hookups this year. We treated over 40 million gallons of wastewater in 2009. We had an average flow of 110,000 gallons per day. We had 50.94" of rainfall.

The Board welcomed Phil Kostecki, who replaced Jack Patch as the Assistant Chief Operator. Jack took a job working for Massachusetts Rural Water Association.

With the approval of the Massachusetts DEP, we installed a new ORP probe. This will allow us to control the nitrification process better. This is another step in upgrading our Aeration Tank.

With the help of the Highway Department, we replaced 600 feet of 6" clay tile pipe with 8" PVC pipe. This will stop the roots from clogging the line. It will also help to stop the infiltration of groundwater into the system.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Gray – Chairman  
 Everett Wickline – Vice Chairman  
 Raymond Zukowski Jr.

**Tax Collector**

REPORT JULY 1, 2008 - JUNE 30, 2009

REAL ESTATE

2010	Balance	-7805.05	
2009	Balance	-1811.00	
	Comitted	5161441.78	
	Refund	28753.02	
	Collected		4994634.86
	Abated		45849.86
	Uncollected		147899.08
2009	Pro Rata		
	Comitted	1665.83	
	Collected		1665.83
2008	Balance	177359.62	
	Comitted	0.00	
	Refund	5967.18	
	Collected		125296.97
	Abated		3236.06
	Tax Title		677.38
	Uncollected		54116.39
2008	Pro Rata		
	Balance	3440.86	
	Collected		1516.65
	Uncollected		1924.21
2007	Balance	51316.18	
	Refund	2349.39	
	Adjustment	986.29	
	Collected		40919.31
	Abated		626.94
	Uncollected		13105.61
2007	Pro Rate Balance	986.29	
	Adjustment		986.29
2006	Balance	20039.26	
	Refund	0.00	
	Collected		14190.30
	Abate		0.00

		Tax Title	603.60	
		Uncollected	5245.36	
2005	Balance		2953.69	
	Adjustment		50.77	
		Collected		2557.07
		Tax Title		526.85
		Uncollected		-79.46
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT				
2009	Comitted		97258.99	
	Refund		905.03	
		Collected		92323.28
		Abate		2254.66
		Uncollected		3586.08
PERSONAL PROPERTY				
2009	Comitted		221262.57	
	Refund		147653.62	
		Abate		118.67
		Collected		366931.76
		Uncollected		1865.76
2008	Balance		1806.75	
		Abate		88.11
		Collected		888.53
		Uncollected		830.11
2007	Balance		880.08	
		Abate		166.93
		Collected		347.37
		Uncollected		365.78
2006	Balance		569.17	
		Collected		259.04
		Uncollected		310.13
2005	Balance		538.22	
		Collected		274.54
		Uncollected		263.68
2004	Balance		454.43	
		Collected		255.93
		Uncollected		198.50
2003	Balance		275.54	
		Collected		275.54
2002	Balance		530.47	
	Refund		20.73	
		Collected		259.05
		Uncollected		292.15
2001	Balance		172.72	
		Collected		38.30
		Uncollected		134.42

FARM ANIMAL	2000	Balance		194.28	
			Collected		43.09
			Uncollected		151.19
	1999	Balance		139.82	
			Uncollected		139.82
	1998	Balance		79.39	
			Uncollected		79.39
	1997	Balance		70.20	
			Uncollected		70.20
	1996	Balance		68.19	
			Uncollected		68.19
	2008	Comitted		3233.94	
			Collected		3218.94
			Uncollected		15.00
	2007	Balance		20.00	
		Uncollected		20.00	
2006	Balance		25.00		
		Uncollected		25.00	
2005	Balance		482.00		
		Abate		482.00	
2004	Balance		497.53		
		Abate		497.53	
2003	Balance		13.93		
		Abate		13.93	
2001	Balance		28.66		
		Abate		28.66	
2000	Balance		10.17		
		Abate		10.17	
1999	Balance		56.44		
		Abate		56.44	
1998	Balance		27.08		
		Abate		27.08	
1997	Balance		264.99		
		Abated		164.99	
MOTOR VEHICLE					
2009	Comitted		289274.36		
	Refunds		1131.22		

		Collected	267993.07
		Abated	3720.30
		Uncollected	18692.21
2008	Balance		40000.84
	Comitted		50599.17
	Refunds		3355.84
		Collected	84307.01
		Abated	3633.40
		Uncollected	6015.44
2007	Balance		9367.38
	Comitted		11920.95
	Refunds		454.02
		Collected	15924.45
		Abated	329.78
		Uncollected	5488.12
2006	Balance		6254.39
	Comitted		0.00
	Refunds		77.50
		Collected	1072.60
		Abated	107.50
		Uncollected	5151.79
2005	Balance		2339.92
		Collected	183.34
		Uncollected	2156.58
2004	Balance		2087.32
		Collected	70.42
		Uncollected	2016.90
2003	Balance		960.06
		Collected	135.00
		Uncollected	825.06
2002	Balance		646.78
		Uncollected	646.78
2001	Balance		707.80
		Uncollected	707.80
2000	Balance		997.03
		Uncollected	997.03
1999	Balance		579.53
		Uncollected	579.53
1998	Balance		28.64
		Uncollected	28.64
1995	Balance		3.33
		Uncollected	3.33
1990	Balance		253.49

	Uncollected		253.49
1989	Balance	90.26	
	Uncollected		90.26
SEWER USE			
	Balance 7/1/08	20607.10	
	Comitted	189384.57	
	Refunds	9104.21	
	Collected		174275.15
	Abated		18921.23
	Transferred to R.E.		11412.37
	Uncollected		14487.13
	RE Lein Balance	4472.02	
	Comitted	11412.37	
	Collected		6295.10
	Uncollected		9589.29
	Comitted Interest Balance	637.77	
	Comitted	1597.73	
	Collected		957.40
	Uncollected		1278.10

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara J. Brassor  
Tax Collector

## Treasurer

REPORT JULY 1, 2008 - JUNE 30, 2009

### GENERAL ACCOUNT

#### GREENFIELD CO-OPERATIVE BANK

Balance	0.00
Deposits in transit	27353.79
Outstanding Checks	836589.06
Balance per checkbook	-809235.27

#### GENERAL INVESTMENT

Mass. Muni. Depos. Trust	16147.52
UniBank	657694.67
Greenfield Co-operative	703943.43
Bank of Western Mass.	101093.87
UniBank (taxes)	69885.42
TOTAL	1548764.91

#### INTEREST EARNED - GENERAL

Mass. Muni. Depos. Trust	323.91
UniBank	2912.55



UniBank (taxes)	433.18	
Greenfield Co-operative (sweep)	21778.06	
Bank of Western Mass.	326.76	
TOTAL		25774.46
STABILIZATION FUND		
Balance	79815.44	
Interest earned	1633.92	
Transfer to General		0.00
Balance 6/30/08		81449.36
STABILIZATION INVESTMENT		
Mass. Muni. Depos. Trust		81449.36
ARTS COUNCIL		
Balance	3917.74	
Receipts	4300.00	
Interest earned	19.56	
Payments per warrant		3832.00
Balance 6/30/08		4405.30
GREENFIELD CO-OPERATIVE BANK		
Bankbook balance		4405.30
AERIAL LADDER		
Balance	68.99	
Interest earned	0.45	
Balance 6/30/08		69.44
GREENFIELD CO-OPERATIVE BANK		
Bankbook balance		69.44
RECREATION COMMISSION		
Balance	20782.70	
Receipts	34732.50	
Interest Earned	28.67	
Payments per warrant		32754.82
Balance 6/30/07		22789.05
GREENFIELD CO-OPERATIVE BANK		
Balance per statement	23349.05	
Outstanding checks		560.00
Deposit in transit		0.00
Balance per checkbook		22789.05
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND		
Receipts	92323.28	
Interest Earned	205.39	
Refunds		905.03
Balance		91623.64
GREENFIELD CO-OPPERATIVE BANK		
Bankbook balance		91623.64

TRUST FUNDS	Balance	Interest	Int.toTreas	Deposits	Withdraw.	Balance 6/30/2009
LIBRARY						
C.Ina Merriman	1928.08	28.03				1956.11
Belcher Funds	10594.43	157.37			102.17	10649.63
Chas. Dickinson	3169.28	46.07				3215.35
Maude Montague	2678.54	38.94				2717.48
Marina Stanley	652.97	9.50				662.47
Richard G. Holton	572.11	8.31				580.42
Nfld. Chap. DAR	176.52	2.57				179.09
Ethel Jackson	289.53	4.21				293.74
Paul Bowman	85806.42	2185.03			1828.03	86163.42
Giles Mem. Fund	3047.53	44.29				3091.82
McGowan Mem. Fund	9745.22	141.65				9886.87
Dickinson Lib.Build.	4919.91	71.52				4991.43
Pauline Wicke	0.59	0.00				0.59
Lawrence Trust	5608.86	78.98			198.05	5489.79
CHARITY						
Starkweather	51869.64	754.01				52623.65
George Morgan	17459.80	253.79				17713.59
Elisha Alexander	15953.09	231.91				16185.00
Lottie Evans	9054.20	131.61				9185.81
Roselle Evans	3656.25	53.13				3709.38
SCHOOL						
Belcher Center	3603.49	52.38				3655.87
Surplus Rev. Fund	2853.22	41.48				2894.70
PRESERVATION HISTORICAL MARKERS						
Willis K. Parker	1469.02	21.34				1490.36
BEAUTIFY MAIN STREET						
Ethel Jackson	2141.55	31.14				2172.69
MARTHA ALEXANDER FUND						
Gfld Savings	62089.34	2257.93				64347.27
Gfld Co-operative	1681.85	2.70			1301.75	1784.70
Gfld Co-operative	36311.29			1301.75	1201.60	36311.29
CEMETERIES						
Center	21508.25	308.81				21817.06
West Nfld.	15883.71	233.42	(Dunnell)	500.00		16617.13
Pentecost	11032.37	160.99	(Walker)	375.00		
			(Richardson)	125.00		11693.36
Nfld. Farms	12612.65	185.85	(Stewart)	125.00		
			(Barber)	125.00		
			(Rice)	250.00		13298.50
Mt. Hermon	10490.72	152.48				10643.20
So. Mountain	172.73	2.50				175.23
TERCENTENARY COMMITTEE						
UniBank	980.21	14.24				994.45

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara J. Brassor  
Treasurer

**Town Clerk**

**Special Town Meeting**  
**Town of Northfield**  
**March 2, 2009**  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator Thomas Shearer at 7:00 p.m., at the Northfield Town Hall. Moderator Thomas Shearer led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. The "Rules of Debate" were read. Non –registered voters that may need to address the assembly were recognized by the Moderator, Deborah Mero; Accountant for the Town of Northfield, and Susan Draves; Administrative Assistant for the Town of Northfield. Twenty- five registered voters were present to act on the following articles:

**Article 1. Passed/Voice Vote**

Move that the Town vote to **waive the reading of the Warrant and the Notice to the Constables** and act on the motion of the following article.

**Article 2. Passed/Unanimous Voice Vote**

Move that the Town vote to **transfer from available funds ("Free Cash") \$38,400.00** to be used as another financing source in the general fund for FY09.

There being no further business for the Special Town Meeting Moderator Thomas Shearer dissolved the meeting at 7:12 pm

Registered Voters --- 2093  
Votes Cast --- 25  
Voter Turnout --- 1%

Deborah Taricano --- Warden

Attest:

Gail V. Zukowski  
Town Clerk

**Town of Northfield**  
**Special Town Meeting**  
**March 26, 2009**  
**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator Thomas Shearer at 7:25 p.m., at the Pioneer Valley Regional School. The "Rules of Debate" were read by the Moderator, and a voice vote was taken and passed to accept such rules. Non registered voters that may need to address the assembly were recognized by the Moderator, Joel Bard; Town Attorney from Kopelman and Paige. Three hundred and seventy four registered voters were present to vote on the following articles.

**Article 1. Passed/ Voice Vote**

Move that the Town vote to **waive the reading of the Warrant and the Notice to the Constables** and act on the motions of the following articles.

**Article 2. Passed/ Paper Ballot    Yes – 262                      No – 99**  
**Submitted by Petition**

**Motion:**

"Shall the Town of Northfield amend the property tax surcharge of three (3) percent imposed by the ballot vote of November 4, 2008, from three (3) percent to one-half (0.5) percent effective beginning with fiscal year 2010 and as implemented under the provisions of Sections 3 to 7 inclusive of Chapter 44B of the General Laws of Massachusetts."

**Motion: To "Stop Debate" Moderator did not accept**

**Motion: To "Move the Question " Voice Vote / Passed                      2/3 Required**

**Motion: "Secret Ballot" Voice Vote / Passed**

There being no further business to come before the Town, Moderator Thomas Shearer dissolved the Special Town Meeting at 9:04 p.m.

Registered Voters -- 2096  
Votes Cast Via Paper Ballot – 361  
Voter Turnout -- 18%

Betty Gibson  
Keri Peila  
Pamela Veith  
Deborah Taricano

Election Worker  
Election Worker  
Election Worker  
Warden

Attest

Gail V. Zukowski  
Town Clerk

**Town of Northfield**  
**Annual Town Meeting**  
**May 4, 2009**  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

The Annual Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator Thomas Shearer at 7:04 p.m., at Pioneer Valley Regional School. The "Rules of Debate" were read by the Moderator. Non registered voters that may need to address the assembly were recognized by the Moderator, Dayle Doiron: Pioneer Valley Regional School Superintendent, Susan Draves: Administrative Assistant for the Town of Northfield, Richard Lane: Franklin County Technical School Superintendent, and Deborah Mero: Accountant for the Town of Northfield. One hundred and twenty eight registered voters were present to vote on the following articles.

Selectboard member Richard Fleck Jr. addressed the residents:

I am Nick Fleck and live on North Lane.

I have been on the Selectboard for one year now and I have just a few brief comments.

1. I want to congratulate those I work with both volunteers and employees. Without exception I find they go beyond their jobs again and again. All this makes being a Selectboard member easier. The town is lucky to have so many so committed to serving the town.

2. I said when I ran for the Selectboard that I wanted to increase the communications between Town Hall and the citizens. If any of you have suggestions how to do this, please let me know. We have already increased the Recorder's coverage, more information in the Town Newsletter, and are now in the process of filming a series of interviews of volunteers and employees. Bill McGee and Marguerite Lentz are the interviewers.

This series has been dubbed by Bill McGee "01360". The Bernardston/Northfield Cable T.V. has already started broadcasting and the schedule is posted on their website: BNCTV.net. My goal is to interview all the different department heads and then, perhaps those that run volunteer organizations and businesses in town. We will see how it goes. Also copies of the interviews will be given to Dickinson Library.

3. If any group wishes to have me come and meet with them and to answer questions about Selectboard meetings just let me know.

4. And finally, a few years back the town meeting approved \$2,000.00 to do a study of the Mill Brook area. As many of you know, that study is available in both the Town Hall and Dickinson Library. Though little has happened with NMH's property in Northfield, I have kept in contact

### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the efficient administration of Town affairs is achieved through the largely voluntary assumption of official responsibilities by elected or appointed officers combined with the loyal and faithful service of salaried employees, and,

WHEREAS certain persons have during the calendar year of 2008 concluded periods of service during which they have made substantial contributions to the public weal,

BE IT RESOLVED that the names and nature of service by the following named persons be herewith noticed and recorded in the minutes of this Annual Town Meeting of 2009 in grateful recognition of their work on behalf of the Town:

Board of Assessors	Eugene L'Etoile
Board of Selectmen	Chadwick Glover
Building Utilization & Planning Committee	Reynold Henry
Community Preservation Act Committee	Joanne McGee, Marie Ferre, Reynold Henry, Linda Smiaroski, Bill Llewelyn, Kathleen Wright, Bill Roberts, Jessie Wiggin, James Holloway, Sam Richardson
Conservation Committee	William Walker Jr.
Council on Aging	Zoanne Zeinenger
Cultural Council	Maureen Spaulding, Linda Smiaroski
Election Officer	Angela Amidon, Teresa Nelson, Robin Severance
EMS	Noah Pack, Matt Shippa, Dave Nadeau
Emergency Services Facility Committee	Gary Sibilis
Finance Committee	Jane Abbott
Highway Department	Rory Shippa
NMH Transition Committee	Alfred Havens, Ted Powell
Open Space Committee	Linda Smiaroski
Planning Board	Joan Stoia
Recreation Commission	Linda Smiaroski
Trust for Public Land	Tom Shearer, Kathleen Wright, Steve Malsch, Jane Abbott, Alan Rogers, Joel Fowler, Joanne McGee, Nathan L'Etoile, Susan Ross, Jerry Wagener, John Jurkowski
Trust Fund Committee	Marguerite Lentz

NORTHFIELD SELECTBOARD

**Article 1. Passed / Voice Vote**

Move that the Town vote to **waive the reading of the Warrant and the Notice to the Constables** and act on the motions of the following articles.

**Article 2. Passed / Voice Vote**

Move that the Town vote to **hear and act upon the reports** of the several Town Officers, Boards, Committees, Commissions and Trustees.

**Article 3. Passed / Voice Vote**

Move that the Town vote to **accept and expend** any sum or sums of money that may be available from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Massachusetts Highway Department) for **Chapter 90-type** construction/improvements/reconstruction of public ways and associated equipment; and authorize the Selectboard to enter into contracts relative thereto, and to appropriate said sum or sums in anticipation of reimbursement from the Commonwealth.

**Article 4. Passed / Voice Vote**

Move that the Town vote to approve that, upon exceeding the **levy limit**, any monies appropriated that exceed the Town Finance Committee recommendation under Article 5, or any other article of this Fiscal Year 2010 Annual Town Meeting, may be contingent upon the approval by the voters of an "Override of Proposition 2 ½".

**Article 5. Passed / Voice Vote**

Move that the Town vote, under the provisions of the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 41, Section 108, or any amendments thereto, to **fix the salaries of all elected officials for Fiscal Year 2010**, and raise and appropriate any sum or sums therefor, and further raise and appropriate any sum or sums of money for the maintenance of the several departments of the Town, and for other necessary charges, in accordance with the amount recommended by the Finance Committee as shown in Money Column 3 of the Warrant .

	APPROPRIATION			REQUESTED	FINANCE COMM
	FY2009			FY2010	Recommends
MODERATOR SALARY			50.00	50.00	50.00
MODERATOR EXPENSE			30.00	30.00	30.00
SELECTMEN SALARIES			0.00	5322.00	5322.00
	2009	2010req	2010rec		
chairman	0.00	1844.00	1844.00		
others	0.00	1739.00	1739.00		
SELECTMEN EXPENSE			12500.00	10030.00	10030.00
ADMIN ASST SALARY			50849.00	53033.00	53033.00
ADMIN ASST EXPENSE			850.00	825.00	825.00
SECRETARY SALARY			32812.00	33531.00	33531.00
FINANCE COMM EXPENSE			1346.00	1391.00	1391.00
RESERVE FUND			15000.00	15000.00	15000.00
ACCOUNTANT SALARY			23219.00	24216.00	24216.00
ACCOUNTANT EXPENSE			335.00	335.00	335.00
ASSESSORS SALARIES			0.00	4884.00	4884.00
	2009	2010req	2010rec		
chairman	0.00	1712.00	1712.00		
others	0.00	1586.00	1586.00		
ASSESSORS CLERK SALARY			32290.00	33677.00	33677.00
ASSESSORS PROPERTY INSPECTOR			6026.00	6000.00	6000.00
ASSESSORS EXPENSE			20765.00	15155.00	15155.00
TREASURER SALARY			10622.00	11078.00	11078.00
TREASURER EXPENSE			3000.00	3000.00	3000.00
TAX COLLECTOR SALARY			10622.00	11078.00	11078.00
TAX COLLECTOR EXPENSE			4700.00	4700.00	4700.00

TOWN LEGAL COUNSEL	15000.00	15000.00	10000.00
COMPUTER SUPPLY/SERVICE	10360.00	11771.00	11771.00
TAX TITLE FORECLOSURE	2300.00	2300.00	2300.00
COPY MACHINE SUPPL/SERVICE	2100.00	2100.00	2100.00
TOWN CLERK SALARY	24143.00	25180.00	25180.00
TOWN CLERK EXPENSE	3470.00	3455.00	3455.00
ELECTIONS & REGISTRATIONS	6625.00	6625.00	6625.00
CONSERV COMMISSION	1842.00	1862.00	1862.00
PLANNING BOARD	1964.00	1984.00	1984.00
ZONING/APPEALS BOARD	3020.00	3064.00	3064.00
OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE	200.00	200.00	200.00
LAND DAMAGES	1.00	1.00	1.00
TOWN HALL CUSTODIAN	12440.00	12974.00	12974.00
CUSTODIAN EXPENSE	175.00	175.00	175.00
TOWN HALL MAINT	41955.00	38305.00	38305.00
TOWN BLDG ELEVATOR & ALARM MAINT	6600.00	6600.00	6600.00
TOWN REPORTS	250.00	250.00	250.00
TOWN CLOCK	150.00	150.00	150.00
TOTAL	357611.00	365331.00	360331.00

POLICE WAGES & SALARIES			193913.00	193518.00	193518.00
	2009	2010req	2010rec		
chief	58872.00				
sergeant	47487.00				
third ofcr	36171.00				
F.T. wages		135656.00	135656.00		
P.T. wages	20213.00	21637.00	21637.00		
holiday	3926.00	5492.00	5492.00		
O.T. wages	9374.00	11881.00	11881.00		
Quinn Bill	17870.00	18852.00	18852.00		
POLICE OPER EXPENSE			25273.00	26433.00	26433.00
FIRE DEPT SALARIES			4774.00	4869.00	4869.00
	2009	2010req	2010rec		
chief	2523.00	2573.00	2573.00		
frst fire warden	505.00	515.00	515.00		
pub safety ofcr	253.00	258.00	258.00		
fire dept secy	336.00	343.00	343.00		
asst. chief	514.00	524.00	524.00		
captain	257.00	262.00	262.00		
lieutenants	386.00	394.00	394.00		
FIRE DEPT WAGES			36000.00	36720.00	36720.00
FIRE DEPT OPER EXP			15950.00	15950.00	15950.00
HOSE & EQUIPMENT			5500.00	8000.00	8000.00
INSPECTION FEES			3000.00	3000.00	3000.00
HYDRANTS			5460.00	5460.00	5460.00
MAINT FIRE STATION			14250.00	14250.00	14250.00
FIREPONDS/WATERHOLES			3000.00	3000.00	3000.00
EMS WAGES & SALARIES			16413.00	17500.00	16741.00
EMS EXPENSE			8236.00	10060.00	10060.00
BLDG INSPECTOR SALARY			22891.00	23349.00	23349.00
BLDG INSPECTOR EXPENSE			2590.00	1050.00	1050.00
GAS INSPECTION			1500.00	1500.00	1500.00

WIRE INSPECTION	4000.00	4050.00	4050.00
CIVIL DEFENSE	400.00	400.00	400.00
DOG OFFICER SALARY	2941.00	3000.00	3000.00
DOG OFFICER EXPENSE	1450.00	1450.00	1450.00
TREE DEPT WAGES & EXPENSE	8500.00	8500.00	8500.00
CONSTABLES WAGES	829.00	846.00	846.00
CONSTABLES EXPENSE	30.00	30.00	30.00
FENCE VIEWERS, ETC	1.00	1.00	1.00
TOTAL	376901.00	382936.00	382177.00

PVRS-OPER ASSMNT	3323785.43	3321171.00	3321171.00
PVRS-BLDG PROJ ASSESSMENT	415830.98	393289.76	393289.76
PVRS-TCHRS SALARY DEFERRAL	4536.47	4536.47	4536.47
FRKLN CTY TECH SCHOOL-OPER ASSMNT	310236.00	285320.00	285320.00
FRKLN CTY TECH SCHOOL-CAPTL ASSMNT	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	4054388.88	4004317.23	4004317.23

HWY SUPT EXPENSE	8200.00	8200.00	8200.00
HIGHWAY & SNOW REMOVAL WAGES	221674.00	228448.00	228448.00
HWY, BRIDGES & RAILS	150000.00	150000.00	150000.00
OILING & STONING	55000.00	60000.00	60000.00
HIGHWAY TOOLS	1200.00	1200.00	1200.00
SNOW REMOVAL EXPENSE	71800.00	71800.00	71800.00
STREET LIGHTS	13700.00	13700.00	13700.00
MACHINERY MAINTENANCE	76500.00	76500.00	76500.00
MAINT HIGHWAY GARAGE	11000.00	11000.00	11000.00
HWY BOUNDS,SURVEY,LISTS	1.00	1.00	1.00
SOLID WASTE DISTRICT	7480.00	7580.00	7580.00
WASTE DISPOSAL	128470.00	128470.00	128470.00
SEWER COMM SALARIES	0.00	1344.00	1344.00
SEWER COMM EXPENSE	50.00	50.00	50.00
SEWER DEPT COLLECTOR	3125.00	3188.00	3188.00
SEWER DEPT WAGES	66246.00	68209.00	68209.00
OP & MAINT SEWER PLANT	68186.00	67535.00	67535.00
CEMETERY WAGES & EXPENSE	11000.00	11000.00	11000.00
TOTAL	893632.00	908225.00	908225.00

BD OF HEALTH SALARIES	0.00	2237.00	2237.00
BD OF HEALTH EXPENSE	8101.00	8285.00	8285.00
PLUMBING INSPECTOR	4500.00	4500.00	4500.00
SHARED HEALTH AGENT	9522.00	9760.00	9760.00
SEPTIC SYSTEM INSP FEES	2750.00	2750.00	2750.00
ANIMAL INSPECTOR	2250.00	2250.00	2250.00
COUNCIL ON AGING	27720.00	27713.00	27713.00
SOLDIERS RELIEF	2500.00	2500.00	2500.00



TOTAL			57343.00	59995.00	59995.00
DICKINSON LIBRARY WAGES			91091.00	94557.00	94557.00
DICKINSON LIBRARY EXP			38055.00	37465.00	37465.00
NFLD FARMS LIBRARY			575.00	575.00	575.00
RECREATION COMM			5750.00	5750.00	5750.00
REC COMM TRAINING & RECOGNITION			250.00	250.00	250.00
REC PROGRM DIRECTR			3688.00	3762.00	3762.00
MAINT ATHLETIC FIELD			3000.00	3000.00	3000.00
HISTORICAL COMMISSION			375.00	375.00	375.00
MEMORIAL DAY			1600.00	1600.00	1600.00
ALEXANDER HALL			340.00	340.00	340.00
FRCOG ASSESSMENT			26353.00	25344.00	25344.00
VETERANS DISTRICT			5985.00	6176.00	6176.00
TOTAL			177062.00	179194.00	179194.00
MATURING DEBT- PRIN			417226.82	229859.03	229859.03
	2009	2010			
sewer(bnds					
1/92)	20000.00	20000.00			
sch (bnds 1/92)	170000.00	170000.00			
sewer(bnds					
7/93)	37870.82	39859.03			
libry proj note	189356	0.00			
INT ON LONG TERM DEBT			38372.32	17644.47	17644.47
	2009	2010			
sewer(bnds					
1/92)	1900.00	635.00			
sch (bnds 1/92)	16150.00	5397.50			
sewer(bnds					
7/93)	13600.18	11611.97			
libry proj notes	6722.14	0.00			
INT ON SHORT TERM DEBT			3000.00	3000.00	3000.00
TOTAL			458599.14	250503.50	250503.50
COUNTY RETIREMENT			129765.00	129293.00	129293.00
WORKERS COMP INSURANCE			15000.00	12000.00	12000.00
UNEMPLOYMENT			2000.00	1500.00	1500.00
HEALTH INSURANCE			161352.00	186000.00	186000.00
LIFE INSURANCE			2100.00	1700.00	1700.00
MEDICARE/FICA			15500.00	15500.00	15500.00
OTHER INSURANCE			75850.00	65000.00	65000.00
TOTAL			401567.00	410993.00	410993.00

**Article 6. Passed / Voice Vote**

Move that the Town vote in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 140, Section 172, to transfer from the "**Dog Fund**" account \$3,500.00 to supplement the Dickinson Memorial Library operating budget for the purpose of paying a portion of the annual fee to be a member of the regional library system.

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**Article 7. Passed / Voice Vote**

Move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000.00 to **purchase and install a snowplow and associated equipment on a Highway Department truck**, which sum shall be contingent upon approval by the voters of a Proposition 2 ½ Capital Outlay Expenditure Exclusion.

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**Article 8. Passed / Voice Vote**

Move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$15,000.00 to replace the currently **leaking flat section of roof** located at the **north building of the Northfield Elementary School**, which sum shall be contingent upon approval by the voters of a Proposition 2 ½ Capital Outlay Expenditure Exclusion.

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**Article 9. Moved "Take No Action" / Passed Voice Vote -Thomas Walker: Highway Superintendent announced that Lane Construction would be donating the supplies to repave the entry at the Fire Station.**

Move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000.00 to **repave the entry at the fire station**, which sum shall be contingent upon approval by the voters of an override of Proposition 2 1/2 , so called.

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**Article 10. Passed / Voice Vote**

Move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$21,375.00 to **install central heating with hot water coils in air ducts** and also **add central air at all three buildings at the Pioneer Valley Regional School Central Office**, which sum shall be contingent upon approval by the voters of a Proposition 2 ½ Capital Outlay Expenditure Exclusion.

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**Article 11. Passed / Voice Vote**

Move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$26,125.00 to **repaint first floor Phase 1 classrooms and corridors, reseal and re-stripe drives and lots and replace carpet in Phase 1 classroom and main office** at the **Pioneer Valley Regional School**, which sum shall be contingent upon approval by the voters of an override of Proposition 2 ½, so called.

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**Article 12. Passed / Voice Vote****2/3 Required**

Move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$30,000.00 **for the Stabilization Fund/Account**, which sum shall be contingent upon approval by the voters of an override of Proposition 2 ½, so called.

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**Article 13. Passed / Voice Vote**

Move that the Town vote to instruct the **Assessors** to transfer from Free Cash \$140,000.00 for the purpose of **reducing the Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2010**.

**Article 14. Moved "Take No Action" Passed / Voice Vote**

Move that the Town vote to approve the following General Bylaw:

**Obedience to Traffic Signs, Signals and Markings**

The driver of any vehicle or of any street car shall obey the instructions of any official traffic control sign, signal, device, marking or legend unless otherwise directed by a police officer.

Violation of this Bylaw may be penalized by a non-criminal disposition of the violation as provided in the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 40, Section 21D.

Penalty: \$100.00

Enforcing Persons: Police Officers

**Article 15. Passed / Voice Vote**

**Majority Required**

Move that the Town vote to approve the following General Bylaw.

TOWN OF NORTHFIELD

**Community Preservation Committee Bylaw**

**1. Establishment**

The Town of Northfield hereby establishes a Community Preservation Committee (CPC), consisting of nine (9) voting members pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44B, Section 5. The composition of the committee, the appointing authority, and the term of office for the Committee members shall be as follows:

- One member of the Conservation Commission as designated by the Commission
- One member of the Historical Commission as designated by the Commission
- One member of the Planning Board as designated by the Board
- One member of the Recreation Commission as designated by the Commission
- One member of the Open Space Committee as designated by the Committee
- One member of the Finance Committee as designated by the Committee
- One member to act in the capacity of, or perform like duties of, a member of a Housing Authority; this member is to be appointed by the Selectboard
- Two community-at-large members to be appointed by the Selectboard

The term for appointed and designated CPC members shall begin on July 1, 2009, or the effective date of this bylaw, whichever is later and shall end on June 30, 2010. Thereafter, each member of the CPC shall serve for a term of one year or until the person no longer serves in the position or on the board or committee as set forth above, whichever is earlier.

Should any of the commissions, boards, or committees who have appointing authority under this bylaw be no longer in existence for whatever reason, the appointing authority for that commission, board, or committee shall become the responsibility of the Selectboard.

**2. Duties**

The CPC shall study the needs, possibilities, and resources of the town regarding community preservation. The committee shall consult with existing municipal boards and committees, including those having representatives on the CPC, or persons acting in those capacities or performing like duties, in conducting such studies. As part of its study, the committee shall hold one or more public informational hearings each calendar year on the needs, possibilities, and resources of the town regarding community preservation possibilities and resources, notice of which shall be posted publicly and published for each of two weeks preceding a hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the town.

**3. Recommendations to the Town**

In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44B, Section 5, the CPC shall make recommendations to the Town Meeting for the acquisition, creation, and preservation of open space; for the acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation, and restoration of historic resources; for the acquisition, creation, and preservation of land for recreational use; for the acquisition, creation, preservation, and support of community housing; and for the rehabilitation or restoration of open space, land for recreational use, and community housing that is acquired or created as provided in this section. With respect to community housing, the CPC shall recommend, wherever possible, the reuse of existing buildings or construction of new buildings on previously developed sites. The terms of this section are correspondingly adjusted to the terms of any successor to M.G.L. Chapter 44B, Section 5.

**4. Set Aside Recommendations**

The CPC may include in its recommendation to the Town Meeting a recommendation to set aside for later spending funds for specific purposes that are consistent with community preservation but for which sufficient revenues are not then available in the Community Preservation Fund to accomplish that specific purpose or to set aside for later spending funds for general purposes that are consistent with community preservation.

## 5. Annual Revenues; Open Space, Historic Resources and Community Housing

In every fiscal year, the CPC must recommend either that the Town Meeting spend, or set aside for later spending, not less than 10% of the annual revenues in the Community Preservation Fund for open space (not including land for recreational use), not less than 10% of the annual revenues in the Community Preservation Fund for historic resources; and not less than 10% of the annual revenues in the Community Preservation Fund for community housing.

## 6. Requirement for a Quorum and Cost Estimates

The CPC shall not meet or conduct business without the presence of a quorum. A majority of the members of the CPC shall constitute a quorum. The CPC shall approve its actions by majority vote of the entire membership. Recommendations to the Town Meeting shall include their anticipated costs.

## 7. Amendments

The CPC shall, from time to time, review the administration of this bylaw, making recommendations, as needed, for changes in the bylaw and in administrative practice to improve the operations of the CPC. The first review shall be completed no later than January 1, 2012, and subsequent reviews shall be completed in no more than five-year intervals.

This bylaw may be amended from time to time by a majority vote of the Town Meeting, consistent with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 44B.

## 8. Severability.

In case any section, paragraph or part of this bylaw is for any reason declared invalid or unconstitutional by any court, every other section, paragraph or part shall continue in full force and effect.

## 9. Effective Date

This bylaw shall take effect upon approval by the Attorney General of the Commonwealth and after all requirements of M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 32 have been met. Each appointing authority shall have thirty (30) days after the effective date to make its appointments.

The Board of Selectman and the Finance Committee thanked Moderator Thomas Shearer for his eighteen years of service and presented him with a gold plated gavel as a token of their appreciation.

There being no further business to come before the Town, Moderator Thomas Shearer dissolved the Annual Town Meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Registered Voters -- 2090

Votes Cast -- 128

Jane Abbott  
Alice Fortier  
Betty Gibson  
Nina Sibley  
Deborah Taricano  
Pamela Veith

Election Workers  
Election Worker  
Election Worker  
Election Worker  
Warden  
Election Worker

Attest:

Gail V. Zukowski  
Town Clerk

**Annual Town Election  
Northfield, Massachusetts  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
May 5, 2009**

At the time and place set by the Warrant, the polls opened at 12:00 noon. Eight hundred and ninety four votes were cast with the following results;

**Board of Selectmen**

**Three year term**

**Vote for One**

John G. Spanbauer	678
Maureen E. Spaulding	48
Write – In Candidate	
Write – In Votes	12
Blanks	156

**Board of Assessors**

**Three year term**

**Vote for One**

Write – In Votes	41
Blanks	853

**Board of Health**

**Three year term**

**Vote for not more than Two**

David C. Balk	674
Robert H. MacEwen Jr.	560
Write – In Votes	4
Blanks	550

**Board of Library Trustees**

**Three year term**

**Vote for Not more than Two**

Paulina Borrego	447
Nolan Briggs Kitfield	546
Deborah A. Potee	354
Write – In Votes	1
Blanks	440

**Moderator**

**Three year term**

**Vote for One**

Nathan W. L'Etoile	673
Write – In Votes	8
Blank	213

**Planning Board**

**Five year term**

**Vote for One**

Richard H. Fitzgerald	558
Write – In Votes	4
Blanks	332

**Recreation Commission**

**Three year term**

**Vote for One**

Cheri L. Wheeler	668
Write – In Votes	5
Blanks	221

**Recreation Commission**

**Two year term**

<b>Vote for One</b>	
Theresa J. Peters	657
Write – In Votes	4
Blanks	233

**Board of Sewer Commissioners**

**Three year term**

**Vote for One**

Write – In Votes	60
Blank	834

**Town Clerk**

**Three year term**

**Vote for One**

Gail V. Zukowski	725
Jennifer S. Brennan	79
Write – In Candidate	
Write – In Votes	2
Blanks	88

**Treasurer**

**Three year term**

**Vote for One**

Barbara J. Brassor	770
Write – In Votes	1
Blanks	123

**Board of Trustees of Veterans Memorials**

**Veteran**

**Three year term**

**Vote for One**

Mark C. Remillard	706
Write – In Votes	1
Blanks	187

Question # 1

Shall this Town amend its acceptance of sections 3 to7, inclusive of Chapter 44B of the General Laws, as approved by its legislative body?

This question involves amendment of the Town's acceptance of G.L. c.44B, §§3-7, also known as the Community Preservation Act (the "Act"), by decreasing the surcharge imposed on real property from three percent (3%) to ½ percent (.05 %) of the tax levy, as determined annually by the Board of Assessors.

The Act establishes a dedicated funding source to acquire, create and preserve open space and land for recreational use; acquire, preserve, rehabilitate and restore historic resources; create, preserve and support community housing; and to rehabilitate and restore open space, land for recreational use and community housing that is acquired or created in accordance with the Act. The following exemptions from such surcharge, permitted under Section 3(e) of said Act, apply: (1) \$100,000 of the value of each taxable parcel of residential real property; and, upon application and a determination of eligibility, (2) property owned and occupied as a domicile by a person who would qualify for low income housing or low or moderate income senior housing in the Town. A taxpayer receiving a regular property tax abatement or exemption will also receive a pro rata reduction in surcharge.

As approved by the voters at the 2008 State Election, the surcharge was initially fixed at three percent (3%) of the annual property tax assessed on real property. On a motion made under Article 2 of the March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Special Town Meeting, it was voted to decrease the surcharge to ½ percent (.05 %). If approved, the reduced surcharge would be imposed on taxes assessed for fiscal years beginning July 1, 2009.

Yes	524
No	345
Blanks	25

The polls were closed at 8:00 p.m.  
Registered Voter – 2090  
Votes Cast – 894  
Voter Turnout – 43 %

Election Workers	
Jane Abbott	Election Worker
Alice Fortier	Election Worker
Betty Gibson	Election Worker
Ruth Gallagher	Election Worker
Helen Gorzocoski	Election Worker
Linda Leavis	Election Worker
Nina Sibley	Election Worker
Kay Snow	Election Worker
Deborah Taricano	Warden
Pamela Veith	Warden

Attest:

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Deborah J. Tuttle  
Assistant Town Clerk, Greenfield, MA.  
Appointed by the Board of Selectman as  
Acting Town Clerk for May 5, 2009

**SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION  
NORTHFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS  
September 8, 2009**

At the time and place set by the Warrant, the polls were opened at 12:00 noon.  
Three hundred thirty three votes were cast with the following results;

**QUESTION NO. 1**

Shall the Town of Northfield be allowed to assess an additional \$21,375.00 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of installing central heating with hot water coils in the air ducts and also add central air at all three buildings at the Pioneer Valley Regional School Central Office for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009?

<b>YES</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>NO</b>	<b>238</b>
<b>BLANK</b>	<b>7</b>

#### QUESTION NO. 2

Shall the Town of Northfield be allowed to assess an additional \$15,000.00 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of replacing the currently leaking flat section of roof located at the north building of the Northfield Elementary School for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009?

<b>YES</b>	<b>203</b>
<b>NO</b>	<b>130</b>
<b>BLANK</b>	<b>0</b>

#### QUESTION NO. 3

Shall the Town of Northfield be allowed to assess an additional \$10,000.00 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of purchasing and installing a snowplow and associated equipment on a Highway Department truck for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009?

<b>YES</b>	<b>184</b>
<b>NO</b>	<b>148</b>
<b>BLANK</b>	<b>1</b>

#### QUESTION NO. 4

Shall the Town of Northfield be allowed to assess an additional \$26,125.00 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of repainting first floor Phase 1 classrooms and corridors, resealing and re-striping drives and lots and replacing carpet in Phase 1 classroom and main office at the Pioneer Valley Regional School for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009?

<b>YES</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>NO</b>	<b>254</b>
<b>BLANK</b>	<b>2</b>

#### QUESTION NO. 5

Shall the Town of Northfield be allowed to assess an additional \$30,000.00 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of funding the Stabilization Fund/Account for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009?

<b>YES</b>	<b>125</b>
<b>NO</b>	<b>206</b>
<b>BLANK</b>	<b>2</b>

The polls were closed at 8:00 p.m.  
Registered Voters -- 2109  
Votes Cast -- 333  
Voter Turnout -- 16%

#### Election Workers

Edward Finch	Election Worker
Alice Fortier	Election Worker
Ruth Gallagher	Election Worker
Betty Gibson	Election Worker
Helen Gorzocoski	Election Worker
Kathleen Malsch	Election Worker
Nina Sibley	Election Worker
Deborah Taricano	Warden

Attest:



**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
**SPECIAL STATE PRIMARY ELECTION**  
**Tuesday, December 8, 2009**

At the time and place called by the Warrant, the polls were opened at 7:00 a.m. A total of four hundred twenty six ballots were cast with the following results;

**Democratic:** three hundred eighty three ballots were cast:

**Senator in Congress**

Vote for One	
Michael E. Capuano	120
Martha Coakley	218
Alan a. Khazei	21
Stephen G. Pagliuca	24
	Write - In
	0
Blanks	0
All Others	0

**Libertarian:** One ballot was cast:

**Senator in Congress**

Vote for One	
	Write - in
Blanks	
All Others	Martha Coakley
	1

**Republican:** Forty two ballots were cast:

**Senator in Congress**

Vote for One	
Scott P. Brown	34
Jack E. Robinson	8
	Write - in
	0
Blanks	0
All Others	0

The polls were closed at 8:00 p.m.  
Registered Voters – 2114  
Votes Cast – 426  
Voter Turnout – 20%

**Election Workers**

Deborah Taricano  
Jane Abbott  
Edward Finch  
Alice Fortier  
Betty Gibson

Warden  
Election Officer  
Election Officer  
Election Officer  
Election Officer

Helen Gorzocoski  
 Irene Hoisington  
 Ruth Johnson  
 Linda Leavis  
 Kathleen Malsch  
 Robert MacEwen  
 Nina Sibley  
 Kay Snow  
 Pamela Veith

Election Officer  
 Election Officer  
 Election Officer  
 Election Officer  
 Election Officer  
 Election Officer  
 Election Officer  
 Election Officer  
 Election Officer

Attest:

Gail V. Zukowski  
 Town Clerk

#### VITALS STATISTICS FOR 2009

BIRTHS	DEATHS	MARRIAGES
16	17	15

#### FISH AND GAME SALES

F1	RESIDENT FISHING	23
F2	RESIDENT FISHING MINOR	1
F3	RESIDENT FISHING AGE 65 - 69	1
F4	RESIDENT FISHING HANDICAPPED	11
F6	NON-RESIDENT FISHING	7
F7	NON-RESIDENT FISHING 3 DAY	1
H1	RESIDENT CITIZEN HUNTING	8
H5	NON-RESIDENT HUNTING BIG GAME	8
H6	NON-RESIDENT HUNTING SMALL GAME	4
H8	RESIDENT CITIZEN MINOR HUNTING	3
S1	RESIDENT SPORTING	17
S2	RESIDENT SPORTING AGE 65 - 69	3
S3	RESIDENT CITIZEN SPORTING AGE OVER 70	13
M1	ARCHERY STAMP	13
M2	WATERFOWL STAMP	7
M3	PRIMITIVE STAMP	26

#### DOG LICENSES

MALE /FEMALE	100
SPAYED FEMALE/NEUTERED MALE	592
KENNEL (10 DOGS)	4
KENNEL ( MORE THAN 10 DOGS)	1
BY LAW VIOLATIONS	45

## **Building Utilization and School Use Committee**

This Committee is appointed by the Selectboard to monitor, plan, investigate and in some cases, implement the Selectboard's direction to improve or make more efficient the use of Town buildings.

This year's (2009-2010) completed projects include: re-roofing of the flat section of the north building of our Elementary School and conversion of a large storage area into a one on one type classroom. Future projects at the school include re-roofing the gym and cafeteria and adding canopies over two exterior doors.

At the Town Hall, three exit only doors were replaced with insulated easy opening units. Work is also continuing on the upstairs meeting area. A door was added from the elevator lobby into this space. Future projects at the Town Hall include a remodeled front entry way with new stairs and a vestibule type entrance and a canopy over the back parking lot entrance.

The "future" projects are unfunded and the Town officials have not asked for funds. Look for and support them when they do.

As always, we are available at 498-2901.

Report submitted by  
Chad Glover, Ellen Hunter and Bill Roberts

## **Conservation Commission**

Members:

William Llewelyn, Chairman  
Michael Barry  
Charlie Blanker  
Joan Deely  
David Thomas (*absent member*)

Sarah Goodwin, Administrative Assistant

The Northfield Conservation Commission holds its monthly meetings at the Town Hall, every third Wednesday of the month and met nine times in 2009. Nathan L'Etoile retired from the Commission in June, followed by David Quinn in October who did not seek re-election. William Llewelyn was reelected Chairman in June.

Our work for this year consisted of:

- 3 Site Visits Conducted
- 3 Notice of Intents
  - 3 Approved
  - 0 Denied
- 1 WPA Emergency Certification (Beaver Dam breach off Route 10)
- 3 Requests for Determination Hearings
  - 0 Positive Findings
  - 3 Negative Findings
- 0 Orders of Enforcement
- 0 Certificates of Compliance

This past year the Commission addressed the management of the King Phillips Hill recreation land; establishing trails, funding the construction and posting of signs, moving benches, and making sure to address the trespassing concerns on abutter's property. It also dealt with the draining of the beaver pond located off Route 10 in order to maintain the structural integrity of the roadway and assure public safety and approving the removal of the dam by hand which would limit downstream impact,

The General Orders of Condition that usually accompany a Negative Finding were restructured to make them easier for Request for Determination applicants to work with. The Commission also reviewed several Forestry Cutting plans throughout the year and responded to concerned citizens over logging project locations and conditions.

The Conservation Commission was very pleased so many residents contacted Board members with concerns about wetlands around town being negatively impacted. Communications from observant town's people lends such tremendous assistance to the Commission in order to maintain Wetland Regulations and act if violations are occurring. We were also pleased so many applicants came to the monthly meetings to discuss their situation before submitting WPA Forms. The Commission continues to seek out new members to fill vacant positions and urges any residents interested to contact a member or inquire at the Town Hall.

The Conservation Commission would like to remember former Chairman, William Walker, who passed away in the fall. He served the Board and town for many years and will be missed.

Thank you to all who've assisted us and we look forward to working with the town in the year to come.

### **Council on Aging**

2009 was a particularly busy and exciting year for the Council on Aging/Senior Center. The board members wrapped up strategic planning that had begun in October of 2008. Looking to the future, the board established the COA mission statement and short term goals.

#### **Mission**

The mission of the Northfield Council on Aging is to identify the needs of the elder population, provide services to meet those needs, promote the healthy aging of Northfield's citizens, ages sixty and older, via advocacy, outreach services, programs, education and social interaction.

#### **Goals**

1. Ensure the long-term viability of the COA/Senior Center in Northfield.
2. Increase public awareness of Council on Aging Activities.
3. Provide wellness programs.
4. Provide outreach services and programs.
5. Provide educational opportunities.
6. Increase participation
7. Engage isolated seniors.

This visioning process resulted in enormous growth in two areas.

1. The development of the Outdoor Senior Recreation Area on the south lawn of town hall. A field measuring 170 x 65 feet had been allocated for senior recreation, and site work commenced in the fall of 2009. Work will continue through 2010 with the addition of raised garden beds, park benches, a horseshoe pit, plantings, and pending funding, a pavilion built by the Franklin County Technical School.
2. A statistical comparison of calendar years 2006 and 2009 showed the following growth:
  - 195% growth in outreach-which includes calls, mailings, referrals, intakes for resources or information relative to maintaining a safe and healthy standard of living.
  - 57% increase in health services
  - 75% increase in exercise program participation
  - 73% increase in programming
  - 110% increase in program participation
  - 33% increase in number of volunteers
  - 19% increase in participation in the Brown Bag program, a nutrition program for income eligible persons 55 and over.

The Council on Aging/Senior Center invites interested individuals to be a part of our growth. The Friends of Northfield Seniors participate monthly, weekly or quarterly to help ensure we can continue with the work of serving those, ages sixty and over, in Northfield. Join us.

Respectfully submitted,

### **Cultural Council**

The Northfield Cultural Council met on November 10, 2009 at the Town Hall to review grant proposals and disperse funds. Members present were Chuck Levin, Deborah Potee, Tammy Pelletier, Kristina Berenson and Amy Boyden.

Deb Potee was elected as co-chair, to take over chairmanship when Chuck Levin's term expires on July 2010. Karina Berenson was elected as Secretary.

The Committee also met on January 14, 2010 to disburse an additional \$132 that was indicated to be available. Chuck Levin, Tammy Pelletier, Kristina Berenson, Amy Boyden, Bruce Kahn and Crystal McNeil were present.

The NCC was granted \$4000 from the Massachusetts Cultural Commission. An additional \$1,109 was available from outstanding unfulfilled grants from FY 2008 and other sources. The committee voted to keep \$26.00 for administrative expenses, allowing \$5,083 to be awarded to grantees. Eighteen applications were approved in whole or part; fourteen were denied.

Following are grant recipients for FY 2010 (F= full funding; P=partial funding)

1. Arena Civic Theatre "To Kill A Mockingbird" \$200 (F)
2. Community Action/Franklin County Family Network, "Sabar Dance" \$300 (F)
3. Da Camera Singers "40 Years" (commissioned work and performances) \$250 (P)
4. Dickinson Memorial Library "Gothic Victorian Tales" \$330 (F)
5. Mohawk Trail Concerts "A Festival of American Music and Traditional Repertoire" \$250 (P)
6. Northfield Arts Group "Northfield ARTSfest" \$632 (P)
7. Northfield Elementary School "Algonkian Descendant 18<sup>th</sup> Century Re-Enactor" \$450 (F)
8. Northfield Elementary School (PASS grant for Boston Museum of Science) \$276 (P)
9. Northfield Elementary School "Tom Ricardi's Mass Bird of Prey Rehab Presentation" \$250 (F)
10. Orange Revitalizaion Partnership, "Starry Starry Night" \$100 (F)
11. Pioneer Valley Regional School Band, Spring High School Band Trip \$500 (F)
12. Rachel Roberts, "Life Cycle Science Presentation \$290 (F)
13. Rachel Roberts "Space-tacular! Presentation" \$305 (F)
14. Slate Roof "Publishing Our Local Poets" \$250 (F)
15. The Country Players, sign language interpretation for "The Miracle Worker" \$200 (F)
16. Town of Greenfield, "Special Event Musical Entertainment" \$200 (P)
17. Turners Falls River Culture "Confluence: Inaugural Franklin County Juried Art Show \$100 (F)
18. University Gallery, Fine Arts Center "Greening the Valley: Sustainable Architecture in the Pioneer" \$200 (P)

### **Energy Committee**

As of February, 2010, the Energy Committee has changed its meeting time to the first Tuesday of the month at 10AM in the Dickinson Memorial Library downstairs meeting room. This was done to accommodate schedule changes of current committee members and may change back to a late afternoon or evening time in the summer. Visitors are always welcome. Mission Statement: The Northfield Energy Committee is working on behalf of the Town to stabilize energy costs and to reduce our dependence on non-renewable energy sources by promoting energy conservation, efficient design and construction techniques, and the use of renewable energy.

The Committee continues to provide a hopefully interesting and useful article in each issue of the Northfield Newsletter. During the year numerous Town residents have attended meeting with questions, concerns and ideas which we always welcome.

During the summer of 2009 an energy audit, sponsored by The State Department of Energy Resources, was conducted on Town buildings. The report is on file at the Town Hall. Based on our own previous observations, and using information in the report, the Committee is sponsoring an energy conservation project at the Dickinson Memorial Library. If approved, the project will use CPA funds to insulate a portion of the ceiling and improve the lighting in the Children's Room. This will significantly reduce operating costs and improve comfort. We hope this project will be completed in mid 2010.

The Committee's ongoing streetlight survey has been completed and a report is being prepared at the time of this writing. We will be making recommendations on how to reduce costs to the Town while improving vehicular and pedestrian safety.

Submitted by  
Bob Pasteris, Co-Chair

### **Historical Commission**

The Historical Commission remained focused on the long-term mission of achieving a comprehensive historical survey of the town. Having no funds for this and accepting the fact that we needed professional help, we looked for outside funding. This led to our decision to seek Community Preservation Act funding.

In the spring we became a sponsor of the town brochure being produced by members of the business community with a grant for the Greater Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau. This gave us the opportunity to oversee the historical component of the publication. The resulting Visitor's Guide, "A River Town: Northfield", is an excellent promotional aid for the town.

For many years the Historical Commission has sponsored a "Day of History". In May 2009, we joined with the Friends of Northfield's Old Cemeteries to hold a costumed tour of Center Cemetery. Thanks are due to Ed Finch and Kathleen Wright for filming this event.

The Commission also met with the planners of the celebration of 75 years of American Youth Hostels—which began here in Northfield. The culminated in a very successful event in August, which included the unveiling of the fine mill-stone marker at the site of the original hostel in front of Squakeeg Village.

Representation of the Commission has been supplied to the CPA Committee and the Town Hall Planning Committee.

The Historical Commission- Marie Ferré, chair; Joel Fowler, Mary Jane Porter, Ruth Potee, William Schweikert, Homer Stavely, Jessie Wiggin

Submitted by  
Marie Ferré

### **Open Space Committee**

During 2009 the Open Space Committee (OSC) continued to focus on tasks related to implementing the Northfield Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP), approved by the town in November 2005. The committee met eleven times in 2009 and completed or made substantial progress on a number of the actions items specified in the OSRP.

The OSC has developed strong working relationships with the Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust and the North Quabbin regional Landscape Partnership. These entities have assisted the OSC with various landscape maps and help the OSC stay abreast of conservation opportunities. For example, they have helped the OSC keep tabs on the status of Crag Mountain (which was for sale at one point), provided the OSC with model plans for drafting possible property management plans where appropriate, and assisted with communications with three property owners interested in preserving their land.

The OSC drafted a town procedure for responding to right-of-first-refusal opportunities from the sale of chapter 61 properties. The Selectboard circulated the draft and made appropriate changes; copies are available from the Selectboard.

The Franklin Land Trust requested the OSC's support for a town-held conservation restriction on several acres between the Connecticut River and route 63 south of the village. The land was in the "high priority" category resulting from the Trust for Public Land Conservation Visioning study completed in 2008; therefore the OSC supported the proposal and communicated that support to the Conservation Commission and the Selectboard.

As the five-year period for the OSRP expires in November of 2010, the OSC began work on an update or revision. If revised, the new version would extend to 2017, as the state has changed the active period of an OSRP from five to seven years. A minor update might be accepted by the state EEA department to extend the current version to 2012.

The OSRP, the associated committee work-plan, committee meeting minutes, other documents, committee membership, and meeting times, are on the OSC page of the town's website, [www.northfield.ma.us](http://www.northfield.ma.us).

The OSRP contains a large number of ongoing responsibilities, such as:

- Citizen Stewardship: The Citizen Stewardship Award, an annual award initiated in 2007, was awarded for the third time in 2009.
- Open Space Conservation: The OSC continues to track various opportunities to conserve open space in Northfield.
- Stream Monitoring: The OSC continues to partner with a local non-profit water-resource group, Greater Northfield Watershed Association (GNWA), on issues of mutual interests. GNWA has formed a number of "stream teams" comprising community individuals studying various properties of the tributaries of the Connecticut River in Northfield. GNWA occasionally publishes reports on this activity, which is essentially an ongoing activity specified in the OSRP.
- Trail Work: Work continued on providing information on and maintenance of various trails in the town. The refurbishing trails and facilities on King Philips Hill, begun in 2008, continued into 2009. Such work is also an ongoing activity specified in the OSRP.

Respectfully submitted by members of the Open Space Committee:

Michael Barry, Ruth Gallagher, Joanne McGee, Samuel Richardson, Susan Ross, Kate Rossiter, Jennifer Tufts, Jerrold Wagener

### **Fred Wells Trustees**

Funds available for the fiscal year 2009/2010 are \$187,992 (which includes unused Scholarship money from 2007/2008 that was reallocated to the scholarship fund).

#### **EDUCATION:**

The trustees received 312 applications and approved 290 students to receive **\$160,992**. This amount includes the two \$1000.00 scholarships in honor of Ralph and Hilda Haskins. The trustees spent many hours on the selection process to ensure that as many students as possible could receive scholarship aid.

#### **HEALTH:**

Five (5) health programs were approved totaling **\$17,600:**

Hospice of Franklin County	\$3600.00
New England Learning Center for Women In Transition (NELCWIT)	\$3500.00
Tripp Community Care Collaborative	\$3000.00
Community Action of Franklin, Hampshire and North Quabbin WIC Programs	\$4000.00
Franklin County Home Care Corp.	\$3500.00

#### **AGRICULTURE:**

An amount of **\$9400.00** was allowed by the trustees for payment:

Franklin County Agricultural Fair	\$6261.00
Heath Agricultural Fair	\$2406.00
Shelburne Grange Fair	\$ 733.00

Respectfully submitted,

Theodore G. Penick  
Trustee (Northfield)

## **Zoning Board of Appeals**

The Zoning Board of Appeals is comprised of five regular members and three alternate members. They are appointed for 5-year alternating terms and are appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Board meets on Monday evenings as needed for business meetings and public hearings. The ZBA acts in a quasi-judicial capacity on the issuance of certain special permit applications, petitions for variances from the Zoning Bylaws and appeals from the acts of the Building Inspector. The Board has the power to receive testimony under oath. Most decisions of the ZBA may be appealed by an aggrieved party to the District, Superior or Land Courts.

The ZBA acted on various requests as follows:

### **Granted:**

Robert & Michele Burnor, 180 Main Street ~ Special Permit

Wayne & Melody-Ann Whitney, 1059 Millers Falls Road ~ Special Permit

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel Richardson, Chair

Marguerite Lentz, Clerk

Edward Shearer, Member

William Forrest, Member

Mary King, Member

Raymond Clark, Associate Member

Robert Barnes, Associate Member

Erin Jaworski, Associate Member

Vivien Venskowski, Administrative Assistant



**Accountant**

## GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES

Period: July 2008 to June 2009

	Original Budget	Adjustments	Net Budget	Expended	Balance to FY2010	Balance to Close
MODERATOR SALARY	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
MODERATOR EXPENSE	30.00	0.00	30.00	20.00	0.00	10.00
SELECTMEN SALARIES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ADMIN ASST SALARY	50849.00	0.00	50849.00	50848.72	0.00	0.28
SECRETARY SALARY	32812.00	10.40	32822.40	32822.40	0.00	0.00
SELECTMEN EXPENSE	12500.00	0.00	12500.00	6013.89	0.00	6486.11
ADMIN ASST EXPENSE	850.00	0.00	850.00	163.71	0.00	686.29
FIN COMM EXPENSE	1346.00	0.00	1346.00	862.43	0.00	483.57
RESERVE FUND	15000.00	-5107.03	9892.97	0.00	0.00	9892.97
ACCOUNTANT SALARY	23219.00	0.00	23219.00	23218.92	0.00	0.08
ACCOUNTANT EXPENSE	335.00	0.00	335.00	299.11	0.00	35.89
ACCT FIXED ASSETS	1500.00	0.00	1500.00	0.00	1500.00	0.00
ASSESSORS SALARIES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ASSESSORS CLERK SALARY	32290.00	0.00	32290.00	32289.84	0.00	0.16
ASSESSOR'S PROP INSP	6026.00	0.00	6026.00	4697.31	0.00	1328.69
ASSESSORS EXPENSE	20765.00	0.00	20765.00	18078.86	0.00	2686.14
ASSESSORS RECORDS PRESERVATION	2072.00	0.00	2072.00	0.00	2072.00	0.00
APPRAISAL NFLD MTN PROJ	4000.00	0.00	4000.00	3894.00	0.00	106.00
ASSESSORS COMPUTER	5500.00	0.00	5500.00	1187.42	4312.58	0.00
ASSESSORS BILL OF PR YR	0.00	33.33	33.33	33.33	0.00	0.00
TREASURER SALARY	10622.00	0.00	10622.00	10621.92	0.00	0.08
TREASURER EXPENSE	3000.00	0.00	3000.00	2247.89	0.00	752.11
TAX COLL SALARY	10622.00	0.00	10622.00	10621.92	0.00	0.08
TAX COLL EXPENSE	4700.00	0.00	4700.00	4657.70	0.00	42.30
TOWN LEGAL EXPENSE	15000.00	-47.25	14952.75	6040.50	0.00	8912.25
COMPUTER SUPPLY & SERVICE	10360.00	3400.00	13760.00	12947.33	0.00	812.67
COMPUTERS 5/03	1379.02	0.00	1379.02	0.00	1379.02	0.00
TAX TITLE	2300.00	0.00	2300.00	180.60	0.00	2119.40
COPY MACHINE SUPPLY/SERVICE	2100.00	0.00	2100.00	1624.14	0.00	475.86
TOWN CLERK SALARY	24143.00	0.00	24143.00	24142.80	0.00	0.20
TOWN CLERK EXPENSE	3470.00	0.00	3470.00	3244.49	0.00	225.51
ELECTIONS & REGISTRATIONS	6625.00	1500.00	8125.00	7971.26	0.00	153.74
CONSERV COMM EXPENSE	1842.00	0.00	1842.00	860.44	0.00	981.56
PLANNING BD EXPENSE	1964.00	0.00	1964.00	1463.27	0.00	500.73
ZBA EXPENSE	3020.00	0.00	3020.00	669.41	0.00	2350.59
OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE	200.00	0.00	200.00	162.97	0.00	37.03
LAND DAMAGES	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
MASS APR PROGRAM	10000.00	0.00	10000.00	0.00	10000.00	0.00
CONS & LAND CONSULTANT	492.15	0.00	492.15	0.00	492.15	0.00
TOWN HALL CUSTODIAN WAGES	12440.00	0.00	12440.00	10885.69	0.00	1554.31
CUSTODIAN EXPENSE	175.00	0.00	175.00	0.00	0.00	175.00
TOWN HALL MAINT.	41955.00	0.00	41955.00	30458.14	0.00	11496.86
TOWN BLDG ELEV & ALARM	6600.00	0.00	6600.00	4517.20	0.00	2082.80
T HALL RENOVATIONS	1565.67	0.00	1565.67	0.00	1565.67	0.00
T HALL PROJECTS 05/07	3075.96	0.00	3075.96	0.00	3075.96	0.00
T HALL DISHWASHER	0.00	7000.00	7000.00	5564.84	0.00	1435.16
TOWN REPORTS	250.00	47.25	297.25	297.25	0.00	0.00
TOWN CLOCK	150.00	0.00	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.00
POLICE SALARIES & WAGES	193913.00	0.00	193913.00	193461.18	0.00	451.82
POLICE OPER EXPENSE	25273.00	0.00	25273.00	25273.00	0.00	0.00
FIRE DEPT SALARIES	4774.00	0.00	4774.00	4773.98	0.00	0.02
FIRE DEPT WAGES	36000.00	-4985.00	31015.00	31012.33	0.00	2.67
FIRE DEPT OPER EXPENSE	15950.00	0.00	15950.00	15629.90	0.00	320.10
FIRE DEPT HOSE & EQUIP	5500.00	0.00	5500.00	5475.03	0.00	24.97
FIRE DEPT INSPECTION FEES	3000.00	0.00	3000.00	810.00	0.00	2190.00
FIRE HYDRANTS	5460.00	0.00	5460.00	5460.00	0.00	0.00
FIRE STATION MAINTENANCE	14250.00	4985.00	19235.00	18835.74	0.00	399.26

FIRE PONDS	3000.00	0.00	3000.00	2500.00	0.00	500.00
REPAIR/PAINT FIRE STATION	1176.00	0.00	1176.00	0.00	1176.00	0.00
FIRE RESCUE VEH-SURP/USED	17500.00	0.00	17500.00	17500.00	0.00	0.00
EMS WAGES & SALARY	16413.00	1000.00	17413.00	17348.04	0.00	64.96
EMS EXPENSE	8236.00	-1000.00	7236.00	7142.64	0.00	93.36
EMS PROF TRAINING	1500.00	0.00	1500.00	1190.00	310.00	0.00
BLDG INSPECTOR SALARY	22891.00	0.00	22891.00	22890.92	0.00	0.08
BLDG INSPECTOR EXPENSE	2590.00	0.00	2590.00	784.39	0.00	1805.61
BLDG INSP-BILL OF PR YR	0.00	37.33	37.33	37.33	0.00	0.00
GAS INSPECTIONS	1500.00	0.00	1500.00	984.00	0.00	516.00
WIRE INSPECTION	4000.00	0.00	4000.00	945.32	0.00	3054.68
CIVIL DEFENSE	400.00	0.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	400.00
DOG OFFICER SALARY	2941.00	0.00	2941.00	2940.96	0.00	0.04
DOG OFFICER EXPENSE	1450.00	0.00	1450.00	1142.55	0.00	307.45
TREE DEPT EXPENSE	8500.00	0.00	8500.00	8490.73	0.00	9.27
CONSTABLE WAGES	829.00	0.00	829.00	766.88	0.00	62.12
CONSTABLE EXPENSE	30.00	0.00	30.00	0.00	0.00	30.00
FENCE VIEWERS, ETC	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
HEPATITIS SHOTS	1856.50	0.00	1856.50	0.00	1856.50	0.00
RABIES SHOTS	595.00	0.00	595.00	0.00	595.00	0.00
ELEM SCH STAIR TREADS	461.63	0.00	461.63	0.00	461.63	0.00
ELEM SCH BLDG REPAIRS	1888.10	0.00	1888.10	0.00	1888.10	0.00
PVRS OPER ASSESSMENT	3324433.43	-648.00	3323785.43	3323785.43	0.00	0.00
PVRS TEACHER SAL DEFERRAL	4536.47	0.00	4536.47	4536.47	0.00	0.00
PVRS BLDG PROJ ASSESS	477671.49	-61840.51	415830.98	415830.98	0.00	0.00
FCTS OPER ASSESSMENT	310236.00	0.00	310236.00	310236.00	0.00	0.00
HWY SUPT EXPENSE	8200.00	1500.00	9700.00	9567.45	0.00	132.55
HWY DEPT WAGES	221674.00	0.00	221674.00	212703.67	0.00	8970.33
HWY, BRIDGES & RAILS	150000.00	-3000.00	147000.00	143380.03	0.00	3619.97
OIL & STONING	55000.00	0.00	55000.00	55000.00	0.00	0.00
HWY TOOLS	1200.00	0.00	1200.00	1181.92	0.00	18.08
SIDEWALKS	27200.00	0.00	27200.00	500.00	26700.00	0.00
REPAIR BRIDGES	3615.36	0.00	3615.36	0.00	3615.36	0.00
OLD WENDELL RD	12619.06	0.00	12619.06	0.00	12619.06	0.00
SNOW REMOVAL EXPENSE	71800.00	0.00	71800.00	71625.07	0.00	174.93
STREET LIGHTS	13700.00	0.00	13700.00	13376.05	0.00	323.95
MACHINE MAINT	76500.00	0.00	76500.00	74811.35	0.00	1688.65
HIGHWAY GARAGE MAINT	11000.00	1500.00	12500.00	10696.04	0.00	1803.96
HWY BOUNDS,SURVEYS,LISTS	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
HWY DEPT TRUCK	0.00	40000.00	40000.00	39491.92	0.00	508.08
SURVEY BOUNDS-TOWN WAYS	1500.00	0.00	1500.00	0.00	1500.00	0.00
HWY PLOW & EQUIP	35000.00	-35000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
HWY GARAGE-MAINT &ENRGY	10000.00	0.00	10000.00	0.00	10000.00	0.00
SOLID WASTE DISTRICT	7480.00	0.00	7480.00	7480.00	0.00	0.00
TRANSFER STATION	128470.00	0.00	128470.00	105900.86	0.00	22569.14
SEWER COMM SALARIES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SEWER DEPT WAGES	66246.00	0.00	66246.00	62531.63	0.00	3714.37
SEWER DEPT COLLECTOR	3125.00	0.00	3125.00	3124.92	0.00	0.08
SEWER COMM EXPENSE	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
OP & MAINT SEWER PLANT	68186.00	0.00	68186.00	56488.24	0.00	11697.76
CEMETERY WAGES & EXPENSE	11000.00	0.00	11000.00	9145.00	0.00	1855.00
CEMETERIES-MAJOR IMPROVMENTS	418.99	0.00	418.99	0.00	418.99	0.00
BD OF HEALTH SALARIES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SEPTIC INSPECTION FEES	2750.00	0.00	2750.00	975.00	0.00	1775.00
BD OF HEALTH EXPENSE	8101.00	0.00	8101.00	5296.83	0.00	2804.17
SHARED HEALTH AGENT	9522.00	0.00	9522.00	9522.00	0.00	0.00
BD OF HEALTH-PLUMBING INSP FEES	4500.00	0.00	4500.00	2793.00	0.00	1707.00
ANIMAL INSPECTOR	2250.00	0.00	2250.00	1980.00	0.00	270.00
COUNCIL ON AGING	27720.00	0.00	27720.00	27320.40	0.00	399.60
SENIOR CTR DESIGN	38920.00	-7000.00	31920.00	0.00	31920.00	0.00
SOLDIERS RELIEF	2500.00	0.00	2500.00	674.80	0.00	1825.20
D MEM LIB-WAGES & SALARIES	91091.00	-1500.00	89591.00	88513.17	0.00	1077.83
D MEM LIB-EXPENSE	41555.00	1500.00	43055.00	42865.36	0.00	189.64
NFLD FARMS LIBRARY	575.00	0.00	575.00	575.00	0.00	0.00

LIBRARY CLIMATE CONTROL	2552.30	0.00	2552.30	0.00	2552.30	0.00
LIBR ENERGY SAV MEAS	244.75	0.00	244.75	0.00	244.75	0.00
RECREATION COMM	5750.00	0.00	5750.00	5678.27	0.00	71.73
REC COMM VOLUNTEER REC	250.00	0.00	250.00	246.36	0.00	3.64
REC PROGRAM DIRECTOR	3688.00	0.00	3688.00	2915.60	0.00	772.40
MAINT ATHLETIC FIELD	3000.00	0.00	3000.00	2986.76	0.00	13.24
ATHLETIC FIELD DRAINAGE	627.19	0.00	627.19	0.00	627.19	0.00
HISTORICAL COMMISSION	375.00	0.00	375.00	250.00	0.00	125.00
MEMORIAL DAY	1600.00	196.63	1796.63	1796.63	0.00	0.00
ALEXANDER HALL	340.00	0.00	340.00	250.00	0.00	90.00
MAT DEBT PRIN-1/92 ISSUE	190000.00	0.00	190000.00	190000.00	0.00	0.00
MAT DEBT PRIN-7/93 FHA SEWER	37870.82	0.00	37870.82	37870.82	0.00	0.00
PRIN-LIBRY PROJ NOTE	189356.00	0.00	189356.00	189356.00	0.00	0.00
INT ON LT DEBT 1/92 ISSUE	18050.00	0.00	18050.00	18050.00	0.00	0.00
INT ON LT DEBT 7/93 FHA SEWER	13600.18	0.00	13600.18	13600.18	0.00	0.00
INT LIBRY PROJ NOTE	6722.14	0.00	6722.14	6722.14	0.00	0.00
INT SHORT TERM-REV ANTIC NOTES	3000.00	0.00	3000.00	0.00	0.00	3000.00
STATE ASSESSMENTS	6408.00	0.00	6408.00	6288.00	0.00	120.00
COUNTY ASSESSMENTS	26353.00	0.00	26353.00	24554.75	0.00	1798.25
VETERANS DISTRICT	5985.00	0.00	5985.00	5985.00	0.00	0.00
COUNTY RETIREMENT	129765.00	0.00	129765.00	129765.00	0.00	0.00
WORKERS COMP INS	15000.00	0.00	15000.00	9500.00	0.00	5500.00
UNEMPLOYMENT	2000.00	0.00	2000.00	1375.00	0.00	625.00
CH 32B HEALTH INS	161352.00	0.00	161352.00	156566.91	0.00	4785.09
CH 32B LIFE INS	2100.00	0.00	2100.00	1651.09	0.00	448.91
FICA & MEDICARE	15500.00	0.00	15500.00	13230.29	0.00	2269.71
OTHER INSURANCE	75850.00	0.00	75850.00	58159.00	0.00	17691.00
TRSF TO STABILIZATION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TRSF TO CAPITAL PROJECT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS	7036760.21	-57417.85	6979342.36	6687861.01	120882.26	170599.09

**COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUPS**  
**JUNE 30, 2009**

							Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Trust and Agency	Long Term Debt	
<b>Assets</b>							
Cash and Investments	739,730	118,887	0	0	498,640	0	1,357,257
Accounts Receivable:							
Property Taxes	219,092	3,586	0	0	0	0	222,678
Excise Taxes	43,380	0	0	0	0	0	43,380
Tax Liens	23,806	0	0	0	0	0	23,806
User Charges	25,354	0	0	0	0	0	25,354
Less: Allowance for Uncollectible Accounts	-7,762	0	0	0	0	0	-7,762
Prepaid Expenses	838	0	0	0	0	0	838
Due From Other Funds	-16,171	110,238	23,439	0	368	0	117,875
Due from Other Governments	0	851,293	0	0	0	0	851,293
Amount to be Provided for the Payment of Debt	0	0	0	0	0	411,180	411,180
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,028,267</b>	<b>1,084,004</b>	<b>23,439</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>499,008</b>	<b>411,180</b>	<b>3,045,898</b>
<b>Liabilities and Fund Equity</b>							
<b>Liabilities:</b>							
Warrants, Payrolls, & Accounts Payable	139,800	200	0	0	0	0	140,000
Employee Withholdings	580	0	0	0	0	0	580

Due to Others	8,674	40	0	0	0	0	8,714
Deferred Revenue:							
Property Taxes	235,136	3,586	0	0	0	0	238,722
Other	68,735	851,293	0	0	0	0	920,028
Due to Other Funds	0	117,874	0	0	0	0	117,874
Bonds/Notes Payable	0	0	0	0	0	411,180	411,180
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>452,924</b>	<b>972,993</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>411,180</b>	<b>1,837,097</b>

#### **Fund Equity:**

Fund Balance:							
Reserved for Encumbrances	120,882	0	0	0	0	0	120,882
Reserved for Debt Exclusion Ammortization	0						0
Reserved for Nonexpendable Trust Principal	0	0	0	0	191,711	0	191,711
Unreserved:							
Designated for Subsequent Years' Expenditures	140,000	3,500	0	0		0	143,500
Undesignated	314,461	107,511	23,439	0	307,297	0	752,708
<b>Total Fund Equity</b>	<b>575,343</b>	<b>111,011</b>	<b>23,439</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>499,008</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,208,801</b>

<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Equity</b>	<b>1,028,267</b>	<b>1,084,004</b>	<b>23,439</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>499,008</b>	<b>411,180</b>	<b>3,045,898</b>
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### **Emergency Medical Services**

It is a privilege to provide my fifth report to the town as your Emergency Medical Services Director. 2009 proved to be an exciting year as the department continues to improve its service to the citizens and visitors of our community. For the 2009 calendar year, we answered 149 calls. Our roster continues to mature with existing members increasing their levels of education and EMS certification. We are currently staffed with 8 EMT- Basics, 2 EMT Intermediates, 2 Paramedics and 1 First Responder.

Unfortunately, in the last year we have lost 4 members from our roster. Most made a decision to move away from the town of Northfield. We continue to actively attempt to recruit new members who wish to become EMT's. Any citizen who is interested in making a difference in the community or has questions about how to become an EMT, I ask they contact me or leave a message at the town hall. We are also looking for help.

As we enter 2010, the question of finances continues to be on the mind of every department manager. In response to the financial issues, the concept of Northfield EMS being the primary ambulance provider for the town continues to be considered. At this year's annual town meeting the question will finally come to the voters for a decision. A second question will also be considered regarding the establishment of an enterprise fund. The establishment of this fund allows for the monies collected to remain within the department for the purposes of running the department without them having to go back into the general fund. The Selectboard and Finance committee have both reviewed and voted in support of the plan. We ask for your support and approval of both these questions.

In closing, I must thank the efforts of each and every member of the department. I would also thank the member's family who understand the need for a missed meal, family event or the loss of sleep followed by a long day at work after being awakened by the pager in the middle of the night. The members of Northfield EMS and their families continue to make these sacrifices to help their neighbors in need, all in the spirit of community.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Fortier

Northfield EMS - Director

### **Northfield Fire Department**

The Northfield Fire Department responded to a total of 161 emergencies last year. The calls break down as follows:

Structure Fires	2
Vehicle Fires	5
Vehicle Accidents	11
Fire Alarms caused by burnt food	11

Fire Alarm malfunctions:	
NMH	7
Linden Hill School	12
Elementary School	1
PVRs	1
Others	9
Carbon Monoxide Alarms	2
Electrical Fires	6
Wires Down	17
Brush Fires	5
Illegal Burning	5
Mutual Aid	40
Chimney Fires	4
Flooded Basements	2
Propane Leak	1
Lightning Strikes	4
Search	1
Assist EMT's	2
Water Rescue	1
Oven / Appliance Fire	2
Arson Investigation	1
Miscellaneous Calls	<u>8</u>
 TOTAL	 161

The two structure fires in Northfield were contained rapidly to minimize damage. The first was caused by improper disposal of smoking material and was contained to the shed. The second was caused by a lightning strike to the house and was contained to the attic and a second floor bedroom.

The Northfield Fire Department had a very busy year helping out neighboring departments handle their respective emergencies. The Tri-State Fire Mutual Aid agreement provides aid to communities in dire need. It also protects us with the same type of aid should the need arise. We responded to the scene of structure fires in Bernardston, Greenfield, Vernon, Brattleboro, Hinsdale, Winchester, Orange, Gill and Turners Falls. Some major incidents we assisted with included the Deerfield Academy fire in Deerfield, MA, The Chapman St. fire in Greenfield and a task force assignment to help with the fatal arson fires in Northampton, MA.

The fire department put into service a "new" used rescue truck which has already proven to be very useful and versatile. The 1986 GMC Rescue carries all your auto extrication equipment including your "Jaws of Life", along with a generator and lighting, water and ice rescue gear, high angle ropes and assorted rescue equipment. The truck worked extremely well on the night of December 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:35 PM when a SUV rolled over on the bottom of the Gulf Rd. with a family of four trapped inside. Scene lighting was set up and extrication of everyone was completed in less than 30 minutes. The rescue is a tremendous asset to the town and will serve our needs for many years to come.

I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the efforts and dedication of all the members of the fire department. That dedication comes with a long tradition of the fire service in protecting life and property. We honored an active member of the force this year. John D. (Jack) Ware who has served the town of Northfield as a firefighter for 50 years and continues to do so! His love of Northfield and concern for his fellow citizens is an example and tradition to follow.

I would like to thank the members and officers of the fire department for their continued dedication during the past year as well as all the boards, departments and committees that have assisted us in protecting you.

Sincerely yours,

F. M. "Skip" Dunnell III  
Fire Chief

## **Highway:**

After sixteen years of service to the Town of Northfield Bob Beaubien has retired. During those sixteen years Bob spent many long hours behind the wheel of a dump truck or a snow plow. His knowledge and easy going nature will be greatly missed. The Highway Crew would like to thank Bob for his years of service and wish him good luck in the future.

Michael Mankowsky, from Warwick, was hired to fill the vacant position created by Bob's leaving. Michael is very proficient in welding and vehicle maintenance, we feel he will be a great asset to the Highway Department.

With the arrival of spring we began to cleanup what was left from the 2008 major ice storm on Alexander Hill Rd, Gulf Rd., Old Wendell Rd., Orange Rd. and South Mountain Rd. A crane was brought in to remove the debris and hazardous trees that the ice storm left on the mountain side. Due to the lack of Federal funding the Town Highway Crew was called upon to complete this task with little physical or monetary support. This project proved to be very difficult due to the steep terrain we were working on.

Normal maintenance of the roads and drains took place as soon as the snow melted. The streets were swept and the condition of each road was evaluated. Several tons of sand and salt was removed from our roadways to be compliant with water discharge regulations. Any major repairs were addressed such as filling pot holes and repairing broken culverts.

With the completion of the spring cleanup behind us and the cooperation of the rain, the Highway Crew was able to complete several hundred feet of culverts and replace catch basins for drainage on Maple St.

To improve the surface of Maple St. a leveling surface was applied which will aid in road maintenance and increase driver safety. The railroad crossings on Meadow St., Parker Ave., Upper Farms Rd., Jewett Rd. and Pine Meadow Rd. were replaced. Meadow St. and the intersection of Four Mile Brook Rd were paved. Several miles of dirt road were graded to improve drainage and eliminate pot holes.

To increase driver safety approximately two thousand yards of ledge was removed from Gulf Rd. The removed ledge will be crushed and then ground supplying us with gravel that will be placed on area dirt roads. In upcoming months further improvements will take place on Gulf Rd.

In conclusion I would like to thank Kevin Steiner: Highway Foreman, Michael Mankowsky, Mike Sibley and Eric Vassor for their many hours of hard work.

**Town Cemeteries:** There are seven cemeteries in Northfield that are maintained by the Town. These cemeteries are Center, Coller, Mt. Hermon, Northfield Farms, Pentecost, South Mountain and West Northfield. Each spring a clean up is performed on these cemeteries, which includes removal of broken tree limbs, trimming and pruning the shrubbery, loaming and reseeding areas damaged by the winter.

The cemeteries are mowed and groomed by Richard Bassett, Roger Bassett and David Kozma on a regular basis and always look great.

**Trees:** This year the Highway Crew removed numerous dead trees that were considered a safety hazard as well as eliminating limbs that hang 14 ft or lower over our roadways improving visibility for drivers. In addition to tree removal overgrown brush was cut back from corners and intersections.

Respectfully Submitted

Thomas Walker

Superintendent of Street, Tree Warden, Cemetery Commissioner

## **Police Department**

On Behalf of the Northfield Police Department and as the newly appointed chief of police, it is my pleasure to present the 2009 annual report. I am proud to support the accomplishments of the officers of the Northfield Police Department and am proud to join a team of individuals whom provide quality services each and every day.

I hope to continue the community oriented policing philosophy which has directed the Northfield Police Department in recent years. We recognize the fact that we cannot be successful without the continued support of all town departments, boards, committees, schools, business owners and residents. Therefore, I owe you all sincere appreciation for your support.

I firmly believe that in the following pages, you will see the hard work and dedication of our officers.

### **Personnel:**

The year of 2009 was a challenge for the Northfield Police Department as we were without a third full time patrolman and a permanent chief of police. Fortunately, Acting Chief Scott Minckler and Staff Sergeant Robert Leighton successfully kept the department moving forward during this time with the assistance of our dedicated part time department members. Although we were short handed, we continued to fulfill the town's expectations of around the clock quality police services, which few departments our size are able to provide.

### **Calls for Service:**

Calls for service through our regional dispatch center in Shelburne, remained fairly consistent with previous years. In 2009, we responded to a total of 1,104 calls for service. The following is a general breakdown of the calls that officers were dispatched to throughout the year.

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
Alarm	118	107
Animals Complaint	38	42
Assist Other Agency	113	125
Assist Person	81	98
Disabled Motor Vehicle	40	32
General Service	546	406
Medical Assist	89	103
Motor Vehicle Complaint	66	42
Other 911 Calls	30	62
Safety Hazard	42	59
Suspicious Activity	18	28
<i>Total Calls for Service</i>	<i>1,181</i>	<i>1,104</i>

### **Investigations:**

Due to the hard work and dedication of our officers, 153 criminal cases were successfully closed and their offenders were prosecuted. The following information accurately reflects the type of reports that were generated in 2009.

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
Assault	37	9
Breaking & Entering	17	28
Disorderly Conduct	1	7
Disturbance	10	13
Drug Violations	7	8
Family Offenses	11	6
Fraud	20	5
Larceny	92	71
Leaving Accident Scene	7	6
Motor Vehicle Accident	75	47
Sexual Assault	6	6
Stolen Vehicle	2	1
Traffic	126	141
Trespass	3	22
Vandalism	44	35
All Other Offenses	133	224
<i>Total Reports</i>	<i>601</i>	<i>644</i>
<i>Total Arrests / Criminal Complaints</i>	<i>136</i>	<i>153</i>

### **Traffic Enforcement**

The Northfield Police Department continues to pride itself on a strong commitment to keeping our roadways safe through traffic enforcement and education. As noted above, we saw a significant reduction in traffic accidents, in part, due to our efforts in traffic enforcement. The following information demonstrates the officers traffic enforcement activities.

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
Citation Arrests	58	32
Criminal Complaint Citation	75	98
Civil Citations	435	473
Citation Warnings	1,019	1,027
<i>Total Citations</i>	<i>1,587</i>	<i>1,630</i>
<i>Total Citation Fines</i>	<i>\$44,865</i>	<i>\$44,910</i>

### **Money Collected**

The following money has been collected as a result of the police department's activities. It should be noted that this money is attributed to the town's general fund and not to the police department.

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
Administrative Fees	\$1,357	\$1,209
Contributions & Donations	\$0.00	\$1,200
Court Fines	\$3,062	\$582
Cruiser Fees	\$760	\$2,730
Firearms Licensing Fees	\$1,125	\$512
Insurance Reports	\$226	\$270
Non-Criminal Dispositions & By-Laws	\$25	\$600
Traffic Citation Fines	\$17,070	\$17,010
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$23,625</i>	<i>\$24,113</i>

### **Grants:**

In 2009, the Northfield Police Department received \$46,333 in grant funding from the State of Massachusetts. This funding contributed the department's efforts towards community policing, traffic enforcement and officer education. As you will see, these figures will drastically change in 2010 due to state budget cuts.

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010 Anticipated</b>
Community Policing Grant	\$40,000	\$30,494	\$0.00
Career Incentive (Quinn Bill)	\$6,633	\$7,933	\$2,013
Governor Highways Safety Grant	\$9,798	\$4,500	0.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$55,033</i>	<i>\$42,924</i>	<i>\$2,013</i>

### **Goals for 2010:**

Aside from maintaining the progress already made on various initiatives, the department will continue to move toward expanding its capabilities into the following service areas during the next calendar year:

1. Improve school involvement and implement drug abuse resistance education (D.A.R.E.).
2. Improve community input and knowledge of the police department.
3. Improve the department's accessibility to all community members.
4. Improve department communications, officer knowledge and training.
5. Update department policies and procedures to assure uniform and professional police services.
6. Continue to offer the Town of Northfield twenty-four hour quality police services in the absence of community policing grant funding.

Submitted by,

Chief Leonard Crossman

### **Pioneer Valley Regional School District** **Superintendent of Schools**

It is a privilege and pleasure to present my second annual report as Superintendent, in my sixteenth year of employment in the Pioneer Valley Regional School District. Our district continues to demonstrate a very high standard for achievement and involvement by our students. The support of our families and communities is the foundation for our success and we are grateful for it.

The Pioneer Valley Regional School District has always focused on the whole student and we take justifiable pride in our students' accomplishments both in and out of the classroom. Our students are so much more than good grades, test scores, and attendance rates. Their involvement in and noteworthy contributions to their school and larger community through active participation in athletics, drama, music, and various service activities is outstanding. Whether involved as students, leaders, performers, athletes, participants, or spectators, they are consistently recognized as friendly, enthusiastic, cooperative, responsible, and respectful by all with whom they come into contact. As important as is the task to prepare our students to achieve to maximum potential, so also is their preparation to be committed participants in our rapidly evolving global society. Through the educational and co-curricular opportunities provided by our diligent and dedicated faculty and staff, our students demonstrate their success in a multitude of ways daily.



**District Initiatives:** Understanding that the strength of a school system rests in its teachers, the PVRSD strongly supports professional improvement activities. Somewhere near 40% of the professional staff earned license renewals or new licenses since the conclusion of the 2008/2009 school year. Others participated in course work or continuing education offered outside of the district. During the summer of 2009 dozens of the District's employees spent many hours on projects designed to improve curriculum, instruction, and assessment for PVRSD students, always with an eye to ensuring relevance, rigor, currency, and alignment to State standards. Elementary and PVRSD teachers were quite literally in their classrooms working throughout the summer months. Elementary teachers targeted reading practices, writing curricula, mathematics activities, the integration of music and technology, and assessment practices while the nursing staff studied the assessment of hip pain in children. The PVRSD projects spanned the following departments: Fine Arts, English, Industrial Arts, Math, Foreign Language, Social Studies, and Technology. Additionally, bullying prevention, first aid, and home/school communication were the focus of study and attention.

Recognizing that literacy is the gateway to all learning, regardless of subject area, considerable effort has gone into preparation to draft an explicit district literacy vision and plan. To that end, administrators and teachers have been deepening their understanding of best instructional practices, developing a common instructional language for teachers, reaching agreement about literacy assessments and interventions in order to both inform instructional decision-making and improve student achievement, and lengthening literacy instructional teaching time. Concurrently, Response to Intervention has been implemented at each elementary school this year, providing deliberate high quality instruction and intervention matched to students needs and systematically collecting and sharing data to evaluate and modify each child's program to facilitate sustained growth.

Professional work at PVRSD this year has focused on sustaining and advancing the curriculum mapping project, now in year four, and preparing an updated draft of the school's mission and learning expectations for student learning in preparation for reaccreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. Curriculum mapping is a process by which a living document of the taught curriculum, both connecting each component to the State standards and the PVRSD mission and expectations for student learning, and providing a tool for ensuring alignment to all other courses in the overall curriculum, is created.

**Accountability:** PVRSD students in grades 3-10 participated in MCAS assessments in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science/Technology Engineering during the 2009 school year. All History/Social Studies assessments for grades 5, 7, and 10 were suspended for a two-year period due to diminished state funding. The District is identified with an overall performance rating of High in English Language Arts and Moderate in Mathematics. Schools are rated annually according to a formula that determines Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP.) With the exception of Warwick Community School, all District schools did not make AYP for all components of its student body in all areas (Bernardston Elementary School and Northfield Elementary School in ELA and Math; Pearl Rhodes Elementary and PVRSD in Math.) Making AYP for all students in all areas becomes increasingly difficult as we approach the year 2014, the date established by the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Federal Law (2001) for all students to have reached proficient status in all areas as measured by the test. In 2009, over half of all Massachusetts schools have attained some improvement status as determined by MCAS. The PVRSD Professional Development Plans and the schools' individual Improvement Plans are carefully focused on improving curriculum, instruction, and assessment in areas critical to MCAS success with the goal of achieving AYP in all areas in the future. They are available for review at the schools. Our students exceed the attendance benchmark established to achieve AYP and in excess of 95% of the district's classes are being taught by teachers considered Highly Qualified to do so, according to NCLB criteria. As has been the case since its inception of NCLB, the high stakes nature of the accountability imposed by NCLB through annual student testing and extensive data reporting formed the basis of all aspects of the District's agenda in 2009.

**Budget:** The school committee and District administrators worked hard to maintain programs of excellence in the face of continued state and local fiscal constraints impacting public education. Recognizing pressing needs and finite financial resources, the school committee and District administration collaborated closely with the member towns' finance committees and select boards to construct responsive and responsible FY 10 assessments. Ultimately, a FY 10 level funded budget requiring an overall town assessment increase of 0% was produced by reducing supply and staffing budget lines and applying a combination of local revenue, state aide including stimulus funding, and revenue from the Massachusetts School CHOICE program and out of state tuition. The positive impact of recently concluded re-negotiations with the District's two major labor associations on balancing a budget cannot be overstated. The District's employees' understanding of the towns' precarious financial states as a result of the recession and their cooperation in reaching agreements in the best interest of their students deserves commendation and special recognition. Let me also extend my sincere appreciation to the Negotiations Subcommittee, aided by municipal representative Bob Raymond from Bernardston, for their

sensitive and careful attention to a difficult task made more challenging still by the current financial climate. The District continues to seek the balance between capturing financial efficiencies while maintaining the quality of programming our students deserve and that make the PVRSD an attractive option to families living outside the district. Membership in the Collaboration for Educational Services (formerly Hampshire Education Collaborative) and active participation in the Franklin County School Districts Council brings regular opportunity to benefit from group purchasing power and to pursue other savings through collaboration.

I am proud of all we have accomplished together in 2009. Thank you to the PVRSD Committee, the PVRSD administrative team, our town officials, the PVRSD faculty and staff, and especially to our students and their families for their effort, cooperation, and support. All play a role of undeniable significance in making the PVRSD such a wonderful district in which to learn and work.

Dayle A. Doiron, Superintendent of Schools

#### **OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

97 F. Sumner Turner Road  
Northfield, Massachusetts 01360  
(413) 498-2911

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#### **SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

##### **Dayle A. Doiron**

BA English Literature/French – DePauw University  
MHS Administration – Keene State College  
University of Massachusetts – EdD Candidate

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#### **ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT**

##### **Gail E. Healy**

BS Elementary Education/Psychology – Springfield College  
Masters Education Administration – Westfield State College

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#### **ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY**

##### **Pamela Lawrence**

\*\*\*

#### **DISTRICT TREASURER**

##### **Deborah Mero**

\*\*\*

#### **PAYROLL ADMINISTRATOR**

##### **Stacey Mousseau**

#### **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

##### **Brenda Beck**

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#### **CENTRAL OFFICE HOURS**

School Days - 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Vacation Days – 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

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#### **Pioneer Valley Regional School Principal's Report**

In June we graduated 65 students in a beautiful ceremony. Retiring science teacher, John Lepore, spoke to the graduates about his pathway through life and "the importance of asking difficult questions and accepting difficult answers." He implored students to seek self-actualization in a less than perfect world. This September we welcomed an entering seventh grade class of 110 students. School opened smoothly with newly painted middle school, brightly waxed floors and closely cropped playing fields. The faculty and staff are focused on student learning and developing proposals for some significant changes to our program for the coming years.

Over the last summer a great deal of work was completed at Pioneer to prepare for the opening of school. In addition to the annual cleaning, one third of the building was painted and several rooms were re-designed to improve teaching and learning. Assistant Principal Mike Duprey led an effort to complete the painting project without the funding to hire a painting contractor. Instead, the custodial staff, hired student workers, and many workers (well supervised) from the "Honor Court" from the Franklin County House of Corrections worked many hours through the summer. We estimate that the district saved \$25,000, and the paint looks great. We still have two-thirds of the building in need of paint, but we will not likely have the same opportunity this summer. When the economy improves, we hope we can gain the support of our member towns for increasingly important maintenance projects.

While the enrollment at Pioneer has increased from 520 to 550, we have the same number of staff this year as last. We do have four new teachers replacing those who have left or retired. I am very pleased with the staff we have hired. We have hired a first year teacher, a 6 year veteran, a 9 year veteran and a 28 year veteran. Each of these teachers brings experience, skills and interests that are enriching the Pioneer community even as we find gaps left by our retiring staff. We continue to be a very attractive school for choice and tuition students. Choice has provided important revenue which has allowed the district to maintain lower assessments for the towns than would otherwise be possible. It is important to understand how choice works. Imagine that we have a classroom with 17 students in it and 20 chairs. We have all the resources in place for 20 students, so opening those three chairs to choice students adds very little additional cost and provides us with much needed revenue. In addition, it is important to know that if a student needs any Special Education services those costs are billed back to the sending district. As long as we have open seats to fill, choice is a great option for the Pioneer district.

The focus of our professional work this year is to address recommendations made by the New England Association of School and Colleges. We are working on an updated draft of our Mission and Expectation for Student Learning which will meet the updated standards from NEASC and will also respond to the changing world our students face in the 21st century. The skills and knowledge students need to succeed today are changing rapidly and we need to ensure that students are prepared to meet new challenges, and to adapt and respond to the world around them successfully. Once a draft is ready we will share it with the community and seek input before we adopt an updated document.

We are feeling the effects of the continuing economic recession. We have deferred spending in many areas. In addition to the capital projects we cannot complete, we are deferring most new textbook purchases, have reduced spending on materials, supplies, and field trips. In recent years we have raised the user fees for athletics and expect we will have to do so again or reduce the number of games each team competes in. These are all hard decisions to make, yet we respect the financial constraints of the town and want to do our part to manage through these difficult times.

Our school community is still coping with the sad loss of a student. One of our seniors, Makenzie Goode, died on January 30th as a result of a car accident. Makenzie was an honor student and a member of the varsity soccer team. Her family has set up a scholarship in Makenzie's name which will be awarded each year to a student-athlete planning on attending college. Information can be found on our web site or by calling the main office.

Thank you to each of our member towns for your continued support of our school programs and education in general. Without you, Pioneer would not be the dynamic and exciting place it is today.

Respectfully,

Bill Wehrli

Principal

### **Northfield Elementary School Principal's Report**

I am pleased to submit this annual report for Northfield Elementary School for the period of January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009. The mission of Northfield Elementary School is to provide students with the highest quality educational opportunities in a safe and secure environment. We strive to foster individual academic success and social growth through a partnership with students, staff, families and the community. The vision of our school is to promote a safe learning environment where all students can learn and succeed, each in their own way. Our school fosters a love of learning by promoting high expectations for each student.

In my seven years as principal of Northfield Elementary School, I have experienced the commitment of the citizens of Northfield to its youngest citizens.

On behalf of the children, I thank you for your continued support of our school. In June of this year we wished Barbara King and Becki Stratton well as they went on to new adventures in retirement. These two teachers had a combined total of 41 years teaching at NES! We thank them for their many years of dedicated service to our children.

The school year opened on September 2nd with an enrollment of 294 students in preschool through grade 6. We welcomed two new staff members to our school – Shannon O'Donnell, grade 6 teacher and Erin Thayer, special education teacher.

Our collaboration with Northfield Mount Hermon School continues to benefit the children. This year we had fourth year NMH Spanish language students come to NES and teach all fifth and sixth grade students and fourth year NMH French language students teach all third and fourth grade students. This program has been a huge success for both NES and NMH students. Our sixth grade students also worked with NMH ninth grade students on a project to bring awareness of author Greg Mortenson's efforts to build schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Greg Mortenson is the co-founder of nonprofit Central Asia Institute [www.ikat.org](http://www.ikat.org). Both groups of students read Mortenson's book, Three Cups of Tea, and held fund raisers throughout the year for the Central Asia Institute. If you would like more information about the project or would like to contribute to help educate students in these countries please contact the school.

This year we were again awarded a Creative Schools Grant through the Massachusetts Cultural Council. This is the seventh year in which we have been awarded this highly competitive grant. This award will enable us to continue to invite highly talented artists-in-residence and provide varied cultural experiences to our students. Unfortunately, this will be the final year of the Creative Schools Grant program as the Massachusetts Cultural Council will be retiring the program in 2010.

Deb Osowski and EllenJo Gries, ended their terms as co-chairs of the Northfield Elementary PTO. They had a tremendous impact on changing the vision of the PTO. Under their direction they made the PTO a cornerstone of the school community with a focus on family events and activities. We thank them for their time and commitment. Carla Simpson and Melissa Foster were elected the new co-chairs in June. A major project the PTO is working on this year is a design for a natural playground, an improved community playground.

Our many parent and community volunteers are an invaluable resource for teachers and students. Thank you to all of you who volunteer in the classrooms and please accept our sincere appreciation for your most important contribution to the educational experiences of our children. We invite anyone who has an interest in volunteering to call the school office.

In closing, I look forward to another year of academic growth as we continue to seek the best possible opportunities for the elementary students of Northfield. The citizens of Northfield can take pride in knowing they have provided the students with a wonderful learning environment at Northfield Elementary School.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas J. King

Principal

### **SPED**

This is my third annual report as the Administrator of Special Education for the Pioneer Valley Regional School District. We are currently providing one hundred and eighty seven (187) students between the ages of three (3) and twenty-two (22) with special education services. Students who receive special education services have an identified disability which impacts their ability to make effective educational progress. Each student with special needs has an individualized education program designed to meet that student's unique needs.

In the Pioneer Valley Regional School District, we make a concerted effort to serve students with special needs in our local schools whenever possible. Because we have skilled special educators, and because we have commendable cooperation from classroom teachers, support staff, and principals, we have been very successful in providing high quality, cost effective programs for disabled students within our local schools. We have a small number of students placed outside the school district in specialized programs.

I was hired by the District in August 2000 as an Inclusion Specialist and in August 2007 as Administrator of Special Education. It has been a privilege and pleasure serving this District and its Communities in both capacities. The students in the Pioneer Valley Regional School District are truly amazing. I would like to thank my co-workers, the District's students and parents, and the citizens of Bernardston, Leyden, Northfield, and Warwick for their support.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Murphy Jones, M.Ed.

Administrator of Special Education

### **PIONEER VALLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE**

#### **2009/2010**

#### **NORTHFIELD MEMBERS**

**WILLIAM WAHLSTROM** Term Expires: 2010

61 Cross Rd.

Northfield, MA 01360

(413) 498-0063

wahlstromw@pioneervalley.k12.ma.us

**JED PROUJANSKY** Term Expires: 2012

129 Winchester Road

Northfield, MA 01360

(413) 626-7721 (cell)

(413) 534-8611

proujanskyj@pioneervalley.k12.ma.us

**PATRICIA SHEARER** Term Expires: 2012

101 Cross Road

Northfield, MA 01360

(413) 498-2092

(413) 774-3724 x250 (W)

shearerp@pioneervalley.k12.ma.us

### **Franklin County Technical School District**

We submit this annual report for 2009 on behalf of the Franklin County Technical School District and its administration, faculty, staff and students.

Total enrollment as of October 1, 2009 was 512 students with town breakouts as follows:

Bernardston	13	Erving	14	Montague	68	Sunderland	17
Buckland	15	Gill	11	New Salem	8	Warwick	7
Colrain	21	Greenfield	132	Northfield	23	Wendell	8
Conway	10	Heath	6	Orange	65	Whately	8
Deerfield	23	Leyden	5	Shelburne	18	Non-District	40

Franklin County Technical School awarded 110 diplomas to our seniors in June of 2009. Massachusetts students are required to pass the MCAS in order to receive a high school diploma and once again our students were very successful in meeting this high academic standard. The graduates also earned their vocational certificate along with their diploma. 49% of our graduates planned to go on to either a two or four year college, 38% joined the area work force, 5% planned to join the military, 2% went on to a post secondary trade/technical school, and 6% were unsure as to which of the above options they would pursue. We are proud of the accomplishments of the Class of 2009.

All schools in the Commonwealth are required by the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) to meet or exceed specific student performance standards in English/language arts, mathematics and beginning with the Class of 2010, science also. The Franklin County Technical School is proud to note that, in the aggregate, it met these adequate yearly progress determinations for the 2008 – 2009 school year.

During 2009, the students from various vocational programs performed a variety of service projects benefiting many of our member towns and the city of Greenfield. We plan to continue supplying our constituent towns with these services as they offer both the ideal learning laboratory for our students as well as an opportunity to contribute back to the communities that have supported us so well over the years. A small sample of recent projects include a timber-frame boathouse for the Orange Riverfront Park, a Spanish cedar sign for the Bridge of Flowers in Shelburne/Buckland, a lawn and driveway installation at the Habitat for Humanity home in Turners Falls, a complete furnace upgrade for a resident of Warwick provided in collaboration with the National Association of Heating Oil Service Managers' "Oil Heat Cares" program, a camera installation for the Bernardston police department, and the complete repainting of a cruiser for the Sunderland fire department. Students from many shop areas also continue to routinely assist our building maintenance department, supplying services that would otherwise be contracted to outside agencies.

We have completed a performance contract with the Energy Service Company (ESCO), Siemens Building Technologies, Inc. This project included the installation of energy efficient lighting and sensors, the conversion to high efficiency natural gas-fired boilers and roof top units for heating and ventilation, the sealing of the building envelope, and the installation of energy saving controllers for our computer network and the walk-in coolers/freezers along with a state-of-the-art energy management system to ensure our ability to maximize our savings throughout the life of these new systems. This project had a major beneficial impact on the comfort level of the working and learning environment while significantly cutting energy use. The lease payments for this investment in infrastructure are completely paid for by the savings in energy costs and we believe that the greater level of control afforded by the state-of-the-art energy management system will allow us to squeeze the most out of our energy dollars for a long time to come. Prior to the project, our energy star rating (on a scale of 1 to 100) was a dismal 13. The post project rating is an outstanding 71. Thank you Siemens Building Technologies for providing the expertise and attention to detail necessary for this immense reduction in our carbon footprint!

A team of evaluators from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges were present in mid-October of 2009 for our five year focused visit. The team spent two and a half days reviewing our progress in addressing the recommendations that were outlined during the last decennial visit. They were pleased with our improvement in most areas and wrote in their summary "The Franklin County Technical School exhibits many characteristics of a school on the verge of excellence, such as school atmosphere, student pride, strong ties to the community and an administration who is forward looking." Overall, the report issued by the visiting team attests to the hard work and dedication of our faculty, staff and administration and the quality programs we offer with the support of our member towns.

We continue to work with Greenfield Community College to offer evening courses at Franklin County Technical School. We offer an after-school program in conjunction with GCC that enables our seniors to experience the college environment first hand while obtaining three college credits. We also offer an EMT basic course for six college credits during the school day to our seniors in our Health Technology program. Many of our classroom instructors have completed taking the renewable coursework offered at GCC and two of our instructors have been enlisted by GCC to teach introductory courses in piping and HVAC (heating, ventilating and air conditioning) as part of their pioneering renewable energy/energy efficiency program.

We also continue to work with Franklin County businesses, the Regional Employment Board and the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce to make sure that our graduates are part of the economic development for Franklin County. We thank each and every citizen of Franklin County for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,



Mr. Richard J. Kuklewicz  
School Committee Chairman



Mr. Richard K. Lane  
Superintendent

Franklin County Technical School District Committee Member for Northfield

**Gail V. Zukowski**

**FRANKLIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

To the Residents of the Solid Waste District:

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

The downturn in the economy resulted in less trash and recycling tonnage in 2009. Both decreased by approximately 10% in 2009. District residents still showed their commitment to recycling by diverting 2,100 tons of paper and 1,200 tons of mixed containers from regional disposal facilities. The 3,300 tons of recycling was processed at the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility. Although recycling market prices were low in 2009, District towns received the contract guarantee of \$15.67 per ton of recyclables.

In 2009, the District sponsored a spring and fall “Clean Sweep” collection for bulky items, electronics, tires, appliances, and anything too big to fit into a trash bag. Over 89 tons of material was recycled or disposed of from the two collections.

We also held our annual household hazardous waste collection in September 2009. This event allows residents to properly dispose of toxic cleaners, automotive products, pesticides, and other toxic products. Over 300 households participated in this event.

We continue to work with public schools to improve their recycling programs as well as to implement programs to collect food waste for composting. The District also provides hands-on assistance to businesses and institutions that want to recycle or compost their waste. Recycling and composting assistance was also provided to 30 public events, including the Franklin County Fair.

The District was involved in a feasibility study to identify closed municipal landfills that could support the installation of solar photovoltaic panels. This is an exciting project that could generate alternative energy on otherwise unusable property. Further exploration of this option will occur in 2010.

If you have questions about District programs, call us at 772-2438, visit our website at [www.franklincountywastedistrict.org](http://www.franklincountywastedistrict.org) or visit us at 50 Miles Street in Greenfield.

Jan Ameen - *Executive Director*  
Chris Boutwell, Montague - *Chair*

Becky Jurek, Bernardston - *Vice-Chair*  
Andrea Donlon, Buckland - *Treasurer*

**Franklin Regional Council of Government**

The FRCOG was created by the towns of Franklin County in 1997. The preamble of the Charter that created the FRCOG states:

We, the people of Franklin County, in order to serve the interests of the citizens of our region, do hereby affirm that the 26 municipalities of Franklin County have vital common concerns that transcend the borders of individual municipalities and that the ability of our municipalities to address important public issues often depends on our local governments acting together. We therefore establish for ourselves and for our communities the means to effectively serve our towns and to deal with regional issues that transcend the existing boundaries of town governments.

Twelve years later the FRCOG is proud to report on the accomplishments, projects and services that we have provided to the people and communities of Franklin County. Each year since our formation we have grown, improved and have served the

region proudly. The FRCOG is now considered the model of regionalism in Massachusetts. A summary of our accomplishments include:

Through advocacy and outreach the FRCOG helped to bring millions of dollars of ARRA funding to Franklin County including Brownfields funding to assess and cleanup sites contaminated by hazardous materials; \$19.2 million for safety improvements along Route 2 in Orange; \$12.8 million for the construction of the Franklin Regional Transit Center; and another \$10 million for road improvements to Routes 5/10 and Route 2.

The FRCOG's efforts on behalf of 22 towns and 5 regional school districts to secure the services of an Energy Services Company to assess and identify energy savings capital improvements, made the region uniquely qualified to apply for ARRA energy efficiency funding. Fifteen towns took advantage of this funding opportunity and grant awards are expected to be announced in February or March of 2010.

The Cooperative Purchasing Program helped member towns procure highway products, fuel, elevator maintenance services, tradesperson services, IT support, and conducted numerous local bids. The total amount of contracted highway products and services in FY09 was \$7,283,815 for 21 Franklin County Towns and 1 Hampshire County Town.

The Regional Preparedness Program worked with the Mohawk Area Public Health Coalition to address the H1N1 outbreak and was responsible for receiving and distributing H1N1 vaccines for the region and coordinating vaccination clinics. Boards of Health got access to local planning nurses, funding for supplies and vaccinations clinics. Over 5,000 H1N1 vaccinations were administered between Thanksgiving and mid-January.

Through WesternMA Connect, the FRCOG continued to be actively involved in the effort to bring broadband to all areas of Western Massachusetts and in 2009 the creation and funding of the Massachusetts Broadband Institute with \$40 million of state bond funding was celebrated.

The Planning Department of the FRCOG is currently helping 15 Franklin County communities work toward Green Communities designation and has helped another 10 communities with zoning revisions, open space planning, and economic development projects. The Department also completed Phase One of the Franklin County Bikeway with the placement of location and logo signs along the 44-mile length of the on and off-road bikeway system.

The FRCOG continued to be the fiscal agent for the federal Homeland Security funds for western Massachusetts and distributed more than \$4 million to worthy projects across the region. Included in the projects was the expansion of the Franklin County Emergency Communication System, which has received more than \$11 million in total, with the construction of a new tower and antenna site at Berkshire East in Charlemont.

The Community Coalition for Teens sustained major funding cuts but found ways to continue its work on substance abuse prevention with all eight Franklin County School Districts, including surveying students across the region, offering mini-grants for schools and community groups, and educating school staff on easy prevention tools.

The Franklin County Regional Emergency Planning Committees held three important exercises for the region's emergency response community – one testing the interoperability of communication systems, one testing regional response capacity to a potential train wreck with hazardous materials, and one testing local emergency dispensing site capacity.

The Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program provided building, plumbing, and electrical inspection services to 15 towns. The FCCIP issued a total of 992 building permits, 521 wiring permits and 521 plumbing permits totaling \$319,641 in permit fees for participating towns. The program also spent time analyzing Greenfield's request to join the FCCIP to ensure that the program will continue to provide quality service to all members.

The Town Accounting Program added an eleventh Town to the list of communities sharing this professional service. The program has transferred all participating towns to the FRCOG's accounting software program via a licensing agreement and 24-7 remote access. This program has been identified as a model to emulate across Massachusetts.

The Franklin Regional Council of Governments is committed to providing the best possible service to its member towns and to the region. For additional details about FRCOG programs, we encourage residents to read the FRCOG Annual Report, which will be posted on our web site, [www.frcog.org](http://www.frcog.org), or you can receive a copy by calling 413-774-3167.

Linda Dunlavy, Executive Director  
Franklin Regional Council of Governments