

Volunteer Fire Department

Annual Report



TOWN OF

HAMPDEN

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1954

25th Anniversary

Annual Reports
OF THE
Town Officers
OF THE
Town of Hampden



AND OF THE
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE
Year Ending December 31, 1954

THE PALMER REGISTER, Inc.

Palmer, Mass.

1955

Elected Town Officers --- 1954

Moderator

GEORGE W. INGLE

Clerk and Treasurer

GRACE L. KIBBE

Selectmen and Board of Public Welfare

HAROLD F. HELBERG, 1955, Chairman
CHARLES R. MELVILLE, 1956

WILLIAM H. BURNS, 1957

Clerk to the Selectmen, RUTH W. WOODS

Assessors

RALPH HATCH, Chairman, 1955
PERCY FULLER, 1956 LEONARD G. CURTIS, 1957

Clerk to the Assessors, ALICE FULLER

School Committee

LESTER F. PAULY, 1956, Chairman
DANIEL M. FLYNN, 1955 ELOISE WALLACE, 1956
ELEANOR MACMULLEN, 1957
EDWIN N. LOMBARD, 1957

Trustees for Public Library

ELEANOR B. McCRAY, 1955
ELIZABETH Q. MORGAN, 1956
GERTRUDE LYONS, 1957

Collector of Taxes
DOROTHY S. FLYNN

Constables
ALTON GREGORY
JAMES P. LYONS **ARTHUR H. GERRISH**

Cemetery Commissioners
HOMER FULLER, 1955
HERBERT BURNHAM, 1956 **NEIL KIBBE, 1957**

Planning Board
JOHN R. WALLACE, Chairman, 1956
DORVAL E. VIGER, 1957
MARION WELLS GERRISH, 1958
GORDON J. E. WILLCUTT, 1959
WILLIAM P. PATULLO, 1955

Auditor
BERNICE E. BAKER

Tree Warden
AUSTIN K. HARRIS

Appointed Town Officers

Town Bookkeeper
ROLLYN H. HATCH

Forest Fire Warden
WILLIAM ALLEN

Inspector of Animals
PERCY FULLER

Inspector of Slaughtering
GEORGE A. PATRIC, Jr.

Sealer of Weights and Measures
ERROLL M. BEEBE

Moth Superintendent
CHARLES H. LEMON

Superintendent of Streets
ARTHUR H. GERRISH

Recreation Committee

JASON DOUBLEDAY, Chairman, 1956	
ATHOS ROSSI, 1955	JAMES INGRAHAM, 1956
*LUCIEN BOURBEAU, 1955	
**RICHARD FULLER, 1957	

*Resigned—Ralph Melander filled unexpired term.
**Resigned—John F. Whitney, Jr. will fill unexpired term.

Burial Agent
LEONARD G. CURTIS

Burial Agent for Soldiers and Sailors
FRED C. SAMBLE

Agent for Care of Soldiers' and Sailors' Graves
RAYMOND W. DUNLEA

Agent for Veterans' Benefits
THOMAS J. FAULKNER

Mensurers of Wood, Bark and Charcoal

HOMER L. HATCH AUSTIN K. HARRIS

Dentist for Dental Clinic

DR. HAROLD J. BENNETT

Pound Keeper and Field Driver

PERCY FULLER

Fence Viewers

DONALD E. DICKINSON

GEORGE PATRIC, Jr. WARREN DICKINSON

Welfare Agent

MARY CANTWELL

Building Commissioner

GORDON J. E. WILLCUTT

Electrical Inspector Plumbing Inspector
CHARLES R. MELVILLE WILLIAM P. PATULLO**Board of Appeals**

EARLE H. HARRIS, Sr., Chairman, 1958

MARCUS GOTTSCHE, Sr., 1955

EVERETT S. WOODS, 1957

HOWARD GRAY, 1956 JAMES E. INGRAHAM, 1959

Alternates

JOHN R. SCHMUCK, 1956 WILBUR F. BRIEN, 1955

Advisory Board

DR. HAROLD J. BENNETT, Chairman, 1957

ERNEST L. WOODS, 1955 DONALD WILCOX, 1955

BEN F. LIBBY, 1957 WILLIAM PLATE, 1956

Voters Liable for Jury Duty for the Year Beginning
August 1, 1954

GEORGE AUDREN	WELLS CARVER
HARRY LUDWIG	MAURICE FITZGERALD
LAURENCE A. TEED	CLIFFORD R. GUNTHER
LUCIEN BOURBEAU	GEORGE D. FISHER, Jr.
WILLIAM H. COWPERTHWAITE	DORVAL E. VIGER
HAROLD F. HELBERG	EDWARD H. DAYTON

Board of Registrars

GRACE L. KIBBE	
EDWIN BRENNAN, 1957	FAYE FLYNN, 1956
L. NORRIS FITZGERALD, 1955	

Special Police

GEORGE D. FISHER, Sr.	AUSTIN K. HARRIS
HAROLD D. JONES	PAUL BOUCHARD
KENNETH L. MOODY	GARFIELD TRACY
WILFRED J. GERARD	KENNETH E. HENNING
CLIFFORD R. GUNTHER	WILLIAM D. CANFIELD

In Memoriam



JOHN B. ISHAM

Born: September 17, 1877

Died: November 21, 1954

Collector of Taxes 1906-1907 Assessor: 1908-1913

Cemetery Commissioner: 1940-1951

Chm. Recreation Committee: 1947-1952

THE OLD STEBBINS HOUSE AND ITS DISTINGUISHED OWNER

We feel that it is appropriate to place on the front cover of our report a picture of our best known colonial house and in the inside a photograph of Thornton W. Burgess, its present owner, sitting before the fireplace built about two centuries ago.

The exact date of erection of the house by either Moses Stebbins (brother of Hampden's first settler) or his son Calvin Stebbins has not been authenticated. Mr. Burgess has found two bricks in the chimney, one dated 1742 and the other 1776. The house, therefore, might be of either date, but the construction of the stairway would seem to point to 1742. The dimensions of each step on the stairs average 6" high to 3" wide.

Upon the death of Experience Stebbins, the last member of this old family, the house passed to the Stanton Family and Calista Stanton lived here alone for many years. The house was afterwards owned by the Coates Family and Damon Coates resided here in the early 1900's.

The house has taken on new luster since it was bought by Mr. Burgess and both owner and residence have been featured in a four-page article in *Life Magazine*. A beautiful painting of the east entrance of the house appears in Mr. Burgess' book entitled "Tales From A Storyteller's House." In the Richard Salter Storrs Library in Longmeadow hangs another exquisite painting of this gem of colonial architecture.

We are honored that Thornton W. Burgess has "neighbored" with us for a quarter of a century and that the Old Stebbins House has been a summer source of many a nature bedtime story for children throughout this country and Canada. We trust that he may be with us for many years to come.

Scene In A Story Teller's House



This is one of the peaceful scenes which marks the life of Thornton W. Burgess, whose famous stories have brought national fame to Hampden. Mr. Burgess is living in the old Stebbins House and the well-known naturalist and writer and the historic house were featured in Life Magazine.

Town Warrant

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

County of Hampden

Town of Hampden

To either of the Constables of the said Town of Hampden in said County:

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn all the inhabitants of the Town of Hampden, qualified to vote in elections of Town Officers, to meet at the Town House on Tuesday, the twenty-eighth day of February, A.D. 1955, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to give in their votes on one ballot to the election officers of said Town, for the following officers, to wit:

To choose a Moderator for one year. To choose a Town Clerk and a Town Treasurer for one year. To choose one Selectman for three years, who shall also be on the Board of Public Welfare; to choose one Collector of Taxes, three Constables, one Tree Warden; one Auditor, one Assessor, all for the term of one year; and one School Committee Member, one Cemetery Commissioner, one Library Trustee; all for the term of three years; one member of the Planning Board for the term of five years. Also to choose all other necessary Town Officers. The polls shall open at 10 A.M. and shall close at 8:00 P.M.

And you are further hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Hampden, qualified to vote in Town Affairs, to meet at the Town House, Hampden, on Monday, March 7, A.D. 1955, at eight o'clock in the evening, then and there to act on the following articles, viz:

Article 1. To hear the Annual Reports of all the officers of the Town and any committee whose duty it may be to report at said meeting, and act thereon.

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town as provided for by Section 108 of Chapter 41, General Laws, and to raise and appropriate the following sums to cover same, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the following amounts be raised and appropriated to pay the salaries of the Elective Town Officers.

Salaries

Selectmen	8525.00
Board of Public Welfare	175.00
	700.00
Treasurer	550.00
Collector	550.00
Assessors	200.00
	150.00
	150.00
	500.00
Auditor	15.00
Moderator	35.00
Town Clerk	100.00

Article 3. To raise money and make appropriations to defray the expenses of the Town for the ensuing year.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the following sums of money be raised and appropriated for the several purposes hereinafter designated.

General Government

Selectmen's Expenses	\$500.00
Accounting Salary	600.00
Accounting Expenses	100.00
Treasurer's Expenses	160.00
Collector's Expenses	425.00
Assessors' Expenses	1,000.00
Town Clerk's Expenses	225.00
Law & Claims	250.00
Building Inspector—Salaries	300.00
Building Inspector—Expenses	150.00
Elections & Registrations	400.00
Town Hall Maintenance	100.00
Town House Maintenance	2,500.00

Protection of Persons & Property

Police	800.00
Forest Fires	300.00
Forest Fire Warden	50.00
Tree Warden	200.00
Fire Department	1,500.00
Sealer of Weights & Measures	70.00
Moth Eradication	400.00
Dutch Elm Disease	700.00

Health & Sanitation

Meat Inspection	50.00
Animal Inspection	60.00
Town Dump	100.00

Highways

Snow & Ice Removal	2,000.00
Highways, Bridges & Railings	2,500.00
Street Lighting	1,038.00
Garage Maintenance	200.00

Charities & Veterans Benefits

Old Age Assistance	15,000.00
Disability Assistance	2,800.00
General Relief	2,300.00
Aid to Dependent Children	2,200.00
Southeast Hampden Welfare District	400.00
Library	1,500.00

Unclassified

Memorial Day	200.00
Soldiers and Sailors Graves	175.00
Town Common	100.00
Printing Town Report	
Insurance	3,460.00
Reserve	1,000.00
Planning Board	175.00
Board of Appeals	50.00
Advisory Board Expenses	150.00
Cemeteries	500.00

Article 4. To see what disposition the Town will make of the Dog Fund, now in the hands of the Treasurer.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the Dog Fund be paid into the Library Account.

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2700.00 for the repair and maintenance of Town Roads and instruct the Selectmen to petition and contract with the Commissioners of the Department of Public Works, under the provisions of Chapter 81, Section 26 of the General Laws.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the sum of \$2700 be raised and appropriated for the repair and maintenance of town roads in accordance with the above article.

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be used in conjunction with any money which may be allotted by the State or County, or both, for Chapter 90 Maintenance, or take any action in relation thereto,

The Advisory Committee recommends that the sum of \$2000 be raised and appropriated for use on Chapter 90 Maintenance.

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be used in conjunction

with any money that may be allotted by the State or County, or both, for the widening and surfacing of Main Street, or take any action in relation thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the sum of \$2500 be raised and appropriated for the widening and surfacing of Main Street.

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from unappropriated available funds in the Treasury a sum of money for Chapter 81 and 90 Highways in the three preceding articles or take any action in relation thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends the transfer from unappropriated available funds in the treasury the sum of \$21,400 for Chapter 81 and 90 highway work as outlined in the three preceding articles.

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50.00 for planting trees along the highways.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75.00 to be expended in the Town by the Hampden County Trustees for Aid to Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 128, Section 42.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums for the School Department or take any other action relative thereto.

GENERAL CONTROL:

School Committee Expenses	\$ 350.00
Salary of Superintendent	5,800.00
Expense of Superintendence	1,350.00

EXPENSES OF INSTRUCTION:

Supervisors' Salaries	1,980.00
Teachers' Salaries	29,640.00
Textbooks	800.00
Supplies	1,300.00

EXPENSES OF OPERATING:

Janitors' Salaries	3,450.00
Fuel	2,100.00
Misc. Operating	750.00

MAINTENANCE:

Repairs and Replacements	1,000.00
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AUXILIARY AGENCIES:

Health	1,060.00
Transportation	22,793.00
Tuition	35,100.00
Misc. Auxiliary	125.00

NEW EQUIPMENT:

CONTINGENCY:	600.00
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110,198.00

The Advisory Committee recommends that the several items listed in the above budget be raised and appropriated. Of the total sum to be raised and appropriated for school purposes, the approximate and estimated sum of \$40,280 will be a reimbursement from the State, known as School Aid; according to information furnished to this committee by the School Committee.

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$425 for the maintenance of the Dental Clinic for the ensuing year, \$400 to be used for salary and \$25 for expenses; in accordance with the provisions of Section 50, Chapter 111, General Laws, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1108.47 to be paid to the Treasurer-Custodian of the Hampden County Retirement System as provided by Chapter 658, Section 22 of the Acts of

1945, and as further amended by Chapter 530 of the Acts of 1951, to be credited to the Town's share of the funds thereof.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Road Machinery Fund Account to the Road Machinery Maintenance Account.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the sum of \$2500 be transferred to the Road Machinery Maintenance Account.

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$2500 from the Overlay Reserve to the Reserve Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to convey by quit-claim deed all its right, title, and interest in property hereinafter described, to Walter J. Lyons of Hampden, Hampden County, Massachusetts, upon such terms and conditions as the Selectmen may prescribe: The land in the Town of Hampden in Hampden County, Massachusetts, described as "the schoolhouse and lot in former School District No. 6" in a deed from the Inhabitants of the Town of Wilbraham to the Inhabitants of the Town of Hampden dated March 24, 1879 and recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 361, Page 98. Said land is part of the tract conveyed by John B. Warren to Patrick Lyons by deed dated April 8, 1865, and recorded in said Registry in Book 232, Page 505, which tract is described as follows:

A certain piece or parcel of land situate in said Wilbraham bounded and described as follows, viz:

Beginning at the southwest corner of said parcel and in the fork of the road nearly northeast from the

dwelling house of David Clough; thence on the north-easterly side of the public highway leading to Monson to land of Thomas Mills; thence westerly on land of said Mills and land of Sullivan U. Stanton to the public highway leading by the dwelling of S. U. Stanton; thence southerly on said highway to the first mentioned bound. Containing thirty (30) acres, more or less.

Reserving and excepting from the conveyance all the right and title which has heretofore been conveyed to District No. 6 in the Town of Wilbraham for a school-house.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$750 for the use of the Recreation Commission for maintenance and improvement of Hampden Memorial Park, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Mowing field	\$100.00
Fix baseball backstop	50.00
Condition infield	25.00
Toilet facilities	150.00
Bathhouse	100.00
Widen culvert over brook	100.00
Cover outlet of pond so that northwest side of field by pond is available for use	225.00

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 to be used for improvement of the Town's Recreation Field swimming site.

Sand for banks and fill to lessen pitch of pond at south end	\$200.00
Bulldozer work, spreading, etc.	100.00
Upper dam repair	200.00

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 to be paid to a full-time Recreation Director appointed by the Recreation Committee to serve for the school summer vacation period.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 for the construction of a field-house shelter at the Recreation Field. This shelter to be approximately 600 square feet.

The Advisory Committee recommends a negative vote on this Article.

Article 21. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to construct a building to be used as a Ground Observer Post.

The Advisory Committee recommends a negative vote on this Article.

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$200 to pay the enumerators for taking the State Census, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to accept the bequest of Grace M. Carew to the Hampden Town Library of the sum of Two Thousand (\$2000) Dollars.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Cemetery Commissioners to appoint the Burial Agent, who shall hold office during the pleasure of said Commissioners.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to enact the following as an amendment to the Building Code: "No dwelling or building to be used as a dwelling shall be erected in such a manner that it protrudes over the Town line from a point without the geographical limits of the Town of Hampden."

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the purchase of tables for the cafeteria, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends a negative vote on this Article.

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from unappropriated available funds in the Treasury, a sum of Money to the Stabilization Fund.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the sum of \$10,000 be transferred from unappropriated available funds in the treasury to the Stabilization Fund, this fund to be deposited in a savings account.

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the Revenue of the financial year beginning January 1, 1955

and to issue a note or notes and renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year, in accordance with Section 17, Chapter 44 of the General Laws.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting an attested copy thereof at each of the three places designated by the Town. Hereof fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at or before the time of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this tenth day of February, 1955.

HAROLD F. HELBERG

CHARLES R. MELVILLE

WILLIAM H. BURNS

Selectmen of Hampden, Mass.

Report of Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee of the Town of Hampden held regular monthly meetings during the year, and one public hearing prior to the annual Town Meeting.

Two members of the Advisory Committee attended the three meetings called by the State Association of Town Finance Committees held in Boston.

Meetings have also been held with the various Town officers, department heads and committees, each of whom have given their time to enlighten the Committee regarding their requests. Full consideration has been given each item, and no request has been disapproved which was felt necessary for the economical and efficient operation of the Town.

During the year seven transfers were approved from the Reserve Fund amounting to \$2845, leaving a balance of \$655 to be returned to the Excess and Deficiency Account.

The Committee recommends continuing the Reserve Fund at \$3500.

We wish to express our appreciation for the cooperation of the various Town Boards and Department heads.

Respectfully submitted,

DR. HAROLD J. BENNETT
Chairman

ERNEST L. WOODS

DONALD WILCOX

BEN F. LIBBY

WILLIAM L. PLATE

Report of Selectmen

During the past year the Selectmen have held regular weekly meetings and have submitted regular weekly warrants to the Treasurer. The exercise of regular Board functions in various departments has resulted in the following matters, which we submit for your consideration: Early in 1954 the Selectmen met with State and County officials and allocated the funds to be used for highway work for the year 1954.

1. The widening of North Monson Road to the Monson Town Line has been completed.
2. The white lines on through roads have again been painted by the State Highway Department.
3. Another portion of Chapin Road has been surfaced, and survey work has begun on the widening and straightening of curves on Main Street.
4. The Town Lines of Hampden, Wilbraham, and Monson, have been perambulated, together with the officials of neighboring towns.
5. An additional street light was installed in back of the Town House, and new type street light lamps have been installed in the vicinity of the Town House.
6. The Selectmen have had several complaints, through the State Police, about the teenagers' disturbing the peace and speeding.

7. As a result of complaints from several citizens, a public hearing was held on the matter of possible suspension of the common victualler license held by the Allen House Dairy Bar. The proprietor agreed to close his place of business earlier at night.

8. Attorney William D. Canfield has been employed as Town Counsel, and has attended all Selectmen's meetings, and given legal advice to all Town Boards and Committees who requested it.

9. The amount of insurance carried on the Town House was increased by \$17,000 with no additional cost to the Town, through a decrease in rates.

10. Several meetings have been held with the Planning Board, Advisory Board and School Board.

11. The following streets have been accepted as public ways by the Town: Pinewood Road, Woodland Drive, Sessions Drive, Edward Street, Charles Street, and Hickory Lane.

We are continually mindful of the fact that many sincere and interested citizens give their time freely to serve on the various committees which concern themselves with the welfare of our Town, and extend to them our thanks as well as those of the Town. The continued cooperation of all our citizens is solicited in 1955.

Respectfully submitted,

HAROLD F. HELBERG

CHARLES R. MELVILLE

WILLIAM H. BURNS

Board of Selectmen

1954

Report of the Board of Health

Seven cases of disease, listed as dangerous to the public health by the Massachusetts State Board of Health, were reported during the current year, as follows:

Scarlet Fever	2
Dog bite	1
Mumps	1
Measles	1
Chicken pox	1
Gonorrhea	1

The Board of Health received and investigated several complaints during the past year, which were considered detrimental to public health.

The Town Dump was dug out to make it larger.

Inspections were made of public eating places in the Town.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM H. BURNS

Chairman

Report of the Board of Public Welfare

Cases Active January 1, 1954	1
Cases Added During Year	4
Cases Closed During Year	3
Cases Active December 31, 1954	2
Hampden Settled Cases Aided in Other Cities & Towns	5
Appropriation	\$2,300.00
Carried Forward from 1953	231.72
Refund	10.00
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	\$2,541.72

EXPENDITURES

Paid to Other Cities & Towns (Hampden Settled Cases)	\$684.55
Cash	613.80
Medical	249.50
Board	195.00
Groceries	62.88
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	\$1,805.73
Balance forward to 1955	735.99
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	\$2,541.72
Outstanding Accounts Receivable	\$146.16

DISABILITY ASSISTANCE

Cases Active January 1, 1954	2
Cases Active During Year	2
Cases Closed During Year	0
Cases Added During Year	0
Cases Active December 31, 1954	2

Town Appropriation

Appropriation	\$2,800.00
Cash Paid on Payrolls	\$2,788.49
Unexpended Balance December 31,	
1954	11.51
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	\$2,800.00

FEDERAL GRANT

Balance January 1, 1954	\$757.84
Cash Received from Federal Government	840.00
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	\$1,597.84
Cash Paid on Payrolls	\$740.71
Balance December 31, 1954	857.13
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	\$1,597.84

AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN

Cases Active January 1, 1954	1
Cases Closed During Year	1
Applications Received During Year	2
Applications Pending	1
Cases Active December 31, 1954	1

TOWN APPROPRIATION

Appropriation	\$1,200.00
Cash Paid on Payrolls	\$1,200.00

FEDERAL GRANT

Balance January 1, 1954	\$208.87
Cash Received from Federal Government	1,035.00
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	\$1,243.87

Cash Paid on Payrolls	\$1,066.90
Balance December 31, 1954	176.97
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	\$1,243.87

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES R. MELVILLE

HAROLD F. HELBERG

WILLIAM H. BURNS

Board of Public Welfare

By: MARY H. CANTWELL, Agent

Report of Bureau of Old Age Assistance

Cases Active January 1, 1954	23
Applications Received During Year	2
Applications Approved	1
Applications Withdrawn	1
Cases Closed During Year	4
Applications Pending	0
Cases Active December 31, 1954	20

TOWN APPROPRIATION

Appropriation	\$15,000.00
Refund	39.50
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	\$15,039.50

Cash Paid on Payrolls	\$14,026.57
Paid Other Cities and Towns	1,012.93
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	\$15,039.50

FEDERAL GRANT

Balance January 1, 1954	\$773.43
Cash Received from Federal Government	8,124.57
Recovery	966.54
Refund	35.00
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	\$9,899.54

Cash Paid on Payrolls	\$8,938.90
Balance December 31, 1954	960.64
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	\$9,899.54

Received from Other Cities and Towns \$585.83

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES R. MELVILLE

HAROLD F. HELBERG

WILLIAM H. BURNS.

Board of Public Welfare

By: MARY H. CANTWELL, Agent

Southeast Hampden Welfare District

The following is the report of the Southeast Hampden Welfare District comprising the towns of Monson, Hampden and Wales:

Balance as of January 1, 1954	\$579.00
Payments from Towns for their proportionate share of expenses for District:	
Monson	1,200.00
Hampden	300.00
Wales	300.00
Refund	5.00
Received from Federal Government	4,793.47
Received from State	3,539.86
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	\$10,717.33
Expenditures	10,627.02
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Balance forward to 1955	90.31

EXPENDITURES

Salaries, Agent, Social Worker & Jr. Clerk-Typist	9,024.00
Treasurer, Hampden County	
Retirement	422.48
Travel & Conference Expenses (Agent and Social Worker)	358.23
New England Tel. & Tel.	216.40

Town of Monson (Rent)	180.00
Salary, District Treasurer	100.00
Broadway Office Supply Co.	79.56
William P. Stone, P. M., Stamps	75.00
Remington Rand (Supplies)	44.12
Aucoin's Press	38.70
Makepeace Press	23.60
United Community Service	
(S. S. Index)	16.50
Hobbs & Warren, Inc.	13.09
Welch & Baldwin, Treasurer's Bond	10.00
Frederick J. Sullivan, Jr.	
(Treas. Bond)	10.00
Public Admin. Asso.	6.00
Ribbon Carbon Products	5.75
Harry Thorin	2.94
McClearys	.65

	\$10,627.02

Respectfully submitted,

MARY H. CANTWELL, Agent

Report of Superintendent of Streets

Last year the major project of the Highway Department was the completion of the rebuilding of the North Monson Road to the Monson town line. The sum of \$10,000 was available for this work under Chap. 90 Construction Funds, of which \$2500 was appropriated by the town, \$2500 by the county and \$5000 by the state. Because of the rough, wet terrain it was necessary to hire much equipment and also necessitated the hauling of a large amount of gravel to attain the required grade. Therefore, \$4467.93 was spent for equipment (including the town trucks, loader and grader which are charged to the account while working on Chap. 90. The labor cost totalled \$2653.40 and the materials, including gravel, culverts, asphalt, pea gravel, guard rails and posts, amounted to \$2878.40.

The increased allotments for Chap. 90 Maintenance Fund from \$3000 to \$4500 allowed the Chap. 81 to be used more efficiently in maintaining the town roads. With this increased Chap. 90 allotment, the following was accomplished. The entire length of Glendale Rd. (1.55 miles) and the entire length Scantic Rd. from Cross Rd. to the junction of Rock-a-Dundee Rd. (1.45 miles) were resurfaced with asphalt covered with pea gravel. In addition drainage work was done on Scantic and Wilbraham Roads, also 500 feet of shoulder tarred on Springfield Rd.

Most of this Chap. 90 Maintenance Fund was spent for materials amounting to \$2459.20 with labor \$1196.36

and equipment \$842.65. By exchanging equipment with the town of Monson, Hampden had the use of its modern 9-foot chip spreader box which lays the pea gravel on the bituminous surface instead of throwing so much on to the shoulders or into the ditches as the town's own small spreader does.

The Chap. 81 Fund of \$11,900, of which the town raises \$2550 each year was used largely to resurface various streets including six-tenths of a mile on South Rd., six-tenths of a mile on Chapin Rd., six-tenths of a mile on North Rd., one-half mile on South Monson Road, one mile on Bennett Road and the entire length of Isaac Bradway Rd. Improvements in the grade were made near the Winthrop L. Kibbe pond on the Isaac Bradway Rd. which had settled in the swamp and the grade was also raised near the Schneeloch place on Bennett Rd. to overcome a serious drainage problem.

Some new work was accomplished, too, with this Chap. 81 money. The hill on Thresher Rd. was gravelled and hardened as well as about 600 feet on Chapin Rd., a section of South Rd. to the top of the steep hill toward the Conn. State line, in order to make a place to turn around with the snow plows in winter, and extensive ledge blasting on Mountain Rd.

The distribution of the \$11,900 of Chap. 81 was as follows: labor, \$3894.52; materials, \$5228.97; and equipment, \$2776.19. The amounts expended on the various roads including sand and salt in snow removal are as follows: Springfield Rd., \$239.37; East Longmeadow, \$144.14; Wilbraham, \$255.90; Somers, \$237.69; Stony Hill, \$65.71; Isaac Bradway, \$615.36; Mill, \$147.44; Carmody, \$124.10; Main St., \$501.73; South Rd., \$1300.25; Chapin Rd., \$1663.53; Rock-a-Dundee, \$157.23; Scantic Rd., \$148.35; Cross, \$18.10; South

Monson, \$927.20; Thresher, \$549.18; Bennett, \$1424.18; Hendee, \$4.00; Howlett Hill, \$84.60; Stafford, \$126.15; North Monson, \$178.25; Ames, \$849.91; Glendale, \$102.97; North, \$794.01; and Mountain, \$883.27.

In addition to the above projects, the kiln bridge on Rock-a-Dundee Road was rebuilt and the planks covered with colprovia. Gravel was hauled to Hickory Lane and Edwards Street.

Respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR H. GERRISH

Report of Assessors

TABLE OF AGGREGATES OF POLLS, PROPERTY,
AND TAXES AS ASSESSED January 1, 1954

Number of persons assessed	Individuals	Others	All	Total
On Personal Estate Only	7	8	15	
On Real Estate Only	492	4	496	
On Both Personal and Real Estate	79	2	81	
 Total number of persons assessed			592	
Number of Polls Assessed			524	
 Value of Assessed Personal Estate				
Stock in Trade	\$16,800.00			
Machinery	66,585.00			
Live Stock	29,940.00			
All other tangible personal property	67,240.00			
 Total value of Assessed Personal Estate			\$180,565.00	
 Value of Assessed Real Estate				
Land Exclusive of				
Buildings	\$270,850.00			
Buildings exclusive of Land	1,301,780.00			
 Total Value of Assessed Real Estate			\$1,572,630.00	
 Total Value of Assessed Estate			\$1,753,195.00	

Tax Rate per \$1,000.00—\$67.00

Taxes for State, County, and Town Purposes
including Overlay:

On Personal Estate	\$12,097.95
On Real Estate	105,367.24
On Polls	1,048.00
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Total Taxes Assessed	\$118,513.19

Number of Live Stock Assessed

Horses	23
Cows (Milch)	321
Bulls 7; Yearlings 89; Heifers 79; Steers 4	179
Swine	28
Fowl	4,078
All others—Goats 26; Mink 776; Donkey 1	803

Number of Acres of Land Assessed

(More or less)	12,102
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Number of Dwelling Houses Assesased

542

Each building used as a dwelling counted as ONE without regard to number of families housed.

Board of Assessors

Hampden, Massachusetts

I hereby certify that the following is the total appropriations voted at the Annual Town meeting held March 1, 1954:

Art. 2.

Salaries:

Selectmen	\$300.00
	200.00
	200.00
Treasurer	550.00
Collector	550.00
Assessors	200.00
	150.00
	150.00
Auditor	15.00
Moderator	35.00
Town Clerk	100.00
	—————
	\$2,450.00

Art. 3.

General Government:

Selectmen's Expenses	500.00
Accounting Salary	600.00
Accounting Expenses	100.00
Treasurer's Expenses	160.00
Collector's Expenses	425.00
Assessor's Expenses	850.00
Town Clerk's Expenses	175.00
Law & Claims	400.00
Building Inspector Salaries	300.00

Building Inspector Expenses	150.00
Elections & Registrations	500.00
Town Hall Maintenance	50.00
Town House Maintenance	2,500.00
Certifying Notes & Other Finance	50.00
	<hr/>
	\$6,760.00

Protection of Persons & Property:

Police	1,000.00
Forest Fires	400.00
Forest Fire Equipment	200.00
Forest Fire Warden	50.00
Tree Warden	200.00
Fire Department	1,500.00
Sealer of Weights & Measures	65.00
Moth Eradication	400.00
Dutch Elm Disease	600.00
	<hr/>
	\$4,415.00

Health & Sanitation:

Meat Inspection	50.00
Animal Inspection	60.00
Town Dump	150.00
	<hr/>
	\$260.00

Highways:

Snow & Ice Removal	1,500.00
Bridges, Railings & Highways	4,000.00
Street Lighting	1,038.00
Garage Maintenance	150.00
	<hr/>
	\$6,688.00

Charities & Veterans Benefits:

Old Age Assistance	15,000.00
Disability Assistance	2,800.00
General Relief	2,300.00
Aid to Dependent Children	1,200.00
Southeast Hampden Welfare District	300.00
	<hr/>
	\$21,600.00
Library	1,400.00

Unclassified:

Memorial Day	200.00
Soldiers & Sailors Graves	175.00
Town Common	100.00
Printing Town Reports	683.00
Insurance	3,005.00
Reserve	1,000.00
Planning Board	175.00
Advisory Board Expenses	150.00
	<hr/>
	\$5,488.00
Cemeteries	500.00
Interest & Debt	1,000.00
	<hr/>
Art. 5 Chapter 81 Maintenance	\$2,550.00
Art. 6. Chapter 90 Maintenance	1,500.00
Art. 7. Chapter 90 North Monson Rd.	2,500.00
Art. 9. Planting Trees	50.00
Art. 10. Hampden Co. Trustees	75.00

Art. 11. Schools:

General Expense	\$7,305.00
Expenses of Instruction	30,015.00
Expenses of Operating	6,500.00

Maintenance	1,200.00
Auxiliary Agencies	48,735.00
New Equipment	800.00
Contingency	3,700.00
<hr/>	
Total	\$98,255.00
 Art. 12. Dental Clinic	425.00
Art. 13. Hampden County Retirement System	834.41
Art. 15. Recreation Comm.	500.00
Art. 16. Recreation Director	500.00
Art. 17. Recreation Swim. Site	400.00
Art. 20. Regional School Comm.	50.00
<hr/>	
Total Appropriations	\$158,200.41

Attest: GRACE L. KIBBE

Town Clerk

TRANFERS VOTED

Art. 4. Dog Fund to Library	\$514.63
Art. 8. Chap. 81 & 90 Highways	19,850.00
Art. 18. Road Machinery Fund to Road Machinery Maintenance Acct.	1,500.00
Art. 19. Overlay Reserve to Reserve Fund	2,500.00
Art. 21. Taking by Eminent Domain Account to Surplus Revenue	2,000.00
Art. 27. Unappropriated available funds to Stabilization Fund	10,000.00

A true Copy

Attest: GRACE L. KIBBE

Town Clerk

Board of Assessors

Hampden, Massachusetts

Transfers voted at the Special Town Meeting held October 28, 1953.

Art. 1. Voted to appropriate the sum of \$100.00 from Aid to Dependent Children Account to the Old Age Assistance Account; and further appropriate the sum of \$100.00 from Disability Assistance Account to Old Age Assistance Account; and further appropriate the sum of \$800.00 from General Relief Account to Old Age Assistance Account.

Art. 2. Voted to appropriate the sum of \$1250.00 from Tuition Account to Superintendent's Account; appropriate the sum of \$175.00 from Transportation Account to Janitor's Salary Account; and appropriate the sum of \$50.00 from the Transportation Account to School Committee Expense.

Art. 3. Voted to authorize the Selectmen to purchase one new 1953 Ford F600 Chassis and Cab and one new 1953 Ford Model F750 Chassis and Cab for use of the Highway Department and to pay for same authorized the Selectmen to use the Trade-in Allowance on the 1947 and 1948 Brockway Chassis and Cabs toward purchase price of said Fords, and further appropriate the sum of \$5125.00 from Road Machinery Account.

Art. 4. Voted to authorize the Selectmen to install a Street Light in the rear of the Town House and appropriate the sum of \$18.00 from Available Funds for same.

Art. 6. Voted to authorize the Selectmen to purchase and install a new water pump in the Town House and appropriate the sum of \$1250.00 from available funds to pay for same.

Art. 14. Voted that further School Site and facilities be referred to a committee of five persons to be appointed by the Selectmen no later than the last day of November 1953, for study and to report to the Annual Town Meeting of 1954, or later Special Town Meeting, but in no event later than the Annual Town Meeting of 1955; and to appropriate the sum of \$4094.82 or balance to the credit of the School Building Committee for its use.

A true copy

Attest: GRACE L. KIBBE

Town Clerk

1954 RECAPITULATION SHEET

Total Appropriation Voted to be raised by Taxation	\$158,200.41
Total Appropriations Voted to be taken from Available Funds since 1953 tax rate	12,862.82
Total Appropriations Voted to be taken from Available funds in 1954	36,364.63
	—————
	\$207,427.86
Veterans' Service District	670.20
State Parks and Reservations	240.33
Underestimated in 1953	53.47
State Audit of Municipal Accounts	665.55
	—————
	\$959.55
County Tax	2,293.35
Tuberculosis Hospital Assessment	192.94
	—————
	\$2,486.29
Overlay of current year	\$5,546.89
Gross Amount to be Raised	\$217,090.59

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS AND AVAILABLE FUNDS

Income Tax	\$16,192.20
Corporation Taxes	3,899.06
Old Age Tax (Meals)	461.93
Motor Vehicles and Trailer Excise	8,500.00
Licenses	700.00

General Government	500.00
Protection of Persons and Property	25.00
Charities	900.00
Old Age Assistance (Other than Federal Grants)	6,325.00
Veterans Service	100.00
Schools	11,000.00
Interest on Taxes and Assessments	200.00
 Total Estimated Receipts	 \$48,803.19
Overestimate of previous year	
County Tax	\$29.87
County Tuberculosis Hospital	517.39
Available Funds taken by vote	49,227.45
 Total Estimated Receipts and Available Funds	 \$98,577.40
Net Amount to be Raised by Taxation on Polls and Property	\$118,513.19
Number of Polls 524 at \$2.00 each	\$1,048.00
Total Valuation	
Personal Property \$180,565.00 Tax \$12,097.95	
Real Estate \$1,572,630.00 Tax \$105,367.24	
 Total Taxes to be levied on Polls and Property	 \$118,513.19
Ommitted Assessment	
Real Estate	\$247.90
Personal	13.40
Polls	4.00
	 265.30
Total Taxes Committed on Polls and Property	\$118,778.49

Taxes Abated during 1954

Real Estate	\$63.65
Polls	10.00
<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Taxes Abated	\$73.65
<hr/>	<hr/>
Statutory Exemptions	
Real Estate	\$2,504.14
Polls	98.00
<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Exemptions	\$2,602.14

Motor Vehicles Excise Committed

1953 Excise	\$960.69
1954 Excise	16,766.13

Number of Vehicles Assessed in 1954 928

Commissioners Value of Vehicles \$387,730.00

Abatements:

Commitment of 1953	\$398.28
Commitment of 1954	908.27

The Town owns the following Real Estate:

Long Hill	11 Acres	\$100.00
North Road	1/4 Acre	50.00
Ames Road	6 Acres	60.00

We have a meeting the third Monday of each month and we would be glad to have you come in and talk with us.

Respectfully submitted,

RALPH B. HATCH

PERCY A. FULLER

LEONARD G. CURTIS

Board of Assessors

Tax Collector's Report

1952 REAL ESTATE

Balance due January 1, 1954	\$65.69
Collected and paid Town Treasurer	65.69
Interest paid Town Treasurer	2.99

1953 REAL ESTATE

Balance due January 1, 1954	8,144.98
Collected and paid Town Treasurer	7,681.92

Balance due December 31, 1954	463.06
Interest paid Town Treasurer	197.28

1953 PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX

Balance due January 1, 1954	386.30
Collected and paid Town Treasurer	386.30

1953 MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX

Balance Due January 1, 1954	1,747.23
Committed January & February 1954	960.69

Collected and paid Town Treasurer	2,309.64
Abatements	398.28

Interest paid Town Treasurer	6.81
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1954 REAL ESTATE

Total Commitments	105,926.69
Collected and paid Town Treasurer	93,841.19

Abatements	2,567.79
	96,408.98

Balance due January 1, 1955	9,517.71
Interest paid Town Treasurer	63.87

1954 PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX		
Total Commitments		12,111.35
Collected and paid Town Treasurer		11,600.86
Balance due January 1, 1955		510.49
1954 POLL TAX		
Total Commitments		1,052.00
Collected and paid Town Treasurer	942.00	
Abatements	108.00	1,050.00
Balance due January 1, 1955		2.00
1954 MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX		
Total Commitments		16,967.27
Collected and paid Town Treasurer	13,925.13	
Abatements	908.27	14,833.40
Balance January 1, 1955		2,133.87
Interest paid Town Treasurer		10.11

Respectfully submitted,

DOROTHY S. FLYNN

Collector of Taxes

Town Bookkeeper's Report

1954

Summary of Receipts and Expenditures for 1954

	Receipts	Expenditures
Taxes	\$114,517.96	
State Taxes	14,496.31	
Licenses and Permits	1,068.00	
Motor Vehicle Excise	16,234.78	
Highway Machinery Fund	3,649.03	
Interest on Taxes	267.13	
Interest on Motor Vehicle Excise	18.04	
Interest on Invested Funds	574.42	
General Government	1,129.47	12,854.87
Protection of Persons and Property	347.35	4,482.12
Health and Sanitation	27.25	666.95
Highways	19,566.04	34,710.69
Charities and Veteran's Benefits	25,088.56	31,908.23
School Department	35,399.66	104,658.88
Library	530.29	1,913.47
Cemeteries	281.20	481.42
Recreation and Miscellaneous		6,757.41
Interest and Debt		1,010.00
Agency, Investment and Refunds	8,673.98	19,253.94

Total Receipts	241,869.47
Cash Balance January 1, 1954	108,488.24
<hr/>	
Total Cash Available	350,357.71
<hr/>	
Total Expenditures	\$218,697.98
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Cash Balance December 31, 1954	\$131,659.73

RECEIPTS FOR 1954

General Revenue

Taxes

Levy of 1952	\$65.69
Real Estate	

Levy of 1953

Personal Property	\$ 386.30
Real Estate	7,681.92
	8,068.22

Levy of 1954

Poll	942.00
Personal Property	11,600.86
Real Estate	93,841.19
	106,384.05

From State

Corporation Tax	3,600.00
Meals Tax	643.50
Income Tax	10,252.81
	14,496.31

Licenses and Permits

Liquor and Package Store	1,000.00
Licenses	54.00
Permits	14.00
	1,068.00

Fires		
Grass Fires		21.50
Grants From Federal Government		
Old Age Assistance	8,124.57	
Aid to Dependent Children	1,035.00	
Disability Assistance	840.00	9,999.57
Grants From State Government		
Animal Inspector	25.00	
Chapter 81	11,058.61	
Superintendent and Tuition	4,026.09	
Mass. School Fund	7,000.00	22,109.70
Total General Revenue		\$162,213.04
Commercial Revenue		
Privileges		
Motor Vehicle Excise 1953	2,309.65	
Motor Vehicle Excise 1954	13,925.13	16,234.78
Departmental		
Town House Income	1,042.87	
Liquor Advertising	9.00	
Sealer's Fees	25.85	
Dutch Elm Disease	300.00	
Dental Clinic	2.25	1,379.47
Highways		
Machinery Fund	3,649.03	
Chapter 90—State	5,499.24	
Chapter 90—County	2,999.89	
Reimbursement for Accident Damages	8.30	12,156.46

Charities and Veteran's Benefits		
Disability Assistance	1,617.53	
Aid To Dependent Children	807.17	
Old Age Assistance	12,653.04	
Veteran's Benefits	11.25	15,088.99
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Schools		
Hot Lunch Program	8,354.91	
Bond from Kuzmeskus Bus Contract	1,000.00	
U. S. Treasury P.L. 874	969.76	
Tuition And Transportation	14,021.90	
Sale of Desks	27.00	24,373.57
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Library		
Fines	1.20	
Trust Funds	14.46	
Dog Refund	514.63	530.29
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Interest		
Deferred Taxes	267.13	
Motor Vehicle Excise	18.04	
Cemetery Trust Funds	281.20	
Post War Rehabilitation	224.45	
Invested Funds	574.42	1,365.24
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Unclassified		
Insurance Dividends	56.18	
Miscellaneous Refunds	21.92	78.10
<hr/>		
Total Commercial Revenue		71,206.90
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Agency, Trust and Investment		
Federal Withholding Taxes		6,661.29
County Retirement Contributions		864.84

Dog Licenses	723.40
Cemetery Perpetual Care Funds	200.00
 Total Agency, Trust and Investment	 \$ 8,449.53
 Total Receipts for 1953	 \$241,869.47

EXPENDITURES FOR 1954

General Government	
Legislative	
Moderator—Salary	\$ 35.00
Selectmen—Salaries	700.00
Selectmen Expenses	
Clerk	\$243.10
Printing, Postage & Stationery	5.82
Travel, Telephone & Meetings	168.53
Association Dues	18.00
Mass. Law Replacements	30.00
Miscellaneous	6.00
	471.45
 Accounting	
Auditor—Salary	15.00
Bookkeeper—Salary	600.00
Bookkeeper—Expenses	
Association Dues	3.00
Printing, Postage & Stationery	87.82
Clerk	8.75
	99.57
 Treasury	
Treasurer—Salary	550.00
Treasurer—Expenses	
Bond	64.80
Association Dues	2.00
Printing, Postage & Stationery	93.20
	160.00

Collector		
Tax Collector—Salary		550.00
Tax Collector—Expenses		
Bond	101.40	
Association Dues	2.00	
Printing, Postage & Stationery	312.25	415.65
Assessors		
Assessors—Salaries		500.00
Assessors—Expenses		
Clerk	500.00	
Printing, Postage & Stationery	162.78	
Car & Meeting Expense	55.40	
Association Dues	9.00	
Photostats of Deeds	53.80	780.98
Certifying Notes & Other Finance		
Advertising Hearings	1.70	
Certifying Contracts	10.00	11.70
Law and Claims		
Town Counsel	394.75	
Civil Engineer Services	100.00	494.75
Town Clerk		
Town Clerk—Salary		100.00
Town Clerk—Expenses		
Recording Fees	129.43	
Printing, Postage & Stationery	32.07	
Bond	6.00	
Association Dues	7.50	175.00

Elections & Registrations

000	Printing, Postage & Stationery	192.17
000	Street List	131.08
000	Election Officers	293.40
000	Police at Polls	27.50
000	Preparing Polls	5.85
		<hr/>
		650.00

Town House Maintenance

000	Janitors	747.73
000	Gas Service	44.97
000	Lights and Phone	1,083.50
000	Janitors Supplies	109.16
000	Hot Water Repairs	249.82
000	Repairs	159.78
000	Oil Burner Work	150.00
000	Miscellaneous	13.00
		<hr/>
		2,557.96

Town House Water Pump

000	Labor for Repairing	42.00
000	Parts	6.95
		<hr/>
		48.95

Town Hall Maintenance

000	Lights	10.70
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Insurance

000	Workmen's Compensation	737.47
000	Fire and Theft	914.40
000	Automobile	880.44
000	Personal Accident & Liability	581.20
		<hr/>
		3,113.51

Advisory Board

000	Association Dues	10.00
000	Clerk	15.00
000	Travel and Meetings	40.65
		<hr/>
		65.65

Planning Board

Clerk	13.80
Framing Maps	22.00
Council Fees	25.00
Meeting & Travel	5.20
	66.00

Town Reports	683.00
Total General Government	\$12,854.87

Protection of Persons and Property

Police	791.47
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Fire Department

Sunday Watch	152.00
Gasoline and Oil	53.64
Repairs & Parts	114.45
Fuel & Light	362.17
New Equipment	164.50
Building Repairs	35.45
Telephone	375.83
Printing	29.70
Miscellaneous	7.86
	1,295.60

Dutch Elm Disease

Labor	209.35
Removing Trees	690.00
	899.35

Moth Eradication

Labor	384.35
Auto Hire	15.65
	400.00

Tree Warden				
Hurricane Cleanup		129.16		
Removing Trees		45.00		
Labor		25.77		199.93

Planting Trees—Labor			49.52	
Forest Warden—Salary			50.00	
Forest Fires				
Fighting Fires			281.25	
Sealer of Weights & Measures				
Salary		50.00		
Expenses		15.00		65.00

Building Inspectors—Salary			300.00	
Building Inspectors Expenses				
Postage, Stationery & Travel			150.00	

Total Protection of Persons & Property			\$4,482.12	
Health & Sanitation				
Dental Clinic				
Salary		400.00		
Supplies		23.85		423.85

Animal Inspector—Salary			50.00	
Meat Inspector—Salary			50.00	
Town Dump Maintenance				
Labor		17.10		
Hired Equipment		126.00		143.10

Total Health & Sanitation			\$666.95	

Highways

Highways, Bridges & Railings

Labor	1,657.07
Material	984.93
Traffic Speed Signs	103.65
	2,745.65

Snow & Ice Removal

Labor	1,220.02
Hired Equipment	536.25
Material	433.23
Supplies	254.72
	2,444.22

Street Lighting	1,002.98
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Town Garage Maintenance

Heat & Light	47.70
Phone	95.80
	143.50

Road Machinery Maintenance

Labor	159.81
Gas, Oil, Tires & Tubes	1,202.45
Repairs, Parts etc.	637.64
	1,999.90

Chapter 81

Labor	3,870.14
Town Equipment	1,880.55
Hired Equipment	895.64
Material	5,228.97
	11,875.30

Chapter 90—Maintenance

Labor	1,197.56
Town Equipment	819.15
Material	2,482.70
	4,499.41

Chapter 90—Construction

Labor	2,653.40
Town Equipment	949.33
Hired Equipment	3,473.60
Material	2,923.40
	<hr/>
Total Highways	\$34,710.69

Charities & Veterans' Benefits

Welfare District	300.00
Public Welfare	1,795.73
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Disability Assistance	
Town Appropriation	2,788.49
Federal Grant	740.71
	<hr/>

Old Age Assistance

Town Appropriation	15,000.00
Federal Grant	8,903.90
	<hr/>

Aid to Dependent Children

Town Appropriation	1,200.00
Federal Grant	1,066.90
	<hr/>

Veterans' Benefits

Cash Grants	112.50
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Total Charities & Veterans Benefits	\$31,908.23

Schools

School Committee—Expenses

Clerk	195.96
Dues	20.00

Travel & Meetings	16.25	
Miscellaneous	6.80	239.01
<hr/>		
Superintendent—Salary		5,149.92
Superintendent—Expenses		
Clerk	588.78	
Telephone	166.20	
Travel & Conference Expenses	167.50	
Printing, Postage & Stationery	46.91	
Attendance Officer	25.00	
Census	75.00	
Rent of Office	180.00	1,249.39
<hr/>		
Teachers' Salaries		25,990.80
Supervisors' Salaries		1,655.00
Textbooks		783.68
Supplies		1,287.96
Tuition		29,528.28
Transportation		16,824.29
Janitor Salary		3,300.13
Fuel		2,200.00
Repairs & Replacements		
New Desks	400.00	
Repairs	796.22	1,196.22
<hr/>		
Miscellaneous Operating		
Telephone	99.97	
Janitor Supplies	675.13	775.10
<hr/>		
New Equipment		
Time Clock—Bell System	155.99	
New Desks	602.60	
Miscellaneous	41.41	800.00
<hr/>		

Miscellaneous Auxiliary

Printing	88.96
Misc.	31.06
<hr/>	

Health

Physician	454.00
Nurse	470.00
Hearing Aid Equipment	345.00
Supplies	27.56
<hr/>	

Contingency Fund

Supervisor's Salary	20.00
Textbooks	74.66
Supplies	9.60
Transportation	2,643.64
Fuel	142.77
Repairs	15.00
New Equipment—Time Clock	104.01
	<hr/>

U.S. Treasury—Public Law 874

Maps	142.68
Lunch Room Tables 50% of	
Total Cost	416.26
Superintendent's Meetings	35.58
Encyclopedias & Dictionaries	375.24
<hr/>	

Hot Lunch

Labor	2,643.00
Food, Supplies & Gas	4,977.57
New Equipment	461.50
<hr/>	

School Expansion Committee			
Clerk	72.97		
Printing, Postage & Stationery	92.44		
Travel Expense	30.60		196.01
			<hr/>
Regional School Board			
Expenses of Speaker		5.00	
			<hr/>
Total Schools			\$104,658.88
			<hr/>
Library			
Labor	903.50		
Books	688.44		
Periodicals	162.10		
New Equipment	134.00		
Incidentals	25.43		1,913.47
			<hr/>
Enterprises & Cemeteries			
Cemetery Maintenance			
Labor	269.25		
Lawn Mower Repairs	31.80		
Supplies	8.82		309.87
			<hr/>
Soldier & Sailor Graves			
Labor	167.70		
Supplies	3.85		171.55
			<hr/>
Total Enterprises & Cemeteries			\$481.42
			<hr/>
Recreation & Unclassified			
Town Common			
Labor	84.50		
Flowers	8.50		
Supplies	7.00		100.00
			<hr/>

Memorial Day

Flags	15.00
Band & Transportation	80.00
Flowers & Wreaths	105.00
	200.00

Recreation Field

Improvements	416.44
Sporting Goods	67.30
Labor	16.25
	499.99

Recreation Director—Salary	500.00
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Recreation Swimming Site

Hired Equipment	278.00
Material	122.00
	400.00

Aid to Agriculture	75.00
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Hampden County Retirement System	834.41
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Pinewood Road

Settlement of Land Taking	300.00
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Veteran Service Center	670.20
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County

Hospital Assessment	91.74
Tax	2,181.14
	2,272.88

State

Audits	665.55
Parks & Reservations	239.38
	904.93

Total Recreation & Unclassified	\$6,757.41
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Interest & Debt Account		
Interest on Fire Truck Loan	10.00	
Maturing Debt—Fire Truck	1,000.00	
		<hr/>
Total Interest & Debt Account		\$1,010.00
Agency, Investment & Refund Accounts		
Agency		
Federal Withholding Taxes	6,650.73	
County Retirement Contributions	892.56	
Dog Licenses	723.40	8,266.69
		<hr/>
Investments		
Stabilization Fund	10,000.00	
Cemetery Trust Fund	200.00	
Post War Rehabilitation	224.45	10,424.45
		<hr/>
Refunds		
Motor Vehicle Excise	251.25	
Real Estate Taxes	311.55	562.80
		<hr/>
Total Agency, Investment & Refund Accounts		\$19,253.94
		<hr/>
Total Expenditures for 1954		\$218,697.98

SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1954

Account	Appropriation	Obtained From Other Sources	Total Available Funds	Expended	Closed To Surplus Revenue	Carried Forward	Requested Appropriation for 1955
Moderator	\$ 35.00		\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00			\$ 35.00
Selectmen—Salaried	700.00	700.00	700.00	700.00			700.00
Selectmen—Expenses	500.00	500.00	471.45	471.45	28.55		500.00
Auditor	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00			15.00
Accounting—Salary	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00			600.00
Accounting—Expenses	100.00	100.00	99.57	99.57	.43		100.00
Treasurer—Salary	550.00	550.00	550.00	550.00			550.00
Treasurer—Expenses	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00			160.00
Collector—Salary	550.00	550.00	550.00	550.00			550.00
Collector—Expenses	425.00	425.00	415.65	415.65	9.35		425.00
Assessors—Salaries	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00			500.00
Assessors—Expenses	850.00	850.00	780.58	780.58	69.02		1,000.00
Certifying Notes & Other Finance	50.00		50.00	50.00			38.30
Law and Claims	400.00	B \$250.00	650.00	494.75			155.25
Town Clerk—Salary	100.00		100.00	100.00			100.00
Town Clerk—Expenses	175.00		175.00	175.00			225.00
Elections & Registrations	500.00	X 150.00	650.00	650.00			400.00
Town House Maintenance	2,500.00	X 75.00	2,575.00	2,557.96	17.04		2,500.00
Town House Water Pump		B 182.94	182.94	48.95	133.99		
Town Hall Maintenance	50.00		50.00	50.00	10.70		100.00
Insurance	3,005.00	X 110.00	3,115.00	3,113.51	1.49		3,450.00

Account	Appropriation	Obtained From Other Sources	Total Available Funds	Expended	Closed To Surplus Revenue	Carried Forward	Requested Appropriation for 1955
Advisory Board	150.00		150.00	65.65	84.35		150.00
Planning Board	175.00	B 75.00	250.00	66.00		184.00	175.00
Town Reports	683.00		683.00	683.00			
Police	1,000.00		1,000.00	791.47		208.53	800.00
Fire Dept. Maintenance	1,500.00		1,500.00	1,295.60		204.40	1,500.00
Water Holes	B	80.47	80.47	80.47			
Fire House Repairs	B	179.00	179.00		179.00		
Fire House Wiring	B	138.00	138.00		138.00		
Dutch Elm Disease	600.00	G 300.00	900.00	899.35	.65		700.00
Moth Eradication	400.00		400.00	400.00			400.00
Tree Warden	200.00		200.00	199.93	.07		200.00
Planting Trees	50.00		50.00	49.52	.48		50.00
Forest Warden	50.00		50.00	50.00			50.00
Forest Fires	400.00		400.00	281.25		118.75	300.00
Forest Fire Equipment	200.00		200.00			200.00	
Sealer of Weights & Measures	65.00		65.00	65.00			70.00
Building Inspectors—Salaries	300.00		300.00	300.00			300.00
Building Inspectors—Expenses	150.00		150.00	150.00			150.00
Health	B 1,600.00		1,000.00			1,000.00	
Dental Clinic	425.50		425.00	423.85	1.15		425.00
Animal Inspector	60.00		60.00	59.00	10.00		60.00
Town Dump Maintenance	150.00	B 182.09	332.09	143.10		188.99	100.00
Meat Inspector	50.00			50.00			50.00
Highways, Bridges & Railings	4,000.00			4,000.00	2,745.65	1,254.35	2,500.00

Account	Appropriation	Obtained From Other Sources	Total Available Funds	Expended	Closed To Surplus Revenue	Carried Forward	Requested Appropriation for 1955
Snow & Ice Removal	1,500.00	X 1,000.00	2,500.00	2,444.22	55.78		2,000.00
Street Lighting	1,038.00		1,038.00	1,002.98	35.02		1,038.00
Town Garage Maintenance	150.00		150.00	143.50	6.50		200.00
Road Machinery Maintenance	M 1,500.00						2,500.00
Chapter 81	2,550.00	X 500.00	2,000.00	1,999.90	.10		2,700.00
Chapter 90 Maintenance	1,500.00	E 9,350.00	11,850.00	11,875.30	24.70		2,000.00
Chapter 90 Construction	2,500.00	E 3,000.00	4,500.00	4,499.41	.59		2,500.00
Public Welfare District	300.00	E 7,500.00	10,000.00	9,999.73	.27		2,500.00
Public Welfare	2,300.00	B 231.72	300.00	300.00			400.00
Welfare Disability Assistance—Town	2,800.00		2,531.72	1,735.73	735.99		2,300.00
Welfare Disability Assistance—Federal	B 757.84						
Old Age Assistance—Town	F 840.00		1,597.84	740.71	857.13		15,000.00
Old Age Assistance—Federal	B 773.43		15,000.00	15,000.00			
Aid to Dependent Children—Town	F 9,091.11		9,864.54	8,903.90	960.64		
Aid to Dependent Children—Federal							
Veteran's Benefits	B 208.87						176.97
	F 1,035.00		1,243.87	1,066.90			1,161.56
	B 1,274.06		1,274.06	112.50			

Account	Appropriation	Obtained From Other Sources	Total Available Funds	Expended	Closed To Surplus Revenue	Carried Forward	Requested Appropriation for 1955
School—Committee Expenses	475.00		475.00	239.01	235.99		350.00
School—Superintendent—Salary	5,480.00		5,480.00	5,149.92	330.08		5,800.00
School—Superintendent—Expenses	1,350.00		1,350.00	1,249.39	100.61		1,350.00
School—Teacher Salaries	26,260.00		26,260.00	25,950.80	269.20		29,640.00
School—Supervisors Salaries	1,655.00		1,655.00	1,655.00			1,980.00
School—Textbooks	800.00		800.00	783.68	16.32		800.00
School—Supplies	1,300.00		1,300.00	1,287.96	12.04		1,300.00
School—Tuition	33,225.00	C 2,000.00	31,225.00	29,528.28	1,696.72		35,100.00
School—Transportation	13,825.00	X 1,000.00	16,825.00	16,824.29	.71		22,793.00
	D 2,000.00						
School—Janitor Salary	3,350.00		3,350.00	3,300.13	49.87		3,450.00
School—Fuel	2,200.00		2,200.00	2,200.00			2,100.00
School—Repair & Replacements	1,290.00		1,290.00	1,196.22	3.78		1,000.00
School—Miscellaneous							
Operating	550.00		950.00	775.10	174.90		750.00
School Equipment	800.00		800.00	800.00			600.00
School—Miscellaneous Auxiliary	125.00		125.00	120.02	4.98		125.00
School—Health	1,560.00		1,560.00	1,296.56	263.44		1,060.00
School—Contingency Fund	3,700.00		3,700.00	3,009.68	690.32		2,000.00
U.S. Treasury Public Law 874		F 969.76		969.76			

Account	Appropriation	Obtained From Other Sources	Total Available Funds	Expended	Closed To Surplus Revenue	Carried Forward	Requested Appropriation for 1955
School Lunch		\$ 8,354.91 B 876.21 B 4,094.82	9,231.12 8,082.07			1,149.05	
School Expansion Committee	50.00			196.01 5.00		3,898.81 45.00	
Regional School Committee	1,400.00	L 514.63 B 2.82	1,931.91	1,913.47			1,500.00
Library		H 14.46	500.00	399.87	190.13	500.00	
Cemeteries Maintenance Cemetery Funds Income	500.00	H 281.20 B 381.08	662.28		662.28		
Soldiers and Sailors Graves	175.00		175.00	171.55	3.45		175.00
Town Common	100.00		100.00	100.00			100.00
Memorial Day	200.00		200.00	200.00			200.00
Recreation Field	500.00		500.00	499.99	.01		500.00
Recreation Director	500.00		500.00	500.00			500.00
Recreation Swimming Site	400.00		400.00	400.00			500.00
Aid To Agriculture	75.00		75.00	75.00			75.00
Civil Defense		B 90.78	90.78		90.78		
Hampden County Retirement System	834.41			834.41			1,108.47
Eminent Domain	B 2,000.00		2,000.00		A 2,000.00		
Pinewood Road Stabilization Fund	B 300.00		300.00	300.00			10,000.00
	E10,000.00		10,000.00	10,000.00			10,000.00

Account	Appropriation	Obtained From Other Sources	Total Available Funds	Expended	Surplus Revenue	Closed To	Carried Forward	Requested Appropriation for 1955
Reserve Fund	1,000.00	0	2,500.00	3,500.00	2,845.00	655.00		2,500.00
Interest on Fire Truck Loan		X	10.00	10.00	10.00			
Maturing Debt—Fire Truck	1,000.00			1,000.00				
Total Appropriations	\$158,200.41							
Total Other Sources			\$71,175.29					
Total Available Funds				\$229,375.61				
Total Expended					\$208,441.03			
Total Closed to Surplus						\$7,978.93		
Total Carried Forward							\$13,855.65	

Key to Symbols:

Elections & Registrations	\$150.00	A—see article 21 of 1954 Warrant
Town House Maintenance	75.00	B—balance forward from 1953
Insurance	110.00	C—transfer to another account within
Snow & Ice Removal	1,000.00	department

Analysis of Reserve Fund Transfers:

Road Machinery Maintenance	500.00	D—transfer from an account within department
School Transportation	1,000.00	E—transfer from Excess and Deficiency
Interest on Debt	10.00	F—Aid from Federal Government
	<hr/>	G—Aid from State or County
		H—interest from invested funds
		I—dog licenses refund
		M—transfer from Machinery Fund
		O—transfer from Overlay Reserve
		S—counter receipts and government aid
		X—transfer from Reserve Fund

BALANCE SHEET—December 31, 1954

General Accounts			
Assets		Liabilities	
Cash			
Taxes—Outstanding		Highway Machinery Fund	
1953 Real Estate	\$463.06	Sale of Real Estate Revenue	
1954 Pell	2.00	State Assessments—Credits	
1954 Personal Property	510.49	County Tax	\$112.21
1954 Real Estate	9,517.71	State Parks & Reservations	.95
1954 Motor Vehicle Excise	2,133.84	County Hospital	101.20
Tax Possessions	69.12	Veteran's Serv. Center	42.50
Department Accounts Receivable		Agency Collections	
Public Welfare	146.16	Federal Withholding Taxes	779.90
Aid to Dependent		County Retirement Contr.	135.27
Children	220.40		
Town House Rents	92.05	Overlays & Overlay Reserve	2,871.10
		1954 Overlay	
Highway Revenue Receivable		1953 Overlay	463.06
		Overlay Reserve	5,791.68
			9,125.84

State:						
Chapter 81	1,570.16		Revenue Reserves	2,133.84		
Chapter 90 Cons.	5,000.00	6,570.16	Motor Vehicle Excise	60.12		
			Tax Title	458.61		
			Departmental			
			Highway	10,501.16	13,222.73	
County:						
Chapter 90 Cons.	2,500.00		Balances Carried Forward			
Chapter 90 Maint.	1,500.00	4,000.00	(see appropriation summary	13,855.65		
			for detail)			
			Surplus Revenue	111,573.17		
Total Assets		<u>\$155,375.72</u>	Total Liabilities & Surplus	<u>\$155,375.72</u>		
			Trust and Investment Funds			
Cash, Securities & Investments	\$40,334.63		Post War Rehabilitation Fund	17,377.50		
			Stabilization Fund	10,083.33		
			Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund	7,716.14		
			Burnstead General Care Fund	2,106.68		
			Day Library Fund	516.34		
			Holt Library Fund	500.00		
			Carew Library Fund	2,034.64		
		<u>\$40,334.63</u>				
			Submitted by	<u>ROLLYN H. HATCH</u>		
				Town Bookkeeper		

Treasurer's Report --- Trust Funds

Fund	Bal. 1-1-54	Int. 1954	Withdrawn 1954	Bal. 12-31-54
Day, Library	\$512.02	\$14.82	\$10.50	\$516.34
Holt, Library	500.00	14.46	14.46	500.00
Bumstead, Cem.	2,106.68	60.98	60.98	2,106.68
Carew, Library	2,000.00	34.64		2,034.64
Helen E. Stacy	150.00	4.31	4.31	150.00
Burleigh, Holt	200.00	5.75	5.75	200.00
Anna S. Leonard	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
John R. Stoddard	50.00	1.43	1.43	50.00
Twitchell, Burt	200.00	5.75	5.75	200.00
Marcus Beebe	150.00	4.31	4.31	150.00
Lydia Morris	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Orrin Goodwill	200.00	5.75	5.75	200.00
John Q. Adams	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Thompson Chaffee	300.00	8.63	8.63	300.00
William Johnson	125.00	3.59	3.59	125.00
Calvin Stebbins	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Milo Chapin	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Elsie M. Hills	1,000.00	28.75	28.75	1,000.00
S. Stacy Hunt	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Henry C. Dickinson	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Jackson Dickey	40.00	1.15	1.15	40.00
George P. West	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Holma, Beebe	200.00	5.75	5.75	200.00
Flora Carlton	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Wm. J. Sessions	50.00	1.43	1.43	50.00
John Kenworthy	200.00	5.75	5.75	200.00
Mortimer Pease	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00

Fund	Bal. 1-1-54	Int. 1954	Withdrawn 1954	Bal. 12-31-54
John S. Beebe	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Davis, Weeks, Pease	200.00	5.75	5.75	200.00
David Stebbins	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
John F. Whitaker	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Orcutt	50.00	1.43	1.43	50.00
Beebe, Stanton	150.00	4.31	4.31	150.00
Charles Whitaker	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Bennett, Kenworthy	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Rose Corey	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Joseph Stimson	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
N&E Langdon	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Jennie Shaw	50.00	1.43	1.43	50.00
Davis, Pease	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
George Pond	50.00	1.43	1.43	50.00
Martha Edson	50.00	1.43	1.43	50.00
John Bartlett	200.00	5.75	5.75	200.00
C. I. Burleigh	50.00	1.43	1.43	50.00
D. L. & D. R. McCray	150.00	4.31	4.31	150.00
Henry M. Davis	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
J. L. Gottsche	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Wm. & Fred Leach	200.00	5.75	5.75	200.00
Alvin W. Bennett	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Charlotte & Carl Merrill	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Medicke	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Irving Newell	300.00	8.62	8.62	300.00
Anton Waska	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Marcus Chaffee	50.00	1.43	1.43	50.00
Agnes Viggers	50.00	1.43	1.43	50.00
A. H. Newman	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Lillie Bradway	101.14	2.89	2.89	101.14
Harry Goodwill	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Gutherlet	100.00	2.87	2.87	100.00
Byron Stebbins	200.00	5.75	5.75	200.00
Jane Stebbins	200.00	4.37	4.37	200.00

Balance January 1, 1954	\$10,634.84
"Jane" Stebbins Fund	200.00
Grace Carew Library	2,000.00
Interest in 1954	345.12
	—————
	\$13,179.96
Interest Withdrawn in 1954	306.16
	—————
Balance December 31, 1954	\$12,873.80

Respectfully submitted,

GRACE L. KIBBE

Treasurer

Treasurer's Report

Balance January 1, 1954	\$108,488.24
Receipts for 1954	240,230.50
<hr/>	
	\$350,718.74
Expenditures for 1954	\$219,059.41
Balance December 31, 1954	131,659.33
<hr/>	
	\$350,718.74
Post War Rehabilitation Fund:	
Springfield Institution for Savings	\$7,204.25
Palmer Savings	10,173.25
	\$17,377.50
<hr/>	
Stabilization Fund:	
Federal Payroll Taxes Withheld	6,661.29
County Retirement Deducted	864.84

AUDITOR'S REPORT

I have examined the books of the Treasurer and Bookkeeper of the Town of Hampden, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, have found them to be correct.

BERNICE A. BAKER

January 21, 1955

Auditor

Town Clerk's Report

Dogs Licensed in 1954:

160 Male @ \$ 2.	320.00
36 Female @ 5.	180.00
91 Spayed @ 2.	182.00
5 Kennel @ 10.	50.00
1 Kennel @ 50.	50.00
<hr style="border-top: 1px solid black;"/>	
293	782.00

Paid County Treasurer June 1, 1954 283.80

Paid County Treasurer

December 1, 1954 439.60

Clerk's Fees @ 20¢ each 58.60

\$782.00

Births:

17 Female	28
11 Male	28

Deaths:

6 Male	14
8 Female	14

Marriages:

Documents Recorded 20

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Respectfully submitted,

GRACE L. KIBBE

Town Clerk

RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT

1954

The Recreation Committee again expresses its appreciation for the help and cooperation received from the people of Hampden in all the projects carried on for and in Hampden Memorial Park.

Under the guidance and direction of the Recreation Field Director "Chuck Patullo", the field activities were carried on. Attendance throughout the season by both participants and spectators was good.

Hampden had three baseball teams, the Midgets, Aces and Redbirds (approx. 45 boys between the ages of 10 and 12) entered in the Daily News sandlot league. They played 24 league games at Hampden Memorial Park and neighboring town fields. In a swimming program attended by approximately 65 children, Red Cross certificates were given to 27 beginners, 15 intermediate, and 10 swimmers.

Many of the town organizations used the park during the summer season.

Major work at the field consisted on enlarging and sanding the pond and beach, constructing a cement outlet dam, forming a settling basin at the pond inlet, and changing the water flow through the pond to give a more uniform circulation of same. The baseball dia-

mond base lines were rototilled, new equipment purchased for baseball and a volleyball court was built. A large slippery slide donated by the Lions Club was installed and added greatly to the childrens enjoyment of the field.

JASON DOUBLEDAY

ATHOS ROSSI

JAMES INGRAHAM

JOHN WHITNEY

RALPH MELANDER

CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

The Cemetery Commission reports that the two cemeteries were mowed four times, and the perpetual care lots were mowed as needed.

Sunken graves and low places were filled and seeded.

The two power mowers purchased a year ago certainly made a big difference in the time needed to go over the two cemeteries.

This coming year we hope to do something about the fences around both cemeteries.

Respectfully submitted,

HOMER L. FULLER

NEIL S. KIBBE

HERBERT L. BURNHAM

Cemetery Commissioners

REPORT OF TREE WARDEN

The \$200 appropriated for my department had to be expended during two emergencies as well as routine work. On August 31 Hurricane "Carol" took more than half or \$107.71 and just ten days later "Edna" took \$21.45 more. This money was expended merely to open the roads for traffic. There still remains many trees to be taken care of either in the way of removal, tree surgery or repair.

In the early Spring with the assistance of the members of the Highway Department, a number of rock maples were transplanted and set out for shade trees along the various roads.

Respectfully submitted,

AUSTIN K. HARRIS

REPORT OF DUTCH ELM COMMITTEE

In making my report on Dutch Elm Disease for 1954, I have completed the following:

In March I had to burn five large elm trees that had been cut in January.

In July I sent samples from seven elm trees to the Shade Trees Laboratories, University of Massachusetts. Six trees had Dutch Elm Disease and were cut and burned in September.

In November I sent samples from three more trees to the University of Massachusetts. All three were diseased, and were cut and burned.

In December I have taken samples from five elms and sent to the University, where they are being tested for Dutch Elm Disease. If these trees are diseased, they cannot be cut until after Town Meeting, as the funds are all used up.

In 1954 nine elm trees were found diseased, and were cut and burned.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES H. LEMON

Moth Superintendent

BUILDING COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

For the year ending December 31, 1954 there were two hundred and three permits granted. These were as follows:

New Houses	38
Convert Barn to House	1
Shrine Chapel	1
Garages	2
Additions to Houses	11
Alterations to House	1
Poultry Houses	2
Sheds	7
Tobacco Shed	1
Post Office	1
Store	1
Temporary House	1
Bus Garage	1
Addition to Barn	1
Demolish Garage	1
Demolish Shed	1
Demolish Barn	1
Plumbing	49
Electrical	82

Respectfully submitted,

GORDON J. E. WILLCUTT

Building Commissioner

REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD

Annual Report for the year ending December 31, 1954

The Planning Board has held eleven regular meetings, four special meetings and one public hearing during the past year. We have met with the Selectmen and the Board of Appeals on occasions.

Two extensions of existing sub-divisions have been approved, and one new sub-division was given conditional approval pending road improvements. Numerous plans of property division were considered and stamped as not requiring Planning Board approval under the Sub-division Control Laws.

A good deal of effort has been spent in the organization of records of past years, and work is under way toward the revision and clarification of existing Zoning By-Laws and Sub-division Regulations.

The resignation of our clerk early in the year caused us to operate at considerable disadvantage for some months, but Mrs. John Schmuck has recently agreed very kindly to undertake these duties. We are deeply grateful.

We should like to remind everyone that we welcome all written suggestions from fellow citizens, particularly concerning amendments or revisions of existing

Zoning By-Laws. Lacking expensive professional assistance, we must call on all concerned to offer what they can to help us.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN R. WALLACE, Chairman

WILLIAM PATULLO

DORVAL VIGER

MARION GERRISH

GORDON WILLCUTT

**SEALER OF
WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**

Devices sealed:

	Adj.	Con.	Sealed
Scales over 10,000 lbs.			1
Scales 100 to 5,000 lbs.			2
Scales under 100 lbs.	7	1	11
Avoirdupois Weights			7
Liquid Measures 1 gal. or under	1		9
Gasoline Meters 1" or less	5		11
Kerosene Pumps	1		3
Tank truck heating oil meters			2*

*The two tank fuel oil meters were tested and sealed in the Springfield Weights and Measures Laboratory, as it is impractical for a town the size of Hampden to purchase expensive equipment adequate to accomplish this operation.

The fees collected were \$25.85.

Trial reweighings of prepackaged merchandise were made on a few commodities; that is, potatoes, both native and Long Island, Creamery butter and Frozen Foods. A total of 45 inspections were made on these items. On any packages where the weight did not conform to stated weight, the packages were ordered opened and repackaged to the proper amount.

A considerable amount of time was spent this year reconditioning, painting and stenciling all working equipment, and a cabinet has been built in the Town Garage to hold this equipment.

Respectfully submitted,

ERROL M. BEEBE

Sealer

REPORT OF ANIMAL INSPECTOR

I have inspected the barns in which are kept the following animals:

712 Head of cattle
23 Horses
5 Goats
36 Swine
1 Donkey
1 Sheep

It has been necessary for me to quarantine five dogs.

Respectfully submitted,

PERCY A. FULLER

Animal Inspector

REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF SLAUGHTERING

During the year of 1954 I inspected:

10 hogs
2 beef
1 sheep

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE A. PATRIC

Inspector of Slaughtering

REPORT OF FOREST FIRE WARDEN

The Forest Warden reports:

21 grass and brush fires

1 dump fire

There were 637 permits to burn issued for the year and two permits for dynamiting.

The Forest Fire Warden emphasizes it is a MUST that you have a permit for all open air fires.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM R. ALLEN

Forest Fire Warden

REPORT OF FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Hampden Volunteer Fire Department was called out twenty-three times during the year ending 1954. Twenty-one of these calls were for brush or grass fires, one dump, one oil burner and one car.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM R. ALLEN

Fire Chief

1930 - 1955

Hampden Volunteer Fire Department

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

On November 12, 1930 a meeting was held at the old Town Hall for the purpose of organizing a volunteer fire department. At that meeting John Swenson was elected as Chief, Fred Perkins as Captain, and Charles Mediche as Clerk. The first piece of equipment was an old Cadillac that was rebuilt by the members at the old blacksmith shop, now the site of a house occupied by Mrs. John Swenson.

Present equipment consists of one Ford 180 gallon pumper and one Dodge 500 gallon pumper. Within the last three years the Department has purchased from its own funds one 500 gallon Dodge tank truck and an E. & J. Resuscitator and Respirator.

From its birth 25 years ago to today, the Hampden Volunteer Fire Department has advanced so that now we have one of the most modern and up to date fire departments of its size in the State.

GYPSY MOTH REPORT

Having completed the search for Gypsy Moth Clusters, I wish to report that we found and destroyed about 250 clusters.

There was a very light infestation over the whole town.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES H. LEMON

Moth Superintendent

1954 Report of the Trustees for County Aid to Agriculture

Hampden, Mass.

The Trustees For County Aid To Agriculture consists of a board of nine unpaid members appointed by the County Commissioners. These Trustees are empowered by law to maintain one or more Agents or instructors in Agriculture, Home-making and Country life, who shall meet the residents of the County, individually and in groups, for the purpose of teaching and demonstrating better practice in Agriculture and Home-making, the benefits to be derived from cooperative efforts, better methods of marketing farm products, and the organization of communities to build up country life. The statutes further allow the Trustees to receive on behalf of the County, money appropriated by any town or by the Federal Government . . . or by the General Court for any County . . . and may enter into any agreements. . . . relative to Extension Work with adults and with boys and girls in Agriculture, Home-making and Country life. (G. L. Ch. 128)

In accordance with the above, the Hampden County Trustees during the past year maintained Agents who have been of service to all residents of the County. These Agents have conducted meetings and demonstrations and made individual farm and home visits in connection with many phases of Agricultural and Home-making

practices in all cities, towns and communities in Hampden County. Some of these practices included Better Farm Management, Better Livestock, Insect and Disease Control, Marketing, Soil Testing, Food Preservation, Financial Facts on Buying, Building and Improving the Home, Canning, Gardening, Crafts and Community Organization with Farmers, Homemakers, and Boys and Girls 4-H Club Work both rural and urban. Their counsel and assistance has been available to all citizens of the County without charge.

Our Agents have made contacts in every city, town and community in Hampden County during the past year in one or more projects and have been ably assisted by local committees or individual voluntary leaders as the occasion required.

In Hampden the following citizens have been of great assistance as voluntary leaders in such projects as were conducted during the year: Mrs. Edward H. Dayton, Mrs. E. E. Dickinson, Mrs. Warren Dickinson, Mrs. Richard L. Fuller, Earle H. Harris, Mrs. Earle H. Harris, Stanley Herring, Mrs. Stanley Herring, Mrs. David Joyee, Walter Ross, Mrs. Arlene Ross, Mrs. Donald Wilcox, Mrs. Robert Witkop, Mrs. Leslie F. Woods.

The above leaders incurred the following expenses, either for travel or for the purchase of material needed to carry on the various projects under their direction:—

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

1954 Appropriation	\$75.00
1953 Unexpended Balance	\$28.92
Total Available for 1954	\$103.92

Total Expenditure in 1954	\$70.22
1955 Balance Available	\$33.70
1955 Recommended Appropriation	\$75.00

NOTE: Any appropriation made to the Trustees For County Aid To Agriculture by the town is deposited with the County Treasurer and held to the credit of the Town for reimbursing local town leaders for their necessary expenses in conducting such work as may be assigned to them.

Respectfully submitted,

ALBERT H. FULLER

Trustees for County Aid to Agriculture

By ALBERT H. FULLER, Clerk

Library Trustees' Report

MRS. ELEANOR B. McCRAY	Term expires 1955
MRS. ELIZABETH Q. MORGAN	Term expires 1956
MISS GERTRUDE M. LYONS	Term expires 1957

Appropriation by the Town	\$1,400.00
Dog Fund from the Town	514.63

Expended

Wages	903.50
Books	688.44
Magazines	162.10
Incidentals	159.43

JOANNA (BURLEIGH) HOLT FUND

Interest available for use in 1955	14.46
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MORTON L. DAY FUND

Balance in Fund Jan. 4, 1955	\$512.02
Interest received	14.82
Withdrawal for Christian Herald subscriptions to shut-ins Jan. 4, 1955	10.50
Balance in Fund Jan. 4, 1955	\$516.34

GRACE (PEASE) CAREW FUND

Amount of bequest	\$2,000.00
Interest for 1954	34.64
Balance in Fund Jan. 4, 1955	\$2,034.64

Respectfully submitted,

GERTRUDE M. LYONS, Chairman

ELEANOR B. McCRAY

ELIZABETH Q. MORGAN

Library Trustees

Librarian's Report

Circulation of Books and Magazines	12,402
Total Attendance	10,287
Books Bought	280
Books Donated	185
Magazines Bought	45
Magazines Donated	179

Donors of Books: In memory of Charles S. Ballard, 2; Mrs. Maxfield, 6; C. Woods, 8; V. Ransom, 5; S. Pauly, 8; E. Peterson, 22; F. Letellier, 5; M. Fuller, 20; Prof. W. V. Sessions, 16; Mrs. A. Hayes, 2; H. Burnham, 20; R. & E. Woods, 1; L. Peterson, 8; K. Bump, 35; W. Reardon, 8; L. Connors, 1; Mrs. L. Metcalf, 3; J. Heredeen, 14; Alice (Brennan) Segar, 1.

Donors of Magazines: H. L. Foster, 70; Al. Woods, 49; F. Garfield, 5; G. Lyons, 5; J. Lyons, 20; M. Helberg, 1; Mrs. J. Morgan, 6; Teddy Viggers, 11; C. Therrien, 2; Mrs. C. Melville, 10; Hampden Garden Club, 2.

Circulation was divided as follows: Magazines, 2518; Adult fiction, 2404; Juvenile fiction, 5198; Adult non-fiction, 946; Juvenile non-fiction, 1336.

Registered Borrowers	469
From the School	265
Others	204
Books Reviewed by the School Children	526
State Reading Certificates issued:	
Small	121
Large	17

Money collected for fines and paid to the Town Treasurer \$1.20.

Our work with the children at the school continues to grow each year with the increasing enrollment. During the year 1954 we purchased 122 new children's books, all of which were specially bound to withstand hard usage.

During the year our library has received valuable additions to its Historical Hampden Collection.

Mrs. D. Lincoln McCray has given us 21 scrapbooks of Hampden items clipped from newspapers. There is a complete set of clippings since 1907 and a few go back to 1874. A large cabinet, with lock, has been ordered for these priceless books and upon its receipt this valuable historical data will be available for reference IN

THE LIBRARY ONLY.

Mrs. Mina (Sessions) Gibson of Lakewood, Ohio, and her brother Dr. William V. Sessions of Detroit, Mich., have given to the library valuable momentos of the Civil War days of their grandfather, Sgt. William R. Sessions. Mr. Sessions at one time owned what is now the Downs Farms on Wilbraham Road.

The children of the late Edward P. Lyons of Main Street have contributed, in his memory, a set of bound volumes of Hampden town reports going back to the year 1891.

Mrs. Harold D. Jones has given us valuable papers which belonged to her grandfather Beebe. They included data on dividing the town and a printed valuation list showing all property owners in Hampden in the year 1882.

The librarians attended the annual meeting of the Western Massachusetts Library Club at the War Memorial in Holyoke.

Book Week was fittingly observed in November. A moving picture on Old Sturbridge Village entitled "Dear Nancy" was shown to the pupils of the Consolidated School through the courtesy of John H. Breck & Co., of Springfield.

The library was attractively decorated for Christmas by the members of the Hampden Garden Club. We will receive the magazine entitled "Horticulture" for the coming year through the courtesy of this club.

During the Christmas holidays certain parts of the library were re-decorated which had not received any attention since the Town House was built nearly 23 years ago.

Respectfully submitted,

MIRIAM P. BRYANS

Librarian

ARLINE M. HOWLETT

DORRIT H. FINN

Assistant Librarians

Report of the School Committee

The School Committee has met regularly twice a month, on the second and fourth Wednesdays, during the year of 1954. There have been special meetings when the workload could not be handled at the regular sessions. Although all of our meetings are open to the public, there have been few visitors. With but one exception, those that came have had school problems. On this one occasion, the visitor came with friendly criticism and advice that was appreciated.

OUR CHILDREN:

Each year there are fewer classes with the recommended number of 30 pupils per class. At the close of 1954, we find that only the 7th and 8th grades of our school do not exceed this maximum number of children. The post-war increase in children has reached the 6th grade. The present 5th grade class has had at times over 40 pupils. The efficiency in teaching falls off in an ever-increasing curve as the number of pupils per class climbs through the thirties.

Through the fine work of our staff, the children have achieved better work habits and have attained higher ratings when compared by standard achievement tests to national standards.

In the 1st grade, where good school habits have not yet been acquired, the number of pupils per class should be less than the other grades. According to our pre-school census, there will be at least 36 children in our

first grade class of September 1955. School Board members are responsible for the education of our children. Some near-future board will have to make a momentous decision because of the size of the incoming first grade classes.

The departmentalizing of our 7th and 8th grades by our superintendent of schools has been a tremendous boost both for the junior high and the elementary grades. The benefits gained in morale, work habits, and academic achievement are too numerous to list here, but this is an example of getting the most out of facilities at hand through good administration.

In last year's annual report the School Committee was pleased to announce that its 9th grade pupils would go to Forest Park Junior High School in September of 1954. Prior to that date, we were informed by Dr. Sanders, Superintendent of the Springfield schools, that the agreement was not possible. In view of the tuition rate for this grade—\$352.00 per pupil—we hope, as do many parents, arrangements will be made to take our 9th grade pupils in Forest Park Junior High School.

The School Committee has taken a firm stand on junior and senior high school absenteeism. This is necessary because of educational reasons as well as injustice to the taxpayers who are paying \$416.00 per student for high school tuition rates. In the correction of absenteeism, closer cooperation by parents would be helpful.

OUR STAFF:

Mrs. Eleanor McCray, our principal, applied again this year for a leave-of-absence for reasons of health. After careful consideration by the committee, Mrs. McCray's request was granted. We trust she will be able

to return to her duties in September of 1955 with the best of health.

Mrs. Helen Flynn Enslin was again elected Acting Principal.

Mrs. Dorothy Churchill was elected to teach the 5th grade and on November 9th she resigned. It was with regret that we accepted her resignation. Mrs. Catherine Garvey has been elected to teach this class for the balance of the year.

As our teachers acquire greater seniority with us they increase the excellence of their work. We are most fortunate not to be suffering from a rapid turnover of teachers. Our salary plan is not as high as the plans of the other two towns that made up the old School Union #15, but we are making adjustments within our means.

Because of crowded classrooms, some children were failing to achieve desired levels of reading and arithmetic in the lower grades. To remedy this situation, a part-time teacher was hired for the school year to help the children having the greatest difficulty. Our selection for this position was Mrs. Vivian Cotton, who taught the 8th grade for the 1953-54 school year. Teaching space is the largest obstacle in this operation. We are allowed the use of the library for a limited time each day; and it is also necessary to usurp the teachers' rest room for this purpose.

The School Committee has warm praise for our superintendent of schools and the members of our staff—our teachers, supervisors, health administrators, hot lunch workers and our custodian.

OUR SCHOOL PLANT:

To the best of our knowledge our school plant is in good physical condition. It is overcrowded and any decision to correct this rests with the voters. One of our weak spots is the temporary type and unsanitary condition of our lunchroom tables. These tables consist of painted pine boards with cracks between the boards in which small particles of food and other matter lodge and cannot be thoroughly cleaned without disassembling. Bids for covering these tables with linoleum and retaining strips have been high enough to doubt the wisdom of such a project. Fortunately last year our new superintendent applied for Federal Aid under Public Law 874. This reimbursement had not been obtained by Hampden before and is a grant for all children whose parents are employed by the Federal Government. Our share amounted to approximately \$1,000. As this money cannot revert to the Excess and Deficiency Fund, but must be spent by the School Committee on improving the school plant or on the education of our children, we are applying part of it toward the purchase of new permanent type lunchroom tables. These will fold up against the wall and will allow greater utilization of the lunchroom area, both by the school and the other groups that have occasion to use the cafeteria facilities. These tables could be moved to a new school cafeteria.

OUR SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION:

A new contract was signed this year with Palmer Motor Coach Services, Inc. It provides for a fifth bus to correct the overcrowding of past years and to cover our needs through the 1956-57 school year. Our past experiences guided us in hiring a specialized transportation organization.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

This last year the Hampden Consolidated School was represented by a boys' varsity basketball team. They played public and private schools. This proved to be an enriching experience for those that participated.

An attempt was made this year to provide instruction to pupils on musical instruments as occurs in surrounding towns. The successful plan of a neighboring town, where one pupil out of each six is participating, was offered. We needed a minimum of 25 pupils. Parents of only 22 pupils signed for this program. We will check again for interest.

YOUR SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

This year for the first time there have been five members on the school committee rather than three. We have worked as a team, respecting each others opinions and keeping in mind our responsibilities to the children and the taxpayers. We have operated within our budget with two minor exceptions listed below, and through the use of a small contingency fund have turned in to the Excess and Deficiency Fund only \$3586.31 compared to a past three year average of \$5,358.00.

Exception

1. Transferred \$2,000 from Tuition Account to Transportation Account with approval of Advisory Board.

2. Received from Advisory Board Reserve Fund to Transportation Account \$1,000 to replace the sum returned to E & D Fund in settlement of the former bus contract.

Respectfully submitted,

LESTER PAULY, Chairman

DANIEL FLYNN

EDWIN LOMBARD

ELEANOR MACMULLEN

ELOISE WALLACE

ITEMIZED FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1954

Account	Aproportion	Transfers	Total Funds Available	Expended	Returned to Excess and Deficiency
GENERAL CONTROL:					
School Committee, Expenses	\$ 475.00		\$ 475.00	\$ 235.91	\$ 235.99
Superintendent's Salary	5,480.00		5,480.00	5,149.92	330.08
Expense of Superintendence	1,350.00		1,350.00	1,249.39	100.61
EXPENSES OF INSTRUCTION:					
Supervisors' Salaries	1,655.00		1,655.00	1,655.00	0.00
Teachers' Salaries	26,260.00		26,260.00	25,990.80	269.20
Textbooks	800.00		800.00	783.68	16.32
Supplies	1,300.00		1,300.00	1,287.96	12.04
EXPENSES OF OPERATION:					
Janitors' Salaries	3,350.00		3,350.00	3,300.13	49.87
Fuel and Light	2,200.00		2,200.00	2,200.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	950.00		950.00	775.10	174.90
MAINTENANCE:					
Repairs & Replacements	1,200.00		1,200.00	1,196.22	3.78
AUXILIARY AGENCIES:					
Health	1,560.00		1,560.00	1,296.56	263.44
Transportation	13,825.00		13,825.00	16,825.00	0.00

Account	Appropriation	Transfers	Total Funds Available	Expended	Returned to Excess and Deficiency
Tuition	\$3,225.00	2,000.00*	31,225.00	29,179.93	1,434.07
Miscellaneous	125.00		125.00	120.02	4.98
OUTLAY:					
New Equipment	800.00		800.00	800.00	0.00
CONTINGENCY:	3,700.00		3,700.00	3,008.97	691.03
TOTALS	\$8,255.00	1,000.00	\$9,255.00	\$5,628.69	3,586.31

* Transfer within the Budget, approved by
the Advisory Board

** From Reserve Fund

FEDERAL REDIMBURSEMENT,
PUBLIC LAW, 874:

Received	Expended	Balance
\$69.76	\$69.76	0.00

Net Expenditures as shown	\$96,638.45
From the Commonwealth:	
Superintendent's Salary	\$ 3,333.33
Chapter 71, Section 7A	
(transportation)	11,163.90
Chapter 643	14,897.81
State Wards, Tuition and	
(Transportation, 1954*)	692.76
Vocational Education	2,826.00
From other sources:	
Public Law 874	969.76
Sale of School Desks	
and Chairs	27.00

Total	\$33,910.56
Amount paid from local	
taxation for schools	\$62,727.89

*State Wards, Tuition and
Transportation, 1953, \$477.71.
(Not listed in the 1954 town report.)

1955 SCHOOL BUDGET

General Control:

School Committee Expense	\$ 350.00
Superintendent's Salary	
State's Share	3,333.33)
Town's Share	2,466.67)
Expense of Superintendence	5,800.00
	1,350.00

Expenses of Instruction:

Supervisors' Salaries	1,980.00
Teachers' Salaries	29,640.00
Textbooks	800.00
Supplies	1,300.00

Expense of Operation:

Janitors' Salaries	3,450.00
Fuel and Light	2,100.00
Miscellaneous	750.00

Maintenance:

Repairs & Replacements	1,000.00
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Auxiliary Agencies:

Health	1,060.00
Transportation	22,793.00
Tuition	35,100.00
Miscellaneous	125.00

Outlay:

New Equipment	600.00
Contingency Fund	2,000.00

TOTAL BUDGET	\$110,198.00
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Estimated Credits From The Commonwealth:

Superintendent's Salary	3,333.00
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Transportation:

Chap. 71, Sec. 7A	18,000.00
State Wards	200.00
Vocational Ed. C74 Sec. 8A	1,000.00

Tuition:

State Wards	270.00
Vocational Education	2,277.00
Chapter 70	15,200.00

TOTAL ESTIMATED CREDITS	40,280.00
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ESTIMATED COST OF EDUCATION	
FROM TOWN TAXES	69,918.00

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL, GROSS BUDGETS

	1954	1955	Difference
CONTROLLABLE COSTS			
General Control:			
School Committee Expenses	\$ 475.00	\$ 350.00	-\$125.00
Superintendent's Salary	5,480.00	5,800.00	+ 320.00
Expense of Superintendence	1,250.00	1,350.00	
	<hr/> 7,305.00	<hr/> 7,520.00	
Expenses of Instruction:			
Supervisors' Salaries	1,655.00	1,980.00	+ 325.00
Teachers' Salaries	26,260.00	29,540.00	+ 3,280.00
Textbooks	890.00	890.00	
Supplies	1,300.00	1,390.00	
	<hr/> 30,015.00	<hr/> 33,720.00	
Expenses of Operation:			
Janitors' Salaries	3,350.00	3,450.00	+ 100.00
Fuel and Light	2,200.00	2,100.00	- 100.00
Miscellaneous	950.00	750.00	- 200.00
	<hr/> 6,500.00	<hr/> 6,290.00	

Maintenance:			
Repairs & Replacements	1,200.00	1,090.00	— 200.00
Auxiliary Agencies:			
Health	1,560.00	1,090.00	— 500.00
Miscellaneous	125.00	125.00	
New Equipment	1,685.00	1,185.00	— 200.00
	800.00	600.00	
	47,505.00	50,305.00	+2,800.00

NON-CONTROLLABLE COSTS

Auxiliary Agencies:

Transportation	13,825.00	22,793.00	+8,968.00
Tuition	33,225.00	35,100.00	+1,875.00

CONTINGENCY:

	47,050.00	57,893.00	+10,843.00
	3,700.00	2,000.00	— 1,700.00
	50,255.00	60,193.00	+11,943.00

*Includes salary of an additional

Helping Teacher, as well as salary increases for regular teaching staff.

Report of the Superintendent of Schools

To the School Committee of the Town of Hampden:

It is a pleasure to submit my second annual report as Superintendent of Schools for the Town of Hampden. I have been constantly impressed with the genuine friendliness of the citizens of Hampden and their deep concern for the best interests of their boys and girls.

HAMPDEN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL:

During the present school year a series of changes have been introduced to strengthen the quality of education offered to our elementary school children.

The services of a part-time helping teacher are being provided to assist children with special difficulties. The helping teacher is presently working with 52 pupils. This work is carried on in small groups of four to ten children. The time allotted each group varies from 15 to 30 minutes per group, depending upon the nature of the difficulty. The total number of pupils helped varies from time to time. As difficulties are mastered, and pupils are no longer required to work with the helping teacher, other pupils needing special help are referred to the helping teacher. Large classes, illness, and slow learning are the major reasons for needing special help.

The program of studies in grades seven and eight has been departmentalized. One teacher is responsible for teaching science and mathematics in grades seven

and eight; the other teacher is responsible for teaching English and social studies in these grades. The children are having the benefit of learning to work against a timetable. The teachers benefit by concentrating their class preparations in special fields. Our pupils should find the transition to the Springfield schools less difficult. The work in 7th and 8th grade science has been vitalized through the addition of a science laboratory unit. This unit permits a wide range of simple science experiments.

Our elementary school reading program is receiving special attention this year. Phonetics, or the ability to recognize new words through known parts, is being carefully and vigorously taught in grades one through four. It is our goal to achieve independence in reading when a child completes grade three. The phonetic skills are being reviewed in grade four. Comprehension, or understanding thoroughly the material read, is the keynote in grades four, five and six. READING FOR POWER is a new course introduced in grades seven and eight this year. Comprehension and speed in reading are the basis of this work. All of our pupils, from grades one through eight, visit the library weekly and are introduced to good literature.

The daily recess periods for the first six grades have been planned so that not over two grades are using the playground at one time. This has eliminated much rough-housing and permits the maximum use of the playground facilities.

An opportunity to observe pupils at regular school work is being provided during Education Week. An unusually large number of citizens are accepting the invitation of the staff to visit the school.

Our elementary school staff is composed of especially fine teachers. Under the guidance of Mrs. Helen Enslin, Acting Principal, the teachers enter into their tasks with enthusiasm, zeal and loyalty, resulting in a happy and efficient organization.

Mrs. Alma Temple, manager of the Hot Lunch Program, and Mrs. Rachel Dickinson, her assistant, serve a well-balanced meal to approximately 160 pupils. New federal reimbursements make it possible to serve about 175 pupils with supplementary milk during the recess periods. At the present time, this milk is sold at one penny a bottle.

Mr. Gerard, our custodian, redecorated the classrooms, dining hall and corridors during the summer vacation. He is doing a commendable job in keeping the building in excellent condition.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENTS:

In October 1, 1954, the number of pupils enrolled in grades one through 12 were as follows:

Grades:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	P.G.	Total
33	35	31	32	38	38	26	27	30	32	17	18	2	359

Grades: P.G. 12 11 10 9 Total

S.H.S.	-	10	12	21	-	
J.H.S.	-	-	-	-	14	
Cathedral	-	2	-	3	4	
Agawam	-	-	2	3	-	
Trade	2	6	3	5	12	
Totals	2	18	17	32	30	99

HOW HAMPDEN IS GROWING

Total public school enrollment — Grades 1-12

YEAR	NUMBER OF PUPILS
1955	357
1954	349
1953	318
1952	331
1951	294
1950	265
1949	255
1948	243
1947	221
1946	214

OUR PRE-SCHOOL POTENTIAL

(Oct. 1, 1954)

Grade I	Pupils
1955	36
1956	36
1957	27
1958	41
1959	32

The preceding statistics indicate Hampden's steady, healthy growth. And with this growth come the problems of expanding our school facilities. We must be prepared to:

1. Provide additional elementary classrooms.
2. Expand our junior high school program—this involves physical education, shop, home economics, and also involves studying the wisdom of providing for our 9th grade locally, or in a regional school district.

3. Face the problems of increasingly high costs involved in sending our boys and girls to the Springfield high schools. It is estimated that the tuition bill for the school year of 1960-61, grades 9-12, based upon PRESENT tuition rates and pupils presently attending our elementary school, will be approximately \$58,000.00. Our 1955 budget anticipates an estimated expenditure of \$35,100.00 for grades 9-12 tuition. An alternative is offered by the Commonwealth which, through financial incentives, offers sound, long-range financing in regional high school districts.

These problems are community responsibilities and they challenge the best thinking of all our citizens.

Governor Herter had our municipal financial problems in mind at the third Governor's Conference on State and Municipal Relations when he very clearly stated his views on these problems—"the tremendous increase in school population makes it essential for the state to provide increased financial assistance to its cities and towns for school purposes.

"There is a definite limit to the tax load which can be borne by the property owner and it becomes essential for the state to step in and help from its own sources of revenue."

I wish to take this opportunity to thank my associates—the school committee, the school staff and the citizens of the town for their friendly counsel and encouragement.

Respectfully submitted,

S. J. BERNARD

Superintendent of Schools

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GRADUATES

June 16, 1954

Battige, Beverly D.	Meade, Rosalie T.
Berry, Robert T.	Moriarty, Maureen C.
Claing, Carol A.	Murphy, James D.
Claing, Francis L.	Murphy, Michael T.
Coderre, Pauline A.	Officer, Sandra N.
Cote, Ronald A.	Rodimon, Beverly J.
Crane, Raymond J.	Rossi, Susan J.
DeLonge, Jacquelyn A.	St. Pierre, Romeo J.
Frey, Ellsworth M.	Terzi, Joan A.
Kavanaugh, Walter W.	Toulson, Cynthia
Kibbe, Ronald W.	Wileox, Alice A.
Martin, Howard L.	Witkop, Irving J.
McGuill, Owen M.	Witkop, Josephine C.
Meade, James M.	

HIGH SCHOOL HONOR GRADUATE

Grace Frey—High School of Commerce

REPORT OF HAMPDEN SCHOOL DENTAL CLINIC
FOR 1954

Examinations	246
Notices sent Home	121
Permanent Teeth Filled	65
Temporary Teeth Filled	61
Permanent Teeth Extracted	14
Temporary Teeth Extracted	42
Cleanings	55
Treatments	18

Respectfully submitted,

HAROLD J. BENNETT, D.M.D.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL PHYSICIAN

The school physician has completed the following:

Physical Examinations of the school personnel:	17
Diphtheria Immunizations given school children:	8
Physical Examinations of the school children:	100

The school physician, again this year, feels that the physical condition of the Hampden school children is generally good. He wishes to remind all parents that personal hygiene and cleanliness have a great bearing in good health. Let us not forget to impress this on our children so that Hampden may maintain its good physical standards.

The school physician has responded to school emergencies.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN J. QUINN, M.D.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL NURSE

The school nurse has assisted the school physician with the following:

Physical Examinations	100
Heart Murmurs	2
Number weighed and measured	75
Head Inspection	254
Infested Heads	1
Eyes examined	125
Notices sent on defective eyes	12
Diphtheria Immunizations	8
Pre-school registration vaccinations	8
Ears tested	256
Defective ears	1

The school nurse has assisted the school dentist with the examination of the teeth.

Number of children examined	251
Notices sent	108

Four children had the benefit of four weeks' vacation at Camp Frederick Edwards gaining from one-half to three-and-one-half pounds.

I wish to extend my thanks to the P. T. A., Teachers' Club, and Lions Club for their fine cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,

SHIRLEY C. FULLER, R.N.

THE HAMPDEN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL STAFF

1954-55

S. J. Bernard, B. S., M. A., Superintendent

Mrs. Helen Flynn Enslin, Acting Principal

Name	Grade	Date Appointed	Education, Professional Training
Charlotte Goss	8	1951	B.S., Fitchburg S.T.C.
Helen F. Enslin	7	1949	Hyannis S.T.C.
Lena Moriarty	6	1953	B.E., Westfield S.T.C.
Catherine Garvey	5	1954	Bridgewater S.T.C.
Miriam Bryans	4	1952	Bridgewater S.T.C.
Helen Colling	3	1951	B.S., Framingham S.T.C.
Emilia Steere	2	1951	B.S., Westfield S.T.C.
Eleanor Drummond	1	1953	Lowell S.T.C.
Vivian Cotton, Helping Teacher		1953	B.E., Westfield S.T.C.
Virginia Molyette, Supw. Art Teacher		1952	B.A., Smith College
Alice Fitzgerald, Supw. Music		1952	
Shirley Fuller, R.N.			School Nurse
John J. Quinn, M.D.			School Physician
Harold J. Bennett, D.M.D.			School Dentist
Wilfred Gerard			Custodian and Supw. of Attendance
Mrs. Alma Temple			Supw. Hot Lunch Program
Mrs. Rachel Dickinson			Ass't Supw. Hot Lunch Program

SCHOOL CALENDAR 1954-55

	M	T	W	Th	F	
SEPT.						
16 days			8	9	10	Sept. 8—Beginning of school
	13	14	15	16	17	Sept. 20—E. S. Exposition
	xx	21	22	23	24	
	27	28	29	30		
OCT.					1	
18 days		4	5	6	7	Oct. 12—Columbus Day
	11	xx	13	14	15	Oct. 22—Teachers' Convention
	18	19	20	21	xx	Oct. 27—No school, Teachers'
	25	26	xx	28	29	Visiting Day
NOV.		1	2	3	4	Nov. 11—Armistice Day
19 days		8	9	10	xx	
	15	16	17	18	19	Thanksgiving Vac.—School closes
	22	23	24	xx	xx	Nov. 24, half day 12-15; Re-
	29	30				opens Mon. Nov. 29
DEC.			1	2	3	
17 days		6	7	8	9	
	13	14	15	16	17	Christmas Vac.—Schools closed
	20	21	22	23	xx	Dec. 24, Reopens Jan. 3, 1955
	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	
JAN. '55		3	4	5	6	
21 days		10	11	12	13	
	17	18	19	20	21	
	24	25	26	27	28	
	31					
FEB.		1	2	3	4	
18 days		7	8	9	10	Feb. 22 Washington's Birthday
	14	15	16	17	18	Feb. 28—Mid-year vacation begins
	21	xx	23	24	25	
	xx					
MARCH		xx	xx	xx	xx	
19 days		7	8	9	10	March 7—School reopens
	14	15	16	17	18	
	21	22	23	24	25	
	28	29	30	31		
APRIL			1			
19 days		4	5	6	7	
	11	12	13	14	15	April 8—Good Friday
	18	xx	20	21	22	April 19—Patriot's Day
	25	26	27	28	29	
MAY		xx	xx	xx	xx	
16 days		9	10	11	12	School closed, Spring Vacation
	16	17	18	19	20	
	23	24	25	26	27	May 30—Memorial Day
	xx	31				
JUNE			1	2	3	
18 days		6	7	8	9	
	13	14	15	16	17	School closes for elementary pupils
18 ¹ days T	20	21	22	23	24	June 17, for summer vacation

TOWN OF HAMPDEN
SCHOOL EXPANSION COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT
FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1954

Although appointed in December, 1953, the Hampden School Expansion Committee could not meet officially until the end of January, 1954. During this period, however, several organizational meetings were held.

Our first official steps were to hold meetings with the Selectmen and the School Committee and to evaluate the work already accomplished by previous expansion committees. We then made a trip to Boston and talked with Mr. William Black of the Massachusetts School Building Assistance Commission. He was most cooperative and pointed out the necessary co-relation of all school expansion efforts in the Town, stressing the possibility of a regional high school which might possibly change our trend of thought from an eight grade school to a six grade school. Realizing that this problem was one for all rather than for a committee of five, we next prepared the questionnaire which we trust all voters received. Tabulation of returns to this questionnaire showed an almost unanimous desire for a long range approach to the problem with the majority favoring a school of eight grades located in the vicinity of or adjacent to the present school.

Since the evaluation of the questionnaire reports received from the Regional School District Planning

Board make it evident that we should plan for an Elementary and a Junior High School (Grades 1-9).

Several specific sites suitable for such a program were suggested which were evaluated according to the State's Formula.

We should like to explain that the nationally accepted minimum standards for elementary school sites call for five acres plus one acre for each 100 pupils in ultimate anticipated enrollment. For secondary schools ten acres plus one acre for every 100 pupils in ultimate anticipated enrollment is the recognized minimum. In other words we should plan for a school in 1960, only five years away, of at least 400 pupils. Such a school should require a minimum of fourteen acres of land.

An open hearing was held on June 21, 1954 to inform the voters of our progress and to discuss the results of the questionnaire. The concensus of the townspeople present was that the Committee should concentrate on three sites.

These sites were:

1. The properties adjacent to the present school playground extending westward to the Recreation Field.
2. The properties on the east side of North Road comprised of the Ralph Hatch and Sessions Properties.
3. The Christianson Property on Somers Road.

The balance of the year has been spent in discussion with owners of the properties mentioned above in

order to determine their willingness to sell and, if willing, what approximate prices they might set on their land.

Mr. Black met with the Committee in Hampden on December 27 and inspected the three sites. A letter from him dated December 30 gave definite approval to two of the sites, provided that an adequate amount of useable land were acquired, and seriously questioned the desirability of the third.

We are planning to hold another public hearing on January 24, 1956 at which time the costs to the Town of these three sites will be discussed. Any decisions as to future steps to be taken by the Committee will be based on the concensus of those present at that hearing plus the results of all of our work to date.

Throughout the year this Committee has endeavored to be guided by the wishes of the Citizens of Hampden realizing that this is a problem shared by all tax payers and voters.

Of the \$4,094.82 placed at the disposal of the Committee \$196.01 has been expended.

We should like to thank Mrs. Walter Lyons who, as Clerk of the Committee, has put in many long hours for us and for the Town. We also wish to express our appreciation of the cooperation of the Superintendent

of Schools, all Town Committees and especially of all of our fellow citizens whose active interest has been of invaluable assistance to us.

Respectfully submitted,

E. D. SCHOPBACH, Chairman

EARL H. HARRIS

GARFIELD W. TRACY

PETER A. ROY

JOHN R. WALLACE

**REPORT OF THE
HAMPDEN, WILBRAHAM, EAST
LONGMEADOW REGIONAL SCHOOL
DISTRICT PLANNING BOARD**

On February 8, 1954, March 1, 1954 and March 7, 1954, the Towns of East Longmeadow, Hampden, and Wilbraham, respectively, in annual town meetings, voted to instruct the moderator of each town to appoint three persons to serve as a Regional School District Planning Committee. The following persons were appointed:

EAST LONGMEADOW

Mrs. John Dole Mr. Edwin Hulton Mr. Ray S. Jones

HAMPDEN

WILBRAHAM

These Committees met at Birchland Park School, East Longmeadow, Wednesday, June 16, 1954 and organized the Regional School District Planning Board. The following officers were elected: Mr. Ray S. Jones, Chairman, and Mrs. Howard Gray, Secretary-Treasurer. It was voted to include the Superintendents of

Schools of the three towns as ex-officio members. It was the responsibility of this Regional School District Planning Board, according to Chapter 71, Section 14A of the General Laws to study the advisability of establishing a regional high school district.

The Planning Board has held six meetings alternating among the member towns and the Planning Committees of each town have had numerous meetings to consider the common information from the local viewpoint.

Mr. John Marshall and Mr. Simeon Domas of the Massachusetts School Building Assistance Commission were guests of the second Board meeting. Mr. Marshall outlined the duties of the Planning Board, and Mr. Domas pointed out the financial aspects of the enabling legislation. After some detailed study of enrollment projections, possible courses of study, construction and operating costs of the proposed three town regional high school, the Planning Board met with Mr. F. Sumner Turner, Superintendent of the newly formed Pioneer Valley Regional School District. Mr. Turner related the steps by which this regional district, comprising the towns of Northfield, Bernardston, and Warwick, was formed.

Following the meeting, the Planning Board devoted further study to the factors mentioned in the preceding paragraph and agreed on the following tentative apportionment of construction costs among the three towns:

East Longmeadow - - 55.7%	Hampden - - 10.3%
Wilbraham - - 34%	

It was further tentatively agreed that operating costs would be in direct proportion to enrollment. For

purposes of study, it was agreed to use a maximum enrollment figure of 1400 for a four year three town regional high school and construction cost of \$2500.00 per pupil. On this basis the proposed building would cost \$3,500,000.00 of which the State would reimburse 65% of the principal amount not including interest. The State would also reimburse an additional 15% of the amount due each town under Chapter 70 and 100% of transportation costs for pupils transported over 1½ miles providing transportation was under the control of the Regional District.

The Springfield School Committee was requested to make a statement of policy in regard to accepting in the future high school students from the member towns. The following reply was received:

1. "We are sure that we can accept high school students through the school year 1960. It is difficult to project our enrollment beyond that date.
2. "If the enrollment in senior high schools follows the pattern through this year, it does not appear that it will be necessary to restrict the choice of high schools. In any event, the policies followed by the Springfield pupils would in no way differ from the policy followed for tuition pupils from Wilbraham, Hampden, and East Longmeadow."

At this point, the Hampden Committee expressed their desire of forming a two town regional school with either Wilbraham or East Longmeadow in case a three town regional was rejected.

After careful study of the above facts in relation to the feasibility of expanding the existing local facilities and in consideration of other problems peculiar to

each town, the Regional Committee of East Longmeadow and Wilbraham decided to recommend a solution other than that of the Regional High School District. In view of the special problems of a smaller town, the Hampden Committee feels that the regional high school district would be a preferable solution to their problem.

The following report has been approved and adopted in the regular meeting December 1, 1954.

Regional School District Planning
Board for the Town of Hampden

By GRACE W. GRAY

EDWIN N. LOMBARD

HOWARD H. MacMULLEN

Regional School District Planning
Board for the Town of Wilbraham

By HARRY R. JEFFREY

ALBERT H. HOWES

MARSHALL E. ROPER

Regional School District Planning
Board for the Town of East Longmeadow

By HELEN A. DOLE

EDWIN A. HULTON

RAY S. JONES

CONCERNS OF THE HAMPDEN REGIONAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT PLANNING BOARD

1. Increased enrollments in the Springfield High Schools may limit the availability and choice of high school.
2. The total high school tuition costs due to the constantly increasing enrollment and the rising rate of tuition. Present tuition costs are:

9th Grade	\$352.00
Senior High School	416.00

Based upon data studied by this committee, we would recommend that local School Survey Committees seriously consider adequate accommodation for junior high school, including Grade 9.

It is the considered opinion of this committee that a Regional High School District would have served the best interests of Hampden, educationally and financially.

It is our recommendation that this committee be continued and be available to investigate future regional school possibilities.

We would like to express our appreciation for the extensive research in enrollment projections, student costs and related data provided by our Superintendent, Mr. Sergius J. Bernard. His counseling and encouragement made our task a fruitful experience.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE REGIONAL SCHOOL
DISTRICT PLANNING BOARD

Amount of money appropriated	\$50.00
Amount spent	5.00
(Hampden's share in reimbursing a Regional High School consultant)	
Balance on hand	\$45.00

Respectfully submitted,

HOWARD H. MacMULLEN,
Chairman

EDWIN N. LOMBARD

GRACE W. GRAY

TO HAMPDEN

Dear town that carriest well thy part
 In Massachusetts fair,
 Thy history is in the heart,
 Thine influence on the air.

Eight times a score of years have passed
 Since first the trail of man
 Was broken in the forest vast,
 Where fox and rabbit ran.

Thy wooded hills stood grandly then,
 And Scantuck's banks, untrod,
 And restless breast, unbridged by men,
 Dreamed not of fish and rod.

While gray and green of woods at play
 And mottle of the glen
 Threw all their charm and grace away
 On brute and insect ken.

A settler came with wife and child,
 And others followed fast,
 Until their dwellings in the wild
 To rank of village passed.

In lapse of time the meeting-house
 Upon the "Common" rose,
 Where saddled horses pawed the browse
 Ere second sermon's close.

The seats were slabs, as was the wont,
 With bark still on the wood,
 A clapboard crowned the pulpit's front
 And held the Book of God.

The people grew. Their household tree
 Bore its full mete of men,
 Without its generation three
 Where stood the dwelling then?

Judge Bliss could represent the shire,
 And Parson Warren pray,
 And Burt, Esquire, and Sessions, "Squire"
 Deal justice in their day.

Some names were Newell, Firmin, Cone,
 Bodurtha, Turner, Day;
 Flynt, Stacy, Adams, Eggleston,
 King, Russell, and McCray.

More: Chapin, Morris, West, and Lord,
 Hunt, Stebbins, Chaffee, Pease;
 Root, Langdon, Burleigh, Beebe, Wood,
 And Smith—and more than these.

The village grew, and mills upsprung,
 As men came in to stay;
 And belfries rose, till seven bells rung
 On Independence Day.

The church and school took each its part
 The truth and light to spread,
 And hardly less than pastor's heart
 Was held the master's head.

The sterling rule of fatherhood
 And sweet maternal cheer
 Have here combined their powers for good
 And fashioned character.

Thy books record the natal date
 Of doctor, lawyer, clerk,
 Historian, preacher, magistrate,
 And more, of worth and w^ork.

Men of the cloth, the pen, the pill,
 The platform, sword, and sea,
 The bar, the bench, the wire, the mill,
 The chair—have hailed from thee.

In eighteen hundred seventy-eight
 A break from Wilbraham
 Left thee to rule thine own estate
 And choose another name.

True there are Hampdens everywhere
 Among the wide earth's towns,
 Yet few men's names have fame more fair
 Than England's honored John's.

But let not fortune hide the faults
 Which break the law within,
 For that which God to Heaven exalts
 Must answer for its sin.

Live long, dear town. Thy strength renew,
 For livelier soil than thine
 Dame Nature gives to townships few
 This side the storied Rhine.

As mountains guard some city's wall,
 See how thine own guard thee,
 And point, as if from earthly thrall,
 To Heaven, that maketh free.

Hampden, Mass., July, 1907. Lucy (Chaffee) Alden.
 (Mrs. Alden owned the house where W. Harry Burns
 now lives)

OLD ROADS FROM THE CENTER TO THE WEST SIDE

In the early days the rocks at the Point of Rocks in the bend of the mountain came right up to the river bank and no one could pass around them. The first road from the center to the West Side turned off South Road where Mrs. Laurence Baker now lives and proceeded West on the South side of the Scantic River coming out on Somers Road near the Harold Harlow (former Charles F. Mediecke) place.

It was called the "Old Path" since it really was a path and was used by men and women on horseback, before the days of four wheel wagons or even ox carts. This path was probably used by the Indians on their hunting expeditions through our mountains and on their fishing trips to the Scantic tributaries.

The road by Mrs. Baker's house was used in the memory of some of our oldest residents who recall several farmers who owned land "across the river" and raised potatoes and their best crops of hay on the side hill, which is now practically all wood land. Henry Crocker, Newton Beebe, Clark Goodwill and John Q. Adams were some of the men who farmed in this area.

At a later date the road on the north side of the Scantic River was established. It proceeded along the present Main Street until it reached the spot where Everett Bennett now lives (known to the older residents as the Boarding House) and then it appears to have split.

One section seems to have kept on the present Main Street until the bend in the mountain was reached when it turned to the right up "Maiden Lane" by the little house occupied at various times by Howard Wilkes, William Gardner, and Mrs. Coreoran, and then turned left at the broad expanse at the top of the hill and went down over the hill, south of Goat Rock, and came out where Siebaldi's Nursery Road comes down.

Another road seems to have gone up behind where the Bennett (Boarding) House was afterwards built and followed along west, meeting the one referred to as "Maiden Lane" and proceeding west down the hill.

Mrs. Marcus Gottsche, Sr., tells us that her aunt, Mrs. Frank Moore, who used to live where Mrs. Dugan now lives on Allen Street remembered having gone to the village by the way of the "Old Path" on the south side and one of the old roads on the north side. Mrs. Ernest Howlett remembers going over the side of the mountain and coming out at "Pat" Wall's, now the Siebaldi place.

Many wonder why the Wall Family built the house now owned by Dorval Viger so far back from Main Street. Did one of the old roads to the West Side go by this house?

Neil S. Kibbe tells us that an old road used to turn off South Road near his house and go straight west to Somers Road, coming out near where Wilfred Martin now lives, and that at least one cellar hole may be seen today on the remains of this old turnpike.

WHICH IS THE OLDEST HOUSE IN HAMPDEN?

Anyone making a study of the old houses in our town will be surprised to learn of the large number which are over a century old and that many are 150 or 175 years old, with a few in the 200 year class.

While the houses built by such first settlers as Stephen Stebbins, Aaron Stebbins, Moses Stebbins, Abner Chapin, William King, William Stacy, Jabez Hendrick, Henry Badger, Isaac Morris, Rowland Crocker, Benjamin Skinner, and Ezekiel Russell are no longer in existence, it is interesting to learn that there are several in town which were apparently built about two centuries ago.

The old John Bartlett house on the west side of Somers Road, now owned by Lester Kibbe, must have been built in 1741, or soon after, because records show that Paul Langdon was growing wheat on this farm in 1745. The late Mrs. John Q. Adams, Hampden's first librarian stated that this was the oldest house still standing.

The old Allen House at the corner of Main Street and Somers Road was supposed to have been built by Lewis Langdon previous to 1750. The piazzas have recently been removed and the house bricked in.

The west portion of the Bliss-Morris Homestead (Raymond Smith's summer home) was built by Col. John Bliss, probably Hampden's most famous citizen, in 1750. From the day Col. Bliss acquired the property on South Road from an original grant of land to the pre-

sent, it has always been in the possession of the same family. As Mrs. James H. McIntyre, who lived in the house at the turn of the century told a neighbor, Alexander Larson, "the property has never been bought and never been sold."

If the Mark Mills house now owned by William A. Mason, Jr., on Ames Road was built by Samuel Wood in 1744, as some think, this house is in the 200 yr. old class.

If the Firmin house on Chapin Road (formerly Firmin Road) and now owned by Walter Lunden is the one built by Joseph Chaffee when he came to town from Woodstock, Conn., in 1755 this would come in the 200 yr. old category.

We have every reason to believe that the house on South Road now owned by Carl Larson is the original one built by Comfort Chaffee (Joseph's son) in 1759. If this is so this house will soon be in the 200 yr. old class.

If the house now owned by John J. Moriarty on Glendale Road is the original one built by Daniel Carpenter, one of Hampden's first settlers, this house is in the two century class.

Reference has been made above to the gem of them all—the house now owned by Mr. Thornton W. Burgess.

There may be many others in town in the 200 yr. old class if we knew their history from the beginning. Perhaps the one formerly owned by Mrs. Henry Heredeen on Wilbraham Road is real old. The gentleman by

the name of Stebbins who erected it built it into the side of the hill in a similar manner to his relative by the name of Stebbins who built Mr. Burgess' house.

One of the oldest houses in town, built on Wilbraham Road in 1753, was torn down about 35 years ago. It was built by a member of the Stebbins Family and remained in the possession of the family as long as it was in existence. Byron Stebbins was the last person to live in this old house, which had beautiful colonial lines.

About 50 years ago Arthur A. Jones, father of Mrs. Norris Fitzgerald, tore down the Old Burt House which stood where the Frank Kirk garage now stands on Main Street. In process of demolition he found a sign tacked to a cupboard door reading "1796, I began to work on this house." Signed "Stoddard Burt." If all the early builders of homes in Hampden had left similar notes probably the list of 200 yr. old homes would be much larger.

INTERESTING ORIGINS OF EARLY HAMPDEN NAMES

SCANTIC:—some historians say it comes from an Indian word meaning "a branch of a river." In other words the Scantic River would be a branch of the Connecticut River. Others say it comes from an Indian word denoting "whiting fish," which were evidently in our river when it was fished by the Indians.

MINNECHAUG:—in Indian it means "berry land." Our mountains abounded at one time with berries of all kinds, including blackberries, huckleberries, strawberries, etc.

ROCK-A-DUNDEE:—latter word from a German word meaning "thunder." May refer to thunder among these hills, or sound of huntsmen's guns, or to the thundering noise of the Scantic at this point tumbling rocks upon each other in a freshet.

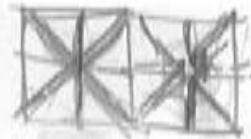
POKEHAM:—name formerly applied to Hampden either in humor or derision. "Poke" is the plant "everlasting," the tobacco of the Indians.

SPRINGFIELD MOUNTAINS or GREAT HILLS or OUTWARD COMMONS:—names of our village when it was part of the town of Springfield.

GOAT ROCKS:—these rocks were the favorite resort of William King's goats, one of which became entangled there and was found dead. Hence—Goat

Rocks, Mr. King was a large property holder in town and in 1744 built a house on what is now the Town House lawn. He also owned what is now the Village Green. He eventually sold the Green to the Congregational Church and his own house lot to Capt. Charles Sessions, who in turn sold the latter property to the same church. In later years the Congregational Church gave the two pieces outright to the town. If the church had retained these two lots how much would they now be worth? The town will forever be indebted to the donor for its beneficence.

The historical data in this report was prepared by Carl C. Howlett, who has given freely of his time as a public service.



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