

1977
TOWN REPORT

HAMPDEN, MASSACHUSETTS



Hampden will be 100 years old on March 28, 1978

The first two programs to kick off our celebration will be held on

March 28, 1978

April 4, 1978

Both programs will be held at Thornton Burgess School, Wilbraham Road, starting at 8 p.m.

These evenings will consist of Hampden history, reminiscences of early times in the story of our town, "the way we were", the progress we have made, the changes there have been.

There will be many participants, each closely affiliated with the topic which will be presented; also there will be music by the Minnechaug Concert Band and the Centennial Chorus.

Much preparation has gone into these presentations to make them of maximum interest;

Please come and enjoy them with your friends and neighbors.

Cover design by Peggy Haraty

This was the winning design of about 100 entries submitted to the Centennial Committee for the Centennial Seal. Gazebo picture by Don Safford. The contest was held in the fall of 1976 and the winning design was chosen by the Centennial Committee in the spring of 1977.

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

TOWN OFFICERS

OF THE

TOWN OF HAMPDEN



AND OF THE

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

DECEMBER 31, 1977

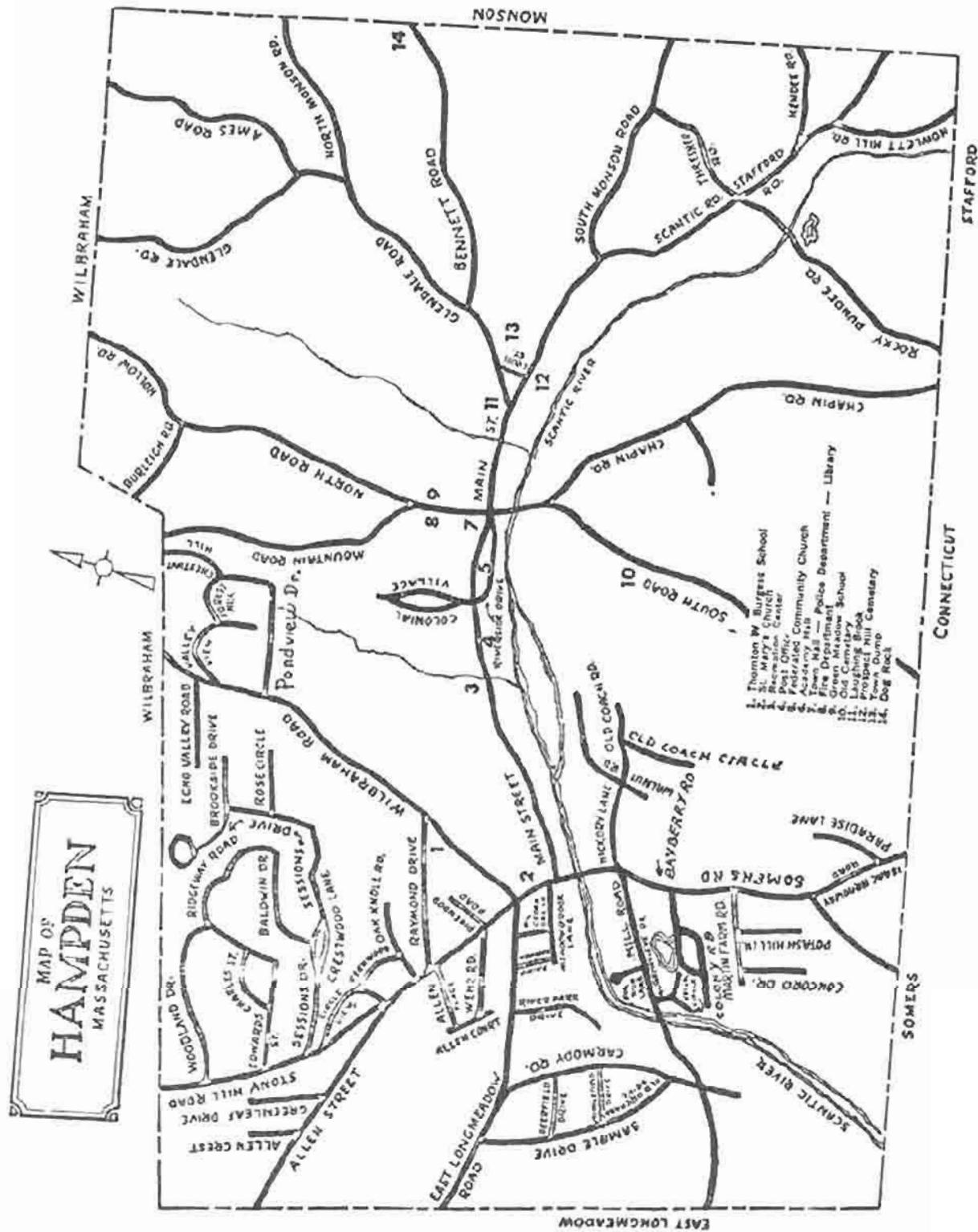
Please Bring with you to Town Meeting.

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MAP OF
HAMPTON
MASSACHUSETTS

MASSACHUSETTS



Town Treasurer	Tuesdays 12:30 P.M. to 2:30 P.M., 6:00 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. Thursdays 12:30 P.M. to 2:30 P.M., 6:00 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. Fridays 12:30 P.M. to 2:30 P.M.	Tel. 566-3214
Collector of Taxes	Mondays 9:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Tuesday 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Thursdays 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Fridays 9:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.	Tel. 566-2314
Board of Assessors	Meets second Tuesday of each month at 8 P.M. Clerk in office every Monday 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 2:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. Friday 2:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.	Tel. 566-3214 Tel. 566-3223
Board of Selectmen	Meets every Monday at 8:00 P.M. Secretary in office every Mon., Tues. and Thursday 9:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., every Wednesday and Friday 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon.	Tel. 566-3713
Advisory Committee	Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 P.M.	Tel. 566-3214
Conservation Commission	Meets 2nd and 4th Mondays at 7:30 P.M.	Tel. 566-3214
Planning Board	Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:30 P.M.	Tel. 566-3214
Park Commission	Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 7:30 P.M.	Tel. 566-3214
School Committee	Meets 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 7:30 P.M.	Tel. 566-8814
Regional School Committee	Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 P.M.	Tel. 596-6161
Hampden Free Public Library	Meets 3rd Wednesday of each month	

Hours of Hampden Free Public Library

Monday 11:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.
 Wednesday 11:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.
 Thursday 11:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
 Saturday 12:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

The Library will be closed Saturdays during July and August

Hours of Laughing Brook

Closed Mondays, except Holidays
 Tuesdays thru Sundays
 10:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Tel. 566-3571

Hours of Town Landfill

Tuesday 12 Noon to 6:00 P.M.
 Saturday 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

Recycling

Sponsored by Boy Scouts of America
 Saturday at Landfill area from 9 - 4
 Tuesday 12 - 6

For Special Pickups call: Mr. Sherman 566-8554
 Mr. Talbot 566-3993
 Mr. Govan 566-8543

Welfare Agent

Springfield Office
 John R. Jackson

Tel. 781-7670

Publications Available From The Town Clerk

Subdivision Control Laws	\$1.50
Zoning By-Laws	3.00
Zoning By-Laws (if mailed)	3.50
Certified copy of birth	2.00
Certified copy of death	2.00
Certified copy of marriage	2.00
Marriage license – resident	4.00
Trade name registration	1.25
Street list	3.00
Voting list	1.25

Telephones

Police	566-8011
Fire	566-3260
Burning Permission	566-3935
Ambulance	
Courtesy	736-5438
Gold Cross	781-3781
Paramedic	733-3147
Highway Department	566-8842
Library	566-3047
Welfare Department, Springfield Office, 828 State St.	781-7670
Veterans Service Department, 200 Main St., Monson, Mass.	1-267-9903
Dog Officer, Mr. Lyons	566-8852
	<i>Schools</i>
	737-7643

Schools

Green Meadows Elementary School, North Road	566-3263
Thornton W. Burgess School, Wilbraham Road	
Principal's Office	566-3931
Superintendent's Office	566-8814
All Other Calls	566-8950
Minnechaug High School, Main Street, Wilbraham	596-9011

Utilities

New England Telephone, Business Office 736-9911
New England Telephone, Repair Service 566-8001
Bay State Gas Company 781-3610
U.S. Post Office 566-3752

Churches

Federated Community Church, Main Street	566-3711
Rev. Sanford Fasth, Pastor	566-3402
St. Mary's Church, Somers Road	566-8843
Rev. Edmund Walsh, Pastor	

Town Inspectors

Building Inspector, Gordon Willcutt 566-3971
Electrical Inspector, Albert Mireault 566-8698
Plumbing Inspector, William Patullo 566-3332

ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS – 1977

		<i>Term Expires</i>
<i>Moderator</i>	Dalton E. Philpott	1980
<i>Town Clerk</i>	Marie V. Krook	1980
<i>Town Treasurer</i>	Jane M. Wyman	1980
<i>Board of Selectmen</i>	Sherwood W. Cronk, Chairman	1978
	John M. Flynn	1979
	Jeannette S. Green.	1980
<i>Board of Health</i>	John M. Flynn, Chairman	1979
	Sherwood W. Cronk.	1978
	Jeannette S. Green.	1980
<i>Secretary to Selectmen and Board of Health - Ruth Woods</i>		
<i>Assessors</i>	Richard A. Jalbert, Chairman.	1978
	Stanley W. Witkop, Jr.	1980
	Henry Baush.	1979
<i>Clerk to Assessors - Alice Fuller</i>		
<i>School Committee</i>	Emory Ford, Chairman.	1978
	Roland P. Fawthrop, Vice Chairman.	1980
	Judith A. Witkop.	1978
	Carl A. Sabin	1979
	A. Stuart Fuller.	1980
<i>Secretary to School Committee - Dr. Maurice Heffernan</i>		
<i>Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School District Committee</i>	Yorke Phillips.	1978
<i>Trustees of the Hampden Free Public Library</i>	Mary Barkhuff, Chairman	1978
	Miriam Bryans	1979
	Helen S. Dickinson	1980
<i>Collector of Taxes</i>	Dorothy S. Flynn	1980
<i>Hampden Housing Authority</i>	George J. Kealy, Chairman	1981
	Charles T. Schmitt, Vice Chairman.	1979
	Clifford E. Attleton.	1978
	William T. Olmstead.	1981
	Florence E. Kirk	1980
<i>Constables</i>	Paul A. Bouchard	1980
	Miles M. Hapgood, Jr.	1980
	Myron F. Stone.	Resigned

		<i>Term Expires</i>
<i>Cemetery</i>		
<i>Commissioners</i>	Homer Fuller, Chairman	1979
	Arthur Gerrish	1980
	Robert Sazama, Jr.	1978
<i>Planning Board</i>	Carl F. Libby, Chairman	1978
	Frederick Maher, Vice Chairman	1980
	John L. Partyka	1982
	Karl D. Sternberg	1981
	John D. Mikkola	1979
<i>Clerk to Planning Board- Judith Jackson</i>		
<i>Tree Warden</i>	Homer Fuller	1978
<i>Park Commissioners</i>	James Whipple, Chairman	1979
	Helene Hesser	1980
	Howard C. Cutting	1978
	Mark Willcutt	1978
	Stephen T. LeClair	1979
<i>Clerk to Park Commissioners- Lucille McGuill</i>		

APPOINTED TOWN OFFICERS - 1977

<i>Town Accountant</i>	Clifford Bombard	1980
<i>Dog Officer</i>	Thomas Lyons	1978
	Nancy Huntington	Resigned
<i>Forest Fire Warden</i>	Richard J. Boynton	1978
<i>Inspector of Animals</i>	Homer Fuller	1978
<i>Superintendent of Insect Pest Control</i>	James A. Reardon	1978
<i>Veteran's Graves Officer</i>	Richard Wiencek	1978
<i>Board of Health Agent and Investigator</i>	Thomas Huse	Resigned
<i>Agent for Veteran's Benefits</i>	Bert Nietupski	1978
<i>Acting Civil Defense Director</i>	George K. Stone, Jr.	1978
<i>Superintendent of Streets</i>	Homer Fuller	1978

		<i>Term Expires</i>
<i>Pound Keeper and Field Driver</i>	Homer Fuller	1977
<i>Fence Viewers</i>	Donald E. Dickinson	1977
	Neil Kibbe	1977
	William H. Patric	1977
<i>Town Counsel</i>	Joseph R. Jennings	1977
<i>Building Commissioner</i>	Gordon J.E. Willcutt, Sr.	1977
<i>Electrical Inspector</i>	Albert W. Mireault	1977
<i>Plumbing Inspector</i>	William P. Patullo	1977
<i>Board of Appeals</i>	Frances T. Buckley, Chairman	1978
	Dalton Philpott, Vice Chairman	1978
	Bert Nietupski	1979
	Bryce Norwood	1980
	Clifford E. Keeney	1979
<i>Alternates</i>	Charles Schmitt	1978
	Donald Davenport	1978
	Frederick W. Berry	Resigned

Clerk to Board of Appeals - Ellen C. Bump

<i>Advisory Committee</i>	Rollyn Hatch, Chairman	1979
	John L. Matthews, Jr., Vice Chairman	1979
	Raymond A. Barkhuff	1978
	Gerald Doten	1978
	Daniel Flynn	1980
	Frank Watson	Resigned

Clerk to Advisory Committee - Evelyn Schmidt

<i>Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School District Committee</i>	Carl Sabin	1977
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<i>Board of Registrars</i>	Marie V. Krook, Town Clerk	
	Fay Flynn, Chairman	1979
	Frank J.T. Kirk	1980
	Royal Cady	1978

<i>Fire Chief</i>	Richard Hatch	1977
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<i>Conservation Commission</i>	Rita Vail, Chairman	1978
	Benjamin Bump, Vice Chairman	1979
	Earl Merrill	1978
	Louis Siebaldi	1980
	Major Benton	1979
	Arthur Gerrish	1978
	Patti Ann Fritz	1978
	George Leary	Resigned

		<i>Term Expires</i>
<i>Council For The Aging</i>	Ralph Forsstrom, Chairman	1980
	Ethel Evans, Vice Chairman	1978
	Catherine Moriarty, Secretary	1980
	Kathryn Conway, Treasurer	1979
	Rosalind Reardon	1980
	Gertrude Lyons	1979
	Robert Bohlke	1978
	Nancy Zebert	1978
<i>Insurance Committee</i>	Gerald Hinch, Chairman	
	William T. Olmstead	
	Bernice Baker	
<i>Chief of Police</i>	George K. Stone, Jr.	
<i>Patrolman</i>	James Kirk	
	Robert A. Newton	
	Robert Toulson	
	Richard L. Alexander	
	Donald Bouchard	
<i>Dispatcher</i>	William Chechile	
	Alfred Taylor	
<i>Secretary/Clerk to Police</i>	Nancy Joy	
<i>Reserve Police Officers</i>		
<i>Commanding Officer</i>	Lt. Frank Panetta	
	Lt. Myron StoneResigned
<i>Reserve Officers</i>	William Batchelor	Thomas Messier
	Michael Bowen	Philip Morin
	Carol Chaput	Mark Reisner
	Anthony DiNoia	John Reynolds
	Michael Doyle	Michael Weiner
	Mary Kupec	Edward Jodoin
	Peter Markhard	Tanya Wood
<i>Special Police Officers</i>	Miles Hapgood	
	Donald Haraty	
<i>School Crossing Guard</i>	Frances B. Morse	
<i>Energy Commission</i>	W. Harry Burns	Steven Hoadley
	Janet Case	Patti Anne Fritz
	Frances C. Righi	Alfred Perusse
	Karl D. Sternberg	Philip Covelli
	Earl A. Connors	William Benedict
	Neal M. Sleeper	Chesley Metcalf
	Bruce Libby	John L. Partyka
<i>Town Report Comm</i>	Norma Buckley	Chairman
	Jacqueline Munsell	
	Toi Graham	
	Alfred Taylor	Photographer
	Carol Collins	

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – April 25, 26, 1977

ARTICLE 1. Voted to accept the annual reports as contained in the annual report for 1976, with corrections.

ARTICLE 2. Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,480,245.00 to cover budgets items 1 through 69.

ARTICLE 3. Voted to raise and appropriate \$5,000.00 for Centennial in 1978.

ARTICLE 4. Voted to authorize the payment of \$108.58 to Mrs. Plaaten for services performed for the Board of Appeals for period 3/15/76 thru 6/22/76, and to raise and appropriate this sum.

ARTICLE 5. It was voted to withdraw this article.

ARTICLE 6. Unanimously voted to raise and appropriate \$33,000.00 for repair and maintenance of town roads.

ARTICLE 7. Voted to withdraw this article.

ARTICLE 8. Unanimously voted to accept and deposit in the general fund any money received from the Commonwealth under the provisions of Local Aid Fund distribution, highway fund distribution, Chapter 492 of the Acts of 1974 or Highway and Transit Development, or any other Highway Aid Funds.

ARTICLE 9. Voted to withdraw this article.

ARTICLE 10. Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1400.00 for painting exterior of Academy Hall.

JURY LIST

Raymond A. Barrett	Albert L. Nichols
Richard L. Belcher	Carl Officer
Windsor M. Brittain	Lester F. Pauly
Salvatore Calabro	George Pyzocha
William Owen Dalton	Charles Rogers
William J. Donnelly	Lawrence Ross
Charles Fairbanks	David V. Schmidt
Robert B. Fortier	Edward Sherman
James Gillen	Daniel M. Shooshan
Donald E. Houghton	Omer G. Talbot
H. Russell Irving	Richard Waite
Frank J. T. Kirk	Gerald J. Wess
Aime J. LaMontagne	Thomas A. Wild
Robert C. Makuch	Gordon J.E. Willcutt
Lewis E. McDonald Jr.	William J. Zanolli
James P. McMann	Leonard Chabot Jr.
Robert B. McNeill Jr.	Raymond Duquette
Jerry Moccio	Michael H. Smith
John Monaghan	David Kruger
John Mumper	

ARTICLE 11. Unanimously voted to acquire, for drainage purposes, by a taking and or by deed, an easement in land on the southerly side of Allen St., belonging to Marian K. Pajer and Simon J. Kervick.

ARTICLE 12. Unanimously voted to acquire, for drainage purposes, by a taking and or by deed, an easement in land on the southerly side of Allen St., belonging to Raymond C. Root.

ARTICLE 13. Unanimously voted to acquire, for drainage purposes, by a taking and or by deed, an easement in land on the easterly side of Allen St., belonging to Foster W. and Phyllis A. Guyette.

ARTICLE 14. Unanimously voted to create a Hampden Council for Aging for purposes of outline, members to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 15. Unanimously voted to raise and appropriate \$625.00 for funding program initiated by the Hampden Council for the Aging.

ARTICLE 16. Unanimously voted to accept \$100.00 for perpetual care of Tower lot at Prospect Hill Cemetery.

ARTICLE 17. Unanimously voted that Dog Fund in amount of \$562.50 be expended by library trustees at their discretion.

ARTICLE 18. Unanimously voted to transfer from Library Fund \$1,714.50 (State Aid) to be used by Library Trustee at their discretion.

ARTICLE 19. Article defeated.

ARTICLE 20. Unanimously voted to instruct State Representative and Senator to support Legislation to amend law pertaining to binding arbitration, and that said Legislatures report in writing to our next annual town meeting.

ARTICLE 21. Unanimously voted to instruct State Representative and State Senator to report at next annual town meeting how he or she voted on annual state budget, amendments, and how and why new tax programs were voted on.

ARTICLE 22. Voted to transfer any balance unused on June 30, 1977 in Dump Maintenance, Library, Road Maintenance and or Snow and Ice Removal Accounts back into revenue sharing account.

ARTICLE 23. Voted to designate funds from Revenue Sharing to appropriation for: Landfill Maintenance \$18,000.00, Library \$15,013.00, General Highway Expense \$23,850.00, Snow and Ice Removal \$20,000. Total \$76,863.00.

ARTICLE 24. Article withdrawn.

ARTICLE 25. Unanimously voted to amend the general town bylaws by adding a section provided for a periodic audit by the State Bureau of Accounts, or a private accounting firm.

ARTICLE 26. Voted to raise and appropriate \$6,000.00 for an audit of the financial books and accounts of the town.

ARTICLE 27. Voted to go on record as opposing the planned legislative redistricting by the General Court of Mass.

ARTICLE 28. Voted to rezone to Commercial zone 2 parcels of land at 108 East Longmeadow Road, owned by Edward N. Christianson Inc.

ARTICLE 29. Voted to establish the post of local inspector as defined in the state building code, to assist the building commissioner in enforcement.

ARTICLE 30. Article defeated.

ARTICLE 31. Voted to transfer \$20,000.00 to the Reserve Fund.

ARTICLE 32. Voted to raise \$1,000.00 for a conservation fund, to acquire available land for the town, said purchasers to be voted on by a Town Meeting prior to purchase.

ARTICLE 33. No action taken on this article.

ARTICLE 34. No action taken on this article.

ARTICLE 35. Unanimously voted to raise and appropriate \$29,900.00 to install adequate drainage at Main St. - Somers Rd. intersection, to raise said appropriation, \$2,153.00 to be included in the tax levy, and that the treasurer borrow \$25,500.00 under General Laws, Chpt. 44, said sum to be reimbursed by the state.

ARTICLE 36. Voted to authorize treasurer to borrow in anticipation of revenue of fiscal year 1978 and voted to raise and appropriate \$10,000.00 for anticipated interest.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING – April 25, 1977

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to accept the amount of money received under the provisions of Public Works Employment Act of 1976, and will vote to expend this amount for reconstruction of a portion of Stony Hill Road, Hampden, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Unanimously voted to accept \$10,727.46 received under provisions of Public Works Employment Act of 1976; voted to expend \$8,380.00 for reconstruction of a portion of Stony Hill Road, and the balance (\$2,347.46) on Somers Road.

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from unappropriated available funds in the Treasury a sum of money to Insurance-Property and Liability Account, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Unanimously voted to transfer from unappropriated available funds, \$4,327.90 to Insurance-Property and Liability Account.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING – October 12, 1977

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money for Police Department accounts --

Item No. 57.1 Chief's Salary

Item 57.2 Salaries

Item 57.4 Other expense - clothing

for Fiscal 78, or take any other action in relation thereto.

It was unanimously voted to transfer from available funds the following sums of money for Police Department accounts:

Item 57.1 Chief's salary \$ 2,017.00

Item 57.2 Salaries (General) 13,053.00

Item 57.4 Other Expense - (Clothing) 175.00

15,245.00

ARTICLE 2. To hear the report of the Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School Committee concerning finalization of contract negotiations and funding of increases, as stated in Article 2 of Warrant of Annual Town Meeting of April 25, 1977, or take any other action relative thereto.

It was unanimously voted to accept the report of the Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School Committee concerning finalization of contract negotiations and funding of increases as stated in Article 2 of Warrant for Annual Town Meeting of April 25, 1977.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money for School Department account -

Item 61.0 Instruction

for Fiscal 78, or take any other action relative thereto.

It was unanimously voted to transfer from funds the following sum of money for School Department account:

Item 61.0 Instruction, \$41,418.00 for Fiscal 1978

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money for School Department account --

Item 63.0 Operation and Maintenance

for Fiscal 78, or take any other action relative thereto.

It was unanimously voted to transfer from available funds the following sum of money for School Department account:

Item 63.0 Operation and Maintenance, \$4,339.00 for fiscal 1978.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to accept the amount of money received under the provisions of Public Works Employment Act of 1976, and will vote to expend this money for regarding a section of Scantic Road near the intersection of South Monson Road, or take any other action relative thereto.

It was unanimously voted to accept the sum of \$3,036.64, which includes \$2,859.00 received on July 13, 1977, plus interest earned since last commitment, and to expend this money with other Chapter 90 money allocated for Main St.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purchase and installation of a radio call system for the Fire Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

It was unanimously voted to transfer from available funds the sum of \$7,600.00 for the purchase and installation of a radio call system for the Fire Department.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to accept \$100. for perpetual care of Stockton-Jones lot in Old Cemetery, Chapin Road, or take any other action relative thereto.

It was unanimously voted to accept \$100. for perpetual care of Stockton-Jones lot in Old Cemetery, Chapin Road.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to accept \$100. for perpetual care of Thomas lot in Old Cemetery, Chapin Road, or take any other action relative thereto.

It was unanimously voted to accept \$100. for perpetual care of Thomas lot in Old Cemetery, Chapin Road.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to accept the gazebo constructed by the Hampden Lions Club on property of Thornton Burgess Intermediate School, Wilbraham Road, and will vote to assume responsibility for care and maintenance of this structure, or take any other action relative thereto.

It was unanimously voted to accept the gazebo constructed by the Hampden Lions Club on property of Thornton Burgess Intermediate School, Wilbraham Road, and vote to assume responsibility for care and maintenance of this structure.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money for the use by the Police Department in a Pedestrian Safety program, as established by the Governor's Highway Safety Committee; any reimbursement of such expenses to be paid into the Town Treasury, or take any other action relative thereto.

It was unanimously voted to transfer from available funds the sum of \$3,085.00 for use by the Police Department in a Pedestrian Safety program, as established by the Governor's Highway Safety Committee; subject to the approval of the grant and any reimbursement of such expenses to be paid into the Town Treasury.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to be used in connection with money already raised, transferred or authorized to be borrowed in previous years, for reconstruction of a portion of Main Street, beginning at Station 61 + 00 and proceeding to Station 76 + 50, or as far as available money will permit; any reimbursement of such expenses to be paid into the Town Treasury; or take any other action relative thereto.

It was voted to borrow the sum of \$23,154.00 to be used in connection with money already raised, transferred or authorized to be borrowed in previous years, for reconstruction of a portion of Main Street, beginning at Station 61 + 00 and proceeding to Station 76 + 50, or as far as available money will permit.

Vote: Yes 62
No 22

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Number of registered voters Jan. 1, 1977	2,435
Number of new voters registered during 1977	52
Number of voters dropped from voting list during the year	85
Number of registered voters Dec. 31, 1977	2,402
Voter attendance at elections during the year	
1976	1977
Republican caucus.	47
Democratic caucus.	69
Presidential primary.	636
Town election.	479
State primary.	332
State election.	2092

Respectfully submitted:

Faye W. Flynn, Chairman
 Frank J. T. Kirk
 Royal Cady
 Marie V. Krook, Clerk



Members of Hampden Volunteer Fire Dept. raising beards for Centennial. Standing (l to r) David Sutcliffe, Robert Sazama, James Burns, Robert Kirk, Thomas Paulin. Seated (l to r) Homer Fuller, Francis Chang, Richard Hatch, Chief, Lawrence Hatch, Daniel Isham.

REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT 1977

During the year 1977 the Fire Department responded to 86 calls. Because of the increase in the use of wood stoves and fireplaces, chimney fires are still steadily increasing. We would like to remind all residents to inspect their chimneys for build up of soot or cracks in flue lines or the chimney masonry. The Fire Department was active this year in the Hampden County Mutual Aid Association. The Scantic Valley Muster Team participated in various musters throughout Mass., New Hampshire and New York.

I would like to thank the Police and Highway Departments for their cooperation throughout the year.

1977 FIRES

11 House
5 Barn
11 Chimney

1 Bomb Scare
19 Car Fires
1 Dump

2 False Alarms
32 Grass
4 Mutual Aid calls

Respectfully submitted,
Richard A. Hatch
Chief of Fire Department



HAMPDEN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

FOREST FIRE ANNUAL REPORT 1977

There were twenty-one brush and grass fires in the year 1977. Outdoor burning for this year, 1978, is by permit only from January 1 to March 15. Permits may be obtained from Dick Boynton (Forest Fire Warden), Howard Cutting (Deputy Fire Warden), or Dick Hatch (Fire Chief).

Sincerely,
Richard J. Boynton
Forest Fire Warden

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Just for a change I'll try to rhyme
the events that occurred at Town Meeting time.

The Annual Meeting in April was the main event.
Articles approved raised our taxes by ten percent.

Thirty six articles were on the agenda
and schools took the prize as the big spender.
Teacher's salaries were the cause of much debate
because contract settlements awaited a later date.

Some wished to anticipate what teachers would get,
others were adamant that we don't tell them yet.
For awhile confusion reigned upon the floor,
it seems we need to communicate more.

Other articles in the warrant were not so contested
and it didn't take long before they were rested,
thanks to the wisdom of the voters who attended.
Any article not applicable was quickly amended.

A special town meeting was held in June
because the fiscal years end was due up soon.
There were matters to which we had to attend
or be denied state monies we wanted to spend.

A Special Meeting also was held in December,
just six days before Christmas and I clearly remember
we played Santa Claus to Homer and bought a new truck
but radios for school busses enjoyed no such luck.

This year is unique and after one hundred years
Hampden has a history that deserves only cheers.
So please attend Town Meetings and speak from the floor
and assure through your efforts a proud one hundred more.

Dalton Philpott
Moderator





*William Olmstead,
Clifford Attleton,
Evelyn Kirk, Charles
T. Schmitt, George
Kealy: Hampden
Housing Authority
members at Ground
Breaking for Housing
for Elderly.*

REPORT OF THE HAMDEN HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Hampden Housing Authority is pleased to report that the Housing for the Elderly Project on Somers Road has become a reality. At the writing of this report, the total project is 92% Completed and occupancy is expected in about four weeks which means about March 15, 1978.

The ground breaking ceremony was held on May 26, 1977. More than one hundred townspeople plus state and local officials participated in the ceremony. Included were State Senator Robert Wetmore, State Representative John Perry, William G. Flynn, Secretary of the Department of Community Affairs, Arthur Kimber, Regional Director of the Department of Community Affairs, Michael Creanza, Department of Community Affairs, Reverend Fasth, The Honorable Board of Selectmen, Town of Hampden, and nearly all other town officers who were able to attend. Chairman George Kealy presided. Also in attendance was the original appointed Committee comprised of William Olmstead, Donald Wilcox, Helen Larson, Gertrude Lyons, and Virginia Fasth.

The general contractor, E.A. Gralia Construction Company, began actual site work in May of 1977, with a planned completion date of April 1978.

Mr. Gordon Willcutt of Hampden was appointed Clerk of the Works to oversee the project on behalf of the Authority.

Work progressed at a more than satisfactory pace and by Jan. 30, 1978, the following have been completed:

All fifty six units are virtually ready with the exception of some furniture which is not yet in place, the community room is completed, the most unique feature, a silo water tank with a 10,000 gallon capacity is also ready: sidewalks leading from the units to Somers Road and Meadowbrook Lane have been finished and shuffleboard areas are ready for use.

The Authority is in the process of selecting an executive director. The screening of more than 50 people for this position is presently in progress.

The director will oversee all activities and be generally responsible for the maintenance of the entire project. He will also serve as executive secretary of the Authority. Applications for tenant eligibility have been received by the Authority in great numbers and each will be screened by the executive director.

The Authority would like to thank all state and local officials who have been most cooperative in the planning and development of the project.

Respectfully submitted,
George J. Kealy, *Chairman*
Charles T. Schmitt, *Vice Chairman*
William T. Olmstead, *Treasurer*
Clifford Attleton, *Asst. Treasurer*
Florence Kirk, *Secretary*

REPORT OF THE HAMPDEN RECYCLE CENTER

This has been a big year for the Recycle Center.

FIRST: we moved the dumpsters back to the landfill area so people would not have to go out of their way in order to deposit their newspapers and glass.

SECOND: we had concrete pads built to put the dumpsters on so they could be picked up easily in the winter time.

THIRD: we built covers for the glass dumpster to prevent material other than glass from being deposited.

We picked up newspapers from the Mary Lyons Nursing home every Sat. and whenever called upon we pick up newspapers and glass from individuals who cannot get to the recycle center.

At present we have the paper dumpster dumped once a month and at 1,000 cubic feet per dumpster this is saving the landfill area 12,000 cubic feet of space a year. With your continued support it should add to the life of the landfill and save us all tax dollars.

There are three rotating Scout units involved in the recycle center, Cub Pack 171, Boy Scout Troop 171, and Explorer Post 171. All proceeds from the recycle center are divided equally among these units.

The recycle center is open every Sat. 9 - 4 and your continued support will be greatly appreciated.

Dale R. Sherman
Chairman



RECYCLING COMMITTEE: (Sitting, left) Bill Bailey, (Troop 171), (Sitting, right) Dale Sherman, (Chairman), (Standing, left) Jim Stone, (Treasurer) (Standing, right) Mike Flynn (Post 171). Not present when picture was taken; Nancy White (Secretary), Leo Caughlin (Pack 171)

REPORT OF THE BUILDING COMMISSIONER

For the year ending December 31, 1977 there were two hundred and twenty two permits granted.

These were as follows:

Building:

Housing for the elderly-seven bldgs.	1
Houses	35
Barns	2
Sheds	4
Garages	3
Pavilion	1
Cabana	1
Additions to houses	17
Alterations to houses	5
Repair fire damage	1
Addition to garage	1
Additions to barns	2
Swimming pools	8
Remove sheds	3
Remove swimming pool	1
Remove barn	1
Remove hen house	1
Move hen house	1
Change sign	1

Electrical:

Housing for the elderly-seven bldgs.	1
Houses	28
Barns	2
Additions and alterations	24
Services changes	16
Swimming pools	3
Appliances	1
Emergency generator	1

Plumbing:

Housing for the elderly-seven bldgs.	1
Houses	27
Alterations and additions	14
Gas	15

Respectfully submitted,
Gordon J.E. Willeutt, Sr.
Building Commissioner

REPORT OF CEMETERY COMMISSION

The cemetery commissioners wish to report the following:

Both cemeteries were mowed as often as needed. Sunken graves were filled at both cemeteries and seeded.

Three meetings were held with the Board of Cemetery Commissioners, and the maps were brought up to date.

Respectfully submitted,
Homer L. Fuller, *Chairman*
Arthur Gerrish
Robert Sazama, Jr.

REPORT OF DOG OFFICER

During 1977, a total of 75 dogs were impounded when found running at large; of this number 7 dogs were sold, bringing \$5 each to the Town; 45 were redeemed by their owners, also bringing \$5 each to the Town; the remaining 23 were kept the required number of days and then destroyed. Reimbursement from the County amounted to \$310. This is an expense to the Town, and residents are cautioned that the restraining order remains in force - dogs must be under the control of owners at all times.

Nancy Huntington was forced to resign as Dog Officer, for health reasons, and Mr. Thomas Lyons of Scantic Road is now the Dog Officer. He may be reached at 8852 or at 737-7643, by anyone with dog problems.

REPORT OF THE COLLECTOR OF TAXES

Fiscal 1976 Real Estate Taxes		
Balance due January 1, 1978		\$4133.53
 Fiscal 1977 Real Estate Taxes		
Balance due January 1, 1978		45,892.06
 Fiscal 1978 Real Estate Taxes		
Total Commitment		1,718,930.44
	Refunds	3,185.87
		<hr/>
		1,722,116.31
 Collected and paid Town Treasurer	\$794,190.33	
Abatements	19,496.04	
Transferred to Tax Title Account	<u>1,339.09</u>	815,025.46
Balance due January 1, 1978		<hr/> 907,090.85
 Fiscal 77 Farm Animal Excise		
Total Commitment		138.95
Collected and paid Town Treasurer		138.95
 Fiscal 1974 Personal Property Taxes		
Balance due January 1, 1978 (Court Case)		221.49
 Fiscal 1975 Personal Property Taxes		
Balance due January 1, 1978 (Court Case)		481.50
 Fiscal 1976 Personal Property Taxes		
Balance due January 1, 1978 (Court Case)		1087.90

Fiscal 1977 Personal Property Taxes		
Balance due January 1, 1978.....		3061.20
Fiscal 1978 Personal Property Taxes		
Total Commitment		103,800.97
Collected and paid Town Treasurer.....	35,548.12	
Abatements	<u>612.20</u>	36,160.32
Balance due January 1, 1978.....		67,640.65
1975 Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes		
Balance due January 1, 1978.....		105.60
1976 Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes		
Balance due January 1, 1978.....		2047.43
1977 Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes		
Total Commitments.....		\$178,215.47
Refunds		2,297.25
		180,512.72
Collected and paid Town Treasurer.....	\$125,288.95	
Abatements	<u>13,652.72</u>	138,941.67
Balance due January 1, 1978.....		41,571.05
Items collected and paid Town Treasurer but not committed		
Fees on delinquent taxes.....		1,508.00
Interest on delinquent taxes		5,827.27
		7,335.27

Respectfully submitted,
 Dorothy S. Flynn
Collector of Taxes

