

All of the town equipment when used under Chapter 90 construction, Chapter 90 maintenance and Chapter 81, is reimbursed by the state on an hourly basis. This automatically goes into the Machinery Account which helps to purchase new equipment. This year we purchased two new sand bodies and one new dump truck. This year we hope to purchase another new sand body.

During this year, I've had good dependable men who take an interest and pride in the highways of their town.

Respectfully submitted,

HOMER L. FULLER

*Superintendent of Streets*



Highway Department

## DUTCH ELM REPORT

During 1973 we cut down and removed 27 diseased elm trees, many of these trees were large elms and quite expensive to have removed.

Diseased trees were cut down and removed from the following roads — North Road, Mountain Road, Main Street, Allen Street, East Longmeadow Road, Somers Road, and Glendale Road.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. REARDON  
*Supt., Insect Pest Control*

## REPORT OF TREE WARDEN

The tree warden wishes to report the following trees were removed:

- 6 Maple and 2 Elm trees on Wilbraham Road
- 4 Maple trees on Somers Road
- 3 small Maple trees and 1 Elm tree on Main Street
- 2 Large Maple trees and 1 Elm tree on Glendale Road
- 4 Small Elms on Allen Street
- 2 large Elm trees on East Longmeadow Road
- 2 Elm trees on South Road
- 4 Maple trees on North Road

Trees on Glendale Road, Wilbraham Road, Somers Road and Main Street were trimmed of dead wood.

Trees will be planted this spring on Wilbraham Road, Martin Farm Road, Raymond Drive and Main Street.

Respectfully submitted,

HOMER L. FULLER  
*Tree Warden*



## REPORT OF BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Total appropriation to be raised by taxation.	\$2,789,104.86	
Total appropriation to be taken from available funds. . . . .	135,698.85	
Deficite due to abatements in excess of overlay in 1968. . . . .	121.36	
Offsets to Cherry Sheet Estimated Receipts:		
School Lunch Program . . . . .	12,348.00	
Free Public Libraries . . . . .	3,429.00	
Racial Imbalance Program . . . . .	51,307.50	
Other Amounts to be Raised:		
Veteran Service District . . . . .	2,175.50	
Lower Pioneer Valley Regional Planning District . . . . .	822.96	
County Tax. . . . .	29,561.37	
State Recreation Areas . . . . .	11,240.42	
Audit of Municipal Accounts. . . . .	2,796.16	
Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Bills . . . . .	445.05	
State Assessment System. . . . .	171.72	
Air Pollution Control District. . . . .	277.01	
1972 Underestimates of Air Pollution Control District . . . . .	9.08	
Overlay of current year . . . . .	45,953.91	
	<hr/>	
GROSS AMOUNT TO BE RAISED . . . . .		\$3,085,462.75

## ESTIMATED RECEIPTS AND AVAILABLE FUNDS

1973 Estimated Receipts as certified by the Commissioner on Cherry Sheet . . . . .	\$ 869,289.72
Motor Vehicle and Trailer Excise. . . . .	129,514.13
Licenses . . . . .	8,000.00
Fines . . . . .	500.00
School (Local receipts of School Committee) . . . . .	700.00
Interest: On Taxes and Assessment . . . . .	5,200.00
Farm Animal, Machinery and Equipment Excise. . . . .	450.00
1972 Overestimate of County Tax . . . . .	602.89

1972 Overestimate of State Recreation Area Tax				1,173.04
Available Funds taken by vote				135,698.85
TOTAL ESTIMATE AND AVAILABLE FUNDS				\$1,151,128.63
NET AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION ON PROPERTY				\$1,934,334.12
2/3 TO BE RAISED IN 1973				\$1,289,556.08
Total Valuation				
Personal Property	\$ 1,833,135.00	× \$43.00 = Tax	\$	78,824.92
Real Estate	28,156,525.00	× \$43.00 = Tax		1,210,731.16
Total	\$29,989,660.00	Total Taxes Levied		\$1,289,556.08
Omitted Assessment				
Real Estate	\$ 5,805.00	Tax		249.62
Total Taxes Levied				\$1,289,805.70
Taxes Abated in 1973				
1966 Personal Property		\$		2,310.88
1967 Personal Property				4,177.75
1968 Personal Property				4,105.70
1969 Personal Property				3,513.87
1970 Personal Property				2,296.79
1971 Personal Property				3,484.77
1972 Personal Property				3,507.70
1973 Personal Property				3,320.30
1971 Real Estate				445.12
1972 Real Estate				349.95
1973 Real Estate				2,086.51
Statutory Exemptions Granted in 1973 on Real Estate				
1972 Real Estate		\$		78.00
1973 Real Estate				19,570.39
Farm Animal, Machinery and Equipment Excise Committed in 1973				
		\$		210.95
Motor Vehicle and Trailer Excise Committed in 1973				
1972 Commitments		\$		43,480.22
1973 Commitments				120,394.19
Commissioners' Value of Vehicles				
1972 Commitments			\$1,116,870.00	
1973 Commitments			1,945,520.00	
Motor Vehicle Abatements Granted in 1973				
1971 Commitments		\$		670.64
1972 Commitments				9,405.88
1973 Commitments				11,244.37

The Town owns the following real estate

		<i>Valued</i>
Ames Road	6 acres	\$ 150.00
Cross Road (Dump)	13.42 acres	1,500.00
Baldwin Drive Lot 122	1.06 acres	1,000.00
North Road	$\frac{1}{4}$ acre	600.00
Wilbraham Road	22 acres	2,000.00
Thresher Road	4 acres	400.00

#### OFFICE HOURS

Monday . . . . . 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Wednesday . . . . . 2 P.M. to 5 P.M.

Friday . . . . . 2 P.M. to 5 P.M.

Assessors meet the second Tuesday of each month except in August in the Assessors' office at eight o'clock.

A copy of the real estate valuation book has been put in the library for public inspection.

Respectfully submitted,

STANLEY WITKOP, *Chairman*  
 RICHARD A. JALBERT  
 HENRY P. BAUSH



Board of Assessors

## REPORT OF LIBRARY 1973

The library has had another busy year. Bookmobile continues to supplement our book supply and Western Regional Public Library System fills our many requests from patrons. The staff continues to service shut-ins and nursing homes. The Hampden newspaper clippings are also kept up to date in the yearly scrap book.

Numerous new books were purchased during the year as well as for National Library and Childrens' Book Week. Three new sets of encyclopedias have been added to the reference section. During Childrens' Book Week the children enjoyed movies and apples. Summer readers upon completion of the course received a new book. Santa paid us a visit in December listening to all the wants of over one hundred "small fry". All enjoyed candy canes.

The staff Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Rochford, and Mrs. Curtis attended a six week reference course at the Wilbraham library under the direction of Western Regional Public Library System.

Our many thanks go to: Mrs. Bittner's third grade class for their drawings which helped to decorate the Childrens' Section, Mr. & Mrs. Carl Larson for their display of gourds, plant and cactus garden, and also to Mrs. Julia Bouchard for her many volunteer hours at the library. Many thanks also to the many patrons who have donated books, paperbacks and magazines.



Mrs. Rochford has been instructing the 3rd. graders from Green Meadows school in library skills such as: care and use of books, using the catalog file and being able to find the book they want on the shelf.

The library hours on Thursday are now 10:30 to 5 to help accommodate the kindergarten and school children.

The library trustees meet on the third Wednesday of the month.

Respectfully submitted,

MILDRED ATTLETON, *Trustee*  
 MIRIAM P. BRYANS, *Trustee*  
 ELSIE THERRIEN, *Trustee*  
 ELIZABETH J. CURTIS, *Librarian*

### LIBRARY HOURS

Monday . . . . . 12:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. . . . . 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

Wednesday . . . 12:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. . . . . 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

Thursday . . . . 10:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Saturday . . . . . 12:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Closed Saturday — July and August

### LIBRARY STATISTICS

#### I. GENERAL SERVICES

Circulation of Books and Magazines. . . . .	27,550
Books Purchased. . . . .	892
Periodical Subscriptions. . . . .	44
Total Attendance. . . . .	16,843
Inter-Loan Books Borrowed. . . . .	187
Bookmobile. . . . .	2,607

#### II. FINANCES

##### Receipts

Appropriation by Town (12 mos.) . . . . .	\$10,245
Dog Tax. . . . .	544
State Aid. . . . .	1,714
	<hr/>
	\$12,503

##### Expenditures

Books and Magazines. . . . .	\$ 4,488
Wages. . . . .	7,425
Supplies, Telephone, Incidentals. . . . .	590
	<hr/>
	\$12,503



## REPORT OF CEMETERY COMMISSION

The cemetery commissioners wish to report the following:

Both cemeteries were moved nine times. The fences in Prospect Hill Cemetery and the Old Cemetery were repaired and had two coats of paint. This year they will be painted once more.

The lower side of Prospect Hill Cemetery was filled in, graded and reseeded.

This year we hope to put in more chain link fence in the back of the Old Cemetery.

Respectfully submitted,

HOMER L. FULLER, *Chairman*

ARTHUR H. GERRISH

ERNESTINE JOHNSON

## REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD

1973 has been a busy year; many inquiries into Wetland property, Sub-division plans being developed by local residents, regular signing of plans, researching of business and industrial zones, keeping alert of recent trends, and in general making use of all available means to carry out the wishes of the community.

There have been a variety of friends of the community to meet and talk with including a city doctor who has a hobby of glider plane soaring and desired interpretation of Hampden's Zoning By-Laws related to the practice of his hobby here in Town.

Our three "newcomers", Henry Hanmer who was appointed to fill the position created by Larry Hatch's resignation, Dudley Bliss who was elected to fill the position made by Chuck Sharples' resignation and our clerk, Judy Jackson who replaced Leslie Verney in April; all have one thing in common in that they just learn one aspect of Planning Board duties and something entirely different comes along and they are again "newcomers" eagerly learning by doing.

Carl Libby was re-elected Chairman, Fred Maher is Vice-Chairman, Dudley Bliss is our representative to the Lower Pioneer Valley Regional Planning Commission and Henry Hanmer is the alternate representative. Henry is also on the Zoning Sub-Committee currently studying "signs" and "Flood Plain Zoning". Dr. Cliff Keeney was our representative to the Sidewalk Study Committee and will be involved in the Master Plan Review scheduled for 1974.

A great deal of effort has been made to bring the Office files up to date in hopes of clearer and more efficient researching of Zoning history and past Boards' efforts.

The Zoning By-Laws booklets have been reprinted and put together in a loose leaf binder to enable the future pulling out of obsolete sections and insertion of new amendments at a minimum expense. These are available at a cost of \$3.00 in the Town Clerk's office.

The Zoning Maps are being updated to include the Wetlands and will be available for purchase.



In hopes of better communication between Town Boards, we met with the Advisory Board on Nov. 14th and a copy of the minutes of all our meetings will be sent to the Board regularly. Mrs. Carol Thomas, our professional planner and consultant also requested a copy of all meeting minutes as she finds this a good way to keep up to date for the small cost of postage. As times get more sophisticated, Planning is becoming more complex for the average layman, all over the State.

On Feb. 14th a formal hearing was held on the Articles for the Town Warrant. Included and finally approved by the Attorney General were amendments under Articles 30, 31, and 32 voted on at the Annual Town Meeting held March 5, 1973.

Flood Plain/Wetland District became the Wetland District as the Flood Plain has never been established on a Zoning Map. This zoning makes qualifying homeowners eligible for Flood Plain insurance.

In continuing work on the large Town map, a long search for the Town's metes and bounds ended with a letter from Land Court in Boston stating that Hampden was measured by the Harbor and Land Commission and this information could be found in a 1912 publication of "The Atlas of the Boundaries of Cities and Towns."

Developer Arthur Christianson had begun to put in his sidewalks on the Bayberry and Colony Dr. subdivision when a petition was presented to the Board by the residents stating that they did not want sidewalks. Mr. Christianson agreed to put off his work and await a decision of the Sidewalk Study Committee before furthering his efforts.

Mr. David Bonney, representing Mass. Audubon Society came in to tell about his plans for a new parking lot at Laughing Brook. Mr. Bonney felt that talking with the Board in advance was a good way to avoid confusion of By-Law interpretation.

With the aid of Town Counsel and the Selectmen, an injunction was placed on the Hampden Country Club until they had completed all the requirements set up in the By-Laws. It was an unfortunate happening as a conscientious job was being done on site, but the people of the Town would have lost faith in their officials if the By-Laws are not enforced.

As the Andersen Mini-Mall successfully neared completion, copies of the various sign designs to appear on the shops were sent in for the Board to see.

Old business that will carry heavily into 1974 involved discussions with the interest of Hampden's elderly in mind. We welcome the chance to analyze this new activity and its sound place in our community.

Respectfully submitted,

CARL F. LIBBY, *Chairman*  
FREDERICK MAHER, JR.  
CLIFFORD KEENEY  
HENRY HANMER  
DUDLEY BLISS, JR.

## REPORT OF POLICE DEPARTMENT

I submit herewith the Annual Report for the Police Department for the year ending December 31, 1973.

During the year the Police Department recorded 11,165 log entries. These calls were for assistance, complaints and the reporting of crimes. The following is a general breakdown of the types of complaints received and investigated or responded to by the Police Department.

Breaking and Entering		Vandalism . . . . .	103
Forcible entry . . . . .	26	Prowlers . . . . .	15
Unlawful entry . . . . .	6	Bombing and bomb scares . . . . .	1
Attempted forcible entry . . . . .	8	Stolen cars recovered . . . . .	8
Larceny over \$100 . . . . .	27	Cars reported stolen . . . . .	3
Larceny under \$100 . . . . .	47	Ambulance calls assisted . . . . .	35
Assault on police officer . . . . .	4	Assisted Fire Dept. . . . .	46
Assault and battery . . . . .	4	Calls involving family problems . . . . .	44
Assault . . . . .	5	Persons reported missing . . . . .	18
Indecent assault . . . . .	1	Lost persons searched for . . . . .	5
Narcotics . . . . .	13	Peeping Toms . . . . .	2
Receiving stolen goods . . . . .	6	Suicide . . . . .	1
Disturber of the peace . . . . .	7	Obscene phone calls . . . . .	5
Possession of fireworks . . . . .	1	Bikes reported stolen . . . . .	23
Possession of firearms		Buildings found open . . . . .	100
without ID card . . . . .	2	Dog Complaints . . . . .	28
Drunkenness . . . . .	1	Burglar alarms answered . . . . .	45
Possession of dangerous		Accidental shootings . . . . .	2
weapon . . . . .	1	Arrests for other depts. . . . .	1
Willful and malicious		Neighborhood problems . . . . .	11
destruction of property . . . . .	2		

During the year 72 persons were apprehended by the Police Department; a total of 106 complaints were filed against them in the following categories.

Breaking and entering . . . . .	5	Possession for Firearms	
Larceny . . . . .	12	without ID card . . . . .	2
Assault on police officer . . . . .	3	Possession of dangerous	
Assault and battery . . . . .	5	weapon . . . . .	1
Assault . . . . .	5	Drunkenness . . . . .	1
Indecent assault . . . . .	1	Willful and malicious	
Narcotics . . . . .	43	destruction of property . . . . .	2
		Operating under influence	
		of liquor . . . . .	7

Receiving stolen property . . . . .	1	Minor with alcoholic beverages in motor vehicle . . . . .	4
Disturber of the peace . . . . .	7		
Possession of Fireworks . . . . .	1	Operating without license . . . . .	6

During the year 80 juveniles were apprehended. Twenty-four of these cases were brought to Juvenile Court and the remaining 56 juveniles were questioned and released or released to their parents.

There were 63 traffic accidents reported and investigated by this department. A total of 99 cars were involved in these accidents. Twenty-six persons were injured and required medical treatment.

The following is a summary of motor vehicle cases handled by the Police Department during the year. There were 319 citations issued for the following offenses.

Speeding . . . . .	168	Reckless driving . . . . .	10
Stop sign . . . . .	54	Operating without motor- cycle license . . . . .	3
Operating without license . . . . .	18	Allowing improper person to operate . . . . .	1
Operating without registration in possession . . . . .	22	Disposal of rubbish from motor vehicle . . . . .	1
Attaching plates . . . . .	3	Metal studded tires after 5/1 or before 11/1 . . . . .	1
No rear lights . . . . .	2	Noisy muffler . . . . .	1
Abandonment of motor vehicle . . . . .	1	Operating unregistered motor vehicle . . . . .	3
Minor with alcoholic beverages in motor vehicle . . . . .	4	Operating uninsured motor vehicle . . . . .	3
Operating without inspection sticker . . . . .	3	Operating to endanger . . . . .	1
Operating without protective headgear . . . . .	3	Operating after suspension . . .	1
Operating under influence . . . . .	7	Failure to keep to the right . . .	4
Operating without authority . . .	2	No rear view mirrors . . . . .	1
Leaving scene after causing property damage . . . . .	1	Operating after sunset on learner's permit . . . . .	1

Total amounts of fines and sentences.

Fines imposed . . . . .	\$4,835.00
Suspended sentences to House of Correction . . . . .	5 years, 9 months
Probation . . . . .	2 years, 6 months

The police department responded to many calls during the year for sick and injured persons. Persons injured in both motor vehicle accidents and home accidents were treated by members of our department and sent to hospitals or to their own doctors. There were many cases where our resusci-

tator was used. We wish to again remind town residents that our cruisers are equipped with a resuscitator and oxygen and all our men are trained in its use. Our cruisers are also equipped with all first aid supplies and can immediately assist until an ambulance can respond.

During the year the police department issued 92 pistol permits, 55 firearms I.D. cards, 33 reports to insurance companies, 1 license to sell ammunition, 2 Firearms Dealers license, 2 junk car permits, 1 liquor purchase I.D. card for a total of \$1,202.00 which was turned over to the Town Treasurer.

In December, 1973, I attended a police management school in Boston for one week. This school was for Chiefs of Police and sponsored by the Massachusetts Police Training Council and the instructors were from the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, D.C.

Officer Robert Newton attended the F.B.I. Firearms Instructors Training School in Wakefield, Massachusetts for one week in September, 1973. Officer Newton will now be the Firearms Instructor for the police department.

In May, 1973, Officer Douglas Verney and I attended a 3 day state seminar on Emergency preparedness. This seminar was put on by the Massachusetts Civil Defense Agency and the University of Massachusetts.

Officer James Kirk and Officer Douglas Verney who became a full time patrolman for our department in July, 1973, will attend the Police Academy in Westfield for 10 weeks beginning in February, 1974.

The members of the Hampden Auxiliary Police Department were again very active during the year. The members attend one business meeting and one training meeting each month. They also have donated many hundreds of hours of work on weekends to patrol duty, desk duty and the handling of church traffic.





Hampden Police Department



Hampden Police Cadets

The Auxiliary Police Scholarship Fund which was established in 1972 is still available to young men and women who wish to continue their education in the law enforcement or related fields. Information may be obtained from the Auxiliary Police, the Police Department or at Minnechaug Regional High School.

I wish to thank each and every member of this fine organization for all the time they have donated to the police department and the Town of Hampden during the past year.

Our Police Cadet program is now well into its second year of operation. The Police Cadets again attended the Police Cadet Academy in Connecticut during the summer. They attend this Academy for a week at their own expense. Again in 1973 they were named the most outstanding unit at the Academy. This is the second year that our cadets have received the top award for the best unit. For this outstanding achievement the boys received a plaque, the first to ever be given at the Academy in Connecticut. I am very proud of our Police Cadets for receiving this outstanding award.

During the year the Police Cadets have received training in first aid, traffic control and firearms. They also attended a course in Basic Rescue taught by instructors from the Massachusetts Civil Defense Agency who came to Hampden for two days to teach the course. They have also received instruction in Radiological Monitoring.

The Cadets were again a great help to the police department during the year in doing house checks. Assigned to work with a regular officer, they checked houses every night during the summer months.

I wish to thank Officer Douglas Verney, the advisor to the Police Cadet Post, who has spent many hours of his own time in training with the Cadets.

I wish to thank the Board of Selectmen who are the Police Commissioners for their continued support and cooperation, the citizens of the town, the members of this department and all other departments and Town Officials with whom I have worked.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE K. STONE, JR.  
*Chief of Police*

## **REPORT OF BOARD OF HEALTH**

The Board of Health of Hampden has had an active program public health-wise in effect in 1973.

### **STATISTIC REPORTS**

1. Anti-Rabies Immunization for dogs held April 21, 1973 under the direction of Dr. Stewart K. Harvey, 150 dogs inoculated.

2. Mumps Immunization Vaccine clinic conducted.

3. Rubella and German Measles Immunization Vaccine Clinic conducted.

63 Vaccines for above Clinics supplied from the State Department of Public Health.

5 Food service permits

15 Septic tank installations (new)



- 11 Septic tank installations denied (poor soil conditions)
- 27 Repair of sewage disposal systems
- 3 Public swimming pool permits
- 6 Septic tank pumping operators

### SANITARY LAND FILL

4. Sanitary Land fill has been operated effectively over the year 1973. Runoff of surface water was a problem and after consultation with the State and Tighe & Bond, Engineers, an effective remedy for redirecting the runoff was put into practice and performed well. The site was inspected weekly by the Board of Health and monthly by Tighe & Bond to assure proper maintenance and operation in full accord with the State regulations. Additional fencing has been added to screen the land-fill area from passing motorists.

One persistent difficulty has been indiscriminate dumping at the landfill site during hours when it is not open. This causes a definite nuisance and additional expense; when it is possible to identify violators, then legal steps are taken. The land-fill operating hours are Tuesday 12 noon to 6 P.M. and Saturday 9 A.M. to 6 P.M.

The land-fill maintenance is a public bid normally for one or two years. For this annual town meeting of 1974, the budget item for Operation Sanitary Land-Fill will reflect the latest figures as a result of this contractual bidding.

### SEPTIC TANKS

The Board of Health has continued to have available septic tank pumping facilities out of town, at Bondi Island in Agawam and Chicopee and is pleased to report that all has gone well. The Board of Health has also instituted a new system for percolation tests. These tests may now be taken from April 1-June 30 and from Oct. 1-Nov. 15 only. The purpose of this regulation is to assure that subject to today's situations, the septic tanks are properly engineered and the percolation tests were taken in the wettest period of the year, hence being adequately engineered to serve all seasons.

In the environmental interest, we have all read and heard much of the general guidelines of the State and the Federal government and we've actively tried to inform and regulate the residents of the Town of Hampden so that full conformance to these regulations is maintained.

Probably the most stringent regulation for the residents of Hampden is the complete limitation of outdoor burning. Hopefully, this will be either amended to allow some burning or amended to allow some burning for a specified period of time in the spring. Many projections have been made but nothing official at the time of the writing of this report has been received.

We thank you for your cooperation in working with the Board of Health and suggestions for improvement in the services from the Town would be much appreciated by your Board.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN M. FLYNN  
SHERWOOD CRONK  
FRANK J. T. KIRK



## 1973 REPORT OF TRUSTEES FOR COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

Town of HAMPDEN, MASS.

In accordance with the General Laws of the Commonwealth — Chapter 128 — The Trustees For County Cooperative Extension Service are empowered to receive, on behalf of the County, money appropriated by any town or by the Federal Government for carrying out the provisions of the law under which they are appointed.

Their agents have made contacts during the past year in every community either by public meetings, individual visits, group discussions, demonstrations or otherwise in attempting to assist the needs of the citizens toward helping to solve management problems, better living and better community service and have been ably assisted by hundreds of local volunteer leaders to this end.

A total expense of \$14.00 was incurred during the year for either travel or purchase of material needed in carrying on the various projects by the local leaders. The appropriation made by your town was used for only residents of the town.

### FINANCIAL SUMMARY

1973-74 Appropriation .....	none
Total Expenditures in 1973 .....	\$14.00
Recommended Appropriation for 12 Months: .....	none
July - December 1974	January - June 1975
none	none

Respectfully submitted,

Trustees For County Cooperative Extension Service  
WALTER MELNICK, *Clerk*

### REPORT OF THE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

The Parks and Recreation Commission met regularly on the first and third Tuesdays of each month and had several special meetings with other Town organizations on other evenings.

A major change in our operating procedure came about with the selectmen assuming the financial and supervisory responsibility of maintaining all baseball fields, soccer fields, playground areas as well as all other public grounds.

Many delays were encountered in resurfacing the four tennis courts at Thornton Burgess School, but the job was finally completed. With the completion of the work, an intensive effort was made to see that the courts were used by Hampden residents only.

The summer recreation program for youngsters was held at Memorial Park for six weeks and averaged about one hundred twenty five participants per week.

Swimming lessons were held at the pool for residents whether or not they participated in the summer recreation program.

The Fourth of July program was almost cancelled because of rain, but perseverance won out and the day was a success.

In addition to the Fourth of July concert by the Elks Band, a second concert featuring Ronnie Drumm and his youth band was held in August before a crowd of about three hundred at Memorial Park.

New swings were installed at Thornton Burgess School, some spring animals at Memorial Park, and a new backstop at Green Meadows School.

Baseball programs sponsored by the Recreation Association of Hampden (RAH) for both boys and girls used Park and School facilities to have a successful season.

The Commission sponsored a summer soccer team for young men. This team played in a league of about twenty teams from various parts of Western Massachusetts. Home games were played at Thornton Burgess School.

Roller Skating was again one of our most successful programs. Skating was held Tuesday evenings during the winter months at Thornton Burgess School and was for children from fourth grade through high school. This program attracted over one hundred fifty participants.

Adult recreation programs during the winter months were held in the gym at Thornton Burgess School.

Basketball programs for different age groups were sponsored by both the Commission and the Recreation Association of Hampden.

Many residents of the Town have been very helpful to the Commission both by assisting us in programs and by contributing many hours of labor in the continuing improvement projects and the always present maintenance problems. We extend our sincere appreciation to those who have helped.

Evelyn Kirk, after having served on the Commission since it became an elective body, found it necessary to resign this year. Evelyn worked very hard and with sincere dedication to the efforts of promoting a good Parks and Recreation Commission.

Howard Cutting has been appointed to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Mrs. Kirk.

We thank all Town officials for their cooperation and wish to particularly thank the Police Department for the considerable time they expended in combating vandalism in Memorial Park.

WILBUR JENKINS, *Chairman*  
JAMES CAREY  
HOWARD CUTTING  
FREDERICK WATERHOUSE, JR.  
JAMES WHIPPLE

## REPORT OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The Board held regular meetings on Monday evenings during 1973, except for July and August, when meetings were held bi-weekly.

The directives as voted at Town Meetings in 1973 have been completed. New traffic designs and construction at the intersections of Main Street and Somers Road, Allen Street, East Longmeadow Road and Wilbraham Road and Allen Street have been stalled, due to delays by the Mass. Department of

Public Works in approving local engineers and consultants. It is most difficult to explain to the residents of Hampden the problems involved in attempting to utilize State and Federal money for the benefit of local citizens. The reconstruction of these two intersections has been hopelessly tossed around politically. Our State representative and Senator have been most cooperative and helpful, but cannot get around the list of approved consultants.

The Board through its Newsletter has brought to all residents of Hampden a communication which has resulted in many fine comments.

The completion of Wilbraham Road to Raymond Drive has made a fine addition to this road. We recognize the fine work done by our Highway Department. With the near completion of the Hampden Country Club, which abuts both sides, Wilbraham Road is now a beauty spot second to none. With the application of special highway grants for Wilbraham Road this year, it is anticipated that reconstruction will be completed as far as Echo Valley Drive. All engineering including storm drainage, is nearly complete.

This year we will be voting on a normal twelve months budget, except that the fiscal year will run from July 1 through June 30. The eighteen-month budget as voted has caused some problems, but we have managed so far to pull through in fine style.

Hampden has received as its share of Revenue Sharing approximately \$101,440 in fiscal 1974. This money can only be used for certain expenditures. The Board of Selectmen is recommending this money be used for the same accounts in fiscal 1975; namely, Snow & Ice Removal, Sanitary Landfill, Library, Highway Maintenance.

The national crisis pertaining to heat, light and gasoline prompted the Board to appoint an energy commission composed of nine local citizens. Our Board kept abreast of the shortages as early as the first of October, 1973. This commission is meeting regularly and formulating a workable plan that can be implemented if necessary.

Your Board has had meetings with the Sidewalk Study Committee and your attention is called to their studies and recommendations in this report.

The Board has worked closely with the Hampden Housing Authority. Donald E. Wilcox, Chairman, and all other members of the Committee have been extremely active and are now finalizing plans for the anticipated construction of these units. The studies, facts and actual preliminary information reveal that the need for this type of housing is growing rapidly in Hampden.

Your Hampden Board of Selectmen initiated the first area meeting of towns affected with the uncontrolled spread of gypsy moths. This meeting was attended by Selectmen, tree wardens and forestry supervisors from seven towns and the City of Springfield and City of Chicopee. At subsequent meetings officials from the Department of Natural Resources and State Representative Al Lolas attended. In October a field trip or on-site inspection of gypsy moth egg clusters was held on Silver Street in Monson. Federal and State departments had a wealth of information and stacks of pamphlets, but no money. A bill has been introduced in the General Court asking for funds for the control of this pest. As this report is written, it appears that all towns affected must provide the funds this year on their own to control infested areas close to residences. Cost-wise it is impossible to spray and try to eliminate the moths in acreage or forested areas.

Members of the Board attended nearly all meetings of the so-called Blue Ribbon Committee appointed by the County Commissioners to determine the



Board of Selectmen

best use of the County property known as the Hampden County Training School in Feeding Hills.

Liquor license applications were received and after legal published notices and hearings as required by the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission, the following action was taken:

Wine and Beer license granted to Village Mart.

Transfer of all alcoholic license from Hampden House to Shannon, Inc. approved.

Transfer of Hampden House Package Store to new location in Mini Mall approved.

All alcoholic common victualer license granted to Hampden Country Club.

The energy crisis, ice storms and possible shortages of power and communications have created a real need for Civil Defense. This group under Director Douglas Verney and Assistant Director Chief George Stone have reactivated this agency and are attending all meetings and are in constant touch with all area and State defense officials.

All public utilities; New England Telephone, Western Mass. Electric, Mass. Electric Co. and the Bay State Gas Co. have required more attention than ever before. Rate increases, sometimes increases upon increases, and poor service have caused complaints to be registered with company officials. Complaints have been filed with the Mass. Department of Public Utilities concerning both the New England Telephone Co. and the Mass. Electric Company because of inadequate service and alleged unfair treatment to residents and also to the Town of Hampden.

Our Police Department must be commended on the fine work it has done. The fact that we have 24 hour coverage is a factor in keeping the crime rate low. We are also proud of our Police Cadets who have done an outstanding job. Not only in assisting our police department in house checks and traffic duty, but in competition with other similar organizations, they have come away with top honors in several competitive meets.

Academy Hall is nearing completion and should be ready for use next fall. Many hours have been given toward the reconstruction by the members of the restoration committee and other volunteer workers. Hampden will be proud of this historical venture when it is finally completed. Many thanks to those whose time and efforts have made this project possible.

The Board of Selectmen is grateful for the sincere community interest displayed by all other boards, elected and appointed officials and residents who have assisted the Board in advisory or consulting capacities. The year 1973 and these first few months of 1974 have not been easy. Large problems are created too quickly. Solutions require deliberations and cannot be hurried.

The following fees have been reported as received and turned over to the Treasurer:

Collector of Taxes.....	\$ 960.00
Board of Selectmen.....	4,774.50
Police Department.....	1,202.00
Town Clerk.....	876.20
Treasurer (Building Permit fees).....	3,272.00

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK J. T. KIRK, *Chairman*  
SHERWOOD W. CRONK  
JOHN M. FLYNN  
*Board of Selectmen*

## REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION



The Conservation Commission held monthly meetings on the second Monday throughout 1973. The commission conducted also as part of its regular business, Hatch Act hearings; a new law which requires review of any plans to develop or alter wetlands.

In March 1973, the Commission was given care of a 20 acre parcel off Wilbraham road known as the Ballard tract. The parcel, which is largely wooded hillside, was land owned by the town for lack of payment of taxes. The Commission believes that preservation of

such land is in keeping with wise watershed protection as well as assuring open green space for future generations of the town.

A major undertaking of the Commission has been the preparation and publication of an Open Space Plan. The purpose of such a booklet is for townspeople to become acquainted with the areas proposed for long range preservation as open space. Funds to cover the cost of the printing was covered by a Ford Grant.



The paper re-cycle project has continued at the Sanitary Landfill site. Many thousands of tons of newspapers and magazines have been placed in the dumpster body which is provided at the site by a local salvage firm. The project provides the town with a small source of income and is especially important in alleviating a significant amount of bulk at the dump site.

At the March 1973 Town Meeting, an article to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1000.00 for real estate appraisal of property considered as possible land for Open Space acquisition was presented to the townspeople. It subsequently was voted in the affirmative at the meeting.

After much thorough research by the Commission, including meetings with the Planning Board and Recreation Committee of the town, appraisals were sought and acquired on the property at the intersection of Allen Street and Wilbraham Road known as the former Woska property. A presentation on acquisition of this property in the form of an Article will be made at the town meeting in March, 1974.

The Commission wished to express genuine thanks to those elected officials and townspeople who have been so co-operative and helpful in making the past year one of accomplishment.

Respectfully submitted,

LELAND H. PROCTER, *Chairman*  
ARTHUR H. GERRISH  
JOHN D. MIKKOLA  
LOUIS J. SICBALDI  
BENJAMIN BUMP  
EMORY FORD  
EARL MERRILL



Conservation Commission





## REPORT OF THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Elementary School Building Committee respectfully requests that its function be terminated. A warrant article requesting such action will be presented at the annual town meeting.

The Committee wishes to thank all those who have assisted in this regard.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	<i>Beginning Balance</i>	<i>Expenditures</i>	<i>Closing Balance</i>
Committee Expenses . . . . .	\$ 37.74	\$ .00	\$ 37.74
Feasibility Study . . . . .	100.00	.00	100.00
Preliminary Drawings . . . . .	13,105.02	.00	13,105.02

Respectfully submitted,

YORKE PHILLIPS, *Chairman*  
DONALD SAFFORD  
JOHN GRINDLE  
CHARLES MELVILLE, JR.

## REPORT OF THE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Intermediate School Building Committee, having completed its work relative to the Thornton W. Burgess Intermediate School project, requests that its role be terminated. A warrant article requesting such action will be presented at the annual town meeting.

The Committee wishes to take this opportunity to thank all those involved in the project and especially the people of Hampden for their support.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	<i>Beginning Balance</i>	<i>Expenditures</i>	<i>Closing Balance</i>
Committee Expenses . . . . .	\$ 42.20	\$ .00	\$ 42.20
Construction Fund . . . . .	18,461.83	.00	18,461.83

Respectfully submitted,

CARL F. LIBBY, *Chairman*  
EDWIN LOMBARD  
FRED MAHER  
YORKE PHILLIPS  
FRED WARMAN

## **REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

The Hampden School Committee is pleased to present to the citizens of Hampden, its report for the year 1973.

The year was highlighted by changes in the educational program, accomplishments in the maintenance program, equitable collective bargaining settlements, and the onset of the energy situation.

### *Educational Program*

The principal educational project undertaken during the year was an analysis of the present reading program. A committee, chaired jointly by Mrs. Steere, the Thornton Burgess School Principal and Mr. Pallotta, the Green Meadows School Principal, has worked on this project and is presently in the process of developing recommendations for Committee consideration. It is expected that recommendations that are approved will be implemented substantially from the present budget and that a new program will be introduced into the curriculum in September 1974.

An unusual educational project embarked upon during the year was the development of a library at Green Meadows School. The project is unique in that it represents a major educational accomplishment that was effected without the expenditure of budgetary monies. A committee comprised of Green Meadows staff members and parent volunteers agreed that such a facility was most desirable and further agreed that ingenuity and hard work would constitute their working capital. First, the committee solicited appropriate books from the community. Secondly, they requested food items from parents and conducted a food sale. The response to both of these efforts was overwhelming. Additionally, the project has received such gifts as a tape recorder, subscriptions to children's book clubs, magazine subscriptions, and trading stamps. The project is an excellent example of how a hard-working staff, dedicated parent volunteers, and an interested community can produce a betterment in the instructional program without spending tax dollars. The School Committee welcomes this opportunity to express its appreciation and to commend all the people involved.

### *Building Maintenance*

During the year, the Committee was able to complete items of major significance in the area of building maintenance. The major project undertaken was the exterior painting of Green Meadows School. The Committee is pleased to report that this work was accomplished by local labor retained by the School System and at a substantial savings to the community. Also during 1973, extensive repairs were made to the Green Meadows School heating system. Principal among these were the replacement of the fire box in the boiler and an overhaul of the oil burner unit. At the Thornton Burgess School, major repairs were made to the septic system and problems associated with the roof vent system were corrected. Additionally, problem areas to the rear of the building were hardtopped.

Maintenance needs continue to be a major concern of the Committee. The present priority item in terms of maintenance is the Green Meadows School gym. This area, in addition to painting, needs a complete new ceiling and a new floor. The Committee trusts that it will be able to make inroads into this matter during the present 18-month fiscal cycle. Areas, in addition to the