TOWN OF HAMPDEN

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1953

75th Anniversary
OUR 75th BIRTHDAY

March 28, 1953 marked the 75th Anniversary of the incorporation of our town. Up to that time Hampden had been part of the Town of Wilbraham and was called South Wilbraham.

In view thereof, we have thought it fitting to show on the front cover of this report a photograph of the center of the town as it looked 75 years ago, before the disastrous fires took place which entirely altered its appearance.

Left to right in photograph: Amos Whitaker’s residence, afterwards E. P. Lyons’ residence, main part burned in 1918; Clark Spellman’s Store, afterwards L. O. Howlett’s Market, W. S. Hunt’s Store, A. G. Corey’s Store, burned in 1918; Congregational Church, built in 1788, burned in 1924; Center School on Hill, built in 1871, burned in 1913; Emma Turner House, moved to Main Street when Town House built and the only one of the five buildings shown in the picture still in existence.

As the main feature of our diamond jubilee, we have printed at the back of this report a history of the industries in Hampden from the time Lewis Langdon built the first grist mill in 1750.
Annual Reports
OF THE
Town Officers
OF THE
Town of Hampden

HAMPDEN
INCORPORATED
MARCH 28, 1878.
MASSACHUSETTS

AND OF THE
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE
Year Ending December 31, 1953
THE PALMER REGISTER, Inc.

Palmer, Mass.

1954
Elected Town Officers --- 1953

Moderator

GEORGE W. INGLE

Clerk and Treasurer

GRACE L. KIBBE

Selectmen and Board of Public Welfare

CHARLES R. MELVILLE, 1956, Chairman

CLIFFORD R. GUNThER, 1954

HAROLD F. HELBERG, 1955

Clerk to the Selectmen, RUTH W. WOODS

Assessors

PERCY FULLER, Chairman, 1956

WILLIAM D. McCRAY, 1954    RALPH HATCH, 1955

Clerk to the Assessors, ALICE FULLER

School Committee

DANIEL M. FLYNN, 1955, Chairman

HARRY R. PROSL, 1954    LESTER F. PAULY, 1956

Trustees for Public Library

ELIZABETH Q. MORGAN, 1956

ELEANOR B. McCRAY, 1955

GERTRUDE LYONS, 1954
Collector of Taxes
DOROTHY S. FLYNN

Constables
ALTON GREGORY
JAMES P. LYONS
ARTHUR H. GERRISH

Cemetery Commissioners
HERBERT BURNHAM, 1956
HOMER FULLER, 1955
NEIL KIBBE, 1954

Planning Board
JOHN R. WALLACE, Chairman, 1956
DORVAL E. VIGER, 1955
MARION WELLS GERRISH, 1956
ABRAHAM WILEY, 1954
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
ERROL M. BEEBE

Moth Superintendent
CHARLES H. LEMON

Superintendent of Streets
ARTHUR H. GERRISH

Burial Agent
RALPH B. HATCH

Burial Agent for Soldiers and Sailors
FRED C. SAMBLE

Agent for Care of Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Graves
RAYMOND DUNLEA

Agent for Veterans’ Benefits
THOMAS J. FAULKNER

Measurers 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. WILLCUTT

Electrical Inspector  Plumbing Inspector
CHARLES R. MELVILLE  WILLIAM P. PATULLO

Board of Appeals

MARCUS GOTTSCHE, Sr., 1955
RICHARD FULLER, 1955
EARLE H. HARRIS, Sr., 1953
JAMES E. INGRAHAM, 1954
J. ALBERT LaBELLE, 1956

Alternates

HOWARD GRAY, 1956  EVERETT S. WOODS, 1955

Advisory Board

H. LAURENCE FOSTER, Chairman, 1956
THOMAS FERGUSON, 1956  ERNEST L. WOODS, 1955
HAROLD J. BENNETT, 1954  DONALD WILCOX, 1955

Voters Liable for Jury Duty for the Year Beginning
August 1, 1953

GEORGE AUDREN  ERROL M. BEEBE
HARRY LUDWIG  MAURICE FITZGERALD
LAURENCE A. TEED               WILLIAM H. BURNS
LUCIEN BOURBEAU              DORVAL E. VIGER
WILLIAM H. COWPERTHWAITIE   HAROLD F. HELBERG
EDWARD H. LARSON

Board of Registrars

GRACE L. KIBBE
EDWIN BRENNAN, 1954          FAYE FLYNN
L. NORRIS FITZGERALD

Special Police

GEORGE FISHER, Sr.           AUSTIN K. HARRIS
HAROLD D. JONES              PAUL BOUCHARD
KENNETH MOODY               GARFIELD TRACY
WILFRED J. GERARD

In Memoriam

GEORGE A. CHAPIN             JOHN J. FLYNN
Born: May 22, 1877            Born: April 11, 1874
Died: July 21, 1953           Died: June 7, 1953
Selectman: 1907              Selectman: 1922-32
Constable: 1910              1940-46
Assessor: 1916-23 and        Cattle Inspector: 1913-23
1942-51                      Assessor: 1913-19
GRACE CAREW                  ROBERT S. PEASE
Born: July 18, 1872          Born: Jan. 2, 1879
Died: Jan. 18, 1953          Died: Jan. 12, 1953
Library Trustee: 1927-42     School Committee: 1920-27,
                            1929-1938

CATHERINE LENNON FLYNN
Born: March 31, 1882
Died: July 28, 1953
First Principal of Hampden Consolidated School 1932-39
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-third day of February, A. D. 1954, 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, all for the term of one year; and three School Committee Members, two to serve for the term of 3 years, and one to serve for the term of 2 years, one Cemetery Commissioner, one Library Trustee; all for the term of three years, except the one School Committee Member above noted, who shall serve for two 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 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 1st, A.D. 1954, 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Salaries</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Selectmen</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>550.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collector</td>
<td>550.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessors</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditor</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderator</td>
<td>35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Clerk</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 and that the same be expended only for the purposes under the direction of the respective boards, committees, or officers of the town as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Government</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Selectmen’s Expenses</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounting Salary</td>
<td>600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounting Expenses</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer’s Expenses</td>
<td>160.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collector’s Expenses</td>
<td>425.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessors’ Expenses</td>
<td>850.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Clerk’s Expenses</td>
<td>175.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law &amp; Claims</td>
<td>400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Inspector—Salaries</td>
<td>300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Inspector—Expenses</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elections &amp; Registrations</td>
<td>500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Hall Maintenance</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town House Maintenance</td>
<td>2,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certifying Notes &amp; Other Finance</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Protection of Persons &amp; Property</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Fire Equipment</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Fires</td>
<td>400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Fire Warden</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tree Warden</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Department</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sealer of Weights &amp; Measures</td>
<td>65.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moth Eradication</td>
<td>400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dutch Elm Disease</td>
<td>600.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health &amp; Sanitation</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meat Inspection</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Inspection</td>
<td>60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Dump</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Highways</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Snow &amp; Ice Removal</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridges, Railings &amp; Highways</td>
<td>4,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Street Lighting 874.57
Garage Maintenance 150.00

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 300.09
Library 1,400.00

Unclassified
Memorial Day 200.00
Soldiers & Sailors Graves 175.00
Town Common 100.00
Printing Town Reports 3,005.00
Insurance Reserve 1,000.00
Planning Board 175.00
Advisory Board Expenses 150.00
Cemeteries 500.00
Interest & Debt 1,000.00

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 $2,550.00 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, Sec. 28 of the General Laws.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the sum of $2,550 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 conjunc-
tion 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 $1,500 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 North Monson Road, or take any action in relation thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the sum of $2,500 be raised and appropriated for the widening and surfacing of North Monson Road.

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 $19,850.00 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 that the sum of $50 be raised and appropriated for planting trees along the highway.

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 that the sum of $75 be raised and appropriated for aid to agriculture in accordance with the above article.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Expense</td>
<td>$7,305.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses of Instruction</td>
<td>$30,015.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses of Operating</td>
<td>$6,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>$1,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary Agencies</td>
<td>$48,735.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Equipment</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contingency</td>
<td>$3,700.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total $98,255.00

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 $33,546.44 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, in accordance with the provisions of Section 50, Chapter 111, General Laws, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the sum of $425 be raised and appropriated for the maintenance of the Dental Clinic for the ensuing year.

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $834.41 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 that the sum of $834.41 be raised and appropriated as the town’s share of the Hampden County Retirement System.

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to appoint a Recreation Commission of five citizens, to serve for the following terms, 1—3 years, 2—2 years, 2—1 year. At the expiration of these terms, appointments will be made by the Selectmen for a three year term.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the Selectmen be authorized to appoint a Recreation Commission of five citizens, to be appointed as above stated.

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $500 for the use of the Recreation Commission, for maintenance and improvement of Hampden Memorial Park, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the sum of $500 be raised and appropriated for the maintenance and improvement of Hampden Memorial Park.

Article 16. 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 Commission to serve for the school summer vacation period.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the Recreation Commission present a planned recreational program before an appropriation is made.

Article 17. To raise and appropriate the sum of $400 to be used by the Recreation Commission for im-
provement of the Town's Recreation field swimming site.

The Advisory Committee recommends a negative vote on this article.

Article 18. 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 $1,500 be transferred from the Road Machinery Fund Account to the Road Machinery Maintenance Account.

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to transfer $2,500 from the Overlay Reserve to the Reserve Fund or take any other action relative thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the sum of $2,500 be transferred from the Overlay Reserve to the Reserve Fund.

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to create a special unpaid committee to be known as a regional school district planning committee, to consist of three members, including one member of the school committee, to be appointed by the moderator in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of Chapter 71 of the General Laws, as amended; and that there be appropriated for the use of said committee the sum of $50.00; or take any other action relative thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the Town vote to create a special unpaid committee as above stated, for a specified term and to submit a report to the Annual Town Meeting of 1955.

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to rescind Article 25 passed at the Annual Town Meeting of 1953 and return the $2000 to the Surplus Revenue Account, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends an affirmative vote on the above article.
Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to accept the legacy of the Town of Hampden under the Will of Nellie S. Croft, late of Brookfield, which legacy as appears in the Fourth Clause of said Will is as follows: "To the Town of Hampden, Massachusetts, the sum of two hundred dollars to be forever held and invested by it, and the income therefrom to be used and applied annually for the perpetual care, improvement and embellishment of a Stebbins lot in Hampden Cemetery having thereon two headstones with the name JANE on each", or take any action relative thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends the acceptance of $200 for the perpetual care of the Stebbins lot in the Hampden Cemetery.

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to accept the gifts of John F. Baldwin of the land in Hampden, bounded and described as follows: "All and singular that land known and designated as Woodland Drive, Sessions Drive, Edward Street and Charles Street in Hampden, Hampden County, Massachusetts as shown on Plan entitled "Supplemental Plan of Woodland Park, Hampden, Massachusetts, John T. Casey, Engineer and Surveyor, Ware, Massachusetts" said Plan being duly recorded with Hampden County Deeds in Book of Plans 38, Page 22, and incorporated herein by reference, subject to the reservation to lay, relay, maintain and repair water pipes laid or to be laid in said Streets.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the Town vote to accept the land as described in the above article.

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to accept certain ways as laid out by the Selectmen on January 9, 1954 which ways are substantially described as follows: Woodland Drive, Sessions Drive, Edward Street and Charles Street all as shown on Plan entitled "Supplemental Plan of Woodland Park, Hampden, Mass.,
John T. Casey, Engineer and Surveyor, Ware, Mass.,” said Plan being duly recorded with Hampden County Deeds in Book of Plans 38, Page 22, and incorporated herein by reference, and to designate said Streets as Woodland Drive, Sessions Drive, Edward Street and Charles Street.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the Town vote to accept the ways as laid out by the Selectmen in the above article.

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to accept the gift of Lawrence F. Sullivan and Aili A. Sullivan of the land in Hampden, bounded and described as follows: All and singular that land in Hampden, Hampden County, Massachusetts, known and designated as Hickory Lane running Easterly from Somers Road to Walnut Road and all as shown on Plan entitled “Plan of Shagbark Farms, Hampden, Mass. owned by Lawrence Sullivan, Siddell & Godfrey, Engineers, Springfield, Mass.” which Plan is duly recorded with Hampden County Deeds in Book of Plans 29, Page 111, and incorporated herein by reference.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the Town vote to accept the land as described in the above article.

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to accept a way as laid out by the Selectmen on January 9, 1954 which way is substantially described as follows: Hickory Lane from Somers Road to Walnut Road as shown on Plan entitled “Plan of Shagbark Farms, Hampden, Mass. owned by Lawrence Sullivan, Siddell & Godfrey Engineers, Springfield, Mass.” which Plan is duly recorded with Hampden County Deeds in Book of Plans 29, Page 111, and incorporated herein by reference, and designate said way as Hickory Lane.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the Town vote to accept the ways as laid out by the Selectmen and described in the above 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 $6,000 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, 1954 and to issue a 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 the treasurer be authorized to borrow money in anticipation of revenue.

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 second day of February, 1954.

CHARLES R. MELVILLE
CLIFFORD R. GUNThER
HAROLD F. HELBERG

Selectmen of Hampden, Mass.
Report of Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee of the Town of Hampden held regular monthly meetings during the year and in addition, three special meetings were held with members of other Hampden Town boards or committees. Public hearings were held prior to the regular Town Meeting and the Special Town Meeting of October 28, 1953.

Members of the Committee attended three meetings of the State Association of Town Finance Committees in Boston.

The Committee approved during the year 9 transfers from the Reserve Fund amounting to $3210, leaving a balance of $290 to be returned to the Excess & Deficiency Fund. We recommend continuing the Reserve Fund at $3,500.

Except for unforeseen developments, the various Town departments kept within their budgets which were established at the beginning of the year.

In view of the capital outlays with which the Town is faced, the Committee believes that the establishment of a stabilization fund under Chapter 40, Section 5B of the General Laws is advisable. The objective would be the creation of a fund available to meet, in whole or in part, unusual capital expenditures which are too large
to be met out of a single year's appropriations. Funds thus set aside can be appropriated for a specific purpose by a two-thirds vote at any annual Town Meeting.

The Committee appreciates the cooperation it has had from Town boards, committees and officials, and particularly the promptness with which budgets for the year 1954 were presented.

Respectfully submitted,

DR. HAROLD J. BENNETT, Chairman

ERNEST L. WOODS

THOMAS FERGUSON

DONALD WILCOX
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 some items for your consideration, as follows:

1. Early in the year the Selectmen met with the State Engineers and pro-rated the Chapter 81 road funds.

2. Bids were solicited for the refinishing of the floor of the Auditorium, and the job was let to Edward E. Pepin. Considerable money was spent on putting new drains around the Town House to keep out the water. A new water pump was installed.

3. The Selectmen met with State and County officials to request funds for the Chapter 90 Maintenance and Construction work for 1954. Because of the large amount of work being done on Chapter 90 Construction and Maintenance, the Selectmen have asked State and County officials for additional funds for 1954. The State has just notified us that our allotment for the year 1954 will be $2500 in excess of last year’s allotment.

4. After several meetings with Telephone Company officials, all residents of Hampden desiring telephone service were provided with same. On December 17 dial service went into effect in Hampden.
5. Several meetings were held with the School Building Committee.

6. Meetings were held with the Advisory Board, Recreation Commission, Water Survey Committee, and the School Committee.

7. Two new Ford chassis were purchased for use of the Highway Department.

8. In accordance with the vote passed at the Special Town Meeting of October 28, 1953, there will be a charge for rent of the Auditorium and Dining Room at the Town House beginning in January, 1954.

For the ensuing year, some important projects confront the Town of Hampden, which are briefly outlined as follows:

Completion of North Monson Road under Chapter 90 Construction.

Reconstruction of bridge on Rock-a-dundee Road.

Many hard-working committees and interested citizens have contributed their time and efforts to assist in carrying on the work of our Town, and to them we extend the thanks of the Town, as well as our own. We solicit your continued cooperation in 1954.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES R. MELVILLE

CLIFFORD R. GUNThER

HAROLD F. HELBERG

Board of Selectmen
1953

Report of the Board of Health

Ten 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:

Measles 2
Mumps 3
Dog Bite 1
Polio 1
Whooping Cough 3

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

The Board wishes to thank the residents of the town for their splendid cooperation in rectifying the complaints when brought to their attention by the Board of Health.

Respectfully submitted,

HAROLD F. HELBERG

Chairman
Report of the
Board of Public Welfare

Cases Active January 1, 1953  3
Cases Added During Year      2
Cases Closed During Year      4
Cases Active December 31, 1953 1
Hampden Settled Cases Aided in Other City 1

APPROPRIATION                $3,000.00

Expenditures
  Cash                     $847.04
  Board                    747.50
  Groceries                125.04
  City of Springfield      100.00
  Medical                  93.70
  Fuel & Light             31.90
  Rent                     23.10

  $1,968.28

Transferred by vote of Town from
  Welfare to OAA account    800.00
  Unexpended Balance forward to 1954  231.72

  $3,000.00

Received from State on Temporary Aid Case $285.39

DISABILITY ASSISTANCE

Cases Active January 1, 1953  3
Cases Added During Year      1
Cases Closed During Year 2
Cases Active December 31, 1953 2

**APPROPRIATION**  $2,800.00

**REFUND**  32.00

$2,832.00

Expenditures
Cash Paid on Payrolls  $2,705.02
Transferred by vote of Town from DA to OAA account  100.00
Unexpended Balance Dec. 31, 1952  26.98

$2,832.00

**FEDERAL GRANT**
Balance January 1, 1953  $402.51
Cash Received from Federal Government  1,180.00

$1,582.51

Expenditures
Cash Paid on Payrolls  $824.67
Balance December 31, 1953  757.84

$1,582.51

**AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN**
Cases Active January 1, 1953  1
Cases Closed During Year  0
Applications Received During Year  1
Applications Pending  1
Cases Active December 31, 1953  1
APPROPRIATION

$900.00

Expenditures

Cash Paid on Payrolls $785.10
Transferred by vote of town from ADC
Account to OAA Account 100.00
Unexpended Balance Dec. 31, 1953 14.90

$900.00

FEDERAL GRANT

Balance January 1, 1953 $450.72
Cash Received from Federal Government 468.00

$918.72

Expenditures

Cash Paid on Payrolls $709.85
Balance Dec. 31, 1953 208.87

$918.72

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES R. MELVILLE

CLIFFORD R. GUNThER

HAROLD F. HELBERG

Board of Public Welfare

By: MARY H. CANTWELL, Agent
Report of
Bureau of Old Age Assistance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cases Active January 1, 1953</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applications Received During Year</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applications Approved</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applications Withdrawn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cases Closed During Year</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applications Pending</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cases Active December 31, 1953</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**APPROPRIATION** $13,000.00

- Transferred by vote of Town from Welfare to OAA Account $800.00
- Transferred by vote of Town from ADC to OAA Account $100.00
- Transferred by vote of Town from DA to OAA Account $100.00
- Refund $29.50

$14,029.50

**Expenditures**

- Cash Paid on Payrolls $13,551.00
- Paid Other Cities & Towns $477.94
- Balance December 31, 1953 $14,029.50
**FEDERAL GRANT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance January 1, 1953</td>
<td>$925.98</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash Received from Federal Government Recovery</td>
<td>9,008.08</td>
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<tr>
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<td>485.00</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>$10,419.06</strong></td>
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**Expenditures**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash Paid on Payrolls</td>
<td>$9,645.63</td>
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<td>Balance December 31, 1953</td>
<td>773.43</td>
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<td><strong>$10,419.06</strong></td>
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</table>

Received from Other Cities and Towns $489.60

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES R. MELVILLE

CLIFFORD R. GUNTHER

HAROLD F. HELBERG

Board of Public Welfare

By: MARY H. CANTWELL, Agent