

REPORT OF PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Meetings of the Hampden Parks and Recreation Commission were held the third Tuesday of each month at the Town House. In addition, several special meetings have been held to work on the 1968 budget and program planning for the coming year and the future.

The summer program at Hampden Memorial Park was essentially the same as previous years. Three hundred fifty-seven students were entered in swimming classes. Fifty nine scheduled softball games and forty four scheduled baseball games were played. Arts and crafts, hootenannys, a tri-town swim meet, the Hampden swim meet, trips to the Mt. Tom Children's Theatre, record hops, and evening swim parties for adults and teenagers were among the activities sponsored by the Commission.

A Fourth of July program was held at Memorial Park. About four hundred people were present at a tug-of-war between the firemen and policemen which was a highlight of the day.

Five full length feature movies were shown to a total attendance of about six hundred people. These movies were sponsored by the Recreation Association of Hampden, a private, non-profit group dedicated to the provision of recreation in the town.

Improvements in Hampden Memorial Park were planned, but the failure of a contractor to complete the tasks assigned necessitates the postponement of some of the projects until next year.

Vandalism was minimal during the summer season, but previous to the summer there was damage and stolen equipment amounting to approximately two hundred dollars.

The director of the summer program was Leo Guimond, a teacher in the Hampden school system. Judith Moore of Agawam, a student at American International College, was assistant to the director. Life guards, all residents of Hampden and students at Minnechaug Regional High School were John Jenkins, Robert Joyce, and Michael McMillan.

During the year, many individuals and organizations from town were extremely helpful to the Commission. We are particularly grateful to David Joyce, Ian Joyce, Balei Fabbri, Homer Fuller, James Law, the Hampden Community Softball League, the Federated Senior Fellowship of Federated Community Church and their advisor, John Mikkola, and the Police Department.

A special word of recognition is given to the fine job done by Lucille McGuill, clerk to the Commission.

WILBUR J. JENKINS, *Chairman*
JANE JOHNSON
F. EVELYN KIRK
KENNETH E. JOHNSON
DALTON E. PHILPOTT

REPORT OF CIVIL DEFENSE

The Hampden Civil Defense Agency was quite active this past year. With the help of several people, members of the staff instructed over 225 persons in seven courses pertaining to Civil Defense. These courses were given in Hampden, Palmer Holyoke and Chicopee. In Hampden alone, there were 150 residents who successfully completed the course in Medical Self-Help. Other areas covered included First Aid, Personal and Family Survival, and Shelter Management. We plan to offer Civil Defense Adult Education courses to Hampden residents again in 1968.

Part of the 1967 Civil Defense activity in Hampden was in the form of personnel changes. Rene G. Burque was appointed Deputy Director and later in the year Civil Defense Director for Hampden when Harry H. Johnson resigned. Austin K. Harris, Jr. was appointed Medical Officer in the Hampden Civil Defense Agency. At Civil Defense Sector level, Edward Osgood was appointed Sector 4A Director when William Linehan announced his resignation.

Lec Taft and Austin K. Harris, Jr. were each awarded a citation for distinguished service to Civil Defense. The awards were presented by Alan R. Zenowitz, State Civil Defense Director, at Area 4 Headquarters in Belchertown in October. The citations were in recognition of the many hours these men gave to the Civil Defense effort by conducting courses in Medical Self Help on a volunteer basis.

We are looking forward to another busy year. I am grateful to all those who helped make 1967 a good year for the Hampden Civil Defense Agency.

Respectfully submitted,

RENE G. BURQUE

REPORT OF POLICE DEPARTMENT

During the year 1967, the Police Department logged over 3000 calls on the Police line. These calls were for assistance, information and complaints. We had three (3) house breaks and five (5) breaks at the Veterans of Foreign Wars in which property valued at over \$2000 was stolen. The following arrests were made:

Use of car without authority of owner	5 male juveniles
Assaults	1 male, age 25-29 1 male, age 35-39 1 female, age 35-39
Arson	1 male juvenile
Vandalism	2 male juveniles
Weapons	5 male juveniles
Liquor law violations	2 male juveniles 2 male, age 19 2 female juveniles
Drunkenness	1 male juvenile 3 male, age 19 1 male, age 25-29 1 male, age 40-44 1 male, age 45-49 1 female, age 30-34 1 female, age 35-39

Disorderly Conduct	1 male, juvenile 2 male, age 19 1 male, age 24 1 male, age 25-29 1 male, age 40-44 1 female, age 35-39 1 male, age 24
Total all other offenses, except traffic	1 male, age 35-39
Curfew and loitering laws	2 male juveniles 1 female, juvenile
Total traffic violations	4 male juveniles 99 male adults 16 female adults
Driving to endanger	1 male, age 22
Total 141 male 23 female	
<hr/> 164	

During 1967 the Auxiliary Police Department assisted in patrol, church traffic, dances and movies at no cost to the town. They have logged the following hours:

Patrol	1,880
School	2,460
Church traffic	648
Dances and movies	172

5,160 total man hours.

These twenty men who comprise the Auxiliary Department have purchased their own uniforms, their own equipment and their own firearms and devote these hours to the town's protection without any financial obligation to the Town of Hampden. To these 20 dedicated and wonderful guys, I say thank you for a job well done. The entire town can be proud of their Auxiliary Police Department.

During 1968 we hope to add a night patrol giving the town added coverage at the hours we are most vulnerable. The cruiser will be on the road from 11:00 PM to 7:00 AM with direct communication to the officer on telephone duty and will be able to answer all calls without delay and will be able to check the places of business throughout the night which we are now unable to do.

To the several department heads and especially to the Board of Selectmen for their wonderful backing and co-operation I would like to say thank you. Your assistance during 1967 makes for better government and better protection for the citizens of the town of Hampden.

Respectfully submitted,
WILLIAM G. JOY
Chief of Police

REPORT OF TREE WARDEN

Removal of trees included:

- 2 maples on Somers Road
- 3 maples on Scantic Road.

The dead wood was trimmed from the trees on Scantic Road, Stafford Road, Rock-a-dundee Road, Somers Road and Main Street.

Twenty-six maple and beech trees were set out on Circle View Drive, Echo Valley Drive and Martin Farms Road. Northern Tree Expert Co. was hired for removal of all trees.

Respectfully submitted,

HOMER L. FULLER
Tree Warden

REPORT OF FOREST FIRE WARDEN

During 1967 we had 25 grass and brush fires and 16 dump fires.

I would like to remind all residents of the new regulations that went into effect on May 10, 1967. All outdoor incinerators must be covered with a wire mesh cover or metal cover. Whenever a fire results from improper burning in an incinerator, the property owner will be charged for the man hours necessary for firemen to extinguish the fires.

Any resident who does outdoor burning other than in an incinerator without a permit from the Forest Fire Warden, will be charged for the man hours necessary to put out any fire resulting from this action.

Anyone wishing to obtain a permit for burning should contact the Forest Fire Warden at 566-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD BOYNTON
Forest Fire Warden

REPORT OF FIRE DEPARTMENT

1967 was another busy year for the Hampden Volunteer Fire Department. The volunteers answered 74 calls, of which there were:

12 house	25 grass
9 auto	16 dump
5 barn	2 lost persons
2 false alarms	1 broken gas line
1 resuscitator call.	

The Town Buildings and rest homes were inspected. Fire drills were held at both schools.

Business meetings were held the first Monday of each month, and training meetings held on the 3rd Monday of each month.

Chief and several of the officers attended monthly meetings of the Mutual Aid Association.

There were three new fire phones added to the present system, thereby assuring the townspeople 24 hour coverage.

Respectfully submitted,

CARL H. HATCH
Chief

REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD

During the past year, the Hampden Planning Board has made substantial progress toward its immediate and long-range goals. The progress has been possible through the combined efforts of each member of the Board and other Town officials.

Major accomplishments during this period include a general revision and updating of the Subdivision Rules and Regulations; updating the official map of the Town of Hampden; further action on the general revision of the Zoning By-Law which will be presented to the Town for approval at the forthcoming Town Meeting (see below); and substantial progress in defining new District boundaries for R-4, R-6 and Flood Plain Districts. In all of the above work, Thomas Associates, Planning Consultants for the Town, have been active.

In addition to the above, normal activity of the Planning Board has continued. Four public hearings were held; two regarding general revisions of the zoning by-law, one a proposed change in multi-unit dwelling district, and the fourth on a subdivision to be known as Bayberry Estates. This subdivision was approved and will have sidewalks, underground wiring, minimum lot frontage of 170 feet and at least 40,000 square feet of area per lot.

Future plans call for continued updating of the Zoning By-laws and Zoning By-law District boundaries, and a detailed soil survey as the initial step in the future total Town Plan.

Planning Board report on the Proposed General Revisions to the Zoning By-law of the Town of Hampden.

At the 1967 Annual Town Meeting the townspeople voted 214 to 24 to approve the proposed general revision of the Zoning By-law of the Town of Hampden as recommended by the Planning Board and Planning Board Subcommittee on Zoning. However, as most of you know, due to a legal technicality, the Attorney General's Office did not approve this revised Zoning By-law; hence the revised By-law is again listed in four articles in the Town Warrant for your action at the 1968 Annual Town Meeting.

For the following reasons the Planning Board recommends affirmative action on these articles covering the proposed general revisions to the Zoning By-laws of the Town of Hampden as submitted by the Planning Board and Planning Board Subcommittee on Zoning:

1. The present Zoning By-law adopted in 1942 for a community of less than 900 residents, are inadequate, even though amended several times, for a rapidly growing community of more than 3500 residents.

2. The proposed revised By-law provides improved safeguards for the general public with minimum inconvenience and expense to the individual property holder.

For example, based on a soil survey conducted by the U. S. Conservation Service and its interpretation by Thomas Associates, professional planning consultants, it was found that to maintain satisfactory health standards, the minimum building lot size must be 40,000 square feet as long as septic tanks and wells are in use.

3. Currently one subdivision is being developed in conformance with the proposed By-law with very satisfactory results.

4. All known controversial items are being submitted as separate articles for your consideration.

In conclusion, we would like to emphasize that a Zoning By-law is based on a combination of many factors. Seldom is any individual or group satisfied with a by-law in its entirety. The overall welfare of the residents of the Town must receive first consideration and in every case the proposed revisions to the by-law are based on this dominant factor.

Your Planning Board strongly urges all residents of the Town of Hampden to vote for approval of the proposed general revision of the Town Zoning By-Law.

Respectfully submitted,

FREDERICK MAHER, *Chairman*
MARION W. GERRISH
GORDON J. E. WILLCUTT
FRANCIS BUCKLEY
RICHARD BRECK

REPORT OF BOARD OF HEALTH

1967 has been a busy year for your Board of Health, and for its agent, Mr. Robert Sabbides.

In connection with its duty to protect the health of Hampden residents, Rules and Regulations concerning Minimum Requirements for Disposal of Sanitary Sewage in Unsewered Areas, Nuisances, Pigs and Piggeries, Horses, Cows, Goats and Poultry; Refuse Disposal; and Food Service Establishments were adopted by the Board of Health on November 15.

Sewage removal permits were granted to 6 concerns whose equipment passed inspection and one rubbish removal permit was granted.

32 new plot plans and sewage applications were approved and permits were granted for repairs to 10 septic systems. Two septic systems which formerly drained into the Scantic River were corrected this year. This is a continuing program with the goal of remedying any problems in this area.

3 dwellings were condemned as unfit for human habitation.

At the Special Town Meeting in December, a Disposal Study Committee was authorized and subsequently appointed, for the purpose of studying this disposal problem in conjunction with committees from neighboring towns. The increase in population is enlarging the disposal problem in all towns and cities. At the Annual Town Meeting, it was voted to take for the Town land now being used as a Town dump site on Cross Road. A custodian is on duty three days a week at that site, and residents may dispose of rubbish on those days, but must not deposit any garbage. The number of users at the Town Dump for the last six months of 1967 are as follows: July—1157; August—1111; September—1117; October—1006; November—897; and December—917.

3 permits were granted for swimming pool operation during 1967.

TB tests and measles immunization shots were administered to school children.

13 cases of dog bites were reported to the Board of Health, either by the people involved or their physicians.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN M. FLYNN, *Chairman*
CHARLES R. MELVILLE
JOSEPH J. ZAHER

REPORT OF TRUSTEES FOR COUNTY AID TO AGRICULTURE

In accordance with the General Laws of the Commonwealth—Chapter 128—The Trustees For County Aid to Agriculture 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 \$(Nil.) 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

1967 Appropriation	—
1966 Unexpended Balance	\$155.24
Total Available for 1967	155.24
Total Expenditures in 1967	—
Total Available for 1968	155.24
Recommended Appropriation for 1968	—

Respectfully submitted,

Trustees For County Aid To Agriculture
By ALBERT H. FULLER, Clerk

REPORT OF THE HAMPDEN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Library has completed another busy year with attendance increasing as the town grows.

In March, the trustees accepted with regret, the resignation of Librarian Mrs. Miriam Bryans. Mrs. Johnson, Head Librarian in East Longmeadow, served as our interim librarian until June, when Mrs. Elizabeth Curtis accepted the position. Also in June, Mrs. Cecilia Melville joined the staff, other members being Mrs. Adina Johnson, Miss Arline Howlett and Mrs. Arlene Fisher.

Mrs. Charles Therrien attended the in-service training course in Public Library Administration at Pittsfield, Mass.

National Book Week was held in March with Mrs. Jane Johnson as program Chairman. The Audubon Society had an exhibit of the new Thornton Burgess Nature Center. The children enjoyed a nature movie. Alice Wilcox showed her interesting collection of Burgess books. New books were also on display.

Mrs. Ernestine Johnson, Mrs. Adina Johnson and Mrs. Alene Fisher attended the Spring Festival of Children's Books at Forbes Library in Northampton.

In May, the trustees decided to start a long-overdue reorganization along the lines of modern library systems. Fines are now collected on books kept over two weeks. The staff is in the process of cataloguing every book in the library. As soon as all books have been checked, library cards will be issued to all townspeople using the library. Patrons may register now. This change-over takes time, but when completed the new system will go into effect. Also Mrs. Therrien, as a member, has been attending the Town House Remodelling Committee meetings in regard to possible expansion of our facilities. The trustees have had several meetings with Mr. Francis P. Keough who has submitted floor plans for consideration, should the expansion of the library be approved.

Mrs. Therrien and Mrs. Mildred Attleton attended the annual meeting of the Western Regional Advisory Council held in East Longmeadow. Also Mrs. Therrien, Mrs. Attleton, Dr. Kenneth Winetrout, Mrs. Adina Johnson, and Mrs. Ernestine Johnson attended the Annual Spring Conference of the Massachusetts Library Association at the White House Inn. Following luncheon, there was a tour of H. R. Hunting, the publishing house. In May, Mrs. Ernestine Johnson and Miss Arline Howlett attended the Western Massachusetts Regional meeting in Wilbraham.

The summer reading program was a great success with forty children completing the required reading and book reports. The staff entertained these children with a hot dog roast. Each child received a certificate.

In September the staff attended a "weeding" session in Goshen, Mass. sponsored by the Western Regional Library Association. The information learned on what books should be discarded has proved most helpful.

The start of the school year in September finds the library again loaning its facilities. This year Grades 1 through 3 visit the library every Monday and Wednesday. Grades 4 through 6, now in the new Thornton Burgess School were unable to visit during regular school hours. The library continues to issue reading certificates to pupils in these grades. Grades 7 and 8 used the library through December. They have now moved to the new school.

On November 4th, Children's Book Week was celebrated. Besides a display of new children's books, a story hour was held with Mrs. Ann Harris of the Hampden Elementary School as our story teller. Refreshments were served to the children and parents.

Also in November, Mrs. Curtis attended an in-service training course in Reference Materials and Methods.

On December 16th, Santa Claus visited the library. Over two hundred children talked to Santa and as a surprise each received a Christmas lollipop.

The Pat Ledoux Post of Veterans of Foreign Wars gave five hundred dollars to the library. Mr. Herbert Newell of Fresno, California, who grew up in Hampden, presented the library 100 shares of stock. Also several books were given in memoriam by our patrons. For these gifts we are most grateful.

Respectfully submitted,

ELIZABETH J. CURTIS *Librarian*
MILDRED ATTLETON, *Chairman*
KENNETH WINETROUT
ELSIE W. THERRIEN
Trustees

STATISTICS

I. GENERAL SERVICES—1967

Circulation of books and magazines	25,614
Books purchased	571
Periodical subscriptions purchased	56
Magazines and books donated	297
Total attendance	20,304
Interloan books borrowed	62
Bookmobile	1,379

II. SPECIAL SERVICES

There were 2,014 books reviewed by the children with 408 large certificates and 1,606 small certificates earned.

The library offers its facilities to the local schools, the Community Kindergarten, various hospital and rest home patients, and those unable to attend the library.

III. FINANCES

Receipts:

Appropriation by the town	6,000.00
Dog Tax Refund	886.08
Holt Fund Interest	23.71
Day Fund Interest	18.00
Total	6,927.79

Expenditures:

Books and Magazines	1,818.19
Wages	4,106.25
Supplies and Incidentals	762.68
Library Consultant	300.00
Total	6,987.12

TRUST FUNDS

Morton L. Day Fund	551.50
Interest Available	25.00
Withdrawal for Christian Herald subscriptions to shut-ins ...	18.00
Grace M. (Pease) Carew Fund	3,149.22
Interest Available	155.38
Johanna Burleigh Holt Fund	521.87
Interest Available	23.71

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WELFARE

If the activities in Public Welfare in 1967 are any indication of where welfare is going in the future, it would not take a crystal ball to foresee its end. Never in the history of this nation — and this state — has such emphasis been placed on the plight of the disadvantaged, the medically indigent, and racial inequality. In Massachusetts, much of the blame has been laid on the doorstep of public welfare. Never has a department of this state been so bitterly, and may I say, so unjustly criticized. The ills of the world have been brought to our attention, and even though home, school, and community have failed to bring about socio-economic security and mental health, the welfare departments' efforts have been labeled punitive and ineffective. To compensate for this, new legislation has been passed to make Public Welfare a responsibility of the State, both fiscal and administrative.

This new legislation, although allowing for community service centers, where total needs will be met, does not mention the number of such centers, where they will be located, and how serviced. It does give the Commissioner of Public Welfare almost complete autonomy. The transition period may be extended for some years from our present system to one solely administered by the State, and our one hope is that there be no disruption of service to our clients during the transition period.

During 1967, we all felt the impact of Medicaid, Title 19, of the Social Security Amendments. This is a comprehensive medical program for our medically indigent. This program is under severe attack due to the looseness of the application process. Its liberality has proved beneficial to the many who are now sheltered under its wide spread wings! It is evident that some changes are necessary if the program is to continue. There must be modifications in many areas of the eligibility requirements. It is also worthy to be noted that since the program's inception, medical costs have soared alarmingly. All medical vendors have increased the cost of their services in the wake of this program.

July 1, 1968 will be the dawn of a new era. The local welfare department will then be an extension of the State Department of Public Welfare owing first allegiance to the State Department of Public Welfare. We hope that we will still serve our communities to the best of our abilities. The community needs justify our existence.

Respectfully submitted,

ALBERT R. DUPSHA, *Director*
JOSEPH ZAHER, *Chairman*
JOHN FLYNN
CHARLES MELVILLE

REPORT OF SOUTHEAST HAMPDEN WELFARE DISTRICT

(BREAKDOWN OF CASH RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR 1967)

Payments from Towns

Comprising District:

Brimfield Holland Welfare District	\$2,392.79
Holland	2,878.80
Brimfield	958.00
Hampden	1,209.60
Monson	4,846.80
Wales	907.20

\$13,193.19

Received from Federal Government

March	3,961.62
June	5,034.32
August	3,853.65
November	5,951.78

18,801.37

Received from State

March	2,014.57
June	2,786.38
August	2,659.24
November	2,724.46

10,184.65

Received for:

Federal Tax	3,672.10
State Tax	517.84
Retirement	1,458.73
Blue Cross	461.88
Employer's Comp. on State Tax	8.84
Overpayment refunded	21.55

6,140.94

\$48,320.15

Respectfully submitted,

JUNE B. DICKINSON,
District Treasurer

CASH REPORT FOR SOUTHEAST HAMPDEN WELFARE DISTRICT

Cash balance January 1, 1967 \$ 4,541.37

Cash received in 1967

January	\$ 2,799.58
February	2,789.56
March	6,485.55
April	399.06
May	396.36
June	15,190.50
July	1,595.63
August	7,162.18
September	528.80
October	583.06
November	9,337.27
December	1,052.80

Total cash received in 1967 48,320.15

52,861.52

Checks drawn in 1967

January	3,659.38
February	2,564.82
March	3,635.91
April	3,238.38
May	2,575.70
June	4,359.73
July	3,073.59
August	3,986.39
September	3,341.01
October	3,845.39
November	4,625.97
December	4,206.70

Total checks drawn in 1967	43,112.97
Cash balance January 1, 1968	9,748.55

Respectfully submitted,

JUNE B. DICKINSON,
District Treasurer

REPORT OF THE BUILDING COMMISSIONER

For the year ending December 31, 1967 there were three hundred and fifty-six permits granted.

These were as follows:

Building:

Houses	52
Bank	1
Green House	1
Sheds	8
Barns	2
Garages	2
Additions to houses	24
Alterations to houses	7
Additions to garage	1
Addition to kindergarten	1
Remove silo	1
Remove shed	1

Electrical:

Houses	52
Bank	1
Barn	1
TV Repair Shop	1
Beauty Parlor	1
Swimming Pool	1

Oil Burners	4
Water Heaters	14
Dryers	4
Dish Washer	1
Service Changes	14
Additions and Alterations to houses	22
Plumbing:	
Houses	57
Bank	1
Alterations	14
Gas	67

Respectfully submitted,

GORDON J. E. WILLCUTT SR.
Building Commissioner

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF APPEALS

The Board of Appeals held six public hearings during 1967.

The request of Clifford E. Attleton of Wilbraham Road for a special permit to operate a T. V. and radio repair shop in an accessory building was granted with restrictions.

The application for a special permit to operate a beauty salon in a home not yet built was denied to Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Wiedersheim.

A variance from the Zoning By-Laws was granted to Louis Levine for the building to be used for banking purposes.

The request of Walter R. Black for a variance from the Zoning By-Laws was granted with restrictions.

A special permit for a permitted use was granted with restrictions to Donald J. Baron.

The petition of Kenneth L. Watson for a variance from the Zoning By-Laws was granted.

The Board feels very keenly the death of Lawrence F. Sullivan, one of its members. His help, experience, opinion, and valued loyalty is missed by all of the Board.

We again express our appreciation to Mrs. Charles N. Snow for her clerical assistance during the year.

Respectfully submitted,

DALTON E. PHILPOTT, *Chairman*
 RICHARD A. JALBERT
 WALTER W. LUNDEN
 BERT B. NIETUPSKI
 STANLEY W. WITKOP, JR.
Alternates:
 ROBERT L. SULLIVAN
 GARFIELD W. TRACY

REPORT OF ANIMAL INSPECTOR

The Animal Inspector wishes to report that he has inspected the barns and animals which are required by State law. The following number of animals were found:

Dairy cows	212
Beef cattle	67
Horses	107
Swine	2
Goats	0
Sheep	28

Respectfully submitted,

HOMER L. FULLER
Animal Inspector

DUTCH ELM REPORT

The spraying of elms for elm bark beetles which spread Dutch Elm Disease was done in May and June. In March 5 large elms were removed. Samples were taken in the summer, and in the fall 6 more elm trees were removed.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. REARDON
Superintendent, Insect Pest Control

GYPSY MOTH REPORT

We have completed the search for gypsy moth clusters, and again this year a very light infestation was found. About 70 clusters were found and destroyed.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. REARDON,
Superintendent, Insect Pest Control

REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF SLAUGHTERING

I have not had any requests for inspection of slaughtered animals for the year 1967.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD E. DICKINSON

REPORT OF CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS

The Cemetery Commissioners wish to report the following:

Both cemeteries were mowed three times. Lots with perpetual care were mowed as needed.

The new area in Prospect Hill Cemetery was loamed and seeded. This will make many more lots ready for use.

Respectfully submitted,

HOMER L. FULLER, *Chairman*
ERNESTINE JOHNSON
DANIEL ISHAM

REPORT OF HAMPDEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Conservation Commission for the Town of Hampden, in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 8C, as amended, was established by town vote at the last Annual Town Meeting. The members (5) are appointed by the Selectmen for three year terms.

The Commission has met on an average of once each month since its establishment. The Commission attended a joint meeting with the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Hampden Steering Committee for the purpose of developing efficient communication and coordination in our related efforts.

The Commission joined the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions and members attended their fall meeting as well as the annual meeting of the Association of Conservation Districts. Attendance of these meetings proved extremely informative in terms of first hand knowledge of the accomplishments of other conservation commissions and opportunities open to Hampden. It was noted that of the towns chosen as outstanding examples of successful conservation programs, the basis for their plan was a town detail soil survey and natural resources inventory. Development of the recreational and conservation potential of water courses was enthusiastically recommended. The Hampden Conservation Commission has formally applied to the State Department of Division of Fisheries and Game for an evaluation of the Scantic River and its major tributaries relative to their scope of services. This evaluation will be performed free of charge.

The Conservation Commission is engaged in developing a comprehensive conservation program for Hampden. In this regard numerous public meetings and communication directly with the various town clubs and organizations are intended to inform the general public of the beneficial influence a conservation program can have for Hampden, and also to obtain the ideas and concerns of Hampden residents. Educational pamphlets and a survey will also be utilized for background information. The program developed will define the scope of the Commission's interest, establish priority ratings, cost, time to complete, etc., of the various objectives and needs, and coordinate the various elements into a working plan embodying both long and short range conservation goals.

Toward this end the Commission has been busy compiling a list of conservation concerns which have been grouped into five major categories; Natural Resources, Recreation, Beautification, Public Relations, and Legal-Finance. Each member has been assigned the responsibility for one of these categories and will form a sub-committee to accomplish their respective goals in phase with the other sub-committees. The Commission will continue to meet at least once each month and the various sub-committees will meet separately.

Funds will be required to develop a comprehensive program for Hampden's conservation effort. An appropriation to support this effort will be requested at the forthcoming Annual Town Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM MORIARTY, *Chairman*
ADA BOHLKE, *Secretary*
BEN LIBBY
LOUIS SICBALDI
RICHARD HOWLETT

TOWN PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

The Town Plan is progressing as proposed and approved at the last Annual Town Meeting. At that time the sum of \$4000 was appropriated for the Planning Board to use to enact a one year phase of the plan. The Planning Board delegated the

responsibility of encouraging the orderly coordination of the Town Plan to a subcommittee known as the Town Plan Steering Committee.

The 1967 Phase of the Town Plan was designed to strengthen our development control regulations. In simple terms this included a review of the legal planning tools now in force: Zoning Bylaws, Subdivision Regulations, Building Code and Public Health Rules. We are pleased to relate progress in each of these areas.

Through action by the Zoning Subcommittee of the Planning Board the proposed Zoning Bylaw Amendment is ready for Town Meeting Action. The new Subdivision Regulations were given public hearing by the Planning Board and are now in effect.

The Public Health Code was revised and approved by the Board of Selectmen and is presently in force. The Selectmen chose to review these regulations themselves resulting in a savings to the Town.

The Building Code revision has been under study by a subcommittee and it is hoped the Code will be ready for action at the annual meeting.

A precise and coordinated set of maps is being prepared by the town planning consultants, Thomas Associates. This includes the development of a new set of base maps as well as a new zoning map in the same scale. The Planning Board has also authorized the enlargement of the General Soils Survey Map to matching scale.

A Flood Plain Study has been conducted by Professor Carlos Caranza and a team of Springfield College workers to prepare a flood plain zoning district for the Town in conjunction with state authorities. The results of this study have been forwarded to the Planning Board and the State Director of Flood Plain Management Services. A set of aerial photographs was prepared as part of this study which is now in the hands of the Planning Board as a further planning tool.

A Beautification Study Committee was formed to investigate the use of federal matching funds. The committee, headed by Paul Hunter, submitted a set of recommendations to the Planning Board for further action. It is hoped that a three year beautification program can be initiated in the near future with the assistance of federal funds.

The Town of Hampden is presently awaiting federal funds available for total town planning through the Housing Act of 1954, Title VII, Section 701 as amended. Hampden's application for these matching funds has been given official approval. The appropriation to the Town is expected by September, 1968. Due to this application for matching funds, which was submitted in 1967, \$1000 was set aside by the Town in addition to \$6000 from the stabilization fund in readiness for use with federal funds as they would be appropriated. Since the funding has not been made at the date of this report, the \$1000 remains unexpended.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Voted at 1967 Annual Town Meeting.....	\$4000.00
Spent: Services of Thomas Associates, Planning Consultants..	1975.00
Flood Plain Study.....	250.00
Aerial photographs.....	50.00
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	\$2275.00
Balance December 31, 1967	\$1725.00

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD H. BRECK, *Chairman*
MARILYN BLIZARD, *Secretary*
JOHN FLYNN
PAUL HUNTER
YORKE PHILLIPS
Town Plan Steering Committee