

TREASURER'S REPORT

CASH BALANCE AS OF 1/1/77 \$ 219,200.66

1977 RECEIPTS

Loans	300,000.00
Revenue Sharing Funds	75,634.00
Interest on Revenue Sharing Funds	2,042.41
Antirecession Funds	7,805.00
Interest on Antirecession Funds	403.08
Interest on Remaining Available Funds	6,891.37
Building Department Fees Collected	
Building	1,558.30
Electrical	1,079.90
Plumbing	865.60
Gas	70.00
Other Receipts	3,019,401.82
Total Receipts	3,415,751.48

1977 DISBURSEMENTS

Repayment of Loans	300,000.00
Interest paid on Loans	1,113.08
Principle Paid on Debt (Thornton Burgess School)	85,000.00
(Note: The principal remaining as of 12/31/77 is 765,000.00)	
Interest paid on Debt (Thornton Burgess School)	35,700.00
Revenue Sharing Warrants	65,671.26
Antirecession Warrants	7,831.73
Remaining Disbursements	2,971,551.83
Total Disbursements	3,466,867.90

CASH BALANCE AS OF 12/31/77 168,084.24

REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

A federal and state grant plus funds from twenty-four surrounding communities have been used during the past two years to develop a police radio system under the direction of Chief Stone. These funds plus those collected from the communities for maintenance of the system are kept entirely separate from town monies.

Balances as of 12/31/77 are as follows:

Grant Funds	
Checking	1,406.95
Maintenance Funds	
Checking	1,165.00
Savings	1,484.88

TREASURER, Jane Wyman, at right, with Bernice Owens, Clerical Assistant at Town Offices



TRUST FUND

The chart that follows is an analysis of the trust funds presently in the hands of the Treasurer.

TRUST FUNDS

	Balance 1/1/77	Amount Deposited 1977	Amount Withdrawn 1977	Interest Gained 1977	Balance 12/31/77
Library Newell Fund	466.82	55.29	0	26.49	548.60
Day Library Fund	700.55	0	42.00	40.47	699.02
Holt Library Fund	608.70	0	0	33.19	641.89
Kindergarten Library Fund	4,479.06	256.41	127.76	244.37	4,852.08
Bumstead Cemetery Fund	3,320.82	0	0	199.23	3,520.05
Centennial Fund (Regular)	1,500.22	3,000.00	0	106.34	4,606.56
Centennial Fund (Ninety Day)	6,507.23	0	0	390.51	6,897.74
Town Common Fund	1,081.59	0	150.00	57.48	989.07
Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund	15,652.58	200.00	0	943.21	16,795.79
Stabilization Fund	117,259.12	0	0	7,033.17	124,292.29
Council on Aging-Senior Center	0	190.00	0	2.58	192.58

GYPSY MOTH REPORT

The past year saw a light infestation of gypsy moth and, in contrast to the past few years, the town had slight damage from gypsy moth. During the year about 350 clusters were found and destroyed.

Respectfully submitted,
James A. Reardon
Supt. Insect Pest Control

DUTCH ELM REPORT

During the year 1977 a total of 47 diseased elm trees were cut down and destroyed. Diseased elm trees were removed from the roadside of the following streets:

South Road, Chapin Road, Mill Road, Wilbraham Road, East Longmeadow Road, Glendale Road, Thresher Road, and South Monson Road.

Respectfully submitted,
James A. Reardon
Supt. Insect Pest Control

REPORT OF TREE WARDEN

The tree warden wishes to report the following trees removed:

- 2 Maple trees on Main Street
- 2 Maple trees on Wilbraham Road
- 1 Maple tree on Chapin Road
- 2 Elm trees on Allen Street

Trees were planted on Main Street, Old Orchard Road, Samble Lane, Middlefield Drive, Wilbraham Road, Echo Valley Drive, Town House and Fire Station. These plantings were Rock Maples.

Respectfully submitted,
Homer L. Fuller
Tree Warden

BOARD OF ASSESSORS ANNUAL REPORT

The Assessors Office successfully completed an updating of all valuation to 100%. Because Hampden has maintained equity of all values since the 1968 revaluation it was possible to employ a factoring method to arrive at full valuation. The ability to factor versus a commercial revaluation resulted in a sizable saving to the Town of Hampden.

Changes of valuation are always disturbing to all taxpayers. Needless to say the activity of this office at abatement time far exceeded all normal operations. We were able to satisfy most inquiries of property owners. This office welcomes every opportunity to serve the townspeople.

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

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

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Jalbert, *Chairman*
Henry Baush
Stanley Witkop

Total appropriation to be raised by taxation	\$2,462,668.58
Total appropriation to be taken from available funds	114,195.36
Offsets to Cherry Sheet Estimated Receipts	
School Lunch	7,950.00
Free Public Library	1,781.63
Racial Imbalance Program	56,444.00
Other Amounts to be Raised	
Veterans Service District	2,071.00
Lower Pioneer Valley Regional Planning District	548.64
Amount certified by Treasurer for tax title foreclosure	53.20
County Tax	172,403.24
State Recreation Areas	16,636.89
Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Bills	515.70
Air Pollution Control District	492.36
Special Education Chapter 766	2,461.00
Overlay of Current Fiscal Year	<u>57,772.78</u>
GROSS AMOUNT TO BE RAISED	\$2,895,994.38

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS AND AVAILABLE FUNDS

1978 Fiscal Year Receipts Certified by the Commissioner on Cherry Street . . .	\$752,668.44
Motor Vehicle and Trailer Excise	172,801.00
Licenses.	7,917.00
Fines.	457.00
General Government	3,557.00
Protection of Persons and Property	576.00
School: (Local receipts of School Committee)	2,076.00
Libraries (Local receipts other than State Aid)	260.00
Recreation	3,020.00
Interest: On taxes and Assessments	13,558.00
Cemeteries	101.00
Available Funds taken	114,195.36
Farm Animal, Machinery and Equip. Excise	137.00
Dump Sales	456.00
Dog Pound Fees	585.00
Overestimates on Cherry Sheet.	898.97
Total Estimated Receipts and Available Funds	\$1,073,262.97
Net Amount to be Raised by Taxation	1,822,731.41
Personal Property Valuation . . . \$30,985,540.00 X \$33.50	\$ 103,800.97
Real Estate Valuation. 51,311,290.00 X 33.50	1,718,930.44
Total \$54,409,830.00	Total Tax 1,822,731.41
Additional Real Estate Tax Due to Revision of Valuation	27.13
Grand Total	\$1,822,758.54
Taxes Abated in 1977	
1977 Personal Property (Fiscal)	\$ 300.00
1978 Fiscal Personal Property	612.20
1977 Fiscal Real Estate	15,760.08
1978 Fiscal Real Estate	2,901.98

Statutory Exemption Grant in 1977 on Real Estate		
1977 Fiscal Real Estate		1,094.28
1978 Fiscal Real Estate		16,594.06
Farm Animal, Machinery and Equipment Excise		137.00
Motor Vehicle and Trailer Excise Committed in 1977		
1974 Commitment		247.50
1975 Commitment		1,015.20
1976 Commitment		30,260.70
1977 Commitment		178,215.47
Commissioner's Value of Vehicles		
1974 Commitment		3,750.00
1975 Commitment		73,950.00
1976 Commitment		613,100.00
1977 Commitment		3,063,330.00
Motor Vehicle Excise Abatements Granted in 1977		
1974 Commitment		245.50
1975 Commitment		126.59
1976 Commitment		3,429.69
1977 Commitment		13,652.92
The Town owns the following real estate		
Ames Road	6 acres	1,350.00
Cross Road (Dump)	13.42 acres	2,375.00
Baldwin Lot 122	1.06 acres	1,585.00
North Road	¼ acre	805.00
Wilbraham Road	22 acres	1,740.00
Thresher Road	4 acres	635.00



HAMPDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY: Adina Johnson, Elizabeth Curtis, Librarian, Margaret Rockford

REPORT OF THE LIBRARY

1977

The library staff is pleased that the "Elizabeth Session" Room" is being used for many functions. A feature film for children is shown the last Saturday of the month. The Senior Citizens enjoy a movie every Monday. Various groups use the room for meetings and movies. Paperbacks, jig saw puzzles, and sewing patterns are enjoyed on a swap basis. Young people play records at the listening area and Santa makes his annual visit in this room.

Summer reading was enjoyed by youngsters of the Town. There were 43 who completed and reported on the 10 books required in a 6 week period. A movie was shown and a paperback was given to each of them with their reading interests in mind at the end of this program.

The Christmas program was again a success with 85 children on hand. An appropriate movie was shown and then Santa appeared to listen to the children's many wants.

Any child, at any time, may watch a sound film strip in the library proper. They last about 10 minutes. Some of these film strips are borrowed from Western Regional film center which helps to supplement our supply.

The "Hampden News Scrapbooks" are kept up to date by the library staff. The first book is dated 1874 and was started by Mrs. Anna F. McCray. She kept the books up until 1952 and then Carl Howlett kept them up until 1968 when the library took over.

Eighteen shut-ins receive the Christian Herald from the library. This service is made possible through the interest accumulated from the Day Fund Memorial.

The Bookmobile still visits the library every six weeks with books and records to supplement our supply. Another service, of the Western Regional, we use is the inter-library loan that supplies special requests by our patrons.

The children who visit the library from Green Meadow School are taught library basics by Mrs. Rochford. Childrens' Roundtable meetings are also attended by Mrs. Rochford. These meetings are sponsored by Western Regional Public Library System.

The library staff delivers books and magazines to shut-ins throughout our Town.

A review of early Hampden is on display in honor of our Centennial.

Our sincere thanks to Julia Bouchard for her volunteer work and also to the patrons who have donated books, paperbacks, magazines, puzzles, coupons, and patterns. These items are very much appreciated.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Mary S. Barkhuff, Trustee
Miriam P. Bryans, Trustee
Helen Dickinson, Trustee
Elizabeth J. Curtis, Librarian

LIBRARY HOURS

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

Closed Saturday - July and August thru Labor Day

LIBRARY STATISTICS

General Services

Circulation 23,717
Volumes added 632
Volumes discarded 354
Total Collection 13,776
Magazine Subscriptions 46
Total Attendance 12,377
Inter-Loan Books Borrowed 133
Bookmobile 2,658

Finances

Receipts

Revenue Sharing \$14,650
State Aid 1,714
Dog Tax 270
\$16,634

Expenditures

Wages \$10,719
Media Materials 4,781
Supplies, Telephone, Incidentals 1,134
\$16,634



PLANNING BOARD: Frederick Maher, Karl Sternberg, Judith Jackson, Clerk, Carl Libby, John Partyka, John Mikkola

PLANNING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

Growth in the Mill Rd. section of Town has continued with the signing of two subdivisions, called Dutil Village and Fox Run Lane. Tighe & Bond, the town's consulting engineers have done regular inspections and keep the Board informed as work on the roads progress.

Residents purchasing lots on Glendale Rd. have cooperated in having an engineering study done prior to putting in culverts or bridges on East Brook, as well as in signing easements giving the Town access to the brook for emergency stream clearance.

The Attorney General approved the zone change on the Christianson property on East Longmeadow Rd., creating a commercial zone containing eleven large lots.

The Town Map continues to develop as new surveys are given to the Board. Mr. Paul Katz of Longmeadow was hired to work on the map during the summer. Many of the larger areas of town were surveyed prior to today's accurate methods and since pieces go outside the town's boundaries, surveyors must work with approximate boundaries. The map has proven useful to Town Boards and although there may be inaccuracies, it has not hampered the Board in the performance of its work.

The next part of the project will be to place the zoning boundaries on the map. Zoning areas were based on a soil survey and were not laid out to be measured to the inch. When a parcel is set up, it is placed in the zone that covers the majority of the property.

Currently the Board is working with a subcommittee to look into the zoning status of the Audubon Society's 250 acres, now operating as a permitted use in a Residential zone.

Respectfully submitted,
 Carl F. Libby, *Chairman*
 Frederick Maher
 John Mikkola
 Karl D. Sternberg
 John L. Partyka
 Judith M. Jackson, *Clerk*

REPORT OF POLICE DEPARTMENT

I submit herewith the Annual Report for the Police Department for the year ending December 31, 1977.

During the year the police department recorded 4,487 log entries. Of these 2,114 required further investigation. The following is a general breakdown of the types of complaints received and investigated or responded to by the police department.

B & E forcible entry	37	Persons assaulted	13
B & E unlawful entry	11	Police officers assaulted	6
B & E attempted forcible entry	9	Disorderly persons	14
Larceny over \$100.	49	Neighborhood problems	42
Larceny under \$100.	80	Protective custody	11
Vandalism	183	Arrests for other police dept.	6
Ambulance assists	67	Assisted other police dept.	35
Fire department assists	63	Citizen assists	86
Family problems	38	First aid rendered	3
Bicycles recovered	3	Stolen merchandise recovered	6
Bicycles reported stolen	13	Motor vehicle complaints	140
Buildings open	24	Suspicious motor vehicles	149
Burglar alarms answered	161	Recreational vehicle complaints	31
Stolen cars reported	16	Suspicious persons	150
Stolen cars recovered	30	Youth problems	176
Prowlers	11	Animal complaints	2
Missing persons	25	Dog complaints	142
Obscene phone calls	16	Dog bites	14
Lost persons searched for	2	Airplane crash	1
Robbery, armed	1	Violations of local ordinances	4

A total of 538 more investigations were conducted in 1977 than in 1976.

There were 98 persons arrested and a total of 202 complaints were filed against them in the following categories.

B & E daytime	2	Assault & battery on a police officer	6
B & E nighttime	7	A & B with a dangerous weapon	1
Larceny under \$100.	7	Operating under the influence	24
Larceny over \$100.	10	Arrested for other departments	6
Possession of stolen property	1	Indecent assault on child under 14	1
Uttering	1	B & E nighttime of a motor vehicle	1
Forgery	1	B & E nighttime of m/v, intent, misdem.	2
Leaving the scene of m/v acc.	2	Mal., Wilful dest. personal prop	7
Attempted B & E	2	Failure to stop for a pol. officer	2
Malicious damage to a building	2	Speeding	9
Possession burglary tools	2	Operating to endanger	2
No inspection sticker	1	Straddling marked lanes	7
Operating w/o lights	2	Opr. w/o license in possessions	4
Operating to endanger	1	Using a m/v w/o authority	11
Operating under influence of drugs	1	Malicious destruction real property	3
Possession hashish	1	Poss. controled subst., marijuana	9
Possessions P.C.P.	1	Mal. damage to a m/v	2
Burning rubber	1	Operating unregistered m/v	6
Disorderly persons	3	Operating uninsured m/v	4
Operating after license suspension	2	Operating w/o a license	6
Opr. on learner's permit after dark, m/c	1	Operating after license revocation	2
Opr. viol. of license restriction	1	Possession of fireworks	3
Opr. w/o proper headgear	1	Unlawful storage expl. substance	2
Opr. w/o headlights	1	Sale & use expl. device, noise, audible	3
Assault & battery	2	Failure to stay in marked lanes	1
Breach of the peace	2	Attaching plates	2



*HAMPDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT – REGULAR OFFICERS:
(l to r) Alfred Taylor, Donald Bouchard, Richard Alexander, Chief
George Stone, James Kirk, Robert Newton, Robert Towson*

Offensive noise . . . . .	.2	Escapee D.Y.S. . . . .	.1
Defective equipment . . . . .	.1	Operating nearest right of way . . . . .	.1
No registration in possession . . . . .	.3	Default warrant. . . . .	.7
Opr. u/influence, 1 car accident . . . . .	.1		

There were 15 more persons arrested and 22 more criminal complaints filed against them in 1977 as compared to 1976.

There were 92 traffic accidents reported and investigated by this department. A total of 169 motor vehicles were involved in these accidents requiring 41 persons to receive medical treatment. Once bicycle accident was reported.

The following is a summary of motor vehicle cases handled by the police department during the year. A total of 356 citations were issued in 1977.

Speeding	186	Opr. m/c w/o eye protection . . . . .	.4
Speed warnings	13	Opr. with passenger, m/c. . . . .	.1
Stop sign	10	Opr. m/c w/o headgear . . . . .	.1
Using m/v w/o authority . . . . .	.7	Opr. to endanger . . . . .	.7
Leaving scene of prop. dam. accident . . . . .	.4	Passing no passing zone	11
Opr. w/o registration possession	13	Opr. under the influence	24
Opr. w/o license possession	17	Failure to stop when signalled	12
Opr. w/o a license	15	Burning rubber	29
Opr. uninsured	16	Straddling marked lanes	15
Opr. unregistered m/v	21	Opr. negligently	10
Attaching plates	10	Fail. to keep inside marked lanes	14
No inspection sticker	10	Obstructing passing m/v . . . . .	.4
Opr. no rear tail lights . . . . .	.2	Pass.view obstr.less than 400' . . . . .	.4
Opr. w/o lic. opr. over 18 learn.per. . . . .	.1	Noisy muffler . . . . .	.3
Opr. on learn. permit after sunset . . . . .	.1	Fail. to use caution coming onto rd. . . . .	.1
Opr. viol. of lic. restriction . . . . .	.4	Offensive noise, donuts	18
Possession of altered license . . . . .	.1	Passing six cars at once . . . . .	.2

Allowing unlic. driv. to oper. m/v	1	Fail. to slow at intersection	1
Opr. after revocation of license	2	Fail. opr. lane nearest right side, rd.	2
Operating after license suspension	1	Operating w/o lights	4
Leav. scene of prop. dam. acc.	4	Opr. with no front headlight	2
Opr. obstructing traffic	1	Smooth tires; no tread	1
Using peekhole, windshield, snow, opr.	2	Rear plate not displayed	1
Defective equipment	3		

Warnings given out, other than speeding, are listed below:

Noisy muffler	1	Impeding operation	1
No license in possession	2	No headgear, m/c	1
No registration in possession	3	Passing over center line	1
No rear lights	1	Stop sign	1
Burning rubber	1		

In 1976 there were 64 forcible house breaks to this department. In 1977 there were 37 forcible house breaks reported showing a reduction of 27 house breaks during 1977. I feel that this reduction can be attributed to the complete cooperation of all town residents in reporting suspicious persons and motor vehicles which, in the year 1977, showed a considerable increase. Also, many residents have installed burglar alarm systems in their homes. We hope that residents will continue to report any suspicious activities within their neighborhoods to the police department so that we can reduce still further the number of house breaks in our town.

In 1977 attorney Walter Raleigh, our town prosecutor, handled 93 criminal trials which involved 202 criminal complaints in district court. He also handled 150 motor vehicle arraignments and trials. This is a considerable increase over 1976. He has also represented the town in show cause hearings and handled motions filed in the court on both criminal and motor vehicle cases.

Total amount of fines and sentences:

Fines	\$2925.00
Court Costs	940.00
Restitution	1718.00
House of Correction	1 years, 6 months
House of Correction, suspended	8 months
Department of Youth Services	3 indefinite sentences
Department of Youth Services, sus.	1 year
M. C. I., Walpole State Prison	1 3-5 year sentence
	2 8-15 year sentences

During the year the police department issued 60 firearms identification cards, 60 pistol permits, 5 liquor identification cards. A total of \$1,015.00 was turned over to the Town Treasurer including the proceeds of fees for reports.

During the year the following officers attended the following schools. Chief Stone: Massachusetts Criminal Justice Training Council seminar No. 2 on crime and the elderly at Framingham. Officer Alfred Taylor: Uniform crime reporting seminar, Nikon 35MM Photography course. Officer Mary Kupec: Seminar at Boston College School of Nursing on Issues in Forensic Mental Health. Officer Donald Bouchard: 12 week police academy course at Holyoke Police Department. Officer Robert Toulson: 12 week police academy course at Springfield Police Department. In addition, all regular and reserve officers have completed the standard first aid and C.P.R. course.

The police department received a \$3000.00 grant from the Governor's Highway Safety Council to implement a pedestrian safety program within our schools and community. With this grant we were able to purchase a movie projector and screen and 20 safety film which will be used in connection with this program. Officer Mary Kupec, our safety officer, has a very active safety program planned for the schools for 1978. She will also be available to civic organizations to present safety programs.



*HAMPDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT — RESERVE OFFICERS:
(Back, l to r) William Batchelor, Jack Reynolds, Thomas Messier,
Edward Jodoin, Mary Kupec, Carol Chaput, Tanya Woods, Philip
Morin, Peter Markhard, (Front, l to r) Anthony Di Noia, William
Chechile, Michael Weiner, Lt. Frank Panetta, Mark Reisner, Michael
Doyle*

During 1977 Reserve Officer Frank Panetta was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant and Commanding Officer of the reserve police. Working with Lt. Panetta we have set up a training program once a week for all members of the reserve police. This training includes motor vehicle law, criminal law, firearms training once a month and guest speakers such as attorneys, judges, clerks of court and other persons involved in the criminal justice field. The members of the reserve police donate many hours of work to our department during the week and on weekends. I wish to thank every member of the police department for all the time they have donated.

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

This past year has seen an increase in the activity for the Board of Health attributed partly to the increase in population and modification of regulations and programs.

Mr. Thomas Huse, the current Board of Health Agent, has submitted his resignation effective January 1, 1978 as he is taking a new position as Town Engineer, Stratford, CT. A notice requesting resumes from interested parties has been made and a replacement will be named early in 1978.

Health Services

The Flu Clinic was held on October 19, at the Thornton Burgess School and the response was excellent. Our thanks to Dr. Boucher and Mrs. Jane McCarthy for their services.

A Dental Clinic for all school children was held under the direction of Drs. Varley and Hennessey. This is a yearly function provided by the Town.

In the interest of a little something for all, the Annual Rabies Clinic was held on April 23rd, at the Town Garage, under the guidance of Dr. Harvey. For the convenience of dog owners, licenses may be obtained at this clinic as well as at the Town Clerk's Office.

Percolation Tests

This activity is one of the most important for the Board of Health and the Community. Strict adherence to the regulations and design criteria will tend to ensure long lasting, problem free systems, thus reflecting future economic savings to the homeowner and the Town.

Considerable time by the Board of Health Agent and the Board is devoted to this function. The Board of Health makes every effort to be expedient in new and repaired installations, realizing homeowners are anxious to resolve the problem, but must at the same time ensure that a correct and properly engineered system is provided.

Sanitary Landfill

The Sanitary Landfill contract was awarded to the Fijol Construction Company, of Warren, Mass. who was the low bidder.

Paper recycling has continued and expanded to include glass, metal and aluminum. Under the supervision of the local scouting organizations, the recycling programs are a function exclusive of the Landfill Maintenance Contract.

Effort was made this year, and will continue, to reclaim some of the completed area by spreading topsoil and seeding Rye Grass.

Management of the area has assisted in extending the life from the original projection of 9 years as of 1969 to at least 5 to 8 at the current rate of use.

Land is available adjacent to the landfill and an article will be inserted in the warrant for this town meeting for the voters to consider its purchase.

Outdoor Burning

Previous regulations required that burning be accomplished between March 15th and April 15th. This is a time when atmospheric conditions were most desirable but incidence of grass and forest fires would be at the highest level.

Persistent pressure from many communities, and specifically your Board, brought about needed modification to the timing. Starting in 1978 outdoor burning will be allowed with permit from January 15th to March 15th; a period when ground cover and atmospheric conditions are both favorable.

Littering

This is a constant and expensive problem in all communities not to mention its esthetic detraction. Your board is making a continuing effort to curtail this activity and violators will be prosecuted. We ask your assistance and support in this effort.

STATISTICS · BOARD OF HEALTH · 1977

1. Percolation Tests	
A. Approved.	29
B. Denied.	2
2. Septic System Installer's permits granted	18
3. Septic Removal Permit	5
4. Septic Removal Frequency	180
5. Complaints - Nuisances - Wells, etc.	31
6. Court Action	2
7. Food Service Permits	7
8. Food Service Inspections	10
9. Public Swimming Pools Permits	2

The above are the responsibilities of your Board of Health, but the continuing day to day general condition of the Town is everyone's responsibility. We all must cooperate to maintain the type of Environment we all desire in Hampden.

Respectfully Submitted,
John M. Flynn
Sherwood W. Cronk
Jeannette S. Green

Telephone: 566-3713
Hours: 9:00 to 4:00



PARK COMMISSIONERS: Lucille McGuill, Clerk, Mark Willcutt, Howard Cutting, James Whipple, Helene Hesser, Stephen LeClair

REPORT OF THE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

The Park and Recreation Commission met regularly on the first and third Tuesday of each month. Several other special meetings were held with other organizations on other evenings.

Our summer recreation director of the six week program at Memorial Park was Mrs. Terry Hodskins. This program's activities included archery, arts and crafts, games, field trips and many other camp-type experiences.

Mr. David Smith was our swimming director. The pool was open to the public after 1 P.M. and swimming lessons were given to all those interested - from beginner to advanced swimmers.

Mr. Wayne Morse again conducted lessons in the fundamental skills of tennis on the courts at Thornton Burgess School. He had six weeks of classes for youth and adults on the beginner and intermediate levels.

The annual July 4th program was a great success with many organizations from town participating in a wide variety of activities. These ranged from games and contests to food booths and music. An AAU road race was again held this year and was very well attended.

The Park and Recreation Commission sponsors year round programs under the direction of Mr. Norm Proulx, Director of Recreation. These programs include soccer (boys and girls), gymnastics (girls and boys), basketball (boys and girls), volleyball (men, women, boys, and girls), street hockey, baton twirling, womens exercise (in conjunction with the YMCA), mens softball, and ski trips.

The baseball, softball, and hockey programs are funded in part or whole by the Park and Recreation Commission budget, but are under the direction of the Recreation Association of Hampden (RAH). This is a volunteer organization that contributes many hours for the youth of the town in these activities.

Mrs. Helene Hesser was re-elected to serve a three year term.

All the Commissioners wish to acknowledge and thank those who have given so generously of their time and experience throughout the year. It is sincerely appreciated and has made our goal of providing good parks and recreation programs for everyone in Hampden an attainable one.

Respectfully submitted,
James Whipple, *Chairman*
Helene Hesser, *Vice-Chairman*
Howard Cutting
Mark Willcutt
Stephen LeClair
Lucille McGuill, *Clerk*



BOARD OF SELECTMEN: (l to r) John M. Flynn, Sherwood W. Cronk, Jeannette S. Green, Ruth W. Woods, Secretary

REPORT OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN

As we enter the Centennial year for the Town of Hampden, the Board of Selectmen finds many interesting and informative items to include in the Annual Report for 1977. First, congratulations to the Town Report Committee for their diligent efforts in preparing the report for 1976. This report was awarded second place by the Massachusetts Selectmen's Association in its population group.

A major accomplishment was the reconstruction at the intersection of Main Street and Somers Road. This was a Federal Aid Highway Program, administered by the Massachusetts Department of Public Works. It took over four years to guide it through the various hearings, delays, change of programs and engineering difficulties. It was necessary to use additional town funds to improve and provide adequate drainage in this area for the future. Additional lighting has been provided and as this report is written, we are waiting for a change from a 4,000 lumen mercury light to a 20,000 lumen sodium vapor light on a new pole location at the east end of the island. This intersection now has a better, safer, and more orderly flow of traffic. The shopping area in this location gained additional parking spaces.

A disappointment to a few residents was the dropping of bus service by the Peter Pan Bus Lines. The Selectmen opposed this discontinuance at a hearing before the Department of Public Utilities in Boston and the ruling was in favor of the bus company.

The Selectmen were instrumental in reviewing the need for a Council on Aging. The Council was approved at the last Annual Town Meeting and consists of nine members, plus a designated member from the Board of Selectmen.

The activities of this Council plus the Scantic Senior Citizens organization are now supervising various programs for our senior citizens.

The Bureau of Accounts had not audited the Town or its financial procedures for over five years. Approval of funds for a private audit was voted at the Annual Town Meeting. Bids were received from eleven auditing firms, and interviews were scheduled for a representative from each one. Charles DiPesa Company of Boston, Mass. was awarded the contract and recently completed a thorough and efficient audit of the financial condition of the Town.

A highlight last August was the dedication and acceptance of the Lions Club gazebo on the lawn of the Thornton Burgess School. Presentation was made to Gerry Hinch, Vice-Chairman of the Centennial Committee. A band concert by members of the East Longmeadow High School Band under the direction of Joseph Charron was enjoyed by all attending.

As a community service, members of the Springfield Fire Department were invited to show a film on choking and demonstrate the Heimlich Method.

Selectmen have attended all area meetings held by Hampden County Commissioners or the Massachusetts Department of Public Works concerning highways, public works projects or budgets. On September 28, 1977 Selectmen presented a detailed report at a Massachusetts Air Pollution Control Board hearing pertaining to open burning. Open burning has been permitted from March 15 to April 15 each year by local permission. This period is at the beginning or sometimes at the height of the grass fire season. The report by the Selectmen at the hearing proposed a longer period, from January 1 to April 1 and stated 90% of the burning would be completed prior to the grass or brush fire season. Also, a longer period would result in less pollution. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has now adopted an open burning period, by permit, from January 15 to March 15, with burning being allowed from March 1 to May 1 in the Berkshire area.

Constant attention is given to Academy Hall, and the building is checked daily during the cold weather. The outside was scraped, caulked and painted this past season. Leaks were repaired in the belfry and the old weathervane was restored and gold leaf applied. Boiler and heating repairs at the Town House have been very costly this past year. The boiler was welded and new tubes installed. Many expensive valves were replaced. The entire circulating pump for the boiler was returned to the manufacturer for complete re-building. At present the heating system is operating the best it has for many years. The expected remaining life of the boiler is eight years, and then it must be replaced.

An article has been inserted in the Annual Town Meeting Warrant this year to reconstruct a portion of upper South Road, including drainage. The costs of labor and materials increase each year. The Highway Department budget remains rather constant, so consequently many of the so-called long roads are neglected. Work on Main Street from the White Birches to the hardware store is contemplated after the Centennial activities are over. This remaining section of Main Street needs reconstruction to provide for a safe, smoother, quieter surface with adequate drainage and a well defined sidewalk area with a curb.

The Board has reluctantly given up trying to promote both the Legislative Committee and the Energy Commission, due to lack of interest. The Selectmen have been unsuccessful in getting residents concerned with various bills passed by the State Legislature. Many of these laws or regulations either burden the town with greater costs or mandate compliance which diminishes home rule. The voice of the people is most urgently needed to assist in keeping government honest and practical. Both Hampden and Wilbraham Selectmen worked long and hard to keep the two towns in the same representative district, the reasoning being that the two towns are compatible, and have a Regional School District. The decision on redistricting was arrived at politically, and Wilbraham and Hampden lost out. Wilbraham is now one-third of a Springfield District. Hampden, East Longmeadow and Longmeadow share the new district.

Fees received during this report period consists of the following:

Building permit fees.	\$3,798.80
Tax Collector fees	1,508.00
Selectmen's fees (licenses, etc.)	2,040.50
Police Department.	1,015.00
Town Clerk	1,139.15
Total.	\$9,501.45

In conclusion, the Board of Selectmen has endeavored to give the best administration, the most town services and greatest projected thinking for the least among of money. The Board expresses its sincere appreciation to our Secretary, Ruth Woods, and to each member of the Police, Fire and Highway Departments. A cheerful thank you to all boards, committees, councils, commissions and individuals who had the desire to go the extra mile to make Hampden an outstanding rural community.

Sherwood W. Cronk, *Chairman*
John M. Flynn
Jeannette S. Green

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS

Most of the 1977 Highway money was spent for general maintenance of all roads, such as scrapping, drainage, brush cutting, patching, etc. Section 1, Chapter 825 money contributed largely to this work.

Our main construction job this year was the rip rapping of Echo Valley Brook which runs parallel to Echo Valley Drive for a distance of 1500', the reconstruction of Stony Hill Road for a distance of 800', and putting the island in at the intersection of Stony Hill Road and Allen Street, which improved the safety for the Public.

The other job was the reconstruction of Main Street and Somers Road and Meadowbrook Lane intersection. Drainage was put in for a distance of 800' with catch basins and manholes. Burms were put in and the shoulders were graded and seeded. A traffic island was put in on Main Street to control the traffic. This coming year the top coat of Bituminous Concrete Type I will be put down and lines will be painted to divide traffic.

Roadsides were trimmed and brush cut back on the following roads: Ames Road, Bennett Road, North Monson Road, Mountain Road and Burleigh Road.

The town's winter work has become a major problem. The public today insists upon bare pavement year round which adds to the cost of snow removal.

Respectfully submitted,
Homer L. Fuller
Highway Superintendent



HAMPDEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION: (Standing, l to r) Franklin Prouty, Major Benton, Ben Bump, (Seated) Patty Ann Fritze, Arthur H. Gerrish, Rita Vail, Chairman

REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Members of the Conservation Commission have attended meetings and classes to update our knowledge of conservation concerns and laws regulating such topics as wetlands and the preservation of agricultural lands. In October, a field trip at Brockton, sponsored by the MACC, helped five of our members realize again how beautiful Hampden truly is. Compared to eastern cities, Hampden lacks the forced-development caused by dense population. Here, we still have a chance to plan future growth.

At last year's town meeting, the people of Hampden established a Conservation Fund for the acquisition of land. The Commission is hopeful that an amount of money will regularly be added to this fund. The fund cannot be spent without a vote of Hampden citizens at a regular or special town meeting.

Regarding the Wetlands Protection Act, G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40: it often happens that work in or near a wetland is begun without consultation with the Conservation Commission. Such cases become more complex and difficult than if the Commission were involved in the planning stages. At times legal action is even necessary. Residents of Hampden should be informed that construction work or moving of land within 100 feet from a wetland is under the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission.

The Commission wishes that anyone with suggestions or questions will feel free to attend the meetings or contact any member. The regular meeting is on the second Monday of each month, at 7:30 p.m. at the Town House.

Respectfully submitted,
 Rita Vail, *Chairman*
 Ben Bump, *Vice-Chairman*
 Patty Ann Fritz, *Secretary*
 Major Benton, *Treasurer*
 Arthur Gerrish
 Earl Merrill
 Lou Sicbaldi
 Frank Prouty, *associate member*

REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

The Hampden School Committee is pleased to present its report for the year 1977. The Committee is appreciative of the interest and support rendered by the citizens of Hampden. It also acknowledges the cooperation and efforts expended on its behalf by other Town Departments.

Hampden in terms of support for public education is a maximum effort community. It spends a major portion of each tax dollar for schools. A recent analysis of the annual reports submitted to the State by school districts indicates that Hampden spends 80% of each dollar for education and that it ranks 19th out of 351 school districts in this regard. Of equal significance is that in terms of per pupil cost, Hampden ranks 326th out of the 351 school districts. What this illustrates is that it takes maximum effort in terms of tax dollars to maintain a very modest per pupil cost. Consequently, the Committee maintains as its foremost responsibility the prudent management of the tax dollars provided by the Town. Its philosophy continues to be to provide "sound education" within the capability of the Town to support.

ENROLLMENT

The decline in enrollment experienced over the last few years continues. During 1977-1978 school year 951 students were enrolled. Projected enrollment for next September is 889. Statewide projections indicate that this downward trend will continue over the next several years.

Contrasting this trend in Hampden is an increased amount of new home building. During 1977 permits were issued for 35 new homes. If this rate of new construction were to continue, it could reverse the enrollment trend. Consequently, the matter of enrollment decline and the possible offsetting factor of home construction are matters of major concern to the Committee.

SPECIAL EDUCATION (CHAPTER 766)

This year has seen an effective systemization of the Hampden School's program for Special Education. The special needs of children which must be responded to under the mandate of Chapter 766 of the General Laws has been effectively met.

The special needs of 136 children under Chapter 766 were provided for by the special services and instructional programs in the learning centers. Six pupils received educational services in out-of-district placements.

Our resource teachers also provide instruction to pupils who are not under Chapter 766, but are in need of assistance because of prolonged absences or difficulty with specific skills related to reading or math.

METCO

The Metco Program enrollment as of October 1, 1977 was 31 pupils. Because of financial restraints imposed on the program by the State, enrollment was limited to the number of students involved last year.

During the year, a total of \$44,969 was received from the State for the Metco Program. Disbursement of this amount includes \$27,389 to the Town as tuition, \$14,700 for transportation and \$2,880 to the City of Springfield for administrative services.

KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

The kindergarten program during the 1976-1977 school year accommodated a total of 103 pupils. During the present school year 1977-1978, the enrollment dropped to 59 students. Present enrollment statistics seem to indicate that smaller classes will prevail over the next several years. In 1977, the Committee adopted a formal policy that the morning and afternoon kindergarten classes will switch sessions at mid-year. In the judgment of the Committee, this is the fairest way to run the program.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

In October, the School Committee and the Hampden Teachers' Association signed a new three-year contract. This contract includes salary provisions for the first two years and provides for a wage reopener in the third year. The Committee is pleased that it was once again able to reach accord with the Teachers' Association through the bargaining process.

SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

Again during the year many parents and residents graciously gave of their time and talent to serve the schools as volunteers. The volunteers served by staffing the school libraries and by assisting students with a wide assortment of tasks. This assistance in terms of man hours is most impressive. More important, however, is the wonderful "I'm glad to be of assistance" attitude displayed by the volunteers. For this outstanding community service, the Committee extends its sincere appreciation.

U.S. OFFICE OF EDUCATION STUDY

During the year, the Hampden Public Schools participated in a national study sponsored by the U.S. Office of Education. The study provides for math and reading achievement testing of all pupils in grades 1 - 6 in the fall and spring, and reports pupils' scores to our schools. All expenses for this testing program are assumed by the U.S. Office of Education.

RETIREMENT

Mrs. Vivian Cotton concluded her 24 years of teaching in June. She began teaching in Hampden in September, 1953 and served as an eighth grade language arts teacher at the time of her retirement. The Committee is grateful to Mrs. Cotton for her long and dedicated service, and extends to her its sincerest wishes for a long and happy retirement.

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Several items of major significance were accomplished in the area of building maintenance during the year. Most important was the repair of the Thornton Burgess roof. While extensive repair was accomplished, many problems remain. The Thornton Burgess roof will remain a major maintenance concern.

A program to repaint the interior of Thornton Burgess was begun. Corridor ceilings and a number of classrooms were completed as an initial stage in this process.

At Green Meadows repairs were made to the roof and to the gymnasium ceiling.

The Committee reminds all town residents that they are welcome to attend School Committee meetings. These meetings are scheduled for the first and third Monday of the month and meet at 7:30 P.M. in the Thornton Burgess School.

Respectfully submitted,
Hampden School Committee
Emory Ford, *Chairman*
Roland Fawthrop
A. Stuart Fuller
Carl Sabin
Judith Witkop

Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Maurice F. Heffernan

Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Benedetto J. Pallotta

COMPARISON OF PUPIL ENROLLMENT

<i>Year</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>K</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>Total</i>
1975.....		91	96	104	109	133	123	140	128	120	1044
1976.....		90	95	96	108	109	128	119	138	123	1006
1977.....		59	103	96	96	101	112	130	121	133	951

PROJECTION OF FUTURE SCHOOL ENROLLMENTS BASED ON STATIC OCTOBER 1, 1977 ENROLLMENT FIGURES AND PRE-SCHOOL CENSUS FIGURES. PRE-SCHOOL FIGURES INCLUDE AN EXPERIENCE FACTOR OF 10 PUPILS ADDED EACH YEAR PRIOR TO ENTERING KINDERGARTEN.

1978.....		61	69	103	96	96	101	112	130	121	889
1979.....		51	61	69	103	96	96	101	112	130	819
1980.....		45	51	61	69	103	96	96	101	112	734

PROJECTION OF HAMPDEN STUDENTS ATTENDING MINNECHAUG HIGH SCHOOL BASED ON OCTOBER 1, 1977 ENROLLMENT

<i>Year</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>Total</i>
1977.....		118	116	121	115	470
1978.....		133	118	116	121	488
1979.....		121	133	118	116	488

REVENUE FROM THE COMMONWEALTH FOR SUPPORT OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

	<i>1977 Fiscal Receipts</i>	<i>1978 Fiscal Estimates</i>
State School Funds — Chapter 70.	480,099.12	420,444.00
Public School Transportation.	56,671.00	49,474.00
Vocational Education — Tuition and Transportation	858.00	3,249.00
Building Assistance — School Construction	55,324.83	43,732.00
Special Education	833.19	64,302.00*
Regional School Aid	4,580.90	.00
METCO Program — Tuition.	27,389.00	27,407.00
METCO Program — Transportation.	14,700.00	14,700.00
	640,456.04	623,308.00

*To be applied to Special Education Rotating Account

LOCAL RECEIPTS

Rental of School Facilities	2,069.00
Tuition	303.00

PERSONNEL — HAMPDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE:

Dr. Maurice F. Heffernan, Supt.
Marlene Lewis, Administrative Ass't
Lexie Guertin, Secretary

PUPIL SERVICES (BOTH SCHOOLS):

Mary-Stuart Cosby, Adjustment Coun.
Charles Harrell, Admin. of Spec. Ed.
Mary Hart, Guidance Counselor
Helen McGettrick, Core Comm. Chair-
person
Sandra Schneider, Speech Therapist
Helen Green, Executive Secretary

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES (BOTH SCHOOLS):

William F. Boucher, Jr., M.D., School
Doctor
Jane McCarthy, R.N. School Nurse

THORTON BURGESS SCHOOL:

Emilie Steere, Principal
John Farrell, Vice-Principal
Anita D'Amours, Secretary
Rita Southworth, Secretary

Teaching Staff:

Mary Bittner, Grade 4
William Days, Music
Helen Dickinson, Grade 4
Patricia Downes, Grade 4
Roger Farrell, Social Studies
Margaret Flaherty, Science
Katherine Foley, Language Arts
Johanna Fregeau, Grade 5
Ann Gatti, Learning Center
Judith Gelinas, Grade 4
Nancy Gerrard, Language Arts
Thomas Goodman, Mathematics
Morrison Gray, Science
Sarah Howard, Grade 5
Sandra Jarvis, Physical Education
Joan Koss, Mathematics
Juhan Laurits, Physical Education
Janina Luczek, Grade 5
Virginia Midyette, Art
JoAnn Miner, Home Economics
Craig Nakashian, Mathematics
Cecelia Nicholas, Grade 5
Ann O'Malley, Remedial Reading
Kenneth Peterson, Social Studies
Normand Proulx, Industrial Arts
Arthur Roberts, Science
Sarah Shtrax, Remedial Reading
Carolyn Siano, Grade 5
Jean Smith, Grade 5
Donald Troy, Social Studies
Florence Viens, French/Spanish

Aides:

Eleanor Hapgood, Lunch Room Aide
Nancy Montagna, Learning Center Aide
Elaine Robbins, Lunch Room Aide
Joan Sands, Lunch Room Aide
Mary Voight, Lunch Room Aide

Hot Lunch Staff:

Yolanda Esposito, Program Supervisor
Carol Bressette
Linda Marini
Ann Niquette
Mary Specht
Betty Sutcliffe
Barbara Tobin

Custodial Staff:

William Nevins, Custodian/Maintenance
Byron Brooks
Albert Ward
Mark Willcutt

GREEN MEADOWS SCHOOL:

Benedetto J. Pallotta, Asst. Supt./
Principal
Ann Kane, Secretary

Teaching Staff:

Norma Buchholz, Grade 1
Mary Cahillane, Learning Center
Helen Colling, Grade 3
Helen Geary, Grade 1
Jean Godek, Grade 3
Joyce Goldberg, Grade 2
Leo Guimond, Physical Education
Kathryn Habermehl, Music (K-5)
Phyllis Hultstrom, Grade 3
Irene Kielbasa, Grade 2
Virginia Mahancy, Grade 3
Claire Merrill, Grade 2
Charlotte Miller, Grade 1
Judith Moriarty, Kindergarten
Cynthia O'Sullivan, Grade 2
Elizabeth Phillips, Kindergarten
Jayne Shindler, Remedial Reading
Doris Vierthaler, Grade 1

Aides:

Jean Boucher, Lunch Room Aide
Deborah Bowker, Learning Center Aide
Carol Davis, Teacher Aide
Barbara Ingraham, Teacher Aide
Elinor King, Art Aide
Barbara Moore, Teacher Aide
Nancy Salerno, Lunch Room Aide

Hot Lunch Staff:

Rachel Dickinson
Barbara Olend
Susan Wojcik

Custodial Staff:

Stanley Herring, Senior Custodian
Ronald Cote
William Managre

TRANSPORTATION:

Palmer Motor Coach Service, Inc.
West Springfield Servi-Car Co.