



Annual Report  
of the  
Officers  
of the  
Town of Mount Washington  
Massachusetts  
Incorporated, June 21, 1779

For the year ending December 2009

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**ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS January 1-December 31, 2009**

	<u>Terms Expire</u>
<b>SELECT BOARD</b>	
James Lovejoy, Chair	2011
John (Jack) Koczera	2010
Bob Bott	2012
<b>TOWN CLERK</b>	
Thomas C. Furcht	2009
<b>TREASURER</b>	
Patricia Verones	2009
<b>TAX COLLECTOR</b>	
James Lovejoy	2009
<b>ASSESSORS</b>	
Carolyn Romano	2009
Dorothy Bonbrake	2011
Victorine J. G. Torrico	2010
<b>SCHOOL COMMITTEE</b>	
Lesliann Furcht	2009
Elizabeth Kasevich	2010
Gail Garrett	2011
<b>CONSTABLE</b>	
David Whitbeck	2009
<b>PLANNING BOARD</b>	
Marie C. Cane, Chair	2010
Morgan Bulkeley IV	2009
Robert Bott	2011
Bobbie Hallig	2010
<b>LIBRARY TRUSTEES</b>	
Margaret Q. Whitbeck, Chair	2009
Patricia B. D'Alessio	2011
Elizabeth Kasevich	2010
<b>MODERATOR</b>	
Orville Garrett	2009
<b>AUDITOR</b>	
Robert Bott	2009

**APPOINTMENTS****January 1 – December 31, 2009**

Acting Chief of Police	Barnett Goldstein
Accounting Officer	Lesliann Furcht
Alternate Building Inspector	Thomas Race (Egremont)
Alternate Wire Inspector	Richard Aloisi (Alford)
Animal Inspector	Eleanor Lovejoy
Berk. Region. Planning Comm. Alt. Delegate	Jim Lovejoy
Board of Health	Jim Lovejoy, Oskar Hallig, Orville Garrett
Building Inspector	Bengt Granskog
Cemetery Committee	Stephen D'Alessio, Linda Beckwith, Vicki Torrico, Gerry Allan
Chief Fire Warden	Bill Turner (Egremont)
Conservation Committee	Ben Granskog, Chr., Daniel Kasten, Oskar Hallig
Constable	David Whitbeck
Cultural Council	Dottie Bonbrake, Chr., Anne Garrett, Terry Gross, Tom Furcht, Mary King Austin
Deputy Fire Warden	Barnett Goldstein, Tom Furcht
Dog Officer, Asst. Animal Inspector	VACANT
E911 Coordinator	Eleanor Lovejoy
Emergency Manager	Eleanor Lovejoy
Emergency Manager Deputy	Jack Koczera
Fence Viewer	William Miles
Finance Committee	Thomas Furcht, Chr., Vicki Torrico, Dottie Bonbrake, Cathy Torrico, Patricia Verones
Health Agent	Eleanor Lovejoy
Historical Commission	William Miles, Chr., Judy Whitbeck, Margaret Whitbeck
Insect Pest Control Officer	Barnett Goldstein
Librarian	Eleanor Lovejoy
Plumbing Inspector	Robert Krupski (Sheffield)
Procurement Officer	Select Board
SB Solid Waste Management	Eleanor Lovejoy, Tom Furcht; Alternate
Town Counsel	Kopelman & Paige (Boston)
Town Hall Superintendent	Betsy Garrett
Tree Warden	Orville Garrett
Veterans' Agent	Paul S. Edelman ( Gt Barrington)
Veterans' Grave Officer	Richard Zucco
Voter Registration	Thomas Furcht, Chr., Gail Garrett, Linda Beckwith, Asa Palmer, Mary King Austin
Water Resources Mgmt. Official	VACANT
Wire Inspector	Thomas Torrico
Zoning Board of Appeals	Robert Bott, Chr., Ray Kasevich, Ethan Dufault, John Alexander

**REPORT OF THE SELECT BOARD**

2009 was a busy and active year for the Select Board. **Ongoing Projects** on which much time and energy were spent include work with town counsel on a proposed mediation agreement with Camp Hi-Rock, work with Stephan Green, Architect of Clark and Green on possible plans for the renovation of the Town Hall and possible solutions to foundation problems and a sagging floor. In the building itself, the three most pressing issues were identified as record storage, the creation of hygienic and functional bathrooms and revision of office space to meet current needs.

Other major issues faced by the Select Board members were the creation of a Broadband Internet InfraStructure. There are a number of options for how to go about getting high speed internet to the Town and Select Board Chair Jim Lovejoy has been working hard on identifying and assessing the options so that they may be presented to the town for consideration. A project of digitizing Town archival records from the 1700's and 1800's was embarked upon with archivists from The New England Historical and Genealogical Society, to save our civic history. In the not too distant future, the amateur historians among us will be able to access old town records from our home or library computers. This project is grant funded and is at no cost to the town.

There were also a number of projects and initiatives which were completed in 2009. Roof repair was made at The Old School House. A temporary roof repair was done at The Town Hall. Trees overhanging The Town Hall were removed. The Compactor and Recycling Area was improved and cleaned up.

Road reclamation and paving on sections of East and West Streets was completed. Chapter 90 money was applied for and disbursed so the town was able to complete the project.

Paperwork was completed and successfully submitted in 2009 to cover expenses incurred by Ice Storm of 2008.

2009 was the year when new MA State Ethics legislation went into effect. Online training for all connected with the Town whether

employee or volunteer was mandated. The town complied with the legislation and online ethics training.

A meeting was also held with the selectpersons of the Town of South Egremont to review the arrangement between Mt Washington and So. Egremont and the fire and emergency coverage cost.

The Select Board created an Ad Hoc committee to look at the town's policy vis a vis land conservation issues. The committee was asked to look at the question: "What rules and regulations can inspire growth and a healthy community while maintaining the rural character of Mt Washington?" The report of the Ad Hoc committee was given to the Select Board in 2010.

2009 also saw changes in both elected and appointed officials as well as employees. Bob Bott was elected to the select board position which Barnett Goldstein had held. Jim Lovejoy became the Select Board Chair. Don Torrico became the hearings officer for matters concerning trench regulations. Lesliann Furcht left her job as Select Board Secretary and Accountant and Mary-King Austin was hired to fill the position. Thanks go to all of the people who have served the town so long and so well and with such good humor in various positions. Our small town would not be able to function without the hard work and generosity of its elected and appointed officials as well as its many volunteers.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Jim Lovejoy, chair;*

*Bob Bott*

*Jack Koczera (resigned in 2010)*

## DOINGS OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, May 5, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm by Orville Garrett, Moderator.

The following registered voters were present at the meeting: Orville Garrett, Thomas Furcht, William Miles, Lesliann Furcht, Barnett Goldstein, John and Frances Koczera, Jolaine and Gerald Allan, Robert Bott, Philip Garrett, James Lovejoy, Eleanor Dawson, Harry Garrett, Elizabeth Garrett, Cory Hines, Nancy Wright, Jeb Rong, Thomas and Cathy Torrico, Timothy P. Dargie, Morgan Bulkeley, Eleanor Tillinghast, Paul McBride, Brian Tobin, Betsy Spears, Bobbie Hallig, Bengt Granskog, David O. Whitbeck, and Victorine Garrett.

Orville Garrett started by asking for a moment of silence for people who had died in town the past year.

Article 1: The vote was unanimous to hear the report of the Selectboard or any other officers or committees and act thereon. (Motion-James Lovejoy, Second-Barnett Goldstein)

Article 2: The vote was unanimous to raise and appropriate the following sums of money as may be required to defray the expenses of the town for the fiscal year July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009. (Motion-Lesliann Furcht, Second-William Miles) There was some discussion over Assessors Consulting Services and Pest Control.

### Budget FY 2010

GMC Truck Loan	15,520.00
Backhoe Loan	5,405.20
Accounting Expenses	3,000.00
Assessors Consulting Service	9,000.00
Bank Services	100.00
Berkshire County Retirement System	18,784.00
Cemeteries	2,600.00
Communication fee	950.00
Council on Aging	160.00
Egremont Fire Companies	9534.00
Emergency Preparedness	10.00

Employee Medicare Matching Funds	1,567.00
Fuel	17,000.00
Full Time Highway Employees	81,411.00
Insect Pest Control	1.00
Insurance – Group	41987.00
Insurance – Town	13,700.00
Library	1,381.00
Machinery Maintenance	12,000.00
MA Division of Employment Security	113.00
Police	400.00
Printing & Supplies	5,800.00
Schools	135,084.00
So. Berk. Volunteer Ambulance Squad	800.00
Stabilization	42,932.00
Town Buildings- Maintenance & Repair	15,000.00
Town Counsel	6,000.00
Town Highway	20,000.00
Town Officers' Expense	5,500.00
Mileage Reimbursement	400.00
BOH Admin	10,500.00
Town Secretary	23,250.00
Tree Warden	7,500.00
Utilities	6,500.00
Veterans' Services	510.00
Winter Maintenance	53,000.00
Highway Construction Stabilization	100,000.00
Equipment Replacement Stabilization	30,000.00

Article 3: The vote was unanimous to raise and appropriate the following sums of money to fix salaries of the Elected Town Officers: (Motion-Barnett Goldstein, Second-Dorothy Bonbrake)

	<u>FY 2010</u>
Treasurer	2,508.00
Tax Collector	1,527.00
SB Chair	1,527.00
SB Member	1,145.00
SB Member	1,145.00
Assessor	1,256.00
Assessor	1,256.00
Assessor	1,256.00
Town Clerk	879.00
Constable	328.00
Moderator	51.00

Article 4: The vote was unanimous to raise and appropriate \$25,000 in Waste Management fees to cover all costs associated with waste disposal and recycling. (Motion-James Lovejoy, Second-Eleanor Dawson) Ellie described coming changes and current problems.

Article 5: The vote was unanimous to raise and appropriate \$13,000 for inspection services to cover costs associated with inspections. (Motion-James Lovejoy, Second-Eleanor Dawson)

Article 6: There were two floor amendments to this article. The vote on the first floor amendment was unanimous to change the article to raise and appropriate \$1500. to advance the construction of high speed internet access for the Town of Mount Washington. (Motion-Betsy Spears, Second-Eleanor Dawson) The vote on the second floor amendment was unanimous to use \$1500. from available free cash to advance the construction of high speed internet access for the Town of Mount Washington. (Motion-Eleanor Dawson, Second-James Lovejoy) The vote on the original article as amended was unanimous to use \$1500. from available free cash to advance the construction of high speed internet access for the Town of Mount Washington. (Motion-Dorothy Bonbrake, Second-Morgan Bulkeley IV)

Article 7: The vote was unanimous to transfer \$50,575.31 from FY09 Highway construction account to FY10 Highway Construction account. (Motion- Dorothy Bonbrake, Second-James Lovejoy)

Article 8: The vote was unanimous to accept the provisions of MGL Chapter 59 Section 57B, which would allow any real estate or personal property tax not in excess of \$50.00 to be due and payable in a single payment on November 1<sup>st</sup> or 30 days after the bill was mailed, whichever is later. Any amount not paid timely accrues interest at 14 percent per annum from October 1<sup>st</sup> or the date the bill was mailed, whichever is later.

(Motion-James Lovejoy, Second-Barnett Goldstein)

Article 9: The vote was unanimous to accept the provisions of section thirteen of chapter two hundred and fifty-eight of the General Laws which provides that the town shall indemnify and save harmless municipal officers, elected or appointed, from personal financial loss and expense including reasonable legal fees and costs, if any, in an amount not to exceed one million dollars, arising out of any claim, demand, suit or judgment by reason of any act or omission except an intentional violation of civil rights of any person under any law, if the official at the time of such act or omission was acting within the scope of his official duties or employment.  
(Motion-Eleanor Dawson, Second-James Lovejoy)

Article 10: The vote was 14 yea and 12 nay pursuant to M.G.L. c. 82A, §2, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to designate the Board or Officer to issue permits for the purpose of making a trench excavation, as set out in M.G.L. c. 82A, § 4 and 520 CMR 14.00, and to perform any obligations pursuant to the terms of said statute and regulations; or take any other action relative thereto. *Known as "Jackie's Law" the Dept. of Public Safety and Division of Occupational Safety have promulgated new regulations establishing permitting standards for trench openings and securing of unattended trenches.*

(Motion-James Lovejoy, Second-Dorothy Bonbrake) The article was not well received but did pass.

Article 11: The vote was unanimous to authorize the Select Board to appoint any committee or committees and give them or any Town Officer an authority or indemnity and to transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

(Motion-Betsy Spears, Second-Morgan Bulkeley IV)

Before the close of the meeting Tom Furcht thanked last year's election worker volunteers and asked for more for the Annual Town Election. He also noted that this was Barnett Goldstein's last Annual Town Meeting as a Selectman and thanked him for his 27 years of service to the Town.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26pm by a unanimous vote.  
(Motion-Bobbie Hallig, Second-Eleanor Dawson)

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Thomas C. Furcht, Town Clerk*

#### **DOINGS OF THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING JUNE 29, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 7 :00 pm by Orville J. Garrett, Moderator. The following registered voters were present at the meeting: Thomas and Lesliann Furcht, Harry and Elizabeth Garrett, James Lovejoy, John and Frances Koczera, Orville J. Garrett, Eleanor Dawson, Dorothy Bonbrake, Philip Garrett, Edward Bulkeley, Suzanne Bulkeley, William Miles, Brian Tobin, Mackenzie Waggaman, Mary-King Austin and Bobbie Hallig.

Article 1: The vote was unanimous to transfer \$38,022. from Free Cash to the FY09 Winter Maintenance Account (motion- Jim Lovejoy, second- Dorothy Bonbrake.)

Article 2: The vote was unanimous to transfer \$10,000. from Free Cash to reduce the FY2010 tax rate.(motion-Dorothy Bonbrake, second-Eleanor Dawson.)\*

Article 3: The vote was unanimous to transfer \$30,000. from free cash to the FY10 School Account.(motion-Dorothy Bonbrake, second-John Koczera)\*

Article 4: The vote was unanimous to transfer \$64,754. from Free Cash to the Stabilization Account(motion Bobbie Hallig, second Dorothy Bonbrake.)

\* This article required a 2/3rds majority.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Thomas C. Furcht, Town Clerk*

## DOINGS OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING DECEMBER 14, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Orville J. Garrett, Moderator. The following registered voters were present at the meeting: Thomas Furcht, Orville Garrett, James Lovejoy, Jack Koczera, Robert Bott, Eleanor Dawson, Elizabeth Garrett, Harry Garrett, Thomas and Cathy Torrico, Mary-King Austin, Linda Beckwith, and William Miles.

Article 1: The vote was unanimous to appropriate \$45,000. from the Stabilization Account to reduce the Fiscal Year 10 tax rate (motion-James Lovejoy, second, William Miles.) Victorine Torrico (Assessor) gave a quick explanation before the vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 pm by a unanimous vote (motion James Lovejoy, second William Miles.)

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Thomas C. Furcht, Town Clerk*

## REPORT OF THE ASSESSORS

As of January 1, 2009

From: Fiscal Year 2010 Recap

Valuation by Class:

Open Space	0
Commercial	\$35,590.00
Industrial	\$616,500.00
Personal Property	\$1,361,480.00
Tax Rate per \$1,000.	6.63%
Total Tax Assessed	\$448,085.70

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Carolyn Romano, Dorothy Bonbrake, Victorine Torrico  
Board of Assessors*

## REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK, 2009

### Vital Statistics

Marriages: 2

Births: 0

Deaths: 1

### Dog Licenses

Male Licenses	\$10.00 each	3 issued	\$ 30.00
Female Licenses	\$10.00 each	1 issued	\$ 10.00
Spayed Females	\$ 4.00 each	15 issued	\$ 60.00
Neutered Males	\$ 4.00 each	7 issued	\$ 28.00

There is a \$.75 fee that goes to the Town Clerk for each license sold.

### Hunting and Fishing Licenses

Class S1 Resident Citizen Sporting	4@\$45.00
Class S2 Resident Citizen Sporting Age 65-69	0@25.00
Class S3 Resident Citizen Sporting Age 70+	1 @ FREE
Class H5 Non-Resident Citizen/Alien Hunting/Big Game	0 @ 99.50
Class H1 Resident Citizen Hunting	2@27.50
Class H8 Resident Minor Hunting	0 @11.50
Class M1 Archery Hunting Stamps	3 @ 5.10
Class M2 Mass. Waterfowl Stamps	0@ 5.00
Class M3 Primitive Firearms Hunting Stamp	3 @ 5.10
Class F1 Resident Citizen Fishing	5@27.50
Class F2 Resident Minor Fishing	0 @ 6.50
Class F4 Resident Fishing Over 70/Paraplegic	0@ FREE
Class F7 Nonresident Fishing (3 days)	0 @ 18.50
Class DS Duplicate Sporting	1@ 2.50

Hunting/Fishing Licenses-\$.50 fee to Town Clerk

Archery/Primitive Arms Stamps-\$.10 fee to Town Clerk

Waterfowl Stamp-\$.75 fee to Town Clerk

Total Population: 154

Registered Voters: 122

Republicans: 12

Democrats: 41

Unenrolled: 67

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Thomas Furcht/Town Clerk*

## REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, 2009

The Finance Committee is made up of five members appointed by the Town Moderator. Its mission is to work with the Select Board to come up with the Town Budget based on figures, which are a combination of State Aid and tax revenue, provided by the Board of Assessors. The committee can approve or disapprove spending articles on Town warrants but cannot prevent the Select Board or petitioners from placing articles on warrants.

The Finance Committee usually has two major meetings a year, one in March and one in April to set the budget figures to be voted on at the Annual Town Meeting. The committee works closely with the Selectboard during these deliberations. Occasionally there will be one or two other meetings during the year when unexpected shortfalls or expenses arise.

The fiscal 2010 budget, as predicted in the calendar 2008 report suffered from a reduction in State aid due to the continuing recession. However, the cuts were not as severe as feared and as of the close of calendar 2009 no post Annual Town Meeting cuts have been made. The committee met twice in 2009: March 2 and April 13. The Select Board and Finance Committee worked closely to create a fiscal 2010 budget that met our expected reduced income. As is almost always the case, expenses in most of the line items increased.

Fiscal 2011 looks to be a more difficult budget year than fiscal 2010. The national and Massachusetts economies are recovering far slower than hoped and the State, by some estimates is facing a 3 billion dollar structural deficit. Once again it is likely there will be cuts in State aid in fiscal 2011. The Finance Committee and Select Board will be ready to meet to deal with unexpected fiscal moves from the State and we will approach fiscal 2011 as we always do in as fiscally conservative manner as possible. We are very fortunate not to be carrying any long term debt, and very little short term debt. However, there are several very expensive projects that must be faced eventually: the Town Garage, the Town Hall, and the School house. The Town cannot properly address these issues with its current State aid and tax structure.

All Finance Committee meetings are public meetings. The meetings are posted well in advance and attendance by any and all taxpayers (resident or not) are welcome, actually non taxpayers are welcome as well.

Now to the bad news: After the unfortunate internet taxpayer funded investment with "Dr. N. Peshwa", we felt sure bringing on Ex-Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson to be our investment advisor would make up for that somewhat embarrassing loss and move us back into the black. Dreams of a Mount Washington Freedom Tower for a town hall filled our heads. However, apparently there was a reason Mr. Paulson became unemployed and available to us. His recommended investments in GM, Chrysler, and AGI have not exactly panned out. Therefore our improvements to the Town Hall will be reduced to a more festively patterned tarp over the leaking and rotten bathrooms. Fool us twice, shame on us.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Tom Furcht, Vicki Torrico, Cathy Torrico, Patricia Verones, and Dotty Bonbrake*



## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Commission meets the first and third Tuesday of every month when there is business to conduct. Meetings are held at the Town Hall at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise posted.

Commonwealth law requires the Commission to enforce the State Wetlands Protection Act and other laws and regulations. These laws and regulations affect all work done within and near wetland areas. We also continue our routine monitoring of logging projects in wetland areas. The Wetlands Protection Act and the procedures to file for work being done in and near resource areas may affect work being done on your property.

Please check with the Commission before starting any projects that may be regulated. We hope town residents that are concerned about our local environment will take advantage of the many informational and educational resources of the Commission.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Bengt Granskog, Dan Kasten and Oskar Hallig  
Conservation Commission*

## THE DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICES

First, thank you for allowing me to serve the member towns, their veterans and widows. The past year has seen an increase in all areas of operations and there are currently 15 active Chapter 115 claims (state and local benefits.) The District had a high of 22 Chapter 115 benefits over the past year. Claims filed for federal veterans' benefits have resulted in \$154,392.00 being paid yearly, at no cost to District towns, to District veterans and widows since March 2009. 35 applications for VA Health Care were filed within the last 11 months, 118 home visits, 152 office visits, 612 phone calls and 62 flags furnished funeral homes for veterans' funerals.

Fiscal Year 2011 District budgets has been reduced resulting in a smaller assessment for member towns. During these trying financial times all veterans and widows are encouraged to contact this office or the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and review current entitlements as many changes have taken place.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Paul S. Edelman, Director/Agent*

## REPORT OF THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Two plots were purchased in 2009.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Vicki Torrico, Linda Beckwith, Stephen D'Alessio, Gerry Allan  
Cemetery Committee*

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**REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

January – June 2009 (FY 2009)

Tuition to Southern Berkshire Regional School District: \$133,367.8

Transportation to Gregg Massini Bus \$17,172

Grade	Boys	Girls	Total
Pre K	0	0	0
K	0	0	0
1	0	0	0
2	0	0	0
3	2	2	4
4	1	0	1
5	1	1	2
6	2	0	2
7	0	0	0
8	0	1	1
9	1	0	1
10	0	0	0
11	1	1	2
12	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>13</b>

July – December 2009 (FY 2010)

Grade	Boys	Girls	Total
Pre K	0	0	0
K	1	0	0
1	0	0	0
2	0	0	0
3	0	0	
4	2	2	4
5	1	0	1
6	1	1	2
7	2	0	2
8	0	0	0
9	0	1	1
10	1	0	1
11	0	0	0
12	1	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>

Tuition to Southern Berkshire Regional School District: FY10 assessment fell in Calendar Year 2010

Transportation: \$11,808.00

*Respectfully Submitted, Lesliann Furcht, Chair, Gail Garrett & Elizabeth Elisabeth Kasevich School Committee*

**Tax Collector Report 2008**

**Motor Vehicle and Trailer Tax**

MV04	27.50
MV05	322.72
MV06	720.95
MV07	7,072.91
MV08	17,888.75
<b>Total Motor Vehicle and Trailer Tax</b>	<b>26,032.83</b>

**Personal Property Tax**

PP07	201.70
PP08	6,371.88
<b>Total Personal Property Tax</b>	<b>6,573.58</b>

**Real Estate Tax**

RE01	1,726.11
RE02	2,024.02
RE03	2,579.85
RE04	2,906.38
RE05	2,751.69
RE06	3,173.46
RE07	28,435.51
RE08	373,378.99
<b>Total Real Estate Tax</b>	<b>416,976.01</b>

**Total Tax Collection**

**449,582.42**



**REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTOR**

	<u>Jan - Dec 09</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
Interest on Taxes	
Motor Vehicle Tax Interest	16.69
Real Estate and PP Interest	11,972.95
Total Interest on Taxes	<u>11,989.64</u>
Waste Man Income	
WM09	21,960.00
WM07	180.00
Waste Man Income - Other	360.00
Total Waste Man Income	<u>22,500.00</u>
Motor Vehicle and Trailer Tax	
MV Interest	51.25
MV09	18,980.85
MV08	307.50
MV06	185.00
Total Motor Vehicle and Trailer Tax	<u>19,524.60</u>
Personal Property Tax	
PP09	7,440.17
PP08	17.28
PP06	15.92
PP05	13.79
Personal Property Tax - Other	106.00
Total Personal Property Tax	<u>7,593.16</u>
Real Estate Tax	
RE10	5,379.83
RE09	324,798.21
RE08	16,871.66
RE07	6,349.93
Real Estate Tax - Other	6,604.89
Total Real Estate Tax	<u>360,004.52</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>421,611.92</u>

**Reconciliation of Treasurer's Cash**  
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2009

COMPOSITION OF BALANCE ON JUNE 30, 2009

<b>TD Bank:</b>	
Checking	\$111,665.74
Depository	\$209,158.09
Money Market (Stabilization)	\$52,487.17
Legal Defense Fund	\$ 1,466.00
Conservation Fund	\$ 4,698.45
Security Deposit	\$ 15,457.79

<b>Berkshire Bank:</b>	
Savings (Tri-Centennial A/C)	\$ 2,747.23
Savings (Legal Defense A/C)	\$ 17,525.54

**TOTAL** **\$715,206.01**

PRESENTATION OF CASH IN BALANCE SHEET

General Fund	\$320,823.83
Trust Fund	<u>\$394,382.18</u>

**TOTAL** **\$715,206.01**

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Patricia Verones*  
*Treasurer*

## REPORT OF THE CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Mount Washington Cultural Council held several events during the last twelve months. We had packed houses for both Mary King Austin's History of Blueberry Hill Farm and John Miller's concert. We also provided refreshments for the Mount Washington Church of Christ funded square dance. Our annual Poetry and Potluck provided welcome relief from the mid-winter cabin fever. Our first ever spring event was poorly attended although we heard a lot about growing orchids and had a wonderful time. We will discuss whether to have a spring event next year. In addition our cultural council grant money was used to support many community activities. This fiscal year, Lesliann Furcht and Deanne Moskowitz left the committee, but continue to provide guidance and assistance with the setup and cleanup for events. Dottie Bonbrake joined the committee in August 2008 and agreed to become chair with Lesliann's guidance. During our September and October meetings we reviewed nearly fifty grant applications. The planned events for the summer of 2009 are a concert by Gadelle on June 20, 2009 and a talk about the Appalachian trail some time in July. Although the Cultural Council is unable to fund this summer's square dance on August 15<sup>th</sup>, we will help with the setup/cleanup for this event. FYI Cope Garrett collected donations from members of this community to fund this event. Plans are being made to host a fall cleanup at the North School House and the cemeteries at City Brook and the Ann Lee Cottage. We will be having a Potluck and Ghost Stories event the end of October, possibly with the ghost stories in the cemetery.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Dottie Bonbrake,, Terry Gross, Anne Garrett, Mary-King Austin,  
Cultural Council*

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH 2009

The Board of Health meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall. The current members are Jim Lovejoy, Orville Garrett and Oskar Hallig. The Agent of the Board of Health is Ellie Lovejoy. Should you have any questions or need assistance, please call her at 528-1798 or leave a message at the Town Hall. Ellie and Jim Lovejoy have both received certification from the Massachusetts Association of Boards of Health and are licensed Soil Evaluators and Septic System Inspectors.

The Board maintains a list of licensed Well Drillers, Soil Evaluators, System Inspectors, Septic Installers and Septage Haulers. **Please be aware that these individuals or companies are the only ones licensed or permitted to do work in the Town of Mount Washington.** Should you wish to use an individual or company other than those listed, you must contact the Board before work is done so that they may review the worker's qualifications, issue a license or permit or direct the workers to apply to the State licensing board, if required.

All new septic systems, systems needing repair or upgrading must have a plan approved by the Board of Health before work is started. Once the plans are reviewed, the work proceeds and then is inspected by the Agent. A Certificate of Compliance will be issued after the installer and designer has submitted the proper paper work as required under the regulations. Please keep in mind that there are very specific requirements under Title V for both new and remodeling construction projects. Please be sure that the Board of Health reviews plans before work is initiated.

All new wells must be permitted before they are drilled and must be drilled by a licensed well driller. It is recommended that private wells be tested for contamination at least every three years.

Information regarding any public health issue are available at the Town Hall. Please remember that any referrals for treatment or requests for information for personal health issues are completely confidential.

Massachusetts Department of Health has intensified its involvement in preparing for community health issues, including public notification of emergency situations, mass-immunization, and recovery assistance from natural disasters. The Board of Health has been spending a great deal of time satisfying these requirements. We are currently looking for volunteers for the Medical Reserve Corps. You do not need to be a health-care professional to join, as there are many jobs available and all of them are critical to the success of the program during an emergency.

The Town has agreed to work with surrounding towns in case of emergency so that we may avoid duplication of material and personnel.

Most of the regulations are available at the DEP web site or Town Hall. The Board also maintains an extensive library of information regarding other public issues. Please do not hesitate to call on us to answer any questions.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Jim Lovejoy, Chair  
Orville Garrett  
Oskar Hallig*

#### **REPORT OF LIBRARY 2009**

The Library Commissioners are Peggy Whitbeck, Elizabeth Kasevich, and Barbara D'Alessio.

This year has proven to be a challenge for all of the libraries in the Commonwealth. The budget cuts in this area have been severe. The Board of Library Commissioners has been extremely helpful and has done everything they can to make sure that we get as much support as possible. We have been able to add to our collection.

*It is absolutely critical to have books and tapes returned in a timely fashion. We continue to experience a very large increase of delinquency in returning books. If you have taken advantage of the Library and have not returned the books, please do so. Please check your shelves for any materials you may have borrowed. The Bookmobile project terminated*

in January of 2010. We will still be held responsible for any materials we have not been able to find.

The small library collection is available at the Town Hall any time the Town Hall is open.

We have had some great volunteers helping out this year. I would especially like to thank Jean and Kathryn Furcht who have done a huge amount of work.

If you would be interested in joining a "Friends of the Library" group, please let us know! If you are interested, please let us know! There is a great deal to do so that we can provide better service to the community.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Ellie Lovejoy, Director*

#### **REPORT OF THE SOLID WASTE COMMISSION 2009**

Our recycling efforts have actually decreased this year. More and more users are forgetting to CLEAN CONTAINERS BEFORE BRINGING THEM FOR DISPOSAL. Leaving food residue in cans, bottles and plastic containers results in attracting animals and insects. This makes it very difficult for the families living close to the transfer station. Please be courteous – separate deposit containers (we are fined if they are tracked in the waste-stream and Tom has to dig through to remove them), crush cans and non-deposit plastic bottles (the more we fit in, the more cost effective the process is and the lower the user fee will be) and do not put broken glass, light bulbs, and dishes in the recycling. All of the energy-efficient bulbs and the florescent bulbs **must** be separated and given to Tom. They cannot be recycled and contain mercury. We have to keep them for a separate pickup. This goes for any products which contain mercury.

In 2005 we sent over **890** pounds of non-recyclable garbage to the landfill for every household in Mount Washington. If bulky waste is added to the equation, the number rose to an astounding **1,345** pounds of non-recycled trash **per household**. This year the amount soared to over

1,746 pounds per household. Solid Waste management has become a very expensive part of every town's budget. Reducing the waste stream at the source is the biggest contribution you can make. It will save you money. Do what you can to reduce non-recyclable trash.

Mount Washington has continued to benefit from having CET assist with the administration of the Solid Waste District. They have been extremely helpful in keeping us up to date with required paperwork and alerting me to possible grants.

We will have a Bulky Waste Container this spring, summer and fall, please look for notices at the Recycling Shed and at the Town Hall for dates. **DO NOT LEAVE BULKY WASTE, HAZARDOUS WASTE, APPLIANCES OR CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS AT THE RECYCLING SHED.** This includes barbecue grills, propane tanks, shower doors, motor oil, planters, and children's toys. Enforcement of the regulations has, and will continue to, put pressure on holding the cost of disposal fees. It's your choice.

There will also be Hazardous Waste collections during the year. Please check at the Transfer Station for dates and requirements.

We make it as convenient as possible to dispose of things, if you have any questions please call the Board of Health Agent at 528-1798 or the Town Secretary at 528-2839.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Ellie Lovejoy  
Agent, Board of Health  
Solid Waste Coordinator*

*THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVE THE  
TOWN WITH GOOD CHEER AND LONG  
HOURS AND QUIET CONTRIBUTION.*

*Thank you to all who  
volunteer their time or work  
for volunteer wages!*

*Without you, our town  
could not operate!*