

# STOCKBRIDGE



## ANNUAL REPORT 2016

# **Announcements**

Baby Town Meeting – May 8, 2017

6:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Town Offices, 50 Main Street

Annual Town Meeting – May 15, 2017

6:30 p.m. in the Gymnasium of the Town Offices, 50 Main Street

Annual Town Elections – May 16, 2017

8:00 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. in the Senior Center of the Town Offices, 50 Main Street

Memorial Day Parade – May 29, 2017 will be at 12:15PM

Commencing at the Town Offices down Main Street to the Town Hall

Potluck Community Picnic on Town Green immediately following the Program

Second Homeowner's Meeting will be on Saturday, July 8, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. in the Meeting Room of the Town Offices, 50 Main Street

Back cover:

Stockbridge Flag hanging in the Hall of Flags at the State House

**ANNUAL REPORTS**  
**OF THE**  
**TOWN OFFICERS**  
**OF THE TOWN OF**  
**STOCKBRIDGE**  
**MASSACHUSETTS**



**INCORPORATED 1739**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDING**  
**December 31, 2016**



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## Information and Officers



Jorja-Ann P. Marsden retired after over 31 years  
of service for the Town of Stockbridge

*Photo Courtesy Julie McCarthy*

# **General Information of Town of Stockbridge**

Chartered	1737
Incorporated	1739
Population	1916
Registered Voters	1590
Form of Government	Open Town Meeting
Tax Rate	\$9.59
Annual Town Meeting	Third Monday in May

## **UNITED STATES SENATORS**

Elizabeth Warren, Boston

Edward Markey, Boston

## **CONGRESSMAN**

Richard E. Neal

## **STATE SENATOR**

Adam Hinds

## **REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT**

William Smitty Pignatelli

# Business Hours of Town Offices

ASSESSORS, BOARD OF  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Monday-Friday

BERKSHIRE HILLS REGIONAL  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
7:00 p.m. 2nd Thursday of  
each month

CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
7 p.m. 2nd and 4th Tuesday of  
each month

COUNCIL ON AGING  
1 p.m. 2nd Monday of  
each month

FINANCE BOARD  
As necessary

HEALTH, BOARD OF  
As necessary

HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
As necessary

HOUSING AUTHORITY  
8:30 a.m. 1st Tuesday of each month  
at Heaton Court

PARKS and RECREATION COMMISSION  
As necessary

PLANNING BOARD  
6:30 p.m. 1st and 3rd Tuesday of  
each month

SELECTMEN, BOARD OF  
7 p.m. Monday

TOWN CLERK  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Monday-Friday

TOWN TREASURER  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mon-Wed & Fri.

TOWN COLLECTOR  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Monday-Friday

VETERANS' AGENT  
Hours: [www.townofgb.org](http://www.townofgb.org)  
Great Barrington Town Hall

SEWER and WATER COMMISSION  
4:30 p.m. 1st Tuesday of each month

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS  
As necessary

## TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Berkshire Hills Regional School District	298-4017
Monument Mountain	528-3346
Monument Valley Regional Middle School	644-2300
Muddy Brook Regional Elementary	644-2350
Fire Department	
Burning Permits	<a href="http://www.bcburnpermits.com">www.bcburnpermits.com</a> or 298-5562
Glendale Station	298-3242
Hose Company No. 1	298-4866
Interlaken Station	298-4956
Highway Department	298-5506
Police Department	298-4179
Sewer and Water Department	298-4067
Town Offices	298-4170
Accountant	ext. 255
Assessors	ext. 254
Building Inspector	ext. 257
Conservation Commission	ext. 259
Council on Aging	ext. 263
Facilities Manager	ext. 260
Planning Board	ext. 261
Selectmen & Town Administrator	ext. 250
Town Clerk	ext. 251
Town Collector	ext. 253
Treasurer	ext. 252

# Town Officers of Stockbridge

## Moderator

Gary D. Johnston, 2018

## Select Board

Ernest J. Cardillo, 2018  
Don Chabon, 2019  
Stephen Shatz, 2017

## Board of Assessors

Douglas Goudey, 2016  
John A. Miller, 2017  
Gary M. Pitney, 2018

## Town Clerk

Teresa Iemolini, 2019

## Town Collector

Nancy E. Socha, 2017

## Board of Health

Cathy Plakun, 2019  
Charles Kenny, 2018  
Henry Schwerner, 2017

## Sewer and Water Commissioners

Donald C. Schneyer, 2018  
Thomas Paul Schuler, 2017  
Peter J. Socha, 2019

## Planning Board

Gary M. Pitney, 202  
Eugene Talbot, 2021

Ruth Pearce, 2017  
Jennifer Carmichael, 2017  
Kate Fletcher, 2017  
Dominic Cardillo, 2017  
Marie Raftery, 2017

## Treasurer

Karen T. Williams, 2017

## Tree Warden

Peter L. Curtin, Jr., 2018

## Parks and Recreation

Sue Rogers, Resigned  
Steven Knopf, 2017  
George Manley, 2018

## Housing Authority

Bernard Edmunds, 2020  
Joan Burkhard, State Appointee  
R. Timothy Minkler, 2017  
Anne Rabinowitz, 2018  
James Welch 2021  
JoAnne Redding

## Regional School Committee

Sean Stephen, 2019  
Jason St. Peter, 2017  
Daniel Weston, 2017

## APPOINTEES AND COMMITTEES

### Accountant

Elaine Markham, 2017

### Building Inspector

Ned Baldwin

### Veterans' Agent

Laurie Hils, 2017

### Highway Superintendent

Leonard Tisdale, Jr., 2017

### Plumbing Inspector

Gregory M. Pilling

### Emergency Management

Christopher Marsden, Director

### Wire Inspector

Nicholoas Fredsall, 2016  
Henry Blanchard, Alternate, 2017

### Town Administrator

Jorja-Ann P. Marsden, Retired

**Fire Chief**

Ernest Cardillo, 2018  
Neil Haywood, Deputy

**Gas Inspector**

Gregory M. Pilling

**Cultural Council**

Terry Wise  
Karen Marshall  
Mary Flournoy  
Rebecca Weinman  
Jessica Meagher  
Lynn Edelstein  
Patrick White

**Berkshire Regional Planning**

Carol Owens, Alternate,  
Selectmen appted

**Board of Registrars**

Teresa Iemolini  
Jennifer Carmichael, 2019  
Nancy Cark, 2018  
Nancy Ann Wilcox, 2017

**Cable Advisory Committee****Principal Assessor**

Michael Blay

**Police Chief**

Darrell Fennelly, 2019

**Historical Commission**

Maria Carr  
Linda Jackson, Chairman  
Peter Williams

**Memorial Day Committee**

Keith Raftery  
Tim Minkler  
Keith Raftery  
Skip Whalen  
Harold French  
Merrill Sanderson  
Don Coleman  
Fred Coleman  
Debra Coleman  
Ron Muir

**Berkshire Regional Transit Authority****Zoning Board of Appeals**

Linda Day, 2018  
Robert Edwards  
James Murray, 2020  
Thomas Schuler, 2017  
John H. Spencer, 2019  
Robert Jones, Alternate  
John Hyson, Alternate

**Town Counsel**

J. Raymond Miyares

**Conservation Commission**

William Briggs, 2019  
Ronald Broucker, 2018  
Joseph DeGiorgis, 2019  
John Hart, 2017  
Jay Rhind, 2017  
George Shippey, 2018  
Sally Underwood-Miller, Alternate,  
Secretary

**Animal Inspector**

John Drake

**Finance Board**

Jay Bikofsky, Chairman  
Mary Boyce, 2016  
Neil Holden, 2017  
James McMenemy, 2017  
Jim Balfanz  
Diane Heady-Ruess  
Frank Russell, Alternate

**Green Communities Committee**

Laura Dubester, Chairman  
Michael Buffoni  
Patricia Flinn  
Charles Gillett  
Pamela Sanders  
Starbuck Smith  
Chris Marsden

**Community Preservation Committee**

Barbara Cohen-Hobbs, Parks and Rec  
 Katherine Fletcher, Planning Board  
 Linda Jackson, Historical Com  
 Gary Pitney, Assessors  
 Frank Russell, Finance Com  
 Anna Smith, Housing Authority  
 Jack Spencer, Selectmen  
 Sally Underwood-Miller, Chairman,  
 for Con Com

**Elderly and Disabled Committee**

Joyce Hovey  
 Elizabeth McCormack  
 Helen McCormick  
 Gary Pitney  
 Maria Carr  
 Tammy Touponce  
 Karen Williams

**Constables**

Darrell Fennelly, 2017  
 Kirk Nichols, 2017  
 Bruce Stringer, 2017  
 Donald Hopkins, 2017  
 Rosario Messina, 2017

**Special Police**

Elizabeth McCormack, 2017  
 Shauna Slater, 2017  
 Zachery DeSantis, 2017  
 Jake Stringer, 2017

**Council On Aging**

Elizabeth DiGrigoli, Director  
 Lynne French, 2019  
 Ronald Muir, 2019  
 Nancy O'Brien, 2018  
 Susan Rogers, 2017  
 Diane Sheridan, Chairman, 2018

**Dog Officer**

Donald Holmes

**Historic Preservation Committee**

Sue Bonak  
 Gary Johnston  
 Jay Rhind  
 Pam Sandler  
 Carl Sprague, Chairman  
 Peter Williams, Secretary

**Cemetery Commission**

Board of Selectmen  
 Ernest J. Cardillo, Chuck Gillett  
 Stephen Shatz  
 Laurel Hill Representative,  
 Erin Glasheen  
 Town Clerk, Teresa Iemolini  
 Cemetery Consultant, Chris Marsden  
 Highway Supt., Leonard Tisdale, Jr.

# Town Clerk's Report



Chief of Police Darrell Fennelly

# Town Clerk's Report for 2016

## VITAL STATISTICS

Population	1916
Registered Voters	1590
Number of Births	8
Number of Marriages	22
Number of Deaths	20

At the recommendation of the Registry of Vital Records and the United States Department of State, we no longer print the individual names from vital records in the town report. This will help to protect the privacy of individuals as well as help to curb identity theft.

## RAFFLE PERMITS ISSUED

Raffle Permits	2
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## DOG LICENSES

Males	14
Neutered Males	118
Females	11
Spayed Females	122
Kennel	1
Replacements	1
Transfers	<u>0</u>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>273</b>

**\$1850.00** Paid to the Town Treasurer for Dog Licenses & Late Fees

Fees amounting to an additional **\$8038.05** were also turned over to the Town Treasurer for the sale of certified birth, marriage and death records and the filing of marriage intentions. Special permits, the recording of business certificates (DBA), and the sale of street lists, bylaws, and other miscellaneous services also contributed to this figure.

## 2016 ELECTIONS AND TOWN MEETINGS

On Tuesday, March 1, 2016 the Presidential Primary was held to cast votes for the offices of Presidential Preference, State committee Man, State Committee Woman and Town Committees. There were 778 votes cast and the number of registered voters was 1639, a 47% turnout.

The Annual Town Meeting was held on Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. There were 208 of the 1632 registered voters that attended this meeting.

On May 17, 2016, the Annual Town Election had a turnout of 220 registered voters. The actual number of registered voters at that time was 1632.

A Special Town Meeting was held on Monday, June 27, 2016 at which there were 50 registered voters just enough to meet the requirement for a Quorum.

Another Special Town Meeting was held on Monday, August 29, 2016, the purpose for this meeting was to move money from the Stabilization Fund for the Church Street water lines replacement project and for the engineering, design and construction work associated with the repair and restoration of bridges in the town. There were 59 out of 1662 registered voters in attendance, 3%.

On Thursday, September 8, 2016 the State Primary was held. The number of registered voters was 1661 and there were 291 ballots cast.

Tuesday, November 8, 2016 marked the end of the very busy 2016 Town Meeting and Election year with the State Election. It was a very busy election with 1305 ballots cast out of 1705 registered voters, or 76% participation.

The town meeting and election schedule for 2017 is as follows: The Annual Town Meeting will be held on Monday, May 15, 2017 and the Annual Town Election will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2017.

Early Voting was introduced this year in Massachusetts for the first time for the State Election. It meant that anyone could vote early during regular business hours, and one Saturday, from Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup> thru Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. Here in Stockbridge it was a huge success we had 395 Early Voters during this period. I feel it really helped to keep the lines on Election Day to a minimum and quite possibly helped create a better turnout because the voters weren't tied to one specific day and time that they could vote. These sentiments were expressed throughout the entire state and I am confident that it is a procedure that will continue and will expand to all elections in the near future.

I am honored to have been appointed as a Notary Republic for the State of Massachusetts. I am looking forward to assisting the residents of Stockbridge with their documents that need to be notarized.

I would like to thank all of the wonderful ladies and gentlemen who help me with the elections and town meetings, not only those who work at the polls, but my Registrars as well. I appreciate their professionalism and dedication during what can be some pretty long days. They all do a fantastic job. I am so grateful to have them all on my team.

Finally it would be remiss of me not to thank Jorja Marsden for all the help and support that she gave me from day one. I will be forever grateful to her.

Respectfully submitted,  
TERESA IEMOLINI  
**Town Clerk**

**IN MEMORIAM**  
**OF THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED THE TOWN**

**George E. Emerson Jr.**  
Selectman  
Fire House Building Committee

**Michelle Gillett**  
Cultural Council

**Thomas Arienti**  
Sewer Committee

**Isabelle Soule**  
COA Driver

**Virginia Freudenberger**  
Oldest Female Resident

## General Services



Chris Marsden and Steve Shatz  
Solar Array and Cell Tower site  
at the Glendale Middle Road Landfill

*Photo Courtesy Business West*

# Selectmen's Report

To the Citizens of Stockbridge:

This past year was one of change, both planned and unexpected, accomplishments and unfulfilled challenges.

The most significant change was, of course, the retirement of Jorja Marsden whose dedication to Stockbridge will remain unmatched for years to come. We will miss her but we will always have the benefit of her wisdom and graciousness.

Our Board has also changed with the result that there has been a prolonged "getting to know you" period.

Upon Jorja's retirement we appointed Danielle Fillio, our capable Administrative Assistant, to be the interim Town Administrator. We expect that a search for a permanent Town Administrator will be commenced following the Annual Town Meeting.

The Select Board, by majority vote, declined to participate in a shared town administrator project with Lee and Lenox, a project which had been under discussion amongst the three towns since October of 2015. This vote also terminated any discussions with regard to other forms of shared services.

The Visioning Project, begun in 2015, concluded with a report to the Board. This report was handed to the Planning Board for further action. The Select Board had previously supported a fund to enable the Planning Board to undertake a review of zoning bylaws and their impact on housing. Meetings of the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen have commenced as of the date of this report to discuss such an effort.

The Board created an ad hoc committee whose charge is to assist in the coordination of public and private efforts on behalf of the Stockbridge Bowl. To date no report of that committee has been forthcoming.

We created an ad hoc committee to study possible reuses of Old Town Hall, a committee ably chaired by Arthur Schwartz. This committee has been instrumental in providing assistance to parties interested in an adaptive reuse of the building. The committee has arranged for access and provided technical and historical information. Although there have been public expressions of interest no formal proposal has been made to its owner, the Congregational Church. The Select Board has sponsored articles for the Annual Town Meeting designed to enhance development of this site.

With our participation, the Cemetery Commission, which has managerial responsibility for the Town cemetery, commissioned a financial review of the costs to operate the cemetery and a land use study to help the Commission to

better understand future planning issues. It is hoped that those studies will be available before the Annual Town Meeting. The Cemetery Commission has also recommended to the Board the granting of easements for two abutters to the cemetery which we believe were inadvertently omitted when cemetery property was conveyed years ago. Those easements will be considered at the Annual Town Meeting. We note Chris Marsden's resignation as Cemetery Consultant. His management of the cemetery was exemplary and we thank him for his tireless efforts.

Our former landfill off Glendale Middle Road is about to begin a new life. In December 2016 a solar array was mechanically connected and now awaits connection to the utility company lines, a connection which we hope will occur this summer. The Verizon cell tower has been erected and as of this writing has yet to be connected to the utility grid. When these projects are connected they will provide public convenience, renewable energy, net metering credits against our electric bills, rents and taxes. We thank Chris Marsden for his coordination and supervision of the myriad number of contractors while satisfying the regulatory requirements of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

This Town is successful because of the efforts of many volunteers. We wish in particular to commend the efforts of the Gould Meadow restoration group, led by Tim Minkler, Arthur Dutil, and Ron Brouker. Gould Meadow is being cleared of invasive plants and downed trees. More community access to this site is soon to occur.

Our renovated Library Archives and Museum opened to the public this past year after a two year construction project, a project supported by the Town. Our congratulations to the Library, donors and the many volunteers who made this project a success.

Challenges remain. The Town is in the midst of efforts to finance, design and construct improvements to six bridges. Under the leadership of the Select Board and the Finance Committee we have now approved nearly \$3,000,000 for these projects. More will be needed and we anticipate seeking state and other grants for additional costs. Our Highway Superintendent was successful in obtaining a \$500,000 state grant for the Larrywaug Bridge. This will be a multi-year effort which highlights the need to undertake preventative maintenance and planned replacement of our capital facilities and infrastructure.

In a similar vein, we are now in the process of designing and financing a new Highway Garage. The 1950 cinderblock garage will be or has now been demolished having long since passed its useful life.

It should be noted that the Select Board worked with the Finance Committee to redesign our budget process and the retention of a budget consultant. This effort has already streamlined budget deliberations and has

also resulted in the creation of five year capital budgets for Highway, Fire, Facilities and Police Departments. This will enable the Town to plan capital repair/replacement expenditures to as to minimize budgeting by emergency.

Our thanks to our Town employees and elected officials who truly run the Town and provide the quality services our citizens expect and treasure. They are a dedicated group without whom our work would come to naught.

Finally a debt of gratitude to those who have retired from service to the Town and those former employees and officials whose passing we note: Chuck Gillett, Michele Gillett, Keith Raftery, Holly Rhind, Mary Hart, and George Emerson.

Respectfully submitted,

ERNEST J. CARDILLO, **Chair**

STEPHEN A. SHATZ

DONALD M. CHABON

# Police Department

To the Honorable Board of Selectman and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

I hereby submit a report of the activities of the Police Department for the year 2016:

I would first like to thank the members of this Department who through their integrity and dedication provide our town with the services and professionalism each citizen deserves. Full time Officers Bruce J. Stringer, Kirk E. Nichols, Rosario E. Messina, Donald S. Hopkins, Thomas A. Rubino. Reserve Officers Jacob Stringer, Shauna L. Slater, Zachary W. DeSantis, Chad E. Heath. Special Officer Elizabeth M. McCormack.

I would also like to give a special thanks to our Executive Administrative Assistant, Kimberly L. Shaw, who does such a wonderful job working behind the scenes.

On the last day in April Chief Robert M. Eaton departed Stockbridge to accept the Chief's position in Townsend, MA. I was promoted from Sergeant to Chief of Police on May first. I was told by Chief Eaton and former Chief Rick Wilcox that my first year would be a whirlwind and I must say they were not exaggerating. Fortunately, I have been able to call on both of them for assistance throughout my first eight months and I cannot thank them enough for always being there to provide guidance and answers.

We welcomed the addition of two officers. Full time Officer Thomas A. Rubino came to us from the West Stockbridge Police Department and Reserve Officer Chad E. Heath who is also a reserve officer in the Town of Becket. Both of these men have fit in well with our Department and with the community.

Even with these additions we are still understaffed. The position of Sergeant remains open and with the imminent retirement of Officer Stringer in early 2017 we will be looking to fill the positions. The goal is to promote from within but if necessary we will employ a recruitment and selection hiring process.

Some of the accomplishments achieved by the Department include:

- Equipping each cruiser with Stop Sticks and providing training to each officer in the use of the equipment.
- The installation of a firearm clearing chamber as well as new supply and equipment storage.
- Along with Stockbridge Emergency Management, we purchased an enclosed trailer for the storage and transport of traffic control devices. Much of the cost of the trailer and equipment was provided by grant funds from MEMA.
- We dedicated more resources to the downtown area during the fair weather months in order to provide a greater level of community policing to the Town.

- We completed a self-assessment of our policies and procedures. All policies and procedures have been reviewed and revised to meet National & State Accreditation Standards, which reflect best police practices.
- Department members received nearly 1000 hours of both mandatory in-service and specialized training.
- An audit of the property/evidence room was completed.
- Our officers participated in Read Across America as well as several events supporting the Special Olympics.

The Tanglewood season and the multitude of events that take place in Stockbridge went mostly without issues. The only exceptions were the threat of weather at the Josh Billing RunAground and the severe weather that took place on Mercy Weekend. Due to proper planning and the involvement of multiple agencies and officials, these events were mostly incident free.

Fortunately we did not see any large increases in crime of any particular type or in any particular area of Town. However the use of drugs, especially the ongoing opioid/heroin epidemic, continues to be a grave concern to all communities and we are no exception. The flow of drugs through our Town is a hidden scourge that we will continue to attempt to stymie. We will do our part by being visible, making traffic stops and continuing to be a proactive organization.

Speeding remains our number one citizen complaint. Through our selective radar enforcement program and the use of our radar trailer we will remain vigilant in making our roads safe for all travelers.

It is our goal to provide protection and a sense of security to all residents, businesses and visitors, to prevent crime and to work in a partnership with the public to achieve these objectives. With the amount of scrutiny focused on Law Enforcement in this day and age we will endeavor to meet your expectations. We are forever grateful for the enormous support that we receive from the Town Administrators Office, the Board of Selectman and the citizens of Stockbridge.

Respectfully submitted,



**DARRELL G. FENNELLY**  
**Chief of Police**

Offenses: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) & Civil Motor Vehicle Infractions			
The statistics below include all reported crime, which may later be determined to be unfounded.			
A&B With Dangerous Weapon	1	Assault With Dangerous Weapon	1
Shoplifting for Asportation	1	Assault & Battery	5
Receiving Stolen Property	2	Disturbing the Peace	2
Vandalize Property	4	Attempt to Commit a Crime	3
Alcohol in Motor Vehicle, Open	1	B&E Nighttime, Felony	3
Heroin Possession	2	B&E For Misdemeanor	3
B&E Daytime For Felony	3	B&E Vehicle Daytime For Felony	1
B&E Nighttime Felony	3	Registration Suspended	4
Credit Card Fraud Under \$250	1	Name/Address Change	1
Child Endangerment While OUI	1	Uninsured Motor Vehicle	4
Child Abuse	1	Destruction of Property Over \$250	2
Destruction of Property Under \$250.00	1	Drug Possession of Class B & C	2
Disorderly Conduct	2	Disturbing the Peace	2
Warrant Fail/Delay Service	1	Number Plate Violation	2
Immediate Threat	1	Unregistered Motor Vehicle	2
Identity Fraud	3	Indecent Exposure	3
Ignition Interlock, Operate w/	1	Larceny From a Building	3
Larceny Over \$250	11	Larceny Under \$250	10
Warrant, Default	3	Leave the Scene of Property damage MVA	6
License Operate a MV Suspended	10	Malicious Damage to a MV	1
Reckless Operation of a MV	1	Lewd, Open and Gross	1
Unlicensed Operation of MV	3	State Highway Traffic Violation	2
Harassment , Criminal	1	Negligent Operation of a MV	3
Rape of a Child	1	OUI Liquor	2
Trespass	10	OUI Liquor, 2 <sup>nd</sup> offense	1
Motor Vehicle, Larceny of	1	Stalking	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	96	Alarm Calls	854
Speeding Citations	286	Open Doors	31
Total Traffic Infractions	849	Parking Tickets	38
Log Entries	15,696		

# Fire Department

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Fire department responded to 382 calls logging 1,950 man hours of effort devoted to fire suppression and life safety in 2016. Firefighters completed 765 hours of in-house and Massachusetts Firefighting Academy training, focusing on fire suppression, search and rescue, extrication and water rescue. Stockbridge Emergency Medical Technicians have seen an ever increasing demand for service. The department's 6 EMT's have responded to 153 medical assistance calls and several hundreds of hours more in continuing education. The department has devoted a lot of time and training for Ice and water rescue. We currently have two certified divers on the department and hope to have two more certified this year.

The Fire department responded to the following emergencies in 2016:

Fire suppression		Emergency Medical	
Activated fire alarms	142	Medical calls	153
Brush fires	7		
Chimney fires	5	Rescue calls	
CO alarms	11	Animal rescue	1
Electrical fire	5	Elevator rescue	2
Fuel spills	2	Motor vehicle crashes	23
Mutual aid	4	Search and rescue	5
Oven fires	1	Water/ice rescue	8
Propane leaks	3		
Car fire	1		
Severe storm	2		
Structure fires	2		
Water problem (flooding)	5		

I would like to personally thank the 23 officers, firefighters and EMT's of the Stockbridge Fire Department for their dedication to the department and the town. I would also like to thank the Board of Selectmen for their insights and guidance, the Town Administrator and assistant, and all town employees for their continued help. I also want to thank our neighboring fire and medical departments for their support. A special thank you goes out to the residents and businesses of Stockbridge for their support of the Fire Department.

Respectfully submitted,

**ERNEST "CHUCK" CARDILLO, Fire Chief**

# Highway Department

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

Thanks to the dedicated town highway employees, the normal highway activities including repairs to asphalt roads, gravel road overlays, brush cutting, roadside mowing, parks and cemetery maintenance, machinery maintenance, weed harvesting on Stockbridge Bowl, and snow and ice control went very well.

Chapter 90 paving projects completed in 2016: Goodrich Street;  
Cherry Hill Road up to Cherry Street; (with drainage replacement)  
Lukeman Lane, with sub-base stabilization and profiling;

Respectfully Submitted,

LEONARD TISDALE, JR., **Highway Superintendent**

# Cemetery Department

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

There were a total of 18 Interments between the Town Cemetery and St. Joseph's Cemetery during calendar year 2016; they are broken down as follows:

Town Cemetery, Full casket Interments:	4
Town Cemetery, Interment of cremated remains:	12
St. Joseph's Cemetery, Full casket Interments:	2
St. Joseph's Cemetery, Interment of cremated remains:	0

All burial fees associated with the above interments amount to the following:

Opening and closing of graves (Town Cemetery)	\$6,450.00
Trust Fund (Town Cemetery)	\$3,750.00
Opening and closing of graves (St. Joseph)	\$1,200.00
Trust Fund (St. Joseph)	\$500.00
Total collected by Cemetery fees:	\$11,900.00

Residents are reminded that according to the Cemetery Regulations, which are part of the Town By-Laws: "permanent plantings of hedges, trees, and shrubs are not permitted in the Town Cemetery, except as required by the Cemetery Commission." There are several cases where well intentioned plantings have become neglected and overgrown at individual gravesites. Aside from being a general eyesore, neglected plantings obscure inscriptions, promote the growth of moss, algae, and lichen on stones, encroach on neighboring plots, and roots from ornamental shrubs can cause damage to memorials and foundations. We continue selected removal of shrubs that have become problematic or which we have had complaints about. This is done in the interest of maintaining the Cemeteries to an acceptable level and out of fairness and respect for all who share the Cemetery.

Cemetery information, including full Regulations is available on the Town Website.

I wish to thank the crew from the Town Highway Department for the work that they do in handling the burials and assisting with maintenance.

Respectfully Submitted,

**CHRISTOPHER MARSDEN, Cemetery Consultant**

## **Sewer and Water Department**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

2016 was another busy and productive year for the Sewer and Water Departments. The Town is replacing two obsolete and aging metal tanks located in Interlaken with a new cement tank similar to the tank at Marian Fathers installed in 2010. Construction of the new tank was completed in 2016 and site work is scheduled to be finished this spring.

In 2016 Design work was complete, bids were received and contractor was selected for the Church Street Water Main Project. The 1890 Church Street water line will be replaced with a new 12-inch ductile iron main with five new hydrants and new service connectors. These projects exemplify the Sewer and Water Departments' efforts, with the support of the Selectmen and Finance Committee, to replace aging infrastructure to insure a safe and efficient water system.

Also in 2016 painting of the Waste Water Treatment Plant roof and chamber #3 was completed.

The Water Department and Water Superintendent, Mike Buffoni were recognized by the EPA and the Department of Energy Resources for the installation in 2015 of an open loop, water-source heat pump that replaced its electrical heating system installed when the plant was reconstructed in 1996. The total cost was \$44,000. The Water Department applied for and received \$39,000 of implementation funding from the Massachusetts Gap Funding Program. This resulted in an annual cost savings of \$19,000.

In 2016 Sewer and Water Department Employee, Mark Viola received his Sewer Collector Certificate.

The Sewer and Water Commission recognizes the effort of Sewer Department Superintendent, Tony Campetti Water Department Superintendent, Mike Buffoni, and Sewer and Water Employee, Mark Viola for their efforts to insure the Waste Water Treatment Plants and three pump stations fully comply with rigorous requirements of the EPA, Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Environmental Protection.

Respectfully submitted,

**DONALD SCHNEYER, Chair**

**THOMAS SCHULER  
PETER SOCHA**

# **Parks and Recreation Commission**

To The Honorable Board of Selectmen and Citizens of the Town:

The Parks and Recreation Commission are charged with the maintenance and management of the town's parks and recreation facilities. These facilities include the Plain School Park, Interlaken Park, Park Street Park and Skateboard Park, Pine Street tennis courts, and the Town Beach at Stockbridge Bowl.

Two full-time and two part-time lifeguards were employed by the town who provided monitoring of the safety rules and maintenance of the town beach and facilities during the 2016 season. There were no issues with water quality at the beach. Pilling Landscaping continued to maintain and improve the Park Street gardens and the landscaping at the town beach.

All three canoe/kayak racks at the Town Beach were fully rented for the season. The procedure to obtain an application for a permit and payment of the storage fee for a canoe or kayak(s) on one of the racks at the town beach for the summer season can be obtained by calling the Stockbridge Town Hall, where a statement of Rules and Regulations pertaining to the canoe/kayak racks is also available.

Based on recent feedback from residents, the Parks and Recreation Committee are in the process of obtaining the appropriate permits and funding required for making improvements to the Town Beach in an effort to improve the appearance, safety, and overall experience to beach goers. These improvements are intended to restore the beach area with clean sand, resurface the driveway entrances and parking areas and enable improved drainage from storm water runoff.

The Commission thanks the head of the Department of Public Works, Len Tisdale, and his crew for their assistance with maintenance and preparation of the parks and recreation facilities for the summer season, and the efforts of all the volunteers who contribute their efforts toward making the town's parks and recreation facilities first rate.

Respectfully Submitted,  
STEVEN KNOPF

# Emergency Management

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

Throughout 2016, Stockbridge Emergency Management has worked to facilitate the continuing process of all-hazards emergency planning for events - both planned and unplanned- within the Town boarders. Natural disasters, especially severe storms and flash flooding continue to be the greatest threat to our way of life in Stockbridge. Each year we also assess our preparedness to safely manage potentials associated with mass gatherings from a number of planned events at private venues throughout Town. Particular examples are the Josh Billings and the Mercy Weekend events on Eden Hill among others. The process of planning for and mitigating situations either natural or man-made is continual. From an emergency response standpoint these events require thoughtful planning and collaboration among local and regional response disciplines and other resources in order to ensure public safety, while at the same time maintaining and preserving the spirit of the particular event. Stockbridge is lucky to have active involvement of local authorities, private entities, neighboring communities and regional and state agencies involved in this process.

Over the past year, Stockbridge has continued partnership with both the Southern Berkshire Regional Emergency Planning Committee as well as the Central Berkshire Regional Emergency Planning Committee. Representatives from Town have attended meetings, classes and drills. The Committees apply for grants that benefit Stockbridge and our neighbor communities and provide a valuable network for resource sharing. Stockbridge is also a part of the Western Massachusetts Regional Homeland Security Council. This group encompasses all four Counties in Western Massachusetts and provides additional planning, financial and technical resources and support to the member communities. The WMRHSC website, [www.westernmassready.org](http://www.westernmassready.org) is provided to offer assistance to the public for emergency preparedness.

In 2016 Stockbridge entered into an agreement to participate in the Berkshire County Regional Shelter Plan. This plan is an addendum to the Western Massachusetts Intergovernmental Emergency Mutual Aid Agreement. Through this plan, participating municipalities agree to work in common to coordinate and operate regional shelters to provide services to displaced disaster victims located in the region.

We have continued to participate in state and regional meetings of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency and have also worked with MEMA to maintain the Town's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan to current standards.

At the 2016 Annual Town Meeting a sum of \$320,000.00 was allocated for improving the storm water drainage infrastructure in the vicinity of the Town Office Building with enough capacity for future extension and upgrading of storm water drainage around the Elm St. and Main St. areas. This is

a vital project necessary to correct the chronic flash flooding which has resulted in serious damage to the ground floor of the Town Offices and Police Department on three occasions in recent years. I have, with the assistance of MEMA submitted to the Federal Emergency Management Agency an application for the FEMA F/Y 2016 Pre-Disaster Mitigation/Flood Mitigation (PDM/FM) Grant to help lessen the burden to the tax payers of Stockbridge. This is a competitive grant process with each state being allotted limited funding from FEMA. For this grant cycle there were nine applications submitted from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Of those nine applications, only three projects have advanced for further review, including the Stockbridge application. If ultimately successful, this grant would cover 75% of the cost of the construction of this new drainage system.

Thanks are due to the Board of Selectmen, the Town Administrator's Office, and the members of the Police, Fire and Highway Departments and the many independent volunteers who make up our Emergency Management Team for Stockbridge. Thank you, to my counterparts throughout Berkshire County and the members of the Southern and Central Berkshire Regional Emergency Planning Committees for continued support and advice. Thank you, also to the Staff of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency Region III/IV office in Agawam for their personal attention and dedication to our communities needs throughout the year.

Respectfully Submitted,  
**CHRISTOPHER MARSDEN**  
**Emergency Management Director**

## Health, Education and Social Services



Jorja-Ann Pilling  
Williams High School Graduate 1967

Jorja began serving the Town of Stockbridge as Town Clerk in 1985. She also simultaneously served as Assistant Treasurer, Assistant Tax Collector and Secretary of the Planning Board. In 1996, Jorja was appointed Executive Secretary, later gaining the official title of Town Administrator.

# Board of Health

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

In May of 2016, Ms. Cathy Plakun was elected to the Board of Health. The Board now includes Dr. Henry Schwerner, Chair, Dr. Charles Kenny, Clerk and Ms. Cathy Plakun. We conduct meetings, as needed, usually every month or every other month in the Town Office Building. The agenda is posted at least 48 hours prior to the meetings. All the meetings are open to the public and Stockbridge residents are welcome to attend.

Members of the Board attend the regularly scheduled quarterly meetings of Tri-Town Health Department. We actively participate in the Department's programs as well as serve on their ad hoc committees. The Boards of Health of Lee and Lenox also attend the Department's meetings and actively contribute to Tri-Town's activities.

With the Tri-Town Health Department and the Boards of Health of Lee and Lenox, we raised the age limit for purchase of tobacco products and nicotine delivery systems to 21 years of age, beginning on January 2, 2016 for the three towns. This change in our regulations has been accepted and its implementation has gone without incident. The Board of Health also has heard a complaint by a local resident regarding irritating tobacco smoke at the ingress and egress of the Elm Street Market. Jim Wilusz of the Tri-Town Health Department indicated that the Board has already promulgated regulations in this regard. The Board asked Mr. Wilusz to inquire further to determine if regulations have been violated and recommend if future regulations concerning public smoking may need to be developed. This was the only complaint received by the Board concerning public smoking.

At the end of 2015 and through 2016 we have been working with the Tri-Town Health Department and the towns of Lee and Lenox to develop policies to deal with Polystyrene Drink and Food Containers and Single Use Plastic Shopping Bags in our three communities. These products appear to pose environmental as well as health hazards to our communities. We are now distributing draft copies of the policies to involved parties and the Stockbridge Board of Health will vote on the policies at the end of March 2017. A well-publicized meeting for discussion by all interested parties will follow this. If all goes well the policies will be adopted by the Board of Health for implementation some 6-12 months after they are approved.

The Board of Health deals with local housing issues that impact the health and welfare of residents. We also work with issues about the safety of drinking water, safe disposal of wastewater, and continue to monitor eating establishment issues that could pose a health threat. In January 2016 we began dealing with issues surrounding the Main Street Market where code violations were noticed. After meeting and discussing the violations with the owners, and follow up inspections, the issues were resolved to the satisfaction of the Board of Health. In the fall of 2016 a State Sanitary Code Housing Inspection of a home on Mohawk Lake Road showed code violations of the

Massachusetts General Law regarding Minimum Standards of Fitness for Human Habitation. The inspection was triggered by complaints received regarding the residence. After discussions with the resident of the property and her family members, the resident was relocated to a long term assisted living facility. Tenants have raised questions regarding water drainage issues of rental units on East Street. The landlord of these rental units was contacted and repairs have been done.

Massachusetts has been recognized by the Trust for America's Health (TFAH) as the most prepared state in the nation when it comes to preventing, responding to, and recovering from public health emergencies such as disease outbreaks, bioterrorism, and natural and man-made disasters. The Commonwealth was identified as the only state to have achieved 10 out of 10 public health preparedness indicators in the TSAH report.

We continue to support and work with the Tri-Town Health Department for their efforts regarding Mass in Motion, Be Well Berkshires, Age Friendly Community and Stockbridge Walk ability.

The 2016 Town of Stockbridge share of Tri-Town Health Department's budget was \$44,333.82. The projected budget for 2017 is that Stockbridge's share will be \$46,007.20. Tri-Town's new web based permitting program is in their budget for fiscal year 2017 and Stockbridge's portion is projected at \$725.40. Stockbridge's portion of revenues generated from permits, water testing and septic in 2016 was \$25,576.12

Respectfully Submitted,

CATHY PLAKUN

CHARLES KENNY, M.D., **Clerk**

HENRY SCHWERNER, M.D., **Chair**

## Tri-Town Health Department

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

I hereby submit my annual report for the fiscal year 2016.

### **Following is a summary of our Public Health Prevention programs:**

**Title 5 On-Site Wastewater Disposal:** In Fiscal Year 2016, septic system work continues to be steady. As wastewater technology evolves with changes to the code, more properties are exploring pre-treatment systems which are more environmentally friendly. One property in Lee connected to municipal sewer in FY16.

**Food Service Sanitation Program:** Food service establishment inspections in Lee are steady due to the increased demand for inspections as well and the increase of special events that needs to be inspected. Two (2) inspections per year are required in accordance with State Sanitary

Code Chapter X Minimum Sanitation Standards for Food Establishments. In general, most establishments observed are following sound sanitation practices. Our bacteriological laboratory program of sampling the ice in all establishments has over time proven to be an effective tool in evaluating general sanitary practices.

**Pool & Spa/Public/Semi Public Beaches:** Health Inspectors are assigned the task of inspecting, sampling and monitoring public, semi-public pools/spas and bathing beaches. Although somewhat challenging to seasonal businesses, pool regulation requirements are mandated for all public and semi-public beaches to be permitted by the Board of Health. All of our pools are in good standing in the Town of Lee and there were no reported health/safety incidents in FY16.

**Tobacco Awareness Program:** The Tobacco Awareness Program is grant funded by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and provides a variety of tobacco control services for 12 Berkshire County communities. Grant deliverables and accomplishments for Year 6 focused on amending current local regulations for the City of Pittsfield, Town of Great Barrington, and the City of North Adams on the banning tobacco products in pharmacies, minimum packaging of little, cheap cigars, and ensuring that youth are not accessing tobacco products. For a complete copy of the amended regulations, please contact the office or visit the website.

**Tobacco Retailer Training Program:** The Tri-Town Tobacco Retailer certification program continues to be a success. Due to receiving CIC grant funding the year prior, on March 18, 2014 the department proudly launched their Web-Based Retailer Training in an effort to make it more accessible to all users and to continue the effort of raising awareness in tobacco use and decreasing the illegal sales to youth under the age of 18. In FY16, 250 vouchers were sold, and 250 clerks trained. For more information on the Retailer certification program, please visit [www.tritownhealth.org](http://www.tritownhealth.org).

**Be Well Berkshires/Mass in Motion Grant:** Health/Wellness Coordinator(s), Amanda Chilson and Morgan Kulchinsky are working diligently with the communities and focusing efforts on community accessibility/walkability, promoting the healthier dining program, supporting the schools on the new nutrition regulations, promoting the safe routes to school program, and working with town planners on complete streets. Three community fitness challenges were offered and prizes were given out to those that finished the contest at the top of their respect categories. We are also working with many farmer's markets to offer doubling coupons for SNAP/WIC and continue to work with local pantries on healthy options.

**Polystyrene/Plastic Bag Initiative:** In FY16, the Department collaborated began collaborating with the Board of Health to explore options to regulate thin filmed plastic bags and polystyrene in restraints. The Chamber of Commerce conducted a survey of local businesses and the results yield that all business are in the process or have already transitioned into more greener products. The BOH and Department are continuing our work to explore options in FY17 and beyond.

## **Administration:**

**James J. Wilusz, R.S.:** Over the past year, the Executive Director continue to shepherd in the new online permitting software system for an anticipated launch date of December 2016. The Department was able to secure two (2) more extension years of tobacco funding (\$84,000) another year of MIM funding (\$50,000) to continue efforts focused on healthy eating and active living, and additional funding to support PWTF efforts (\$78,000). We also returned \$6,000 in additional funds from the Tobacco Retailer Training Program. Through the department website: [www.tritownhealth.org](http://www.tritownhealth.org), the community now has full access to applications, forms, public health advisories and many more links and information for general use. Jim also has worked closely with many local Boards of Health on revamping their local tobacco regulations that now limits youth accessibility to tobacco products.

**Zachary Roberts:** Zachary has worked diligently to streamline multiple departmental operations to increase efficiencies and streamline services for the public. As a certified Community Health Worker, Zach continues to work in the community to promote the Department and our programs. He attended several events in the town of Lee and surrounding communities to promote public health.

**Mark Bushee:** Mark continues to ensure the towns are practicing safe food handling procedures, performing laboratory samples, inspects beaches and many other services for the community. He has also played an integral role by supporting and assisting the community on the web-based training and working in the trenches to assist us with our web permitting transition.

**Melissa Lanoue:** Melissa expanded her role within the Department and is now certified as a Matter of Balance training instructor. In addition to her current duties, she has offered several MOB classes in south county to work with our seniors on falls prevention.

**Abigail Saunders:** Abby has been working for the department in different roles over the past couple years and is now working with the department to support the tobacco program, PWTF, and is currently being trained as a health inspector; all at the same time attending BCC to work toward her degree.

**David Blanchette:** David joined the Department in 2016 as a funded PWTF staffer to support our smoke free housing initiatives through the PWTF grant. As a retired RN and Respiratory Therapist, Dave has dedicated himself to protect young people and families from being exposed to second hand smoke. He assisted several housing authorities in the county to convert to 100% smoke free.

**Maryanne Antoniazzi:** Maryanne participates in the Senior Tax Write off program and provides the Department with an ongoing, valuable services and her dedication to the Department is second to none. We thank Maryanne for all that she does for the District.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Lee, Lenox and Stockbridge Boards of Health for their continued support and assistance and the Tri-Town Health Department staff for their dedication and public service in providing essential public health prevention programs to the communities we serve.

**Permits Issued: (Stockbridge only)**

<b>Permit Type</b>	<b>Numbered</b>	<b>Issued</b>	<b>Permit Type</b>	<b>Numbered</b>	<b>Issued</b>
Bakery	1		Milk/Cream Store	5	
Beach	7		Milk/Cream Vehicle	0	
Biological Wastes	1		Mobile Food	1	
Catering	11		Motel/Hotel/Cabin/Trailer	0	
Disposal Works Construction	6		Outdoor Pool	9	
Disposal Works Installer	11		Pasteurization	0	
Emerg. Beaver Trapping Permits	4		Rec. Children's Camp	2	
Food Service	35		Retail Food	24	
Frozen Dessert	6		Septage Hauler	8	
Garbage Hauler	5		Special Event Food Permit	78	
Hot Tubs	4		Tobacco	4	
Indoor Pool	2		Well Permit	6	
Milk/Cream Dealer	1				

**Inspections:**

Children's Camps:	1
Food Service/Retail:	90
Housing Inspections/Reinspections	6
Misc. Complaints/Nuisances:	4
Percolation Test Witness:	13
Pool & Hot Tub Inspections:	15
Septic Certificate of Compliance	4
Special Events:	41
T5 Witness:	8

**Water Testing:**

Ice Sampling	18
Pool & Hot Tub Testing	92
Quality Control:	235
Water Testing Performed- Beaches:	76
Well Sampling	10

**Budget Revenue Information Fiscal 2016**

Total budget: \$ 44,332.82      Revenue generated: \$25,576.12

Breakdown:	Permits	\$ 19,570.00
	Water Testing	\$ 3,868.20
	Septic	\$ 2,110.50
	Misc.	\$ 27.42

Respectfully submitted,  
**JAMES J. WILUSZ, R.S.,**  
**Director of Public Health**

# PORCHLIGHT VNA

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The following is a report of the services performed in the Town of Stockbridge during the fiscal year 1/01/2016-12/31/2016:

<b>HOME VISITS</b>	<b>1st Quarter</b>	<b>2nd Quarter</b>	<b>3rd Quarter</b>	<b>4th Quarter</b>	<b>Total</b>
	1/1/16-3/31/16	4/1/16-6/30/16	7/1/16-9/30/16	10/1/16-12/31/16	
Skilled Nursing	50	83	106	100	<b>339</b>
Physical Therapy	62	55	30	46	<b>193</b>
Occupational Therapy	8	13	2	3	<b>26</b>
Speech Therapy	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Medical Social Work	6	2	1	3	<b>12</b>
Maternal Child Health	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Nutrition Services	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Home Health Aide	26	31	26	42	<b>125</b>
Totals	152	184	165	194	<b>695</b>
<b>NON-BILLABLE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>COMMUNICABLE DISEASE</b>					
Confirmed	5	1	1	1	<b>8</b>
Probable	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Suspected	0	9	4	4	<b>17</b>
Revoked	0	0	0	2	<b>2</b>

<b>CLINICS#</b>	of Clinics Held / Attendance				
Flu	0	0	0	3/56	<b>3/56</b>
Blood Pressure	1/7	3/10	3/8	3/5	<b>10/30</b>

Community Presentations	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Telehealth Monitoring	0	0	1	2	<b>3</b>

Respectfully submitted,  
**HOLLY ANN CHAFFEE, RN, BSN, MSN**  
**President, CEO**

# Education

## **Report of the Charles Denton Treadway Scholarship Fund**

The Trustees of the Charles Denton Treadway Scholarship Fund awarded scholarships totaling \$2,000.00.

The following students received \$400.00 each:

Emma Adler  
Morgan Conquest  
Madisen Jenny  
Julia Miner  
Caroline Sprague

As of December 31, 2016, there was \$133,360.16 in accounts at Berkshire Bank and investments and stocks managed by Morgan Stanley.

Respectfully submitted,  
KAREN T. WILLIAMS  
**Treasurer**  
Town of Stockbridge

## **Report of the Williams Academy Scholarship Fund**

The Trustees of the Williams Academy Scholarship Fund awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Stockbridge resident, Morgan Conquest.

As of December 31, 2016, there was \$20,421.63 in an account at Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation.

Respectfully submitted,  
KAREN T. WILLIAMS  
**Treasurer**  
Town of Stockbridge

# Stockbridge Library Association

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

2016 was a historic year for the Stockbridge Library Association. After almost two years of renovation (and many more of planning), the Library celebrated its grand reopening on April 30, 2016. The day featured congratulatory remarks from our elected officials, including Congressman Richard Neal; a ribbon cutting; a spectacular cake in the shape of the new Library; children's activities; building tours; and live music all day. The opening of our redesigned Procter Museum & Archives of Stockbridge History followed on June 25, 2016. Friends and neighbors who donated to the community's historical collection greeted guests in the museum, now accessible to all visitors for the first time since its inception.

In addition to fully accessible facilities, the renovated Library, Museum & Archives provides:

- Upgraded mechanical systems and technology capabilities
- Expanded display and storage space for the Museum & Archives
- New study, reading, and activity areas on the Upper Level
- A multipurpose space on the Museum Level for community programs and activities
- An office for the Director on the Main Level to allow interaction with visitors and staff

All of these improvements enable the Library to better serve our community. Outside groups, including classes from the Berkshire Waldorf School, use our new meeting rooms multiple times per week. With these additional spaces, we've also been able to launch new programming initiatives, such as our Cookbook Club and Film Series (beginning January 2017). And let's not forget the wonderful new exhibit area in the Museum's gallery.

We are extraordinarily grateful to all those who supported our capital campaign and helped us realize our vision for *a library for our time*. We especially wish to thank the Stockbridge Community Preservation Committee and the Town of Stockbridge for their support of our restoration project. During construction, we would not have been able to maintain our usual array of services and programs without the help of two other generous community partners. Historic New England housed the Library, Museum & Archives administrative offices at Merwin House (14 Main Street) and provided a display area for some of the favorite and most requested items from our historical collection. The High Meadow Foundation and Berkshire Scenic Railway enabled the Library to make its temporary home at Stockbridge Station (2 Depot Street).

Reopening the doors to our home on Main Street wasn't the only thing we accomplished in 2016. For our annual meeting in May, we welcomed representatives from the Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Nation, who shared their perspectives on Stockbridge Indian Town history and highlighted their continuing involvement in Stockbridge and other

traditional homelands in the region. We once again held our Annual Used Book Sale – a tradition under the tent – on July 8, 9, and 10. In September, we hosted the Williams High School Alumni Reunion. We welcomed new Youth Librarian Jenney Maloy, who grew up in Stockbridge, to our staff in October. A few weeks later, on October 23, we held our First Annual Family Fun 5K Fundraiser; 60 runners and walkers came out in support of the Library. We partnered with the Chamber of Commerce on the annual Pumpkin Walk-About and Halloween Parade; hosted their Annual Meeting; and held three events for the annual Stockbridge Main Street at Christmas Weekend. Other programs presented by the Library, Museum & Archives included:

- *Behind Closed Doors*, our popular series of talks about historic Stockbridge homes and the people who lived in them, presented by their current owners (continuing in 2017)
- *Speaker Series*, including book talks by authors Daniel Klein and Linda Greenhouse, a conversation with renowned pianist Emanuel Ax, and co-sponsored events with Austen Riggs Center and the Stone Court Writer-in-Residence program
- Five guided Stockbridge Cemetery Walks, one per month from June through October, each with a unique focus
- Our second annual *William Selke Memorial Lecture* – named for Library friend and past board president Bill Selke – presented by Dr. Warren Allmon
- Weekly pre-school StoryCraft hours and special children’s events, such as Wingmasters World of Owls, Dulcimer Discovery, and STEM for Little Scientists

All in all, in 2016, the Library, Museum & Archives had 39,469 visits, held 166 programs, and circulated 25,041 items (that’s more than 13 items per resident)!

In December 2016, we lost a dear friend: former Curator Pauline “Polly” Pierce passed away at the age of 99. Polly began her thirty-year career as Curator of the Stockbridge Library Historical Room (now the Museum & Archives) in 1968. For three decades, Polly’s extensive knowledge of the town and its people was a valuable resource for authors, historians, and inquisitive citizens. We will remember her fondly for her love of Stockbridge, its history, and its people.

The mission of the Stockbridge Library Association and its Historical Museum & Archives is to be a vibrant center of community life in Stockbridge. The Library serves the needs of the residents of Stockbridge and the surrounding communities by promoting lifelong learning, facilitating inquiry, fostering creativity, strengthening community, and preserving the historical record of the town. The Library is open Tuesdays and Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. To learn more about us, like us on Facebook or visit our website, [www.stockbridgelibrary.org](http://www.stockbridgelibrary.org). Better yet, come pay us a visit. We look forward to seeing you.

Respectfully submitted,

KATHERINE O'NEIL

**Director**

Stockbridge Library Association

February 13, 2017

Stockbridge Library Association Board of Trustees:

STEWART EDELSTEIN, **President**

CARL BRADFORD, **Vice President**

TERRENCE C. SHEA, **Treasurer**

TERRY WISE, **Secretary**

JON BUDISH

LYNN EDELSTEIN

NANCY HAHN

KAREN MARSHALL

# Stockbridge Council on Aging

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge

The Council on Aging and the Senior Center is flourishing more and more every year.

Thank you from all of us for the purchase of our new van to transport our seniors. The shopping and medical transportation is steadily gaining popularity amongst our seniors.

Special thank you to our van drivers: Ron Muir, Harold French, Ray Ferrin and Bobbie Kay. This year we lost our beloved Isabella Soules, our primary Price Chopper driver. Through donations, a bench has been put in front of the Town Offices with her name on it.

Total trips with our van this year were 259 with 465 driving hours. This is compared to last year's 162 trips and 301 driving hours.

Thank you again this year to Nancy Fitzpatrick, Denise, and the entire staff at the Red Lion Inn. Our Senior Christmas lunch was well attended and most delicious.

Thank you to our kitchen help for our senior lunches. Thank you, Carol and Warren Robertson, Joanne Flynn, Nancy O'Brien and Rosie Johnson. Thank you Pat Flynn for your continuous free senior computer lessons.

Thank you Winnie Veretto for your countless hours of (SHINE) Senior Health Insurance needs of everyone. Thank you Porchlight for our blood pressure clinics. Thank you Countryside Food Clinic for our foot care for our seniors. Thank you Joan Embree and Doreen Black for our 3 exercise programs. Bingo is still having fun every Tuesday with attendance up to 20-24 people.

Special Thank You to our Riverbrook women who help with setting up our lunch tables every week.

Respectfully Submitted,

ELIZABETH DIGRIGOLI, **Director**

DIANE SHERIDAN, **Chair**

LYNNE FRENCH

RON MUIR

NANCY O'BRIEN

SUE ROGERS

# Stockbridge Housing Authority

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Stockbridge Housing Authority (SHA) continues to take pride in administering housing programs for low-income seniors, families, and people with special needs.

In existence since 1974, the SHA manages Heaton Court, located at 5 Pine Street. Heaton Court is state-assisted housing for low-income elderly, defined as age 60 in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and disabled under 60 years of age. A waiting list is in place for the 50 one-bedroom and 1 two-bedroom apartments. Stockbridge residents and veterans receive preference on the waiting list. There is also priority given to emergency applicants that meet state eligibility criteria. The SHA welcomed five new tenant households to Heaton Court in 2016. Of them, three received Stockbridge preference. Applications and information regarding housing at Heaton Court may be obtained by calling the SHA office at 298-3222 or by visiting our website, [www.stockbridgehousing.com](http://www.stockbridgehousing.com).

Low-income families and individuals are aided by the SHA via the federal Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program. The federal government contracts with SHA to administer 41 vouchers. A voucher entitles the participants to a portion of their rent being paid by the SHA every month based on the participant's income. Preference is given to those who live or work in southern Berkshire County, priority to homeless applicants who live or work in southern Berkshire County, and to southern Berkshire residents who are diagnosed with a potentially terminal illness. The SHA leased-up 6 new participant families with Section 8 assistance in 2016. As of 12/31/16, there were 5 program participant families living in Stockbridge, 29 families in other towns in southern Berkshire County, and 6 south county households that leased up on the program in Pittsfield after being unable to find affordable housing in south county before the voucher expired. One new participant was out searching for housing.

The SHA participates in the Massachusetts NAHRO Centralized Section 8 Waiting List. When an applicant completes and submits the pre-application for rental assistance, they are placed on Section 8 Waiting Lists at over 95 housing authorities throughout the state. Information may be obtained and pre-applications submitted online at [www.section8listmass.org](http://www.section8listmass.org) or by contacting the SHA office.

The SHA serves as landlord for an eight-bedroom facility located at 7 Pine Street, Stockbridge House, which is leased by the state's Department of Developmental Services for housing and services to assist developmentally disabled adults.

The SHA would like to take this opportunity to thank the resident voters of Stockbridge and the Town's Community Preservation Committee (CPC) for their approval of three grants from Community Preservation Act (CPA)

funds this year: for the roof replacement of Heaton Court's Building G (up to \$40,000), the Stockbridge House at 7 Pine Street (up to \$20,000), and the GFCI upgrades (ground fault circuit interrupter electrical outlets) at Heaton Court (\$7,500). The state Dept. of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is overseeing the roofs projects. Don Pulfer of Green River Architecture in Egremont is the Project Manager and has completed the plans. Following the bid process, the roofs projects are expected to be granted to the low, responsible bidder in February 2017, with the project scheduled for completion within the town's FY 2017 fiscal year. The SHA completed the GFCI work up to the \$7,500 granted amount, however, due to changes in electrical code increasing the cost, the SHA has gone back to the town CPC requesting FY 2018 funds to complete the project.

Town CPA funds are crucial to preserving Heaton Court and Stockbridge House as the valuable resources that they are for town residents and their loved ones, providing them safe and affordable housing. Housing authorities are not for-profit businesses. In Stockbridge, we are fortunate not to require state subsidy for day-to-day operations; however, capital improvements do require significant funding. Housing authorities are "formula funded." They receive "x" amount of dollars per unit per year based on passage of the most recent housing bond bill. With only 59 units of much-needed affordable housing, the SHA's funding from the state is not sufficient. CPA funds are vital.

Residents who have housing concerns are encouraged to call the Stockbridge Housing Authority office at 298-3222. Business hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stockbridge Housing Authority  
Board of Commissioners

**BERNARD EDMONDS, Chairman**  
**JAMES WELCH, Vice Chairman**  
**DAWN ANNE RABINOWITZ, Treasurer**  
**R. TIMOTHY MINKLER, Commissioner**  
(THE STATE APPOINTEE SEAT IS  
CURRENTLY VACANT.)  
**JOANNE REDDING, Executive Director**

# **Elderly and Disabled Tax Aid Committee**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Elderly and Disabled Tax Fund provides for aid to qualifying elderly and/or disabled residents of low income for Real Estate taxes on their homes. The program, established in 2003, is funded by voluntary taxpayer donations and is being administered by an appointed committee which will evaluate applications and distribute aid up to 50% or \$1,000 of a qualifying property tax bill.

Fiscal Year 2016 donations from generous taxpayers brought the total amount available for distribution to \$10,571.05. Thirteen residents received a total of \$7,030.08 in Real Estate tax relief through this program.

Please contact anyone on the Committee if you know of a person who would benefit from the thoughtfulness of the many very generous donors. We will be happy to assist in the application process.

Applications are available in the Assessor's office and will be accepted until March 1 for the current year taxes. Remember the first half taxes need to be paid to qualify. Please call any Committee member if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

MARIA CARR  
JOYCE HOVEY  
BETH McCORMACK  
HELEN McCORMICK  
GARY PITNEY  
TAMMY TOUPONCE  
KAREN WILLIAMS

# Southern Berkshire District Department of Veteran's Services (SBDDVS)

Thank you for allowing me to service the member towns, their veterans, and widows. We have made great strides in reaching out to our veterans in our local area, letting them know the various services available to them from Elderly Services, Community Actions and also the local senior centers.

During FY 2016 we have seen a slight decrease in all areas of operation and currently have 37 active Chapter 115 claims.

Chapter 115 Submissions and Return from the State:

Town	FY 2016 Submitted 7/01/15-6/30/16	Pmt Due in FY 2017- FY 2016 - 75%
Stockbridge	\$41,101.32	\$30,825.99

Over the last year we have completed the following for our member town's veterans:

Applications for VA Health Care	49
ALS/Disability/A&A/Appeals/Life Insurance	66
DD 214s	34
Request for Grave Markers	25
Tax Abatements/SS help/Other requests	18
Flags to funerals homes for veterans	72
Assisted with Dr. appointments	32
Home and Office Visits	442
Veterans Services Phone Calls	1472

For FY 2016 District budget was reduced by the reserve resulting in a smaller assessment for the member towns. During these trying financial times all veterans and widows are encouraged to contact this office or the US Department of Veterans Affairs and review current entitlements as many changes have taken place.

Stockbridge's apportionment towards the FY 2016 DVS budget was \$7,872.21 – this number was based on population percentage on the 2010 Census.

Respectfully Submitted,

**LAURIE J. HILS**

**District Director**

Southern Berkshire District Veterans Services

## Planning and Aesthetics



Krissy and Karen Williams  
Memorial Day 2016

# Planning Board

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Planning Board has experienced many changes this past year. I would like to thank Doug Rose, Bob Bartle, Barbara Hobbs, and Don Chabon for their many years of service on this Planning Board. I would also like to welcome and thank, our new board members Ruth Pearce, Marie Raftery, Jennifer Carmichael, and Dominic Cardillo for volunteering to step into the breach, and perform remarkably over this past year as appointees to the Planning Board vacancies. I would be remiss if I did not add a special thanks to Jennifer Carmichael who performs double duty as our board Secretary as well.

A new Sign Bylaw was passed at the Annual Town Meeting in May. The Board thanks the committee headed up by Jack Spencer for the hard work they put in on this project. The Attorney General recently approved it and we are currently utilizing the updated Bylaw.

This past year we held hearings for 7 Special Permits, (6 were LPOD), 3 Form A Permits (approval not required), 7 Sign Permits, 1 Scenic Road Hearing, 1 Sign Bylaw Amendments Hearing, 1 discussion on proposed Cottage Era Bylaw Amendments, 1 Appeal to demo a property, and 2 Storm Water and Erosion Control Permit Hearings.

The Planning Board held a community discussion on The Future of Stockbridge based upon information contained and generated from the town committee's Vision Report.

Informal discussions were also held on Main Street Zoning issues, non-conforming lots, and a conceptual Form A plan for Southmayd Farm.

Jack Spencer was invited to a general observation discussion on Planning and his experiences for our new Board members, but we all benefited from his sage advice.

As I write this report, it is with sadness and loss that I must note the passing of Jack Spencer. We will all miss his sense of history, grace, humor, and wisdom. Our community was fortunate to have Jack as a friend and resource for as long as we did.

Jack Spencer's passing will leave a void that will be felt in perpetuity, but so will his presence that we had for so long.

Ned Baldwin our town's Building Inspector and Zoning Enforcement Officer was invited to discuss his experiences and issues with the town's current zoning and any suggestions he may have to offer for future planning.

A majority of the Board attended a Citizen Planner Seminar in July sponsored by Berkshire Regional Planning in Pittsfield.

During the year, we also had many members of our community stop in to our meetings to discuss their thoughts and concerns about our town's future. These discussions have been encouraging and helpful.

We are going to reestablish a process where the Planning Board will review all Special Permits going before the Select Board. The hope is that this added review will save them time and aid in their deliberations.

Over this next year, we are hoping to begin the process of reviewing all Zoning in our town.

Our Planning Board Meetings are normally the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. We invite interested community members to attend.

Respectfully Submitted,

**GARY PITNEY, Chairman**  
**KATE FLETCHER, Vice Chair**  
**JENNIFER CARMICHAEL, Clerk & Secretary**  
GENE TALBOT MD  
RUTH PEARCE  
MARIE RAFTERY  
DOMINIC CARDILLO

# Building Inspector

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The following permits were issued and fees collected for the year 2016

<b>Permit type</b>	<b># of Permits</b>	<b>Cost of Construction</b>	<b>Permit Fees</b>
New Construction	5	\$3,611,400	\$27,045.00
New Cell Tower	1	\$200,000.00	\$0.00
New Water Tank	1	\$1,040,000.00	\$0.00
Mechanical	1	\$36,819.00	\$185.00
Additions & Alterations	114	\$13,501,670.00	\$103,467.00
Demolitions	3	\$225.00	\$225.00
Swimming Pools	1	\$20,000.00	\$130.00
Repairs	30	\$389,867.00	\$2,915.00
Roofs	52	\$947,417.00	\$6,414.00
Decks/Porches	15	\$318,600.00	\$2,100.00
Foundation	1	\$12,000.00	\$90.00
Garages & Accessory	7	\$385,000.00	\$2,260.00
Sheet Metal	6	\$94,200.00	\$175.00
Solid Fuel Burning Appliance	8	\$16,205.00	\$440.00
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>\$20,573,403.00</b>	<b>\$145,446.00</b>
<b>Other Permits</b>			
Annual Inspections	68	\$7,975.00	\$7,975.00
Certificate of Occupancy	23	\$805.00	\$805.00
Tents	44	\$1,540.00	\$1,540.00
Trench	15	\$455.00	\$455.00
Electrical Inspections	162	\$13,290.00	\$13,290.00
Gas Inspections	65	\$4,200.00	\$4,200.00
Plumbing Inspections	75	\$6,480.00	\$6,480.00
<b>Total Other Permits &amp; Inspections</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>\$34,745.00</b>	<b>\$34,745.00</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>\$20,608,148.00</b>	<b>\$180,191.00</b>

Respectfully submitted by,  
**NED BALDWIN, Building Commissioner**

# Conservation Commission

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Conservation Commission meets year-round on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month. If you wish to be on the agenda, please call or e-mail the ConCom office and leave a message for Sally. We will gladly answer general questions on a walk-in basis on meeting nights. We will work with you and make recommendations to help start your project. That said, if you finish a project, see that a Certificate of Compliance is filed.

The Commissions' role is to enforce the provisions within the Wetlands Protection Act and the Scenic Mountain Act to ensure that habitats and protected areas are not compromised. This benefits the whole town.

Last year the Commission had numerous discussions about drainage on Hill Road and Rte. 183, Shamrock Street, Prospect Hill and other locations in town where conditions, some manmade, are being exacerbated by the increased frequency and intensity of weather events. Hopefully, the town will be able to remedy more of these situations.

Also, the area around the Stockbridge Bowl has drawn a fair share of our meeting time and site visits with many additions, renovations and repairs. The Conservation Commission has the oversight responsibility for Gould Meadows. The Gould Meadows Committee workers this year have cleared and removed one more overgrown hedgerow. A bridge was built over the stream. This completed a new looping trail around the inside perimeter of the property. Posts with trail markers are being installed and benches are being built in various locations. A goal of the Committee is to manage the mowing of the fields to provide habitat for ground-nesting birds and improve the quality of the hay to the point that it is worth harvesting, ending the yearly expense of mowing. You are encouraged to take a walk through the fields.

Thank you to all of the volunteers.

Respectfully submitted,

RONALD BROUKER, **Chairman**  
JOHN HART, **Vice-Chairman**  
WILLIAM BRIGGS  
JOSEPH DEGIORGIS  
JAY RHIND  
GEORGE SHIPPEY  
SALLY UNDERWOOD-MILLER, **Secretary/Member**

# Stockbridge Historical Commission

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

Local Historical Commissions are established by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 8D, and charged with a variety of responsibilities under Massachusetts law. The Stockbridge Historical Commission is appointed by the Selectmen and each year works to fulfill its responsibilities as circumstances arise.

One such responsibility, established under Massachusetts' Community Preservation Act, is for the Commission to review and report to Stockbridge's Community Preservation Committee (CPC) regarding annual applications made to the CPC for historic preservation. In 2016 the Commission reviewed and reported on such applications. We are pleased that the CPC accepted our findings and that the worthy historic preservation projects were recommended for funding by the CPC and were funded by the Town at its annual meeting.

The Commission responds to requests from Town cultural institutions for endorsement by the SHC for applications for state grants that will help to preserve or restore historic resources. In 2016, the SHC reviewed applications and submitted letters of support for state funding for three historic preservation or restoration projects: (1) to the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) in support of an application by The Trustees of the Reservations for funding from the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF) in connection with the Trustees' restoration of the exterior woodwork on Naumkeag, (2) to the MHC in support of an application by the Berkshire Botanical Garden (BBG) for Massachusetts Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits for its project to rehabilitate the historic Center House on the BBG grounds, and (3) to the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) in support of an application by the Norman Rockwell Museum for funding from the MCC's Cultural Facilities Fund Grant Program in connection with the Museum's maintenance of its buildings and grounds.

Also, during 2016, the Commission continued to provide guidance to the Town's Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) to make determinations concerning the historic significance of older buildings that are the subject of demolition or alteration applications to the HPC.

Respectfully submitted,

LINDA W. JACKSON, **Chair**  
MARIA CARR  
PETER WILLIAMS

# Historic Preservation Commission

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Stockbridge Historic Preservation Commission met six times in 2016. In accordance with the bylaw, we reviewed a total of ten applications for demolition or alteration of buildings over fifty years old.

In January we ruled that the lovely old house at 22 Glendale Middle Road was a significant historic building - dating from circa 1815 and contributing to the potential Glendale Village historic district. The owners appealed this decision to the Planning Board, citing specific structural and accessibility issues. The Planning Board found (quoting from the Historic Preservation bylaw) that “there is no reasonable likelihood that it can be economically rehabilitated or restored.” The house was demolished on October 14. A new structure similar to the old is being built on the site.

Our second meeting was in May, when we had two topics on the agenda. First was an application to demolish the Sedgwick “chicken house.” As part of the Main St. National Register Historic District, we found it to be a significant historic building. Second was the 1880s Auchmuty Cottage and boathouse; this was a demolition request as to the boathouse and a request to move the cottage. We found both structures to be significant historic buildings. Currently the structures are being maintained and we have not heard about further plans.

At our third meeting, June 27, we found that plans to alter the 1885 house at 8 Averic Road in Interlaken were not sufficiently detailed for us to rule. We allowed a demo request for the 1957 cottage at 5 Mahkeenac Terrace and an alteration request at 9 Mahkeenac Road.

On August 22 we agreed that alterations at 26 Yale Hill Road were not substantial under the bylaw. We also heard a presentation by the Procter Hall Reuse Committee.

At our fifth meeting on September 26, we reviewed the plans for 12 West Stockbridge Road - the Center House at the Berkshire Botanical Garden. This is a significant historic building. The oldest part dates to circa 1775. After a second meeting, we approved the project, which involves restoration of the original building and replacement of more recent additions with new construction of a library, kitchen and classrooms for the Botanical Garden. We also approved a demolition request for a 1952 ranch house at 5 Interlaken Road.

At our November meeting we reviewed a demolition application from prospective purchasers for the 1904 house at 3 Willow Street. As part of the potential Glendale Historic District, we ruled that the house was significant. Finally, we discussed the Town Cemetery barn (circa 1880) and encouraged the Town to save it.

For reasons of professional involvement or potential financial interest as close neighbors, some Commission members have recused themselves from these decisions, which is Board policy as a general matter.

We are sorry to announce the retirement of Sue Bonak from our Board. Sue has been part of the HPC since its inception, and she was a valued member the Selectmen's committee that spent over two years crafting the present HPC Bylaw. We will miss Sue's intelligent voice and her long perspective on Stockbridge history.

It has been ten years since the Town voted in our Historic Preservation Bylaw. On the balance it has been a decade of success. The Commission continues to examine the challenges of protecting our Town's extraordinary architectural legacy. One of our principal concerns remains the problem of "demolition by neglect". We are also seeing trends in construction, design, and code compliance that favor new construction over restoration. The Historic Preservation Commission, working with the Building Inspector, the Historical Commission and the Stockbridge Planning Board, provides a forum for community input on projects both large and small. We welcome you to attend any of our meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

CARL SPRAGUE, **Chairman**  
PETER WILLIAMS, **Secretary**  
SUE BONAK  
GARY JOHNSTON  
JAY RHIND  
PAMELA SANDLER  
LISA SAUER

# Stockbridge Cultural Council

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

For the fiscal year 2016, the Stockbridge Cultural Council had in its budget \$5,280 from the Massachusetts Cultural Council for grant distribution. After careful consideration of 30 grant applications totaling \$13,826 requested, the Council awarded grant in varying amounts to the following individuals and organizations:

**Community Health Programs** for Preschool classes at Berkshire Botanical Garden  
**Stockbridge Library Association** for children's program on owls  
**Flying Cloud Institute** for Girls' Science Club at MVMS  
**Jeannie Bassis** for Intergenerational workshop at the Senior Center  
**Berkshire Pulse** for site-specific dance at Naumkeag  
**Berkshire Children's Chorus** for tuition scholarships  
**Sculpture Now** for sculpture show and high school classes  
**Berk South Reg Community Ctr** for ukulele band and community chorus  
**Berkshire Theater Group** for BTG Plays! school residency program  
**Shakespeare and Company** for Fall Festival of Shakespeare at MMRHS  
**Stockbridge Symphonia** for free community concerts  
**WAM Theatre Inc** for season of events  
**Music in Common** FODfest music festival 2016  
**Berkshire Human Right Speakers Series** for lecture expenses  
**Edith Wharton Restoration** for Youth Writing Competition  
**Berkshire Botanical Garden** for Gardening for Life free program  
**IS183** for school arts enrichment at Muddy Brook Elementary

The work of these grantees included literary projects, concerts, art projects, theater performances, music lessons, in-school and outdoor education classes, and more. Go to [www.mass-culture.org/Stockbridge](http://www.mass-culture.org/Stockbridge) for further information. Our next grant deadline is October 16, 2017.

We are always in search of new members to our committee and welcome inquiries, ideas and suggestions. Please consider making a donation to increase our grant making options for the good of the community in the next cycle (2018).

Respectfully submitted,

**TERRY WISE, Chairman**  
**KAREN MARSHALL, Co-Chair**  
**MARY FLOURNOY, Secretary**  
**PATRICK WHITE, Treasurer**

**REBECCA WEINMAN**  
**JESSICA MEAGHER**  
**LYNN EDELSTEIN**

# Stockbridge Bike Group

To the Honorable Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

Cycling continues to be an increasingly popular recreational activity for local people and visitors alike in Berkshire County and Massachusetts. The Stockbridge Bike Group supports this activity and whenever opportunities occur, we work with the Select Board and the town departments to make cycling safe and fun for all.

This year's Community Ride once again was done in conjunction with The Upper Housatonic Heritage Weekend events in the fall. The ride, led by Stew Edelstein and Buck Smith, went from Stockbridge Town Offices to Tyringham's Ashintully Gardens, stopping along the way for interesting information at various historic spots by Stew and a talk by Mark Wilson, TTOR Curator at Ashintully.

In June, the Select Board approved the routing and designation of a U.S. Bike Route through Stockbridge. The Bike Group has been a town liaison for this continuous bike route, running from northern Vermont to southern Connecticut and beyond, along scenic roads and bike paths. This bike route will be designated as USBR 7, currently known as Western New England Greenway. The goals for establishing this bike route are to provide scenic recreational and travel opportunities for cyclists and to increase appreciation for the history and heritage of this corridor.

The Berkshire Bike Path Council and five Southern Berkshire towns (Lee, Lenox, Stockbridge, Gt. Barrington, and Sheffield) with the help of Upper Housatonic Heritage Association have had the Southern Berkshire Bike Routes brochure reprinted. This maps good biking routes through these towns. The Parks and Recreation Committee helped finance our town's commitment. These brochures are placed in bike shops, town offices, and tourist booths in Berkshire County for residents and tourists alike.

We are happy to report cycling is alive and doing well in Stockbridge and Berkshire County and we work to make it safe and fun for recreation and for transportation. As always, we thank Highway Superintendent Len Tisdale and the Select Board for their advice and support.

Respectfully Submitted,

JIM MURRAY  
MARIE RAFTERY  
STARBUCK SMITH  
STEWART EDELSTEIN

# Community Preservation Committee

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Community Preservation Committee faces increased financial pressure as requests for funding exceed the funds we have to disperse. Nevertheless, we were able to assist numerous organizations in realizing their goals.

Under Affordable Housing, we helped replace the roof in the staffed housing and the Community Building, and began the process of replacing kitchen outlets with safer GFCI outlets in the residents' apartments.

Under Historic Preservation (our most numerous source of requests) we provided funding for Chesterwood's balustrade, chimney and window shutters; preservation work on the exterior of Norman Rockwell's Studio; the continued monies for the Stockbridge Library renovation; the creation of a survey of the Town of Stockbridge's historic resources; the preservation and protection of the stained glass windows in St. Paul's church; a code review of Procter Hall; repairs and brush removal at the Deming Cemetery; cleaning and restoration of the Verdure Tapestry in the Stockbridge Museum and Archives collection; and repairs to the soffits and roofs of the Town of Stockbridge Water Department building.

Under Open Space and Recreation, we funded trail and access improvements for the Bowker's Woods property owned and managed by Laurel Hill; helped with the acquisition and preservation of the former Loveless property; the creation of drainage swales on the Gould Meadows property; and additional funding for the Stockbridge Bowl Association's ongoing Lake Management Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

**SALLY UNDERWOOD-MILLER, Chair,**  
representing Conservation Commission  
**KATE FLETCHER,** representing Planning Board  
**STEVE KNOPF,** representing Parks & Recreation  
**JIM WELCH,** representing Housing Authority  
**LINDA JACKSON,** representing Historical Commission  
**GARY PITNEY,** representing Assessors  
**JACK SPENCER,** Jessi Meagher, representing Select Board  
**FRANK RUSSELL,** representing Finance Committee

# Memorial Day Committee

To the Honorable Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

It is estimated that 300 people attended the Memorial Day events this year, held on Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, with 250 of those being served at the picnic.

Prior to this event several members of this committee placed new flags on veterans' gravesites at both the town cemetery and at St. Joseph's Church cemetery, as well as at the various monuments in town.

**Cemetery Gravesite Ceremony, 11:00AM:** Arthur Dutil procured transport vehicles from the Congregation of Marians to escort veterans and residents gathered at the Old Town Hall to the two town cemeteries, as well as to the Housatonic River at the Stockbridge Golf Course. From a bridge on the golf course a wreath was deposited in the river to honor our navy veterans lost at sea. The Reverend Samuel Smith of St. Paul's Church Episcopal Church offered prayers for the veterans at each site, with a young Cameron Bencivenga nicely playing "Taps" following the prayers.

**Town Parade, 12:15PM:** The adjusted start time of the parade (from 12:00 to 12:15) works well to accommodate the participation of veterans from Great Barrington and Housatonic, who not only share our common history but also add a great deal in terms of a visual military presence.

Special thanks go to Stockbridge native Ray Murray for calling cadence for our Color Guard leading the parade. Of course, every parade needs a marching band, and for that great thanks goes to the Monument Mountain High School Band, as well as to the Monument Valley Middle School Band. Other participants included unicyclists from the Muddy Brook Elementary School; members of the Stockbridge Fire Department and their fire trucks; town children on decorated bicycles, members of the Selectboard, and residents who joined in the march. A new addition to this year's parade was a flag-draped casket carried on a cart decorated with greens and pulled by 2 military veterans. This addition was welcomed by parade observers, and even served as a tool for teaching, with children raising questions as to its meaning, prompting parents to explain the significance of Memorial Day. A special word of thanks goes to the Sedgewick family for the use of the cart, to Finnerty and Stevens for the loan of the casket and flag, and to Harold French for coordinating this effort. A final word of thanks goes to our wonderful police department, for their presence and traffic control.

**Memorial Day Program, Old Town Hall, 12:45PM:** The traditional elements of our Memorial Day Program were well presented. Readings by Monument Valley Middle School students included Lincoln's "Gettysburg Address" read by Claire Sheridan; John McCrae's "In Flanders Fields" by read by Andrew Weston, and Greta Luf read "Peace", a work written by Amanda Bradley.

Karen and Krissy Williams read moving excerpts from “Keeping Old Glory Waving High”, a book written by Stockbridge resident and veteran Charles E. Tenney, US Army, retired (with assistance by Nancy Donovan). Karen and Krissy are Charlie’s daughter and grand-daughter, respectively. Charlie’s book, a biographical compilation of some of his experiences in World War II, especially as a POW, was made available for purchase after the program, with all proceeds being donated to the Housatonic VFW.

Reverend Samuel Smith led the Invocation and Benediction, and the Berkshire Hills Chorus of the Sweet Adelines International provided beautiful, harmonious A cappella music.

**Town Pot-Luck Picnic:** Once again a time of picnicking was offered on the Town Green following the Memorial Day program. The Fire Department loaned and set up the tent. The town provided hot dogs and soda, the Red Lion contributed potato salad and brownies, and a small number of residents contributed the balance of food offered. David Pullaro of Fiddlehead’s Grille assisted with the catering of this event, grilling hotdogs and providing various other accoutrements. Food donations by residents are always welcome and needed.

Respectfully submitted,

KEITH RAFTERY, **Chair**  
LISA THORNE, **Secretary**  
“SKIP” WHALEN  
HAROLD FRENCH  
TIM MINKLER

MERRILL SANDERSON  
DON COLEMAN  
FRED COLEMAN  
DEBRA COLEMAN  
RON MUIR

# Memorial Day Speech

## May 30, 2016

by Karen Williams

Good afternoon everyone, my name is Karen Tenney Williams and I'm here today to pay tribute to the most important man in my life, my Dad. But before I do that, I would like to thank Nancy Donovan and my cousin, Jim Tenney, for getting my Dad's story written and published. I would also like to thank Keith Raftery and the Memorial Day Committee for inviting me to speak today.

While growing up, my Dad rarely spoke about his experiences during World War II, but when he did, I remember being awed by his will to survive unspeakable conditions. I will now share with you excerpts from his book "Keep Old Glory Waving High", specifically the chapter titled "Prisoner".

While the Battle of the Bulge was still raging, I was captured by the Germans on January 18, 1945 in a little town in western Germany, near the Belgium border. That day will forever be seared in my memory. I was sent up the road by my superior to hook up sound power for telephones and had walked a couple miles in deep snow and I was cold and tired. I arrived at my destination and began the work. I was able to finish the first hook-up and had gotten good reception when I ran out of wire on the spool and had to splice wire from a new roll. I arrived at the next outpost ready to do the final hook-up when I came upon a large German foxhole that had been taken over by seven Allied troops. I got down into the hole with my comrades, began my work, and quickly realized that the connection no longer carried good reception to the command post.

Thinking I had made a bad splice, I thought I'd go back to take a look when suddenly a gunshot rang out. The soldier on guard was shot and I immediately remembered that I had laid my rifle next to a tree just outside the foxhole. I quickly climbed over the wounded soldier to get to my rifle and as I looked up, there stood a German soldier pointing his gun at us. We realized there was nothing we could do. He ordered us out of the foxhole and we became prisoners. They searched us and took the one thing I had of any value, a watch given to me by my former employer, Mr. Parsons, and two Nestle Crunch bars I had in my pocket. I think I was more upset about losing the candy bars than the watch.

We walked for a total of about nine days in the bitter cold, and hunger gnawed at our insides. As we trekked through heavy snow we could see planes above, dropping Red Cross care packages intended for the Allied forces. But we did not receive any of the food, as it was taken and eaten by the German soldiers. Though one day, a soldier did give us a package which consisted of a small piece of cheese, a tiny can of deviled ham, a small can of corned pork loaf and some raisins. We had to share it between seven of us and we divvied it up as best we could, ending up with six raisins apiece. We were thirsty and would sometimes eat the snow, but that didn't help.

After walking over 180 miles, we arrived at the permanent camp, Stalag IX-B in Bad Orb. We were ordered to enter the barracks and to our horror, we could see American and Allied troops being kept in wire cages along each

side of an aisle in the building. I walked past one cage and a foreign soldier inside slipped me a small piece of dried meat. I quickly put it in my pocket and gnawed on it for weeks. They fed us mostly pumpernickel bread; not on a regular basis, but whenever they felt like it and a day didn't go by that we didn't feel terrible hunger. After a while, our digestive systems shut down and my weight dropped from 150 to 96 pounds.

Survival was day to day. There was no toilet in the barracks, so we used the outside. The sleeping arrangements were crude, with a set of bunk beds for four men; two men to a bed and you had to sleep back to back. There were no mattresses, just wooden planks and no blankets in the middle of winter. Most of us got large calluses on our hips from lying on those wooden planks for so long. Bathing was unheard of and of course we never had a change of clothing. We never received any medical attention while we were there. We were never tortured or abused, but living conditions were extreme. There wasn't a day that went by that I didn't think about my family and I feared I would never see them again.

Shortly before the end of our ordeal, we could hear guns being fired in the distance and knew the Americans were getting closer and our chances of being liberated were looking good. At sunrise on the morning of April 5, 1945, after 76 days of imprisonment, I was awakened by a loud noise and looked out the window to see an American tank coming right through the metal fence. We hadn't realized the Germans had abandoned the camp and we were there alone. About 6,000 POW's were freed from Stalag IX-B, 3,400 of which were Americans. Our liberators from the 44<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division had all kinds of equipment, medical supplies, food and cigarettes. The worst of us they took out in ambulances as we were so weak we couldn't walk on our own. They fed us hot cereal and loaded us onto C-47 twin engine transport planes and flew us to England. When we landed I asked the attendant where we were, and he told me we were in Stockbridge. "Then I'm home", I excitedly told him. "Well you're not a Limey are ya?" the man asked. And then he told me that we were in Stockbridge, England.

"Cause I'm from Stockbridge, Mass. USA" I told him. That encounter was very emotional for me.

My Dad requested that Ragged Old Flag by Johnny Cash be played today and you will have the opportunity to hear it after I read this final excerpt.

In my Dad's words...

I've never regretted being in the war. While I was glad I was part of it, I would never have wanted to go through it again. My commanding General, Omar Bradley, once said, "Wars can be prevented just as surely as they can be provoked, and we who fail to prevent them must share the guilt for the dead". I don't know if World War II could have been prevented, but I do know that America's efforts were necessary to end it. With a common purpose we all pulled together and did what we had to do to help stop the madness and human suffering. While most of us made it home, over 400,000 service men and women did not. Looking back after 70 years, I'm proud to say that we did our best to keep Old Glory and all it stands for waving high.

Thank you all for listening and I'm proud to say that my daughter, Krissy, will be speaking after the playing of Ragged Old Flag.

# Memorial Day Speech 2016

by Krissy Williams

Growing up, I remember the vague mentioning's of my grandfather's experiences in WWII. I remember badgering him to let me see the hole in his chest that a bullet had left. I also remember him telling me that although he was starved at a prison camp, he came home and ate a watermelon, WHOLE- and that is why he has a big belly now.

Reading my grandfather's book was my first, true glance at what his experience was like, and I found myself in tears, utterly overwhelmed. His book shows in depth, the clash between bravery, honor and soldier camaraderie, with the harrowing violence and suffering that was endured. And once hearing his story, I found it remarkable that I am even alive today. These are the stories that must be remembered. I want to share two passages that stood out to me.

Seriously Wounded pg 19

“Our first battle during the Brittany Campaign in Brest, France got off to a bad start. While we were attacking the heavily fortified Hill #105 my platoon leader, Second Lieutenant Joe Vance Martin, stepped on a land mine and was critically wounded. He lost his left leg and had to be evacuated. The first sergeant took over and we continued the attack to the top of the hill. It was very chaotic. Everything was crazy; men fighting everywhere, trying to overtake the enemy while also just trying to survive. Half the time you didn't even remember what had happened when it was all over. I took a shot at a German and as I heard the bullet hit metal I knew I had hit his helmet. Then I saw another second lieutenant coming toward me along the hedgerow, but as he got closer I witnessed him getting shot in the head. I ran over to him and tried to drag him into the nearby shrubs. As I did this I felt something sticky and I was shocked to realize that I had now been shot – in the left chest just above my heart.

Because of being in shock and of all the adrenaline rushing through my body I never felt it. The wound was oozing and I knew I would have to get it checked out and went along the hedgerow, toward our medic, Pete Hernandez, and motioned for him to come over. As I waited for him I got down into a shell crater for protection. Pete came right over and bandaged me up. I told him I was alright but that I'd go to the aid station, a little shack about ten by twelve feet, three hundred yards away. When I arrived, still carrying my rifle, the last thing I remember hearing before I passed out was, “You won't be needing that rifle any more soldier.” When I came-to again I was bouncing down a rough road on a stretcher in a jeep.”

My grandfather only took weeks to recover, with the bullet still left in his chest, and eventually talked his way back into combat. To quote my grandfather, he says: “I felt as though my work there wasn't finished and that I'd be letting my boys down.” After his traumatic and horrifying experience, and almost being killed, he went back to be with his boys. To me, that is honor, that is bravery.

Another passage that stands out to me is one explaining the psyche of a person in war.

Seriously Wounded, page 23

“A lot of folks have the mistaken idea that soldiers find pleasure in shooting the enemy, but it wasn’t that way. We didn’t want to shoot anyone, but after being shot at and seeing our buddies get shot at, our attitudes changed. Even so, we know those young German soldiers, like ourselves, were someone’s son, husband, or brother and we were sure they didn’t want to be there any more than we did. In war you tend to lose your normal feelings and somehow you know you cannot let yourself feel too much emotion; if you did, you would not find the strength to continue fighting, with the horror of it all. Some soldiers find it very hard to cope with this and when it is all over it can be very difficult to transition back to civilian life.”

I think that what my grandfather says here is really important. WWII demanded of our good soldiers to strip away their emotions and most basic values in order to act for the greater good. To me, this is the ultimate sacrifice.

I’m so proud of my grandfather and his story, and grateful to have been able to share it with others. Thanks.

## **Stockbridge Green Team & Green Community Committee**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Stockbridge Green Communities Committee helped the Town meet the five criteria to be designated a Massachusetts Green Community. On December 15, 2015, Stockbridge achieved this goal and was awarded \$139,625 for energy efficiency projects to help the Town achieve 20% reduction in energy consumption in town buildings and operations within 5 years.

In 2016, grant funds were used to implement the Energy Reduction Plan. The Energy Reduction Plan focuses on weatherizing Town Buildings and decreasing electricity use through energy efficient lighting and other measures. Each project needs approval by the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) based upon a brief narrative including costs and projected savings. A sub-committee guiding this effort is comprised of Laura Dubester, Mike Buffoni, Chris Marsden, Pat Flinn, Starbuck Smith and Chuck Gillett.

To date the Town has expended \$130,151 of the grant. As a Massachusetts Green Community, we are tracking our energy use in all departments (heating, hot water, lighting, appliances and transportation fuel).

Mike Buffoni carries out this task using Mass Energy Insight (computer software). Our base consumption (2015) was approximately 9,401 MBTU's. In 2016, we consumed 7,165 MBTU's. We have to keep in mind that we had a warmer winter last year and the data is not weather adjusted.

Most important is to "do it right". Our general approach is to target buildings based upon overall savings potential. We began with Town Offices. In 2016, three projects were approved by DOER.

Project I - Chris Marsden successfully completed a training program and received his Level II Building Operator's Certificate. This additional training helps the Town review projects, select contractors/vendors, oversee work and perform other related tasks. By successfully completing the training, the Town received a 10% additional incentive award from National Grid for a electricity savings project.

Project II – Extensive weatherization of the Town Offices was completed. This included insulation of the attic and air sealing to reduce infiltration and air leakage to the attic/unheated areas.

Project III – Lighting retrofits of Town Hall/Police Station (in process). The energy audits identified many opportunities to reduce costs by upgrading the lighting from compact fluorescent to LED along with motion sensors and exterior lighting retrofits.

Town Hall energy consumption could be further reduced by installing equipment that puts 'plug loads' (printers and computer monitors) to 'sleep' when not in use. In 2017, we plan to work with Town Employees to install this system. This would complete the entire grant spending. Going forward, we will be eligible to apply for funding each year for other projects that save reduce energy consumption for town buildings and operations.

Respectfully Submitted,  
LAURA DUBESTER

# Stockbridge Bowl Association

To the Honorable Select Board and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

Stockbridge Bowl is one of only two lakes in Massachusetts that is home to the rare snail known as *Marstonia lustrica*. Present from the outset and present at the end--this tiny mollusk, no longer than 3 m, arrived as the last glacier advanced and retreated, carving a basin for the Bowl and leaving behind this prehistoric traveler.

Why mention the origin of this ancient gastropod, which none of you has probably ever seen? Because in 1988, the Massachusetts Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program (NHESP), an agency within the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, declared this denizen "rare and endangered," which means that it must be treated as an honored guest. Nothing is allowed to impair this snail's habitat.

With the Town's permission to proceed with the Lake Management Plan, the Stockbridge Bowl Association (SBA) first began raising funds for lake restoration, including a 5.5 foot winter drawdown to kill the invasive Eurasian Water Milfoil, but only after we had successfully assured the Stockbridge Conservation Commission and the NHESP that the endangered snail would survive the projected drawdowns. The SBA would not have undertaken the challenge of raising \$4M without assurances that Stockbridge would be allowed to partially drawdown the lake in winter.

The Assistant Director of Fisheries and Wildlife, Thomas French, gave us that assurance on July 7, 2006, stating that our dredging of a channel "**will not** result in an adverse effect to the actual resource area habitat . . . A winter drawdown is anticipated to improve long-term habitat conditions for species in the lake during a time when rare wildlife species are utilizing deeper habitats below the line of freezing." (emphasis by Mr. French)

With that approval in hand, the Town proceeded, with SBA funding, to install a four-foot diameter diversion pipe beneath the three Tenneco gas lines and one Town sewer line in the outlet that would allow a significant drawdown.

However, recently NHESP announced that it was not done with its vigilance on behalf of the snails. In October 2016, it questioned whether dredging behind the Island would deprive the *M. lustrica* of a small part of its habitat in Stockbridge Bowl. The regulators are now requiring us to conduct annual surveys of the snail population for three years before the first 5.5 foot drawdown can occur and for three more years after the deep drawdowns begin. The regulators want to confirm the continued viability of *M. lustrica* in the Commonwealth.

The SBA takes its environmental role seriously. To address the concerns of NHESP, our civil engineering consultant, GZA Environmental, has hired Prof. Tom Coote, the world's leading expert on *M. lustrica*, to conduct the

required annual surveys. A professor of environmental science at Simon's Rock College, Tom devoted his 2011 Ph.D. thesis to examining how this snail species originated in the Ohio Valley 500 thousand years ago and was carried east on the edge of successive glaciers. Tom was previously hired by the SBA in 1999, when he and another Simon's Rock professor mapped the complete perimeter of the Bowl to identify where *M. lustrica*—then called *Pyrgulopsis lustrica*—lived. (Don't be confused by the name change; it's the same snail.) Tom also inspected 15 other Massachusetts lakes, and found the *M. lustrica* in only one other, Laurel Lake.

In early 2017, the SBA expects to meet with the highest officials at NHESP to present Prof. Coote's latest snail survey. Assisting us will be Dr. Ken Wagner, who has been advising the SBA and the Town for over 20 years and was the keynote speaker at the SBA 2016 Annual Meeting, along with GZA and Prof. Coote. At this forthcoming meeting, we anticipate that NHESP may require us to surmount one last hurdle. They may conclude that although relatively few endangered snails live behind the Island, the few that do will be imperiled when the Town dredges the drawdown channel. Finding such a "taking" of habitat would require us to prepare a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) to mitigate the taking.

In response, we shall argue to NHESP that the dredged channel will remove sediment thus leaving a more hospitable environment and that the elimination of milfoil near the shore will encourage the proliferation of chara beds, the preferred habitat of the snail. If that is not sufficient mitigation for disturbing the habitat behind the Island, we may have to agree to fund further research, perhaps addressing how the endangered snail might react to global warming.

In our meeting with NHESP, we shall ask for definitive guidance. If they cooperate, we'll learn what mitigation may be required and how soon the Town can go out for bids on dredging.

The SBA has already raised the funds that our engineers estimate it should cost to dredge 22,000 cubic yards of sediment from behind the Island and down the outlet in order to permit the 5.5 foot drawdown of the entire lake. However, we anticipate that it may cost an additional \$250,000 to \$300,000 to (a) complete the Conservation Management Plan describing our proposed mitigation of a "taking" of habitat, (b) prepare a bid package for dredging, (c) supervise dredging, (d) implement any necessary mitigation and (e) complete six years of snail monitoring.

As part of our capital campaign to Save Stockbridge Bowl, the SBA raised over half a million dollars last year, including generous support from the Town and from its Community Preservation Act (CPA) Committee. Earlier this year, the CPA Committee voted to donate an additional \$33,500 and we are asking the Town to renew its \$75,000 annual support.

Until we have conferred with NHESP and obtained their approval to dredge, we cannot know whether we will be cleared to proceed with dredging this coming winter or one year later.

If this sounds like we are proceeding at a snail's pace, I trust that you now understand why.

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD SELTZER, **President**

**Stockbridge Bowl Association Board 2016-2017**

PHYLLIS (PATTI) KLEIN, **Vice President**

LAURIE DUBNER, **Secretary**

RICHARD GERSZBERG, **Treasurer**

MATTHEW MANDEL, **Clerk**

LORRAINE ABRAHAM

DAVID BRAUSE

KEVIN FORAN

IRA GOLUB

BARBARA HOBBS

RON KAPROV

PAT KENNELLY

LAUREN KOMACK

SUSAN LAIDLAW

WILLIAM LAIDLAW

LEAH LARMON

KEVIN LILLY

SALLY UNDERWOOD-MILLER

MICHAEL NATHAN

MARIE RAFTERY

PETER SOCHA

PETER STRAUSS

SALLY WITTENBERG

JOANNA WOLFF

**Emeritus Board**

GARY KLEINERMAN

CRIS RAYMOND

PEGGY REISER

**Select Board Representative**

DON CHABON

# Stockbridge Land Trust

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Stockbridge Land Trust was founded by citizens of Stockbridge in 1987 with the mission to encourage and promote the preservation of land and the natural, historic, and community resources of Stockbridge – including open space, forest land, farmland, wetlands, waterways, historic structures, and affordable housing. The Land Trust has a fifteen-member board of directors who lead the organization, and who are greatly assisted in numerous ways by many citizens of the Town who support our mission, including hundreds of generous dues-paying members and donors.

During 2016 we continued to pursue our mission on many fronts. Work continued to place conservation restrictions on the beautiful Loveless parcel on the west side of Town that we recently purchased jointly with the Laurel Hill Association (LHA). We are grateful that the Community Preservation Commission and the Town Meeting have lent their support to this project. The CPC and the Town also strongly supported the renovation of Gould Meadows, which the LHA and SLT helped to fund. A new and exciting joint initiative with the LHA that we launched in 2016 helps to promote the natural beauty of Stockbridge through an annual photo contest of local scenery. The winning entrants and their work were honored at a wonderful August ceremony at the Library.

Our annual meeting in September this year took place on the Mary Flynn Trail, where we had updates, elections, snacks and a fascinating guided tour of the trail by our own director Jess Toro. Jess showed us the remarkable work that her firm and others have done along the trail to remove invasive species and to restore native woodlands and habitats along the Housatonic.

The Land Trust is actively involved in working on new projects to continue to help to preserve our Town and its resources, and we stand ready to work with local landowners and citizens interested in preservation in all its forms. Please feel free to attend our monthly meetings (4:00 PM on the second Friday of each month at the Town Offices), to contact us and to check out our brand new (and still growing) website at [www.stockbridgelandtrust.org](http://www.stockbridgelandtrust.org).

Respectfully submitted,

**DOUG GOUDEY, President**  
**JESSICA TORO, Vice President**  
**PETER WILLIAMS, Treasurer**  
**CLOVER SWANN, Clerk**  
**ELIZABETH NEWTON, Deputy Clerk**  
**SALLY BEGLEY, Trustee Emeritus**  
**PETER BOYD**  
**RICH BRADWAY**  
**CATHERINE CHESTER**

**STEWART EDELSTEIN**  
**SHEP EVANS**  
**TIM GELLER**  
**JON GRAY**  
**JOHN HYSOON**  
**JIM MURRAY**  
**MARIE RAFTERY**

# The Laurel Hill Association

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Laurel Hill Association, the oldest existing village improvement society in the United States, was 163 years old in 2016. Our members, trustees, and officers continue to work toward the original mission of the organization: to do *“such things as shall serve to improve the quality of life and of the environment in the Town of Stockbridge.”* Our work includes maintaining over 460 acres of properties and recreational trails; keeping important spots in town beautiful; cooperating with town authorities; and coordinating with other organizations on issues pertaining to community welfare, including preserving the approaches to the Town.

## **Property Enhancement**

We continued maintaining trails to improve the experience for visitors. Trails include the Laura’s Tower Trail, the Ice Glen Trail (owned by the Town), the Upper and Lower Bowker’s Woods Trails, the trail on Laurel Hill, and the Mary V. Flynn Trail. The most obvious work we undertook in 2016 was clearing the top of the hill around Laura’s Tower, which significantly opened up the view from the tower to the north and west. Visitors to the tower can once again see Mount Greylock, and on a clear day, even see some of the distant Catskill Mountains.

Work is in progress to make Lower Bowker’s Woods more accessible. The trails there give visitors a rare opportunity to see the Housatonic River up close. Over the summer, Greenagers completed several days of work improving the trails, and this season, LHA will install safer parking along the road and post interpretative signage to enhance the experience of visitors.

Greenagers improved drainage on Laurel Hill behind the Town Hall, and cleared brush at Butler’s Seat, improving the view. They also opened up swales and culverts and cleaned out bridges on the Mary Flynn Trail.

On the Chestnut Preserve, the American Chestnut Association and volunteers from The Laurel Hill Association “rogued out” the chestnut trees that showed signs of blight. (All of the trees had been inoculated some time ago.) The remaining 12 trees are the healthiest, and we hope that they will be able to live out a full lifespan.

## **Town Beautification**

The Laurel Hill Association maintains the flowers and plantings at the Post Office, the Cat and Dog Fountain, the Civil War Memorial, the Watering Trough, and the Jonathan Edwards Monument. LHA also plants flower boxes at Roeder Park in Glendale and on the Goodrich Memorial Bridge at the Park Street cul-de-sac. In 2016 LHA employed Valerie Locher and her team of horticulturists to plant and maintain these beautiful gardens.

As previously reported, the Cat and Dog Fountain and the Watering Trough leak water and are in need of repair. LHA has recommended to the

Town that both of these historic fountains be cleaned and repaired. LHA is getting estimates of the work to be done and the materials to be used. This project will continue into 2017. LHA also employed Henry Kirchdorfer to repair the cover of the Cat and Dog Fountain.

To honor our beloved Helen Pigott, who passed away in 2016, an evergreen tree in Roeder Park in Glendale was dedicated to her memory.

### **Educational Support**

For the fourth consecutive year, LHA has contributed \$1000 towards the “Nature’s Classroom” program at Monument Valley Regional Middle School. Before LHA began contributing, Monument Valley Middle School had a 60% – 70% participation rate in the program. Principal Ben Doren reported that LHA’s support makes a real difference, and that 95% of their students attended the trip for the second year in a row.

We awarded our 2016 \$2000 college scholarship to James Pow, a Lee resident and junior at the Stockbridge School for Agriculture at UMASS Amherst. James is majoring in Sustainable Horticulture. He hopes to ensure “food security” and build a sense of community by returning to the Berkshires upon graduation and starting an organic farm.

### **Second Annual Photo Contest**

In 2016 The Laurel Hill Association and the Stockbridge Land Trust collaborated on a photo contest that celebrates Stockbridge’s natural beauty and supports our organizations’ conservation efforts. The winning and honorable mention photos appeared on the Laurel Hill Association website, and the winning photos also appear on cards The Laurel Hill Association and Stockbridge Land Trust are selling as a joint fundraiser. Because the first contest was a resounding success, a second annual photo contest is underway in 2017. Visit the LHA website to see the photos.

### **Website: [laurelhillassociation.org](http://laurelhillassociation.org)**

The Laurel Hill Association’s website can be found at [laurelhillassociation.org](http://laurelhillassociation.org). The site provides information about the organization, its properties, and its activities. Donations can be made on the site. Applications for college scholarships must be submitted on the website. We also invite visitors to our properties to submit comments and photos on the website.

### **Activities**

Laurel Hill Day was celebrated on Saturday, August 20, 2016, outdoors at the Rostrum on Laurel Hill. The guest speaker was Paul Gallay, Hudson Riverkeeper and President of the Riverkeeper organization. Mr. Gallay spoke about Riverkeeper’s mission and methods, and its vision for the future. The organization helped to establish globally recognized standards for waterway and watershed protection, and it serves as the model and mentor for the growing Waterkeeper movement, which includes over 280 Keeper programs across the country and around the globe—including the Housatonic River Initiative and its Riverkeeper, Tim Grey.

In January 2017, The Laurel Hill Association hosted our annual meeting at the Bement Room of the Stockbridge Library, Museum and Archives. Denny Alsop, River Advocate, was the speaker. He described and showed photographs of his 2016 canoe trip that brought public attention to the cleanup of the Housatonic River. His trip started in the Sheffield Plain on the Housatonic River and wound across Massachusetts to finish at the Charles River in Boston.

### **Participation in Town Committees**

LHA has a representative on the Town Cemetery Commission and a representative on the Stockbridge Bowl Association.

We welcome suggestions, input, and participation from everyone in Town, so that we can better fulfill our mission to improve and serve our community. To become a member of the Association, please visit our website at [www.laurelhillassociation.org](http://www.laurelhillassociation.org), email us at [info@laurelhillassociation.org](mailto:info@laurelhillassociation.org), or write to The Laurel Hill Association, PO Box 24, Stockbridge, MA 01262.

We wish to thank our members and benefactors for their past and continued support. We welcome the opportunity to continue our efforts to improve the quality of life in Stockbridge.

Respectfully submitted,  
**SHELBY MARSHALL, President**

# **Tree Warden**

To the Honorable Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

This year National Grid performed a tree maintenance program in Stockbridge. This service occurs every ten years and is a great benefit to our Town. National Grid worked well with the Town and residents to remove trees deemed hazardous.

I continue to access and remove hazardous trees as they arrive and continually work to protect our heritage trees.

This summer we will address the missing trees on Main Street and Church Street still under review.

Respectfully submitted,

PETER CURTAIN

# **Zoning Board of Appeals**

To the Honorable Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

We heard two appeals in 2016:

1. We denied a variance to allow the construction /extension of a dock on Stockbridge Bowl.
2. We upheld an appeal by a property owner from the Building Inspector's order to cease landscaping operations on the property.

Respectfully Submitted,

TOM SCHULER  
JACK SPENCER  
BOB EDWARDS  
BOB JONES

JIM MURRAY  
LINDA DAY  
JOHN HYSON

# **Tourism Committee**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The committee is in its second year administering funds allocated for the purpose of promoting our local economy. Tourism is what drives our town's economy and from that Stockbridge collects both lodging and meals tax dollars. In 2016 the town collected an estimated \$380,000.00 in tax. This is an increase of \$90,000.00 since the committee was formed.

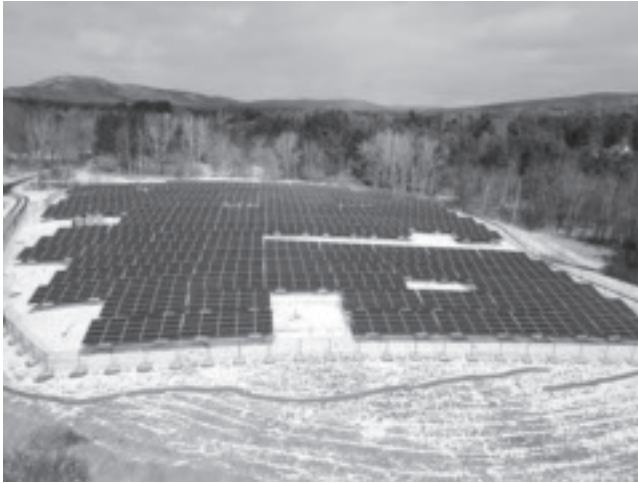
In 2016 funds were used in promotional marketing of Stockbridge, MA targeting visitors for overnight stays through print, digital and online advertising campaigns. New photographs were retained for promotional use and the visitor information booth on Main Street received new windows and a coat of paint. We continue to invest funds to foster economic benefit to the Town from the tourist trade.

The committee thanks the Stockbridge Finance Committee, the Board of Selectmen and the citizens of Stockbridge for working together to promote, improve and preserve the economic welfare of our town.

Respectfully submitted,  
BARBARA J. ZANETTI  
MARGARET KERSWILL  
MICHAEL DUFFY  
DOUGLAS GOUDEY



# Finances



Solar Array at Glendale Middle Road Landfill



Cell Tower at Glendale Middle Road Landfill

*Photo Courtesy Rafi Magnes*

# Town Accountant's Report

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

Following is the Town Accountant's Annual Report for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2016. The individual reports provided are listed below:

Combined Balance Sheet

Special Revenue Funds

Capital Projects

Fixed Assets

Trust Funds

Agency Funds

Statement of Revenues

Statement of Expenditures

Respectfully submitted,

ELAINE MARKHAM  
**Town Accountant**

Town Of Stockbridge

# Balance Sheet June 30, 2016

	GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS				FIDUCIARY FUNDS				Totals
	General Fund	Major Spec. Revenue Funds	Other Spec. Rev Funds	Capital Projects Funds	Trust Funds	Other Post-Employ Funds	Agency Funds	Fixed Assets	
<b>ASSETS</b>									
Cash	3,165,833	2,070,049	71,799	69,638	2,199,196	1,086,147	19,051		8,681,711
Receivables:									
Personal Property Taxes	856								856
Real Estate Taxes	138,421								138,421
Motor Vehicle Taxes	26,640								26,640
Tax Liens	116,943								116,943
Community Preservation Receivable	(290,848)	2,052							2,052
Overlays									
Water Rates and Special		6,269							6,269
Sewer Rates and Special		5,967							5,967
Water/Sewer Liens added to tax									
Fixed Assets								9,065,811	-
Amounts to be provided for									
Due from Stabilization									
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>3,157,845</b>	<b>2,084,337</b>	<b>71,799</b>	<b>69,638</b>	<b>2,199,196</b>	<b>1,086,147</b>	<b>19,051</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>17,753,823</b>

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS		FIDUCIARY FUNDS							
General Fund	Major Spec. Revenue Funds	Other Spec. Rev Funds	Capital Projects Funds	Trust Funds	Other Post-Empty Funds	Agency Funds	Fixed Assets	Long-Term Debt	Totals
(7,988)	14,288								600,000
(7,988)	14,288							9,065,811	9,072,111
TOTAL LIABILITIES									
FUND EQUITY									
550,000	219,645								769,645
141,924	13,500								155,424
1,359,821	80,474								1,440,295
-									-
-									-
1,114,088	1,253,904	71,799	69,638	2,199,196	1,086,147	19,051			4,699,734
3,165,833	2,070,049	71,799	69,638	2,199,196	1,086,147	19,051			8,681,711
TOTAL FUND EQUITY									
3,157,845	2,084,337	71,799	69,638	2,199,196	1,086,147	19,051		9,065,811	17,753,823
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY									

Liabilities  
Water Treatment Plant Loan(Ref)  
Sewer Expansion Project Loan  
Town Offices Project Loan(Ref)  
Water Improvements/Tank Loan  
Deferred Revenue

(Notes: MAJOR Special Revenue Funds include WATER & SEWER & COMMUNITY PRESERVATION Funds)  
(Notes: OTHER Special Revenue Funds include REVOLVING FUND,ELECTIONS,LOCAL REVOLVING,POLICE GRANTS,GIFTS)

# Special Revenue Funds

For year ending June 30, 2016

	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Expenditures	Transfers	Ending Balance
<b>WATER &amp; SEWER</b>					
Water	344,304	295,364	(233,319)		406,349
Sewer	451,800	394,692	(339,596)	(97,101)	409,795
<b>Total Water &amp; Sewer</b>	<b>796,104</b>	<b>690,056</b>	<b>(572,915)</b>	<b>(97,101)</b>	<b>816,144</b>
<b>COMMUNITY PRESERVATION</b>					
Reserved: Open Space	315,299		(49,980)	119,480	384,799
Reserved: Historic Resources	401,756		(161,746)	155,000	395,010
Reserved: Community Housing	55,626		(24,000)	32,000	63,626
Undesignated Fund Balance	417,501	309,448	(316,480)		410,469
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>1,190,182</b>	<b>309,448</b>	<b>(552,206)</b>	<b>306,480</b>	<b>1,253,904</b>
<b>GRANTS</b>					
Fema Disaster Grants	0		(169,980.69)		(169,981)
Ch90-Highway Grant	0				0
Emergency Mgmt Grants	0	4,818			4,818
Winter Rapid Recovery Gr (Hwy)	(3,788)	29,203	(25,415)		0
Arts Lottery Grant	4,718	4,405	(4,309)		4,815
Elder Affairs	0	6,651	(6,651)		0
Zebra Mussel Boat Wash	2,593	6,000	(4,744)		3,849
Drinking Water Grant	(19,500)	19,500			0
Library Grant	0	2,787	(2,787)		0

Elections	0	333	(333)	0
Law Enforcement Tr. Funds	1,957	0	0	1,957
DCR-Forest Initiative Gr	0	1,157	(1,157)	0
Ma Historic Gr	0		(25,000)	(25,000)
DEP-Watershed- 604B Gr	0	33,503	(42,967)	(9,464)
Green Community Gr	0	2,000	(1,695)	305
COA Supplies Gr	0	1,250	(457)	793
Highway Safety Gr	0	29,550	(29,550)	0
<b>Total Grants</b>	<b>(14,020)</b>	<b>141,157</b>	<b>(315,045)</b>	<b>0</b>

(187,908)

**OTHER SPECIAL FUNDS**

FID Card Collections	450	1,500	(1,425)	525
Wetland Protection Act	20,404	3,033	(1,977)	21,460
Contaminated Fix/Equip Disposal	3,840	2,983	(173)	6,650
Zebra Mussel Monitors	2,181	16,000	(10,278)	7,903
Receipts rsvd for appr-Real Estate	200,000	0	0	200,000
Tax Title Revolving Fund	0	5,000	(7,938)	2,938
Insurance Reimb	0	13,398	(13,398)	0
Tenneco Gas	3,178	0	(3,178)	0
Police Gifts	39,474	972	(34,208)	6,238
Gifts to Aid Elderly/Disabled	7,661	4,548	(7,030)	5,179
Gifts:other	2,004	0	0	2,004
Procter Hall Restoration	8,322	21	0	8,343
Mary Flynn Conservation Gift	2,500	914	0	3,414
Sosne Little League field gift	150	0	0	150
<b>Total Gifts</b>	<b>290,164</b>	<b>24,854</b>	<b>(57,814)</b>	<b>261,867</b>

# Major Special Funds

For year ending June 30, 2016

	Major Special Funds				FIDUCIARY FUNDS			Totals
	Water Fund	Sewer Fund	Community Preservation Fund	Trust Funds	Agency Funds	Fixed Assets	Long-Term Debt	
<b>ASSETS</b>								
Cash	406,350	409,795	1,253,904					2,070,049
Receivables:								
Personal Property Taxes								0
Real Estate Taxes								0
Motor Vehicle Taxes								0
Tax Liens								0
Chapter 90 Roads Receivable								0
Community Preservation Receivable			2,052					2,052
Overlays								0
Water Rates and Special	6,269							6,269
Sewer Rates and Special		5,967						5,967
Water/Sewer Liens added to tax								0
Fixed Assets								0
Amounts to be provided for								0
Due from Stabilization								0
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>412,619</b>	<b>415,761</b>	<b>1,255,956</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,084,337</b>

**LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY**

Liabilities									
Water Treatment Plant Loan									0
Sewer Expansion Project Loan									0
Town Offices Project Loan									0
Water Improvements/Tank Loan									0
Due to Capital Projects	6,269	5,967	2,052						14,288
Deferred Revenue									
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>6,269</b>	<b>5,967</b>	<b>2,052</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14,288</b>

**FUND EQUITY**

Reserved for Expenditures	52,000	167,645							219,645
Reserved for Encumbrances	5,000	8,500							13,500
Reserved for Encumbrance/Spec. Arts.	27,349	53,125							80,474
Reserved for Deficits									0
Reserved-Investment & Prop									0
Reserved									1,253,904
Unreserved	322,001	180,525	1,253,904						1,253,904
<b>TOTAL FUND EQUITY</b>	<b>406,350</b>	<b>409,795</b>	<b>1,253,904</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,070,049</b>

<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>412,619</b>	<b>415,761</b>	<b>1,255,956</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,084,337</b>
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(Notes: MAJOR Special Revenue Funds include WATER & SEWER & COMMUNITY PRESERVATION Funds)  
 (Notes: OTHER Special Revenue Funds include REVOLVING FUND,ELECTIONS,LOCAL REVOLVING,POLICE GRANTS,GIFTS

# Capital Projects

For the Year Ended June 30, 2016

Fund	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Expenses	Transfers	Ending Balance
Water Update Project	48,917	0	(104,279)	125,000	69,638
Stockbridge Bowl Dredging Proj	26,278		(26,278)		0
<b>Total Capital Projects</b>	<b>75,195</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(130,557)</b>	<b>125,000</b>	<b>69,638</b>

# Trust Funds

Year ending June 30, 2016

Funds	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Transfers in	Transfers out	Ending Balance
OPEB - Retirement Benefits	\$678,771	\$30,376	\$377,000		\$1,086,147
Cemetery Perpetual Care	\$412,856	\$8,110		(\$30,000)	\$390,966
Conservation Trust Fund	\$27,390	\$41			\$27,431
War Memorial Trust Fund	\$1,318	\$2			\$1,320
DD Field Chime Tower	\$1,795	\$2			\$1,797
Stockbridge Bowl Fund	\$1,259	\$2			\$1,261
Merwin Trust	\$43,622	\$66		(\$18,688)	\$25,000
Treadway Scholarship Fund	\$121,827	\$12,966		(1,800)	\$132,993
Stabilization	\$1,875,354	\$3,074	\$140,000	(\$400,000)	\$1,618,428
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$2,485,421</b>	<b>\$24,263</b>	<b>\$140,000</b>	<b>(\$450,488)</b>	<b>\$2,199,196</b>

# Capital Asset Summary

Year ending June 30, 2016

	2015 Assets	2016 Assets
Land	4,709,600	4,709,600
Construction in progress	1,360,967	2,216,944
Buildings & Furnishings	6,851,758	6,497,121
Vehicles & Equipment	4,097,233	3,898,286
Infrastructure	15,515,524	14,464,183
<b>Totals</b>	<b>32,535,082</b>	<b>31,786,134</b>

## Agency Funds

Year ending June 30, 2016

Funds	Beginning Balance	credits Receipts	debits Expenses	Ending Balance
Federal Withholding Tax	\$1,475	\$231,242	(\$229,839)	\$2,878
Medicare Withholding Tax	\$0	\$27,635	(\$27,635)	\$0
State Withholding Tax	\$0	\$94,628	(\$94,628)	\$0
Retirement Withholding	\$0	\$158,218	(\$155,349)	\$2,869
Def. comp Withholding	\$0	\$43,575	(\$43,575)	\$0
Insurance Withholding	\$0	\$137,640	(\$122,887)	\$14,754
Life Insurance Withholding	\$93	\$730	(\$708)	\$115
Boston Mut Life/voluntary	\$20	\$159	(\$156)	\$23
Metlife/voluntary	\$0	\$1,902	(\$1,686)	\$215
AFLAC Disab/voluntary	\$433	\$6,393	(\$6,098)	\$728
Union Dues Withholding	\$293	\$6,735	(\$6,627)	\$401
United Way	\$0	\$530	(\$520)	\$10
Fire Watch Detail	\$0	\$4,953	(\$4,953)	\$0
Court Ordered Deductions	\$0	\$5,100	(\$5,100)	\$0
Council on Aging-trips/meals	\$183	\$750	\$0	\$933
Performance Bonds	\$2,040	\$1,500	(\$500)	\$3,040
Unclaimed (tailings)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sub-totals	\$4,538	\$721,690	(\$700,262)	\$25,965
Police Outside Detail	\$5,380	\$74,705	(\$87,000)	(\$6,915)
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$9,918</b>	<b>\$796,395</b>	<b>(\$787,262)</b>	<b>\$19,051</b>

# Revenues

Year ending June 30, 2016

## General Property Taxes

Personal Property Tax	\$346,812	
Real Estate Tax	\$7,804,750	
Motor Vehicle Excise Tax	\$301,910	
In Lieu of Taxes	\$56,075	
Interest on Taxes and Excise	\$39,905	
Hotel and Motel Tax	\$340,953	
Meals Tax	\$38,411	
<hr/>		
<b>Sub-total General Taxes</b>		<b>\$8,928,816</b>

## Permits for Services

Cemetery Internments	\$12,950
Building Permits	\$68,804
Plumbing Permits	\$6,540
Electrical Permits	\$13,020
Gas Permits	\$3,480
Fire Permits	\$4,020
Special Permits	\$2,200
Board of Health Permits	\$16,903
Cable Television	\$540

## Other Charges for services

Compactor Stickers	\$31,905
Compactor Fees	\$38,744
Municipal Lien Fees	\$1,725
Photocopies	\$188
Town Clerk	\$2,206
Firearm Permits	\$500
Police Detail-Admin Fee	\$2,654
Police Reports	\$310

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<b>Sub-total Permits/Charges for Services</b>	<b>\$206,689</b>
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## Licenses

Dog licenses	\$1,999
Alcoholic	\$10,325
Tag Sale	\$470
Retail,restaurant	\$1,225
Other Licenses and Permits	\$13,970

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<b>Sub-total Licenses and Permits</b>	<b>\$27,989</b>
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**Revenues from State (Cherry Sheet)**

Abate-Vets,Blind,Surv Spouse	\$11,674
State Owned Land	\$36,806
General Govt. State Aid	\$91,892

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<b>Sub-total State Revenues</b>	<b>\$140,372</b>
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**Revenue from Other Governments**

Fines and Forfeits	\$3,790
District Court Fines	\$9,918
EOEA Recycling Incentive Pmt	\$3,744
Veterans' Reimbursement Benefits	\$24,147
Public Works Projects(curb)	\$300

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<b>Sub-total Other Government Revenue</b>	<b>\$41,898</b>
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**Miscellaneous Revenue**

Council on Aging-Taxi donations	\$443
Parking Fines	\$665
50 Main Street-rentals	\$83,545
Investment Income	\$13,333
Other Miscellaneous	\$72,067

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<b>Sub-total Miscellaneous Revenue</b>	<b>\$170,053</b>
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<b>Total General Fund Revenues</b>	<b>\$9,515,817</b>
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**Special Revenue Funds**

Water User Fees	\$265,594
Water Special	\$5,000
Water Interest & Penalties	\$1,650
Water Connection Fees	\$0
Water Fire Service connection fees	\$3,510
Water Backflow fees	\$6,200
Water Application Fees	\$0
Water Other Misc revenue	\$13,410

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<b>Total Water Fund Revenues</b>	<b>\$295,364</b>
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Sewer User Fees	\$388,161
Sewer Special	\$1,800
Sewer Interest & Penalties	\$1,977
Sewer Connection Fees	\$2,250
Sewer Application Fees	\$300
Sewer Other Misc revenue	\$203

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<b>Total Sewer Fund Revenues</b>	<b>\$394,692</b>
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Community Preservation Tax	\$186,923
Community Preservation Interest & Penalties	\$621
Community Preservation State Funds	\$113,602
Community Preservation Investment Income	\$8,601

<b>Total Community Preservation Revenues</b>
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<b>\$309,747</b>
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## Expenses

**Year ending June 30, 2016**

**General Government**

Moderator	
Salary	222
Dues/Subscriptions	20
	242
Selectmen	
Salaries	46,529
Advertising	5,438
Litigation	90,493
Postage	2,834
Cable Advisory	330
Other Expenses	249
Meetings/Travel	5,971
Dues & Memberships	1,857
Prior yr carry fwd	800
	154,502
Town Administrator	
Salary	81,500
Postage Meter Rental	2,129
Office Supplies	5,850
School/Training	0
Prior yr carry fwd	313
	89,792
Town Offices	
Salary	78,382
Fuel	7,610
Building Repairs	40,381
Uniform	125
Maint. Contracts	10,460
Office Supplies	202
Janitorial Supplies	8,722
Gas/Diesel	472
Dues/subscriptions	299
School/Training	4,907
Site Improvements	20,448
Purchase Equipment	5,954
Prior yr carry fwd	8,570
	186,530
Finance Committee	
Meetings/Travel	131
Dues & Subscriptions	129
	260

Town Accountant	
Salary	51,313
Postage	49
Audit	16,400
Office Supplies	181
Other Charges & Expenses	0
Meetings/In-State Travel	82
Dues/Subscriptions	110
School/Training	0
Municipal Group Purchasing	600
Prior yr carry fwd	298
	<u>69,033</u>
Assessors	
Salaries	96,003
Postage	400
Office Supplies	768
Meetings/Travel	3,127
Dues & Subscriptions	1,234
	<u>101,532</u>
Treasurer	
Salaries	50,334
Payroll Service	5,945
Postage	1,300
Tax title fees	2,400
Office Supplies	942
Forms	179
Other chgs/exp	0
Meetings/Travel	1,152
Dues/Subscriptions	80
School/Training	200
	<u>62,532</u>
Collector	
Salaries	79,836
Deputy Coll. Service	2,588
Postage	3,180
Tax Title Fees	904
Office Supplies	730
Forms	427
Other Charges and Expenses	30
Meetings/Travel	1,283
Dues/Subscriptions	235
School/Training	395
Interest on refunded tax	634
Purchases Equipment	215
	<u>90,457</u>
Town Counsel	
Retainer	37,506
Legal Expenses	500
	<u>38,006</u>

Town Clerk	
Salary	37,596
Printing	414
Postage	100
Supplies	131
Meetings/Travel	827
Dues/Subscriptions	45
School/training	0
	<u>39,112</u>
Elections & Registration	
Salaries	4,331
Repairs/Maint. Equipment	0
Printing	0
Postage	700
Voting Machine Ballots	4,347
Supplies	513
Forms	0
Other charges/ expenses	244
	<u>10,135</u>
Conservation Commission	
Salary	8,405
Postage	600
Legal Advertising	0
Office Supplies	0
Dues/Subscriptions	183
School/Training	210
Gould Meadows-maintenance	3,500
	<u>12,898</u>
Planning Board	
Salary	5,253
Advertising	1,439
Postage	500
Supplies	105
	<u>7,297</u>
Zoning Board	
Other charges/exp	0
	<u>0</u>
Town Meeting Articles	
Tax software	14,417
Bylaw Consultant	10,043
Zoning Defense	15,890
Quiet Knoll Easement	5,483
Permit software	13,260
HVAC	38,225
Stockbridge Lake Mgmt- Phase 3	40,973
Stockbridge Library Elevator	100,000
Tourism development	10,878
Master Plan consultant	22,938
Retired Employee-unpaid sick	8,574
Town Offices security upgrade	2,378
50 Main St Stairway repairs(west end)	958
Cell Tower/Glendale	31,419
	<u>315,437</u>

Procter Hall	
Building Repairs	1,321
	<u>1,321</u>
Town Electricity	<u>73,573</u>
Town Report	<u>5,475</u>
Computer Technology	
Telephones/Internet	24,456
Computer Service Contracts	46,701
Outside Prof Services	21,967
Computer Supplies	10,083
Purchase Equipment	10,317
Purchase Computers	1,083
Prior yr carry fwd	1,765
	<u>116,372</u>

**Total General Government Expenses**

**1,374,505**

**Public Safety**

Police	
Salaries	625,460
Repairs: Radio	556
Vehicle repairs/maint	7,998
Uniforms	15,812
Postage	499
Communications	13,794
Supplies	6,270
Gasoline	14,495
Accreditation Exp	1,250
Meetings/Travel	1,630
Dues/Subscriptions	3,515
School/Training	19,483
Purchase of Equipment	2,955
Prior yr carry fwd	250
	<u>713,968</u>

Police Town Meeting Articles

Police vests	890
Merge IMC records	12,625
Police secure storage	2,400
	<u>15,915</u>

Fire

Salaries	64,523
Fuel Oil	6,861
Repairs	8,331
Vehicle Repairs/maint	65,955
Building repairs	7,241
Uniforms	2,544
Janitorial Supplies	167
Gasoline	4,189
School/training	1,669
Purchase of Equipment	31,328
	<u>192,809</u>

Fire Town Meeting Articles	
Hydrant fittings	<u>9,913</u>
Emergency Medical Response	
School/Training	195
Purchase Equip	<u>5,789</u>
	5,984
Ambulance service	
Lee Ambulance	8,876
Lenox Ambulance	<u>3,000</u>
	11,876
Animal Control Officer	
Salary	5,141
Veterinary Chgs.	0
Supplies	4
Other Charges & Expenses	<u>453</u>
	5,598
Building Inspector	
Salaries	60,640
Other Charges & Expenses	27
Meetings/Travel	200
Dues/Subscriptions	<u>590</u>
	61,457
Gas Inspector	
Salaries	1,350
Other Charges & Expenses	<u>1,000</u>
	2,350
Plumbing Inspector	
Salaries	5,706
Other Charges & Expenses	<u>1,000</u>
	6,706
Electrical Inspector	
Salaries	6,471
Service	350
Other Charges & Expenses	<u>1,700</u>
	8,521
Emergency Management	
Salary	3,429
Repairs/Maintenance	300
Notification System	6,500
Uniforms	0
Emergency Planning	500
Other Charges & Expenses	200
School/Training	824
Purchase Equipment	<u>1,000</u>
	12,753

Tree Warden	
Salary	1,969
Tree Removals	38,709
Forestry	3,800
Planting, Feeding	9,117
Other Charges/Exp	1,069
Prior yr carryover	1,125
	<u>55,789</u>

**Total Public Safety Expenses**

**1,103,639**

**Education**

Berkshire Hills Regional School District	
Assessment	2,685,198
Construction	106,068

**Total Education Expense**

**2,791,266**

**Public Works**

Highway Town Meeting Articles	
Landfill	30,836
Trask Lane Improvements	396,527
Sidewalks	8,295
Ch90 road reconstruction	310,541
Interlaken Bridge engineering	5,811
Rte 183 Culvert	1,648
Hazardous Waste	2,199
Cemetery trees	7,750
Cemetery survey/Waterline replace.	1,700
Paper compactor	15,000
Town property-Emergency repairs	18,487
	<u>798,793</u>

Highway Department	
Salaries	316,673
Fuel Oil	3,474
Repairs/Maintenance Equipment	4,053
Repairs-Radio	0
Building Repairs	195
Engineering Services	8,599
Rentals	0
Uniforms	2,598
Office Supplies	0
Harvester exp.	5,880
Gravel roads	24,710
Sidewalks	0
Roads	68,053
Licenses	378
CDL Drug Testing	505
Woodwaste	0
Training	235
	<u>435,352</u>

Snow and Ice Expenses	<u>59,390</u>
Street Lights Electricity	<u>45,000</u>
Highway Machinery	
Vehicle Repairs	32,008
Supplies	6,626
Gasoline	28,812
Tires	4,323
Plow Blades	1,882
Safety equip	<u>2,351</u>
	76,002
Compactor	
Salaries	39,835
Repairs	1,812
Hauling	<u>110,116</u>
	151,763
Hydrant Rental	
Housatonic	<u>1,726</u>
Cemetery	
Salaries	25,300
Repairs/Maint-Equip	909
Repairs/Maint-Mowers	453
Supplies	350
Fuel	1,260
Mowers/Trimmers	<u>1,732</u>
	30,005
<b><u>Total Public Works Expenses</u></b>	<b><u>1,598,031</u></b>
<b>Public Health</b>	
Board of Health	
Salaries	842
Dues/Subscriptions	<u>50</u>
	892
Tri-Town Health Officer	<u>44,334</u>
Lee Visiting Nurse/Porchlight	<u>7,568</u>
Mental Health & Substance Abuse Svc.	<u>3,200</u>

Council on Aging		
Salaries	32,676	
Repairs/Maint-Vehicle	1,279	
Postage	1,500	
Recreation	327	
Supplies	252	
Meetings/Travel	0	
Dues/Subscriptions	348	
	<u>36,383</u>	
Veterans' Services		
District Service	7,872	
Benefits	41,101	
	<u>48,974</u>	
		<u>141,350</u>

**Total Public Health Expenses**

<b>Culture and Recreation</b>		
Stockbridge Library Association	144,100	
	<u>144,100</u>	
Chime Tower		
Bell-ringers salaries	736	
	<u>736</u>	

Parks and Recreation		
Salaries	17,650	
Water	450	
Repairs/Maintenance	888	
Supplies	157	
Site Improvements	4,412	
Purchase Equip	892	
	<u>24,449</u>	

Memorial Day Committee		
Grave Markers	2,500	
Other Charges & Expenses	957	
Previous yr carry fwd	549	
	<u>4,007</u>	

**Total Culture & Recreation Expenses** 173,291

<b>Debt Service</b>		
Admin Fees	9,669	
Debt Princ - Sewer Expansion	315,000	
Debt Int - Sewer Expansion	73,401	
Debt Princ - Water Treatment	65,000	
Debt Int - Water Treatment	18,650	
Debt Princ - Town Offices	385,000	
Debt Int - Town Offices	110,800	
Debt Princ - Water Tank & Update	108,159	
Debt Int - Water Tank & Update	39,198	
	<u>1,124,876</u>	

**Total Debt Service Expenses** 1,124,876

<b>State and County Charges</b>	
State Assessments	
Motor Vehicle Excise	960
Mosquito Control	31,907
Air Pollution Control District	1,217
Berkshire Regional Transit Auth.	36,560
State Strap Assessment	
	<u>70,644</u>
<b>Total State &amp; County Charges</b>	<b><u>70,644</u></b>
<b>Miscellaneous Expenses</b>	
Retirement Benefits	
Assessment	<u>283,188</u>
Employee Insurance	
Med/FICA(Town Portion)	27,635
Life Insurance	2,485
Health Insurance	504,481
Employee Ins Reimbursement	7,000
	<u>541,600</u>
Insurance	
Insurance Coverage	67,169
Police/Volunteer Firemen's	36,567
Ins. Deductible	2,500
	<u>106,236</u>
Tax Refunds/Other Expense	
Personal Property	59
Real Estate	28,580
Motor Vehicle	5,381
Other Revenue refunded	150
Berkshire Regional Planning	1,405
	<u>35,575</u>
<b>Total Miscellaneous Expenses</b>	<b><u>966,599</u></b>
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENSES</b>	<b><u>9,344,202</u></b>

**Water Department**

Salaries	103,743	
Electricity	26,550	
Heating Fuel	758	
Telephone/Alarms	5,440	
Repairs/Maint Equipment	10,024	
Repairs Radio	2,601	
Repairs Vehicles	2,066	
Uniforms	550	
Pumping Station	0	
Water Testing	4,890	
Postage	800	
Forestry	700	
Generator Service	842	
Meters	1,177	
Office Supplies	4,882	
Supplies	17,424	
Gasoline	1,283	
Chemicals	13,935	
SDWA Assessment	0	
Intermunicipal Agreements	428	
School/Training	2,178	
Pipeline Replacement	12,502	
Purchase of Safety Equipment	1,092	
Prior yr carry fwd	700	
	<u>214,565</u>	
Water Town Meeting Articles		
Quiet Knoll easement	10,000	
Park St River Crossing	1,302	
Radio Read upgrade- 50% share	7,445	
	<u>18,747</u>	
Water Refunds	<u>7</u>	
	7	
<b><u>Total Water Expense</u></b>		<b><u>233,319</u></b>

**Sewer Department**

Salaries	105,267	
Electricity	53,560	
Fuel Oil	2,696	
Telephone/Alarms	6,919	
Repairs/Maintenance Equipment	17,772	
Repairs Vehicles	4,923	
Maintenance Contracts	2,984	
Uniforms	1,116	
Sludge Hauling	63,321	
Postage	1,000	
Supplies	13,664	
Ultraviolet Light Bulbs	1,241	
Gasoline/diesel	2,415	
Intermunicipal Agreements	745	
School/Training	791	
Purchase of Safety Equipment	0	
Prior yr carry fwd	3,771	
	<u>282,186</u>	

Sewer Town Meeting Articles		
Sewerline repairs		3,452
Radio Read upgrade-50% share		6,495
Clarifiers-maintenance		38,687
Generator transfer switch		5,890
		<u>54,524</u>
Sewer Refunds		2,887
	<b><u>Total Sewer Expense</u></b>	<b><u>339,596</u></b>

# Board of Assessors

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The tax rate of \$9.70 for Fiscal Year 2017 was set and approved on October 20, 2016. There was an increase of \$0.11 in the Fiscal Year 2017 tax rate from the Fiscal Year 2016 tax rate.

Listed below are estimated figures used on the Tax Recapitulation for Fiscal Year 2017:

Total Amount to be Raised	\$ 11,914,412.96
Total Estimated Receipts and other Revenue Sources	<u>3,639,815.00</u>
Tax Levy (net amount to be raised by taxation)	8,274,597.96
Real Property Valuations (estimate)	\$816,578,220.00
Personal Property Valuations (estimate)	<u>36,473,116.00</u>
Total Valuation (estimate)	\$853,051,336.00
Total Number of Parcels, Real Estate	1,784
Total Number of Personal Property Assessments	759
Total Number of Parcels, Exempt	157

In Fiscal Year 2017, the Assessor's Office conducted a state mandated interim-year adjustment to property values using market data from calendar years 2014 and 2015.

There were several styles of properties that saw a slight increase but overall most assessments either stayed the same or decreased for Fiscal Year 2017.

There are positive signs that the Real Estate market is rebounding both with the number of sales within the sales analysis period and the sale prices overall.

A revaluation of all real property will be conducted for Fiscal Year 2018. This is a State mandate. The last revaluation was in Fiscal Year 2015. This project will be conducted in-house.

Respectfully submitted,

**GARY M. PITNEY, Chairman**  
JOHN A. MILLER  
DOUGLAS M. GOUDEY  
**Board of Assessors**

# Town Collector's Report

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

Once again, I would like to thank all the taxpayers who pay their bills promptly. Thanks to you the collections for 2016 have exceeded 98% at fiscal year-end and virtually 100% for all past years which helps in meeting the town's financial obligations.

All current tax bills and current water/sewer bills can be paid on the Town's website at [TOWNOFSTOCKBRIDGE.COM](http://TOWNOFSTOCKBRIDGE.COM). The bank will charge a sliding fee for using a credit card and a 25 cents charge to use your checking account online only.

Beginning July 1, 2017 interest for late payments on all bills will begin accruing from the due date. All checks should be made out to TOWN OF STOCKBRIDGE and sent to:

OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR  
PO BOX 417  
STOCKBRIDGE, MA 01262

The following information shows the major collection activity for the town.

Respectfully submitted,  
NANCY SOCHA, CMMC  
**Town Collector**

## Receipts For The Year Ending 6/30/16

Real Estate Tax:	
FY '13	1,000.00
FY '13 CPA	0.00
FY '14	16,149.00
FY '14 CPA	361.00
FY '15	114,543.00
FY '15 CPA	2,439.00
FY '16	7,667,482.00
FY '16 CPA	184,123.00
Total Real Estate:	<u>7,986,097.00</u>
Personal Property Tax:	
FY '14	153.00
FY '15	1,334.00
FY '16	345,325.00
Total Personal Property Tax:	<u>346,812.00</u>

Motor Vehicle Tax:	
FY '13	71.00
FY '14	849.00
FY '15	43,941.00
FY '16	256,911.00
Total Motor Vehicle:	301,772.00
Water Receipts:	
FY '14 Water User Charges	363.00
FY '15 Water User Charges	1,895.00
FY '16 Water User Charges	262,946.00
FY '16 Hydrant Charges	5,000.00
FY '16 Backflow Billings Paid	22,731.00
Water App/Connection Fees	100.00
Final Water Read Fees	389.00
Total Water Receipts:	293,424.00
Sewer Receipts:	
FY '14 Sewer User Charges	102.00
FY '15 Sewer User Charges	2,293.00
FY '16 Sewer User Charges	385,139.00
Waste Treatment Charges	1,800.00
Sewer App/Connection Fees	2,550.00
Final Sewer Read Fees	187.00
Total Sewer Receipts:	392,071.00
Total Utility Receipts:	685,495.00
Payment in Lieu of Taxes:	
Stockbridge Housing	869.00
Austin Riggs Center	16,000.00
Kripalu	38,206.00
Berkshire Taconic Comm	1,000.00
Total Payment in Lieu of Taxes:	56,075.00
Other:	
Aid to Elderly and Disabled	4,548.00
Tri-Town Board of Health	16,903.00
Compactor User Fees	38,882.00
RE Added To Tax Title	9,459.00
Advert. Tax Title Fees	524.00
Municipal Lien Certificates	1,725.00
Deputy Collector Fees- MV	2,904.00
Int & Demand - Real Estate	31,328.00
Int & Demand - CPA	3,060.00
Int & Penalties - Motor Vehicles	5,432.00
Int & Demand - Water & Sewer	3,627.00
Interest on Tax Liens	241.00
Previous Year Excise	185.00
Total Other:	118,818.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS:</b>	<b>9,495,069.00</b>

**Real Estate Tax Review  
(Including CPA-Community Preservation Act)**

FY -13	Committed	6,565,967.00
	Taxes Paid	6,543,567.00
	Exemptions/Abatements	21,011.00
	Refund	11,796.00
	Tax Title	12,878.00
	Adjustments	307.00
		<hr/>
	Balance Due as of 06-30-16:	0.00
FY -14	Committed	6,754,362.00
	Taxes Paid	6,709,170.00
	Exemptions/Abatements	29,240.00
	Refunds	8,873.00
	Tax Title	24,695.00
	Adjustments	130.00
		<hr/>
	Balance Due as of 06-30-16:	0.00
FY -15	Committed	7,230,411.00
	Taxes Paid	7,170,648.00
	Exemptions/Abatements	49,359.00
	Refunds	24,634.00
	Tax Title	20,491.00
	Adjustments	984.00
		<hr/>
	Balance Due as of 06-30-16:	15,531.00
FY -16	Committed	7,991,618.00
	Taxes Paid	7,851,605.00
	Exemptions/Abatements	34,610.00
	Refunds	20,300.00
	Tax Title	0.00
	Adjustments	850.00
		<hr/>
	Balance Due as of 06-30-16:	124,853.00

**Personal Property Tax Review**

FY -13	Commitment	275,857.00
	Taxes Paid	274,687.00
	Exemptions/Abatements	2,124.00
	Refunds	1,020.00
		<hr/>
	Balance due as of 6-30-16	66.00
FY -14	Commitment	295,389.00
	Taxes Paid	295,288.00
	Exemptions/Abatements	282.00
	Refunds	181.00
		<hr/>
	Balance due as of 6-30-16	0.00

FY -15 Commitment	308,297.00
Taxes Paid	308,222.00
Exemptions/Abatements	122.00
Refunds	47.00
Balance due as of 6-30-16	<u>0.00</u>

FY -16 Commitment	346,352.00
Taxes Paid	345,325.00
Exemptions/Abatements	274.00
Refunds	36.00
Balance due as of 6-30-16	<u>789.00</u>

### Utility Billing Review

FY -14 Commitment	633,958.00
Taxes Paid	636,234.00
Exemptions/Abatements	480.00
Refunds	480.00
Sale Adjustments	2,276.00
Balance due as of 6-30-16	<u>0.00</u>

FY -15 Commitment	663,211.00
Taxes Paid	662,940.00
Exemptions/Abatement	1,321.00
Refunds	1,220.00
Sale Adjustments	757.00
Lien	927.00
Balance due as of 6-30-16	<u>0.00</u>

FY -16 Commitment	673,783.00
Taxes Paid	654,885.00
Exemptions/Abatements	7,403.00
Refunds	2,869.00
Sale Adjustments	2,128.00
Balance due as of 6-30-16	<u>12,236.00</u>

### Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Review

FY -13	Commitments	265,990.00
	Taxes Paid	262,509.00
	Exemptions/Abatements	7,044.00
	Refunds	<u>4,512.00</u>
	Balance due as of 6-30-16	949.00
FY -14	Commitments	280,419.00
	Taxes Paid	274,381.00
	Exemptions/Abatements	9,177.00
	Refunds	<u>5,256.00</u>
	Balance due as of 6-30-16	2,117.00
FY -15	Commitments	296,164.00
	Taxes Paid	291,706.00
	Exemptions/Abatements	7,196.00
	Refunds	<u>5,329.00</u>
	Balance due as of 6-30-16	2,591.00
FY -16	Commitments	277,323.00
	Taxes Paid	256,911.00
	Exemptions/Abatements	4,975.00
	Refunds	<u>1,058.00</u>
	Balance due as of 6-30-16	16,495.00

# Treasurer's Report

June 30, 2016

Treasurer's Cash:	Berkshire Bank	(\$386,372.37)	
	Berkshire Bank Money Market	\$3,002,576.38	
	Berkshire Bank Arts Money Market	\$4,723.42	
	Belmont Savings CPA Money Market	\$1,386,326.40	
	Berkshire Bank Elderly	\$5,179.89	
	M.M.D.T.	\$558,931.03	
	Farmington Bank	\$236,066.95	
	Morgan Stanley	\$805,126.72	
	Lee Bank (Procter Hall)	\$8,343.23	
	People's United-MM	\$238,730.49	
	People's United-PR	\$2,864.89	
	UniBank-Building Commissioner	\$22,597.22	
Total Treasurer's Cash			\$5,885,094.25
Stabilization Fund:	Berkshire Bank	\$839,652.34	
	UniBank	\$258,775.38	
Total Stabilization Fund			\$1,098,427.72
Cemetery Trust Fund:	UniBank	\$391,216.39	
Total Cemetery Trust Fund			\$391,216.39
Custodial Accounts:	UniBank (Trust Funds)	\$75,496.99	
	SRBTF-OPEB Funds	\$1,088,798.65	
	Berk. Bank/Morgan Stanley (Treadway)	\$132,843.41	
Total Custodial Accounts			\$1,297,139.05
<b>TOTAL TREASURER'S INVESTMENTS</b>			<b>\$8,671,877.41</b>
<b>CUSTODIAL ACCOUNTS (Detail)</b>			
Conservation Fund:	Beginning Balance	\$27,389.94	
	Interest	\$41.16	
	Ending Balance		\$27,431.10
D.D. Field Chime Tower Fund:	Beginning Balance	\$1,794.09	
	Interest	\$2.70	
	Ending Balance		\$1,796.79
Stockbridge Bowl Fund:	Beginning Balance	\$1,259.26	
	Interest	\$1.91	
	Transfer		
	Ending Balance		\$1,261.17
War Memorial Fund:	Beginning Balance	\$1,317.74	
	Interest	\$1.99	
	Ending Balance		\$1,319.73

Merwin Trust:			
	Beginning Balance	\$43,622.62	
	Interest	\$65.58	
	Ending Balance		\$43,688.20
SRBTF-OPEB Funds			
	Beginning Balance	\$681,422.82	
	Net Gains/Losses	\$30,375.83	
	Investment (FY16)	\$377,000.00	
	Ending Balance		\$1,088,798.65
Charles D. Treadway Scholarship Fund			
	Beginning Balance	\$122,827.52	
	Interest/Dividends	\$12,965.89	
	FY15/FY16 Scholarship Disbursements	(\$2,800.00)	
	Morgan Stanley Annual Fee Adj. in July '16	(\$150.00)	
	Ending Balance		\$132,843.41
TOTAL CUSTODIAL FUNDS			\$1,297,139.05

Respectfully submitted,  
**KAREN T. WILLIAMS**  
**Treasurer**

# Report of the Finance Committee

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

Financial operating results for the Fiscal Year 2016 were satisfactory. All Town Departments continue to exercise commendable fiscal discipline and compliance with adopted budgets.

The Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2016 was \$9.59, an increase of \$.92 cents from Fiscal Year 2015.

Free Cash was voted at the Annual Town Meeting in May 2016 in the amount of \$550,000 which will be used to reduce the FY 2017 Tax Levy. The Balance of Certified Free Cash after this reduction was \$337,130. Also at June 30, 2016, the Stabilization Fund balance was \$1,618,428.

The total bond indebtedness at the close of Fiscal Year 2016 was \$9,065,811, a decrease of approximately \$873,000.

The Annual Town Meeting for Fiscal Year 2016, that convened in May 2015, also approved several large expenditures. They are:

BHRSD Assessment .....	\$2,685,198
BHRSD Capital.....	106,068
Police Dept security/ADA upgrade.....	70,000
Trask Lane/Hill Rd drainage .....	150,000
Stockbridge Library elevator constr.....	100,000
Road Resurfacing-Ch90.....	303,095
Other Post Employee Benefits .....	377,000

Looking forward, the Town will need to consider, approve, and finance engineering studies as well as repairs/replacements for bridges at Larrywaug, Berkshire Country Day School, South Hill, Curtisville, and two on Averic Road. This is in addition to Town roadwork. Further, the matter of the future viability of the Highway Departments' Garage will have to be addressed, and a resolution presented. The matter of the bridges, as well as the Highway Garage will be subject to future Town Meeting approval.

The Finance Committee looks forward to working closely with the Selectmen and Department Heads to minimize the effect of the previously referred to expenditures on the Tax Levy and the Town's Balance Sheet. In addition, the Finance Committee will be proposing to the Select Board implementation of multi-year capital and operating budgets to better control expenditures. With the retirement of Jorja Marsden, the Committee expects to also propose retention of a budget consultant to assist the Town in the preparation and expediting of the budget process. In conclusion, the Finance Committee continues its effort to explore further refinancing and accelerated payment of existing indebtedness.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Keith Raftery, Holly Rhind and Clinton Schneyer for their past service on this Committee and commitment to our Town.

Respectfully submitted,

**JAY BIKOFSKY, Chairman**  
JAMES BALFANZ  
MARY BOYCE  
NEIL HOLDEN

JAMES MCMENAMY  
DIANE REUSS  
FRANK RUSSELL

## **Notes:**

# Town Warrant



Jorja-Ann P. Marsden

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**BERKSHIRE COUNTY**

To one of the constables of the Town of Stockbridge in said county.

**GREETINGS:**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the

**STOCKBRIDGE TOWN OFFICES  
50 MAIN STREET**

in Stockbridge on **MONDAY, THE FIFTEENTH OF MAY 2017** at 6:30 o'clock in the evening Eastern Daylight Time, for the following purposes, to wit:

ARTICLE 1. To choose all Town Officers necessary to be chosen at the Annual Town Meeting, other than those to be chosen by ballot.

ARTICLE 2. To hear the report of any Town Officer or Committee, and to see if the Town will vote to accept all printed reports, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elected officers of the Town as provided by Chapter 41, Section 108 of the Massachusetts General Laws as amended: Moderator, Selectmen, Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, Town Collector, Board of Assessors, Board of Health, and Tree Warden, and to raise and appropriate a sum of money therefor, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the following purposes, or to take any other action in relation thereto:

- Section 1. MODERATOR
- 2. SELECTMEN'S DEPARTMENT
- 3. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
- 4. FINANCE DEPARTMENT
- 5. RESERVE FUND
- 6. ACCOUNTANT
- 7. ASSESSORS' DEPARTMENT
- 8. TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT
- 9. TOWN COLLECTOR'S DEPARTMENT
- 10. LEGAL DEPARTMENT
- 11. TOWN CLERK'S DEPARTMENT
- 12. ELECTIONS & REGISTRATIONS

13. CONSERVATION COMMISSION
14. PLANNING BOARD
15. BOARD OF APPEALS
16. PROCTER HALL
17. TOWN OFFICES
18. TOWN REPORT
19. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR
20. POLICE DEPARTMENT
21. FIRE DEPARTMENT
22. AMBULANCE SERVICE
23. ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER
24. BUILDING INSPECTOR
25. GAS INSPECTOR
26. PLUMBING INSPECTOR
27. WIRE INSPECTOR
28. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
29. TREE WARDEN DEPARTMENT
30. VOCATIONAL EDUCATION
31. ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
32. HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
  - a.) MACHINERY
  - b.) COMPACTOR
  - c.) CEMETERY
33. STREETLIGHTS
34. TRASH REMOVAL
35. SEWER DEPARTMENT
36. WATER DEPARTMENT
37. HYDRANT RENTAL
38. HEALTH DEPARTMENT
39. HEALTH OFFICER
40. PORCHLIGHT VNA
41. MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES
42. COUNCIL ON AGING
43. VETERAN'S SERVICES
44. STOCKBRIDGE LIBRARY
45. CHIME TOWER
46. PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
47. HISTORICAL COMMISSION
48. MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE
49. HISTORIC DISTRICT
50. HISTORIC PRESERVATION
51. TOURISM PROMOTION
52. LONG-TERM DEBT & SHORT-TERM DEBT
53. BERKSHIRE REGIONAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)  
BERKSHIRE COUNTY INSURANCE GROUP
54. INSURANCE

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the assessment of the Berkshire Hills Regional School District, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money toward the Berkshire Hills Regional School District's capital cost of constructing the new school buildings, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 7 To see if the Town will vote to accept the amendments to the Regional School District Agreement of the Berkshire Hills Regional School District that were approved by a vote of the Regional School Committee on October 27, 2016 and that have been submitted as a restated Regional School District Agreement bearing the date October 27, 2016 to the Board of Selectmen in each member town, and also including the additional revisions IV, VII, and VIII of the Agreement set forth in a document bearing the note "Changes requested and approved by DESE (Chris Lynch) after conclusion of RAAC meetings" that was approved by a vote of the Regional School Committee on January 19, 2017, copies of which documents are available for inspection at the Office of the Town Clerk, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purchase of a Pick-up Truck for the Highway Department, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide a sum of money for the purchase of a fire truck, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of replacing the Fire Department roof, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to upgrade the current

phone systems in Town Offices and Police Station, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for resurfacing selected Town roads as determined by the Board of Selectmen and the Highway Superintendent, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Sewer Available Surplus a sum of money to provide for a portion of the cost of the debt service payment (principal and interest) of the Sewer System Expansion and Update Project authorized by Article 3 of the Special Town Meeting of April 1, 2002, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Sewer Available Surplus a sum of money for an inflow and infiltration study, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Sewer Available Surplus a sum of money for the purchase of new pump controllers for the wastewater treatment plant, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Sewer Available Surplus and Water Available Surplus a sum of money for a water rate study, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Water Available Surplus a sum of money for the cleaning of water filter media or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Water Available Surplus a sum of money for the inspection and cleaning of the water treatment plant clearwell, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee and pursuant to the Community Preservation Act, to:

a. appropriate or transfer from the Community Preservation Fund a sum of money for a grant to the Stockbridge Housing Authority to complete GFI replacements in all apartments, and to transfer from the Community Preservation Fund to the Affordable Housing Reserve Fund a sum of money for future appropriation;

b. appropriate or transfer from the Community Preservation Fund a sum of money for erosion control and repairs to the steps at the Indian Burial Ground;

c. appropriate or transfer from the Community Preservation Fund a sum of money to the Friends of Gould Meadows for repairs to the milk shed roof at Gould Meadows;

d. appropriate or transfer from the Community Preservation Fund a sum of money to the Friends of Gould Meadows for improvements to recreational facilities and enhancement of wildlife habitat at Gould Meadows;

e. appropriate or transfer from the Community Preservation Fund a sum of money to the Stockbridge Bowl Association for implementation of the Stockbridge Bowl Lake Management plan by dredging areas of the lake;

f. appropriate or transfer from the Open Space Reserve of the Community Preservation Fund a sum of money to the Stockbridge Land Trust for the conservation of 35 acres on West Stockbridge Road;

g. appropriate or transfer from the Community Preservation Fund a sum of money to Chesterwood for conservation/restoration of decorative fixtures;

h. appropriate or transfer from the Community Preservation Fund a sum of money to the Norman Rockwell Museum for preservation work on Rockwell's studio;

i. appropriate or transfer from the Community Preservation Fund a sum of money to the Stockbridge Library, Museum and Archives for the restoration of paintings by local artists;

j. appropriate or transfer from the Community Preservation Fund a sum of money to Berkshire Botanical Garden for the restoration of the Center House;

k. appropriate or transfer from the Community Preservation Fund a sum of money to Berkshire Theatre Group for the restoration of the front entrance to the Berkshire Playhouse;

l. appropriate or transfer from the Community Preservation Fund a sum of money to the Trustees of Reservations for the reconstruction of 8 pairs of shutters and 2 awnings at Naumkeag;

m. appropriate or transfer from the Community Preservation Fund to the Stockbridge Library, Museum and Archives a sum of money for the renovation of the Stockbridge Library;

n. appropriate or transfer from the Community Preservation Fund a sum of money to the First Congregational Church for restoration of the Church's windows and shutters; and

o. appropriate or transfer from the Community Preservation Fund a sum of money for the CPC Administrative budget.

or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to be added to the amounts appropriated under Article 24 of the Annual Town Meeting of May 20, 2013, Article 22 of the Annual Town Meeting of May 19, 2014, Article 36 of the Annual Town Meeting of May 18, 2015, and Article 25 of the Annual Town Meeting of May 16, 2016, for costs associated with negotiations for the Rest of River Project (along with Pittsfield, Lenox, Lee, Great Barrington and Sheffield) regarding the removal of PCBs in the Housatonic River, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Cemetery Trust Fund a sum of money for the purpose of tree work at the Stockbridge Cemetery, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to approve the appointment by the Board of Selectmen of one of its members to an office or position under the supervision of such Board, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant two non-exclusive access easements across Town-owned property at the Stockbridge Cemetery, shown as proposed driveway easements “E-1” and “E-2” on a plan by Foresight Land Services titled “Plan of Land Prepared for Town of Stockbridge (Stockbridge Cemetery),” dated March 21, 2017, a copy of which is available for inspection at the Office of the Town Clerk, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant two non-exclusive access easements across the Town Green, shown as “35 Feet Wide Access Easement” and “16’ Wide Access Easement” on a plan by Foresight Land Services titled “Worksheet Prepared for Town of Stockbridge, Old Town Hall Access,” dated December 7, 2016, a copy of which is available for inspection at the Office of the Town Clerk, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, via purchase or by power of eminent domain, an easement across the property on Glendale Road shown as Parcel 7 on Stockbridge Assessor’s Map 223 for overhead utility lines to service the cell tower to be located at the former landfill, shown as “area of easement over land of Harris & Amdur, 113 s.f. +/-” on a preliminary plan by Northeast Survey Consultants titled “Easement Survey” and dated March 1, 2017, a copy of which is available for inspection at the Office of the Town Clerk, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws by deleting Article VIII, Licensing Public Amusements, in its entirety, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 27. To see if the Town will vote to amend Article II of the General Bylaws (The Fiscal Year and Reports), Section 1, by striking the words “shall be delivered by mail or otherwise” and replacing them with the words “shall be made available,” so that the sentence reads as follows:

One copy of the annual town report shall be made available to every property taxpayer and to each household represented on the voters’ lists at least seven days before the date of the annual meeting.

or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 28. To see if the Town will vote to amend Article V, Cemetery Regulations, of the General Bylaws by inserting, into Section 1.2 thereof, the words “or have transferred their property interests to a parent, sibling, child, grandchild or other immediate family member, or to a family trust or other legal entity benefiting an immediate family member,” after the words “nursing facilities,” so that the Section will read as follows:

Residents or taxpayers, including long-time residents or taxpayers who have needed to move to assisted living or nursing facilities, or have transferred their property interests to a parent, sibling, child, grandchild or other immediate family member, or to a family trust or other legal entity benefiting an immediate family member, shall be entitled, upon death, to be interred in a burial plot in the Town Cemetery, subject to the requirements of this Article. No right of interment pursuant to this Article may be transferred, or sold.

or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 29. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from available funds for the purpose of lowering the property tax levy, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 30. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to increase the Stabilization Fund as defined in Chapter 40, section 5B of the General Laws, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 31. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following non-binding resolution recommended by the Stockbridge Board of Health:

The Town of Stockbridge supports a properly and efficiently designed single payer healthcare system and calls upon the state legislature to adopt a proper and efficient single payer healthcare system in Massachusetts at its earliest possible convenience.

or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 32. To see if the Town will vote to make a non-binding endorsement of Stockbridge Police Department General Order 17-01, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 33. **PETITION ARTICLE.** To see if the Town will vote to adopt a non-binding Trust Policy, with the following key points:

1. To give official support to our local law enforcement officers and town resources so that they will not be deputized by immigration officials and that all persons in Stockbridge are entitled to due process and the full protection of the law.
2. That our community will not be party to profiling of any kind whether on the basis of perceived immigration-status, color, race, ethnicity, religion, or gender identity.
3. That our community will not be party to the creation or maintenance of any kind of registry based on the categories listed above. Nor shall any Stockbridge officials or resources be used to create or maintain such a registry.

or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 34. **PETITION ARTICLE.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 1 of the Special Town Meeting held on Monday, January 23, 2017; specifically, to remove South Hill Road and the bridge on that road from the list of bridges and roads on which the funds appropriated thereby may be spent.

ARTICLE 35. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

AND to bring in their ballots on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 at an adjourned session of the above meeting in the Town Offices, for the election of the following Officers:

Office		Term (Years)
Selectman		3
Town Collector		3
Town Treasurer		3
Board of Assessors		3
Board of Health		3
Parks and Recreation		3
Parks and Recreation		2
Planning Board	Vote for Two	5
Planning Board		3
Planning Board		2
Planning Board		1
Sewer and Water Commissioner		3

All of said officers are to be voted for using the official ballots furnished the voters at the polls.

And also to vote “Yes” or “No” on the following questions appearing on the ballot in accordance with Chapter 59, Section 21C of the *Massachusetts General Laws*:

QUESTION 1: Shall the town of Stockbridge be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to pay for the design, engineering, development, construction, reconstruction, extension, repair and upgrade of Town roads and bridges and all related systems, appurtenances and facilities?

QUESTION 2: Shall the town of Stockbridge be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to pay for a fire truck?

For this purpose the polls will be opened at the Town Offices, 50 Main Street, at 8:00 o’clock a.m. and may be closed at 6:30 o’clock p.m.

This is an unofficial copy of the Warrant and related Documents for the Annual Town Meeting to be held on May 15, 2017 at the Stockbridge Town Offices, 50 Main Street. The official Warrant will be issued at a later date in accordance with the requirements of M.G. L. c. 39 §10.

# ARTICLE 4

## Appropriations Recommended For 2017/2018

	Approved Budget 7/1/16 to 6/30/17	Recommended Budget 7/1/17 to 6/30/18
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>		
1 Moderator	228	234
Moderator Expense	25	25
2 Selectmen-Salaries		
Chairman	5,552	5,552
2 Members	9,090	9,090
Ass't Administrator	32,800	45,000
Clerical Salary	6,600	22,000
Selectmen Expenses	67,550	55,850
3 Town Administrator	110,000	110,000
Retiring Town Administrator	44,500	
Town Administrator Expenses	11,750	11,750
4 Finance Committee	2,150	2,150
5 Town Reserve Fund	150,000	150,000
6 Accountant-Salary	51,571	52,860
Accountant Certified Pay	1,000	1,000
Accountant Expenses	19,750	20,100
7 Assessors-Salaries		
Chairman	3,987	3,987
2 Members	6,386	6,386
Principal Assessor	62,889	64,461
Principal Assessor Certified Pay	1,000	1,000
Clerk	23,857	24,453
Assessor Expenses	5,750	7,750
8 Treasurer-Salaries		
Treasurer	49,295	50,527
Treasurer Certified Pay	1,000	1,000
Assistant Treasurer	1,241	see under Collector
Treasurer Expenses	9,825	9,925
9 Town Collector-Salaries		
Collector	44,450	45,561
Collector Certified Pay	1,000	1,000
Assistant Collector	27,288	27,970
Town Collector Expenses	12,680	12,680
10 Legal Retainer	38,945	39,906
11 Town Clerk-Salary	38,536	39,499
Town Clerk Expenses	3,350	3,350
12 Election and Registration Salaries	8,036	8,237
Election and Registration Expenses	8,900	8,900
13 Conservation Commission	15,405	15,905
14 Planning Board	7,903	8,403
15 Board of Appeals	75	75

16	Procter Hall	2,500	2,500
17	Town Offices-Salaries	86,095	88,122
	Town Office Expenses	91,300	101,300
	Electricity-Town Off., Procter Hall, Fire, Pks & Hiway	69,420	69,420
18	Town Report	6,500	6,500
19	Information Technology	156,000	156,000
	<b>Total General Government</b>	<b>1,294,938</b>	<b>1,290,428</b>

#### PUBLIC SAFETY

20	Police-Salaries	693,045	710,883
	Police Expenses	102,550	102,985
21	Fire Salaries	65,676	82,338
	Fire Expenses	105,000	105,000
	Emergency Medical Response	9,000	9,000
22	Ambulance Service	34,771	146,557
23	Animal Control Salary	5,270	5,402
	Animal Control Expenses	1,000	1,000
24	Building Inspector-Salaries	63,439	64,987
	Building Inspector Expenses	5,675	6,075
25	Gas Inspector-Salary	1,384	1,419
	Gas Inspector Expenses	1,250	1,250
26	Plumbing Inspector-Salary	5,849	5,995
	Plumbing Inspector Expenses	1,250	1,250
27	Wire Inspector-Salary	6,633	6,799
	Wire Inspector Expenses	2,200	2,200
28	Emergency Management	12,865	15,413
29	Tree Warden Salary	2,018	2,069
	Tree Warden Expenses	53,800	53,800
	<b>Total Public Safety</b>	<b>1,172,675</b>	<b>1,324,422</b>

#### EDUCATION

30	Vocational Education	0	0
	<b>Total Vocational Education</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

#### PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES

31	Engineering	0	0
32	Highway Department Salaries	327,569	335,927
	Highway Department Expenses	121,710	121,710
	Highway - Snow and Ice	60,000	60,000
	Highway Machinery	87,500	87,500
	Highway Compactor-Salaries	48,267	51,000
	Highway Compactor Expenses	127,500	127,500
	Highway Cemetery-Salaries	25,932	27,401
	Highway Cemetery Expenses	8,500	8,500
33	Streetlights	45,000	45,000
34	Trash Removal	0	0
35	Sewer Department-Salaries	112,894	115,496
	Sewer Department Expenses	184,800	185,200
36	Water Department -Salaries	111,394	113,996
	Water Department Expenses	125,650	125,650
37	Hydrant Rental	2,450	2,450
	<b>Total Public Works &amp; Facilities</b>	<b>1,389,166</b>	<b>1,407,330</b>

HUMAN SERVICES

38	Board of Health-Salaries	842	842
	Board of Health- Expenses	80	85
	Health Officer-Tri-Town Health	46,568	48,113
39	Visiting Nurses Association	7,719	7,719
40	Mental Health	3,200	3,200
41	Council on Aging-Salaries	35,388	36,110
	Council on Aging Expenses	7,850	7,850
42	Veterans Services-District	48,065	48,432
	<b>Total Human Service</b>	<b>149,712</b>	<b>152,351</b>

CULTURE AND RECREATION

43	Library	165,614	174,075
44	Chime Tower	800	800
45	Parks & Recreation Commission-Salaries	19,500	19,500
	Parks & Recreation Commission Expenses	8,900	11,500
46	Historical Commission	600	600
47	Memorial Day Committee	3,500	3,500
48	Historic District	50	50
49	Historic Preservation Commission	50	50
50	Tourism Promostion		38,000
	<b>Total Culture and Recreation</b>	<b>199,014</b>	<b>248,075</b>

DEBT SERVICE

51	Loan-Interest (Water Plant)	17,025	15,075
	-Principal (Water Plant)	65,000	65,000
	Loan-Interest (Sewer)	45,435	33,895
	-Principal (Sewer)	247,500	255,000
	Admin. Fees	9,046	127,172
	Loan-Interest (Town Offices)	101,325	90,075
	-Principal (Town Offices)	375,000	375,000
	Loan-Interest (Water Project)	37,014	34,786
	-Principal (Water Project)	110,308	112,501
	Loan-Interest (MCWT Tank/Lines)		27,200
	-Principal		72,812
	Bond-Interest (Bridge and Road repair)		100,100
	-Principal		135,000
	<b>Total Debt Service</b>	<b>1,007,653</b>	<b>1,443,616</b>

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

51	Berkshire County Retirement	310,771	329,318
	Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB)	345,000	345,000
	Unemployment Insurance	0	0
	Berkshire County Employees Insurance	672,214	625,623
	<b>Total Employee Benefits</b>	<b>1,327,985</b>	<b>1,299,941</b>

UNCLASSIFIED

52	Insurance	115,000	119,500
	<b>Total Unclassified</b>	<b>115,000</b>	<b>119,500</b>

	<b>Total Recommended</b>	<b>6,656,143</b>	<b>7,285,662</b>
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# Warrant Articles for FY18

1. Choose Officers at ATM	
2. Town Report	
3. Fixed Salary & Compensation for Elected Officials	
4. Operating Budget	7,285,662
5. BHRSD – Operating Budget	2,951,629
6. BHRSD – Capital Budget	119,176
7. Vote on Berkshire Hill School District Regional Agreement	
8. Purchase new pickup truck for Highway Dept.	40,000
9. Vote to authorize and borrow money for Fire Truck	200,000
10. New Roof for Fire Department Main Station	90,000
11. Upgrade Town Offices and Police Department Phone System	15,000
12. Chapter 90 for Roads	199,635
13. Debt Payment from Sewer Available Funds	96,299
14. Inflow and Infiltration Study Sewer Available Fund	30,000
15. Pump Controllers at WWTP Sewer Available Funds	15,000
16. Water Rate Study from Sewer and Water Available Funds	8,600
17. Cleaning of Water Filter Media from Water Available Funds	11,000
18. Inspection and cleaning of clear well from Water Available Funds	4,400
19. Community Preservation Funding	241,515
20. Rest of the River Legal Fee	10,000
21. Cemetery Tree Removal	5,000
22. Board of Selectmen authorization of member appointment	
23. Easement for cemetery road access	
24. Easement for Old town Hall and Church	
25. Easement for National Grid	
26. Article VIII Licensing Public Amusements Bylaw Amendment	
27. Article II Fiscal Reports Bylaw Amendment	
28. Article V Cemetery Bylaw Amendment	
29. Money to Lower the Tax Levy	400,000
30. Raise and Appropriate or transfer funds to Stabilization	
31. Single Payer Health Care non-binding resolution	
32. Non-binding endorsement of General Order 17-01	
33. Petition Article for Trust Policy	
34. Petition Article rescind a part of Article 1 of Special Town Meeting 1/23/17	
35. Other Business	
36. Elections – May 16, 2017	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,722,916</b>

# STOCKBRIDGE TOWN CHARTER

Copy of 1737 Charter



Jonathan Belcher Esquire Captain General and Governour in Chief in and over His Majestys Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England in America TO ALL unto whom these Presents shall come GREETING.

WHEREAS the Great and General Court or Assembly of his Majestys Province of the Massachusetts Bay aforesaid, at their Session held at Boston the seventeenth day of March one thousand seven hundred and thirty five DID give and grant to the Housatannuck Tribe of Indians a Township not exceeding the quantity of six miles Square of land, and Authorized and Impowered John Stoddard, Ebenezer Pomroy and Thomas Ingersole, Esquires, a Committee to lay out the said Township unto the said Indians in upper Housatannuck lying and being above the mountain and upon Housatannuck river, the said Indians to be Subject to the Law of this Province made and passed in the thirteenth year of King William the third Chapter twenty first, with respect to said lands; and Impowered the said Committee to lay out to the Reverend Mr. John Sergeant their minister, and Mr. Timothy Woodbridge their School-master one sixtieth part of said land for each of them and their heirs and assigns; and also to lay out a sufficient quantity of land within said Township to accommodate four English Families that shall Settle the same, to be under the Direction and Disposition of the Committee, and the said Committee were further Impowered to dispose of the lands that were reserved to the said Indians in the Town of Sheffield in order to make Satisfaction so far as the same will go to the Proprietors and owners of the land granted as aforesaid; and were also Impowered to give the Proprietors of upper Housatannuck that live below the mountain an Equivalent in some of the ungranted lands of the Province next adjacent to upper Housatannuck, Sheffield and said granted Town; and the Committee were then further Impowered to make the Proprietors of upper Housatannuck above the mountains an Equivalent in some of the unappropriated land of the Province the same to be a full Satisfaction for such of their lands as were granted to the Housatannuck Tribe as aforesaid; and whereas the Committee Impowered as aforesaid in April seventeen hundred thirty six by a Seuveyor and Chainmen on oath Surveyed and laid out the said Township on both sides of Housatannuck river, and reported their Doings in the premises to the Great and General Court at their Session held the twenty sixth day of May one thousand seven hundred thirty six, the bounds of which are as follow vizt, Beginning at a monument of Stones laid up, East three Degrees fifteen minutes north four hundred and fifty perch from Joakim Vanvalcumburgs house, thence north nine Degrees east fifteen hundred and six perch to a large white ash marked with Stones

about it, thence west nine Degrees north, nineteen hundred and twenty perch to three little hemlocks and a maple marked, on which the Letters N.A. S. D. K. are set, thence South nineteen hundred and twenty perch to a great white oak and black oak marked N. A. thence east nine Degrees south nineteen hundred and twenty perch, thence north nine Degrees east four hundred and fourteen perch to the monument first mentioned.

And whereas the Council and House of Representatives of said Province at their Session held the twenty fourth day of November last by their vote desired me to Issue a Patent under the Publick Seal of the Province to the Housatannuck Tribe of Indians of the Township lately Granted to them by this Court agreeable to the form of the Grant; all which in and by the records of the said General Assembly, reference thereto being had, doth fully appear.

KNOW YE THEREFORE, That I the said JONATHAN BELCHER Esquire Governour agreeable to the above recited Grant and vote pass'd by the Council and assembly respectively, and pursuant to the Power and authority contained and Granted in and by HIS MAJESTYS ROYAL CHARTER to the Governour and General assembly of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay aforesaid HAVE granted ratified and Confirmed, and by these presents DO fully freely and absolutely Grant Ratify and Confirm unto the Housatannuck Tribe of Indians their heirs and assigns The aforesaid Tract of land or Township situate and Described as aforesaid, with and under the Savings and Reservations made to the Reverend Mr. John Sergent minister; Mr. Timothy Woodbridge Schoolmaster; and the lands set off to the four English Families as aforesaid &c, with all the Estate, right Title use Property and interest of the Province aforesaid therein and thereunto TOGETHER with all and Singular the Soils, Swamps, meadows, rivers, rivulets, Ponds, Pools, woods, underwoods, Trees, Timber, Herbage, Feeding, Fishing, Fowling, and Hunting, Rights members Hereditaments, Emoluments, profits, privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging or in any ways appertaining TO HAVE AND TO HOLD, the said Tract of land or Township, with all other the aforesaid premises Emoluments profits privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging with and under the Savings and reservations aforesaid, unto the said Housatannuck Tribe of Indians and to their heirs and assigns TO their use and behoof forever, YIELDING rendering and paying therefor unto our Sovereign Lord KING GEORGE the Second His Heirs and Successors one fifth part of all Gold and Silver oar, and precious Stones, which from time to time and at all times hereafter shall happen to be found gotten had or obtained in any of the said lands and premises, or within any part or parcel thereof in lieu and stead of all rents, Services, Dues, Duties, and Demands whatsoever for the said lands and premises and for every part and parcel thereof. IN TESTIMONY Whereof I the said JONATHAN BELCHER Esquire Governour have Signed these Presents, and caused the Publick Seal of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay aforesaid to be hereunto affixed Dated at Boston aforesaid this Seventh day of May-1737; In the Tenth year of HIS MAJESTYS Reign.

(signed) J Belcher

By his Excellencys command  
J. Willard Secty.

## **Notes:**

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