

Town of Deerfield



Photo taken by Carol Rogalski

Annual Town Report for the Year Ending December 31, 2022

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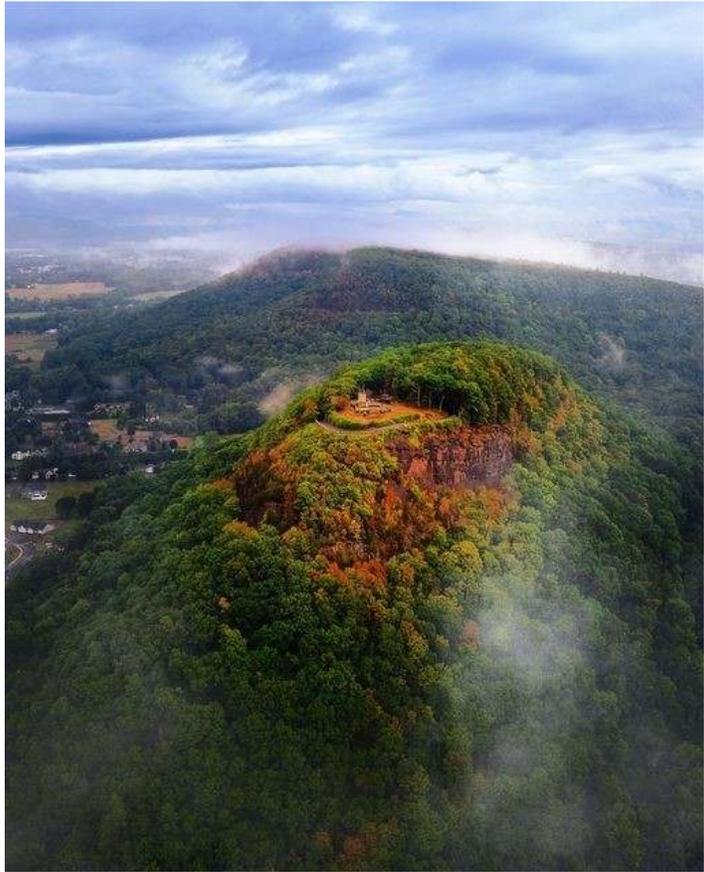


Photo provided by John Nove

ELECTED OFFICIALS

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Francis (Skip) Sobieski, Chair	Term Expires: 2023
Charles Shattuck III	Term Expires: 2024
Frank J. Leone	Term Expires: 2025

CONSTABLES

Sharyn Paciorek	Term Expires: 2025
Adam Sokoloski	Term Expires: 2023
Raymond Burniske	Term Expires: 2024

DEERFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Carey Etchells, Chair	Term Expires: 2025
Ken Cuddeback, Vice Chair	Term Expires: 2023
Erica Jacob, Secretary	Term Expires: 2024
Mary Ramon, Member	Term Expires: 2024
Anne Curtis, Member	Term Expires: 2025

ELECTOR UNDER OLIVER SMITH WILL

Leslie Dwight	Term Expires: 2023
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FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Robert Halla, Chair	Term Expires: 2023
William Smith, Vice Chair	Term Expires: 2025
Christopher White, Secretary	Term Expires: 2025
Olivia Leone, Member, Deerfield	Term Expires: 2024
Philp Kantor, Member, Conway	Term Expires: 2023
Mary Ramon, Member, Deerfield	Term Expires: 2023
Keith McFarland, Member, Sunderland	Term Expires: 2023
Melissa Novak, Member, Deerfield	Term Expires: 2023
Lyn Roberts, Member, Sunderland	Term Expires: 2023
Damien Fosnot, Member, Deerfield	Term Expires: 2025
Jared Campbell, Member, Conway	Term Expires: 2025

PLANNING BOARD

Board Members:

Rachel Blain, Clerk	Term Expires: 2024
Emily Gaylord	Term Expires: 2023
Andrea Leibson	Term Expires: 2024
Denise Mason, Vice Chair	Term Expires: 2023
Kathleen Sylvester	Term Expires: 2024
Kathleen Watroba	Term Expires: 2025
Analee Wulfkuhle, Chair	Term Expires: 2023

Some of our broader goals:

- Drawing greater attention to the impact of current zoning on development and housing
- Increasing housing in a responsible and responsive manner
- Creating a forum where public voices are heard while balancing projects that come before the Planning Board

A persistent theme of this year has been the need for a town planner who can work with town administration, boards, and committees regularly to be alert to the ways that Deerfield can maintain healthy growth and continue to be a safe and orderly place for people to live.

The Planning Board modulates between being responsive, e.g. the Treehouse project or resident concerns pertaining to stormwater management at the Sugarloaf Condominiums, and proactive efforts in the review of zoning bylaws and careful revision of accessory dwelling bylaws.

Members dedicate their time to serving on this board and on other boards and subcommittees as representatives of the Planning Board. The PB is blessed with strong connections with the Selectboard, the Ad Hoc Senior Housing Committee, the Connecting Community Initiative (CCI) committee and the Open Space Committee. It is important because the efforts of those boards affect the work of the PB.

Month-by-Month Highlights for 2022

January

We held a Public Hearing and subsequently approved the transfer of the existing decisions regarding the operation of a marijuana establishment on Mill River Road; Site Plan Review, Stormwater Management, and Special Permit from previous operators, SunMass, to the new operators Ember Gardens. We also opened a Public Hearing for the construction of a town park at 135 North Main Street, which would be continued for several meetings, through to May 25. Another topic on the agenda included various concerns from the residents at the Sugarloaf Condominiums.

February

In addition to continuing the Public Hearing pertaining to the construction of a town park at 135 North Main Street, we endorsed two ANR applications. At the meeting we discussed priorities for the coming year, notably updating forms and fees, reviewing and revising accessory dwelling regulations, reviewing zoning regulations for the Center Village, and reviewing the town's Master Plan.

March

There were two meetings this month as we prepared for Annual Town Meeting to make a request for funds to support town planning or to create a position within the town administration for a town planner. We had another ANR to endorse and we convened and continued the Public Hearing for the construction of a town park at 135 North Main Street. We received approval from the Massachusetts Attorney General for Article 8, the municipal town frontage change.

April

We convened and continued the Public Hearing for the construction of a town park at 135 North Main Street.

May

This month was busy with three meetings. At the first meeting, we held a Public Hearing for a Special Permit for a proposed driveway that exceeds 500 feet in length. We heard a presentation concerning the Healthy Soils Initiative and we adopted updated fees for PB applications. In the latter two meetings, we convened and continued the Public Hearing for the construction of a town park at 135 North Main Street; on May 25, we voted to approve the town's applications for Site Plan Review and Stormwater Management.

June

The resignation of the Assistant to the Building Inspector left us without dedicated administrative support. Jennifer Gannett who was already supporting the PB stepped in, as did Alex Herchenreder. We reviewed the recommended fee schedule in preparation for a Public Hearing later in the summer. An active subcommittee, initiated by the PB with participation from other boards and agents of the town, prepared an amended version of Accessory Dwelling Units in preparation for a Public Hearing and presentation at 2023 Annual Town Meeting. Kathy Watroba and Ann Mary Cloutier are re-elected to the Board in May and Chair Wulfkuhle and Vice-Chair Mason are re-elected in their respective roles.

July

Ken Comia, Deputy Director, Land Use and Environment, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission is engaged to review application forms on behalf of the PB. We received a petition from some residents from Sugarloaf Condominiums, (Citizen's Petition) concerning possible Stormwater Management issues.

August

We met to approve the plan for walking trails and bridge at Treehouse, Phase III-A. Reports from the Accessory Dwelling subcommittee continued, and we approved funding to finalize bylaw regulations. A peer reviewer was engaged to review the Sugarloaf Condominiums stormwater engineering. The PB incurred cost, as there was not a bond included in the decision to cover such costs.

September

We convened and closed the Public Hearing for the revised fee schedule and approved it. An engineer present at the hearing applauded the move toward greater clarity of this document for potential developers. The PB heard from the peer reviewer on the Stormwater concerns at the Sugarloaf Condominiums and accepted “as built plans” as presented thus far, requiring the peer reviewer's letter to be included into the Condominiums at Sugarloaf Site Plan Review record. Another ANR was endorsed. The PB commits to a review of Chapter 179, Zoning Bylaws, seeking funding from a District Local Technical Assistance grant. The impact of Assistant Town Administrator, Jennifer Gannett's resignation is mitigated by the hiring of Amy Hahn in the office of the Building Inspector.

October

Emily Gaylord joins the PB to fill the seat left by Ann Mary Cloutier who resigned after many years of service to the town in this capacity. The PB is asked by the Town Administrator to review the articles on the town warrant pertaining to municipal acquisitions and improvements.

November

A Public Hearing was held to review an application by Veterinary Emergency and Specialty Hospital (V.E.S.H.) to expand parking at their facility. The PB reviewed the Site Plan for SPR and the Stormwater application as well. The PB approved the RFP for a peer review of the application. The cost for peer reviews fall to the applicant.

December

Sugarloaf Condominium developer attended to clarify what needs to be done for the PB to sign the Certificate of Completion. The ADU subcommittee presented a draft for review in advance of sending it to be reviewed by our town attorney in preparation for Public Hearing set for February. We initiated our work with the FRCOG as they consider the scope of the project of reviewing Chapter 179 bylaws. Ken Comia, consultant to the PB from Pioneer Valley Planning Commission is reviewing the fee schedule as well as applications for Special Permit, Stormwater, Subdivision, and ANR.

SELECTBOARD/BOARD OF HEALTH

Trevor D. McDaniel; Chair; term ending 2023
Carolyn Shores Ness; term ending 2024
Tim Hilchey; term ending 2025

This past year, we found ourselves easing out of the Coronavirus Pandemic that had taken center stage and a lot of our time over the last 3 years. We are happy to report that many of our residents have taken advantage of the opportunities we have been able to provide for vaccines and flu shots. Our community has been extremely proactive in protecting themselves from the various viruses. We are forever grateful for your efforts and collaboration to work together with your neighbors and local government agencies to tackle this issue head on. The town is in very good shape to handle any other crisis of this magnitude in the future based on how we all came together to learn, prepare, and train. Our thoughts are with those in our community who have lost loved ones during this pandemic.

This has been a transition year for our boards and staff, moving away from the health crisis and back to the regular functions and priorities that have had to take a backseat due to capacity and bandwidth. We all are excited to work on the projects that will make improvements and have a positive impact on the residents of Deerfield.

We began the year working to ensure we have the correct job descriptions and staff for several of our departments. We started the year with the need to replace our Chief Wastewater Operator and to search for operators to work under that Chief. We need to thank the town of Amherst and our engineering firm DPC for helping us get through an abrupt departure and lack of staff in Wastewater operations. We cannot thank them enough for stepping up to help a fellow town in a pinch and for DPC for supplying staff and working with us to overhaul our operations manuals and procedures to assist new staff once hired. I feel we are in strong shape now with a new chief and staff to run our plant. We need to extend a heartfelt thank you to Gary Benoit who single-handedly kept both plants running and worked nonstop to ensure we met permit, and everything was reported immediately. He truly went above and beyond to ensure the safety of the water discharged from both plants during this transition.

The South Deerfield Plant is closing in on Phase 1 of our upgrade and we are close to approving Phase 2, which will complete the upgrade at the plant. We are on budget and hope to be on time but with the lead times and interruptions that COVID has caused many infrastructure projects across the country, we are working hard to get all the materials needed to complete the project. Electrical components are the most challenging items to secure. Waterline Industries, our contractor for the project have been wonderful and the coordination between the Town, USDA, PCP and Waterline could not be smoother for such a large project. We hold monthly progress meetings at the plant, and everything is going very well.



We are also turning our attention to the Old Deerfield Wastewater Treatment Plant and are working on plans and alternatives for the rehabilitation of that plant and the various pipes and manholes that feed that system along with some collections infrastructure for the South Deerfield Plant. We will have more to discuss in next year's report on that plant.

The other department that transitioned this year was the Clerk, Treasurer and Tax Collector. Years ago, this position was combined through legislation into one position. Once we found ourselves with a vacancy in that position, we decided to take a hard look at how all three positions have changed over the years, and it was evident that we needed to request special legislation through Senator Joanne Comerford and Representative Natalie Blais to split this position up so that we could hire a Town Clerk and a Treasurer/Tax Collector. Through changes to election laws and the demands that have been put on the treasurer and tax collector, we found the need split the jobs and rework the job descriptions so that they match the needs of the town and departments moving forward. We cannot thank Senator Comerford and Rep. Blais enough for making this a priority so that we could move forward quickly to hire for these positions.

The beginning of the year also finds us, as usual, deep in budget season. We work closely with the finance committee, the Capital Planning Committee, and our Finance Director and Accountant Brenda Hill to finalize a budget to present at annual town meeting. We would like to thank Chair Julie Chalfant and her board for working tirelessly and collaboratively with our boards to put forward a budget, which meets the needs of the town. She has worked hard to create financial indicators that are easy to understand. The residents now feel that they can make a more informed decision at town meetings.

We are also grateful to report the continued expansion of our commercial and industrial sectors in town. Our boards and staff worked hard to secure the purchase and sale of the final two parcels of land in the old Oxford Pickle factory to Nupro LLC. Nupro LLC is a local Plastics/Urethane Manufacturing company that chose Deerfield for its home to expand, invest, and build a brand new 18-million-dollar plant with plans to employ over 80 high-paying skilled jobs right in the center of South Deerfield. The town was able to negotiate a Tax incentive financial agreement with Nupro to allow us to secure the deal to bring Nupro to this community. This was approved at the Annual Town Meeting and we are grateful for the committee's help.



This is coming on the heels of Tree House Brewing opening in town in the old Channing L Bete factory and driving many people to our region to spend money and enjoy all that Deerfield has to offer. Along with other ventures in the planning stages, we feel very good about the future of Deerfield's commercial and Industrial tax base.

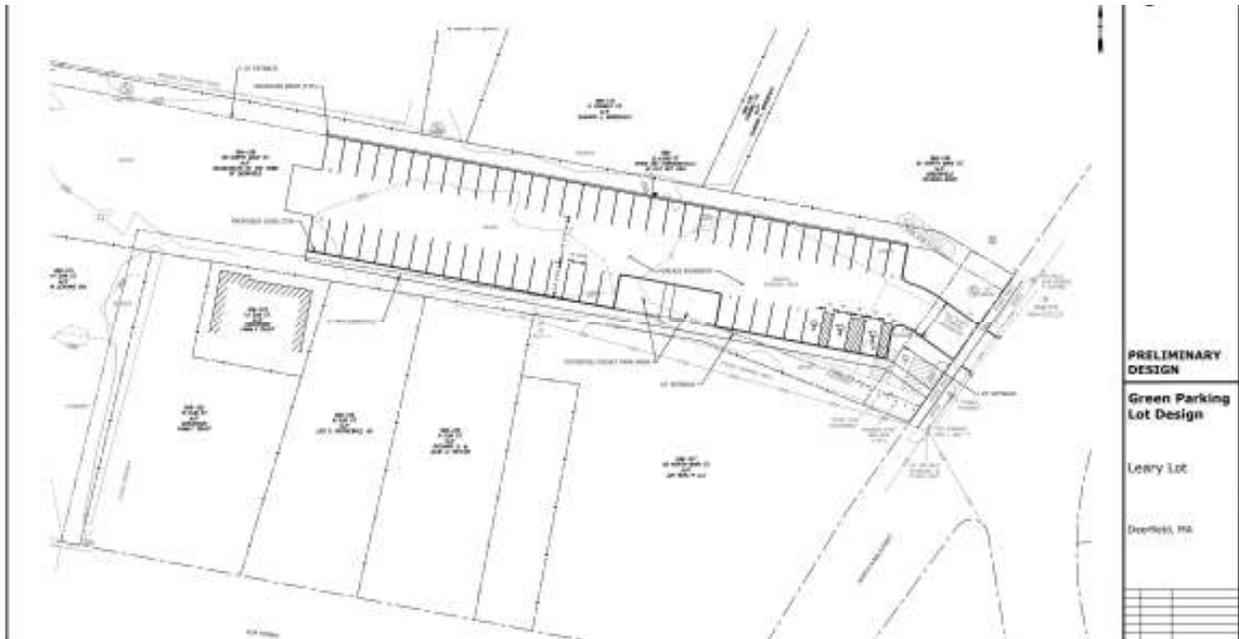
In February, we began the transition away from the Franklin Regional Council of Governments Cooperative Health Service and to solidify our memorandum of understanding with Greenfield, Montague, Turners Falls and Sunderland under the Public Health Excellence Grant to provide contact-tracing services and hire our own public health nurse. We eventually hired Cindy Majewski as our town nurse and are thrilled with the connections she has made with our seniors and residents in the short time she has been here. We want to give a huge thank you to Lisa White, the nurse under the FRCOG's Health program for many years of fantastic service to our town and region.

Our boards have also approved the plan of the town buildings advisory committee to move forward with a CPA Application to look at the rehabilitation of the 1888 (Old Grammar School/Senior Center) to see if it is a good idea to move most of the town hall operations there after it is remodeled. Meetings and public input will take place throughout the year to see if this is a plan worth moving forward.

April kicked off with the resumption of the Deerfield Climate Change Forum and Deerfield 2030 at the Frontier Regional School. This forum was suspended for a couple of years due to COVID restrictions but was back in full gear with an entire day of presentations and educational activities about ways to make a local difference, yard by yard, to reduce our impact on the climate and to help relieve the adverse impacts we feel locally. We hope to keep the momentum going when time and funding is available to ensure this important topic is at the forefront of the minds of everyone, as we make broader decisions about local infrastructure and decisions made by each of us personally, to help leave a better planet for our children.

April ended with another very successful Annual Town Meeting and successful negotiations with the police union. We have secured a new contract that is beneficial to the town and our valued employees. The budget work between the CIPC and Finance Committee and the Selectboard also produced a list of

capital priorities that the Selectboard voted to fund with the first tranche of our ARPA funding. This was instrumental in allowing us to meet some critical capital needs without straining the budget or adding to the tax burden. This ARPA funding has been a lifesaver for our community and helped to replace the loss in funding due to the pandemic. We began work on one of the projects, which will be to create downtown parking and green space at the old Leary lot, which is between the Elm Street and the Greenfield Savings Bank and leads west toward Hamshaw Lumber and BBC Brewing. We are in talks with Hamshaw to swap parcels of land, which would give us access out on to Elm Street to create a one-way parking lot. Below is an initial plan done with MVP grant money. We intend to expand this plan to extend the lot and drive out on to Elm St. We will publish a new plan when complete.



We also worked with the Department of Environmental Protection and our Engineers DPC Engineering to develop our SSO Notification Plan to have a system in place to notify related and impacted parties in case we ever have an emergency discharge of wastewater into the Deerfield or Connecticut River. We need to thank the partnership for a successful plan and all requirements being met.

In the beginning of May, we held a press conference with US Representative Jim McGovern on the Stillwater Bridge to announce a bill that McGovern introduced to Congress, which would designate the Deerfield River a “Wild and Scenic River”. This bill would begin the funding to study the river for this designation through the US National Park Service.



We also learned from Mass DOT that the Stillwater Bridge, that traverses the Deerfield River, has received funding for total replacement and work will begin in the next few years. The bridge will continue to stay open during the project. We thank Mass DOT for this work that is vital to the region and our farmers.

In June, we continued discussions concerning the Old Deerfield Wastewater plant repair and replacement along with moving ahead with Phase 2 of the South Deerfield Plant. We continued throughout the year to work with our non-profit partners to develop alternatives and to select the best plan to move forward with on the Old Deerfield Plant.

In mid-May, the Board held a conference with the Commonwealth Legislative Delegation and Staff, representatives from Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development and representatives from the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation to discuss the Deerfield Campus Plan. This has been a push from many boards that are part of the Connecting Communities Initiative to improve our downtown and the campus of the four properties that are the Library, the Town Hall, the 1888 Building and the Old Congregational Church. We have been lobbying for earmarks and funding grants to possibly move town hall into the 1888 building with an addition, rehabilitate the church for a senior center, create senior housing, and install a geothermal system that could serve all buildings on the campus. Much more information can be found in other reports on this project. We thank all our partners for their help in moving this project forward.

We voted to accept the Opioid Settlement Funds that are part of the national settlements, which our attorney general fought hard for, so we can begin to use the funds to educate residents of the dangers of this epidemic and to try to reverse the damage caused. We plan to use funding so that all our officers and EMS carry Narcan and find other ways to save lives. A lot of work will continue for years as this program covers a 12-year span.

In July, we continued our discussions and held a meeting with MassDOT to address several issues in town. We are in discussions to accept Sugarloaf Street, Park Street, and Conway Street over from the state. This is a large and complex topic and we are keenly aware of the implications. We are working to ensure we have an understanding of the condition of the drainage and to see if we can get the State to bring the infrastructure up to speed and get the sidewalks done on Sugarloaf Street. More to be discussed in other meeting on this. We also discussed Rt 5 & 10 drainage along Richardson's Candy

Kitchen and Bittersweet when they upgrade the roadway. We discussed the town common construction and how that is affected by the State owning the roads and cross walks. We have lobbied the State to add the Dry Bridge over the railroad tracks on North Main Street and we discussed river access and the heavy summer traffic on the Deerfield River. These topics will be discussed at length this coming year as we tackle the large and complex issues associated with each.



In August, we approved the contract for the 1888 Building Owners Project Manager as we begin the process of looking to rehabilitate the building. We also approved a contract for grant writing support to the town as we work on several funding opportunities to help the town move these projects forward.

We began work on a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement. We want to thank members of the community and the Deerfield Inclusion Group for bringing this forward - keeping this topic in front of all we do as town government. Work on this began and will continue into the future and as you will see in next year's report, the development of an Ad Hoc Committee to develop a Human Rights Committee.

Below is the statement the board published with the help of the Ad Hoc Committee:

The Deerfield Selectboard unequivocally condemns racism, discrimination and hate in all its forms, and we commit to work diligently to ensure that our town is welcoming and safe for everyone. As elected leaders, we recognize our responsibility to understand and address all racial inequality. We will encourage diversity of voices and representation on Deerfield town boards and committees. As Selectboard members, we pledge to strive each day to help foster a community where all individuals can live happily, free of fear and with equal access to opportunities, regardless of race, religion, ethnic background, national origin, ability, gender identity or sexual orientation.

At the end of August, we learned the South County Senior Center was awarded a \$100,000 earmark from Senator Jo Comeford. We plan to use this funding for the feasibility study or the actual work needed to build ADA bathrooms and update the building to allow ADA access.

Over the fall, the Board worked with Peter Thomas and Pioneer Valley Memorial Association to begin the transfer of the historical records in the 1888 building between the town and PVMA. These records will be deposited and available at the PVMA Library. We needed to get them to an environmentally safe space for preservation and access research. We want to thank Peter Thomas for making this possible by cleaning the records prior to the move.

For fall Special Town meeting, we held public hearings to update the Deerfield Sewer Bylaws and began to introduce work on updated regulations. This work also required a request for special legislation from the state to update the Acts of 1935. At the town meeting, we passed the articles to move regulations out of the bylaw and in to regulations the commissioners can hold hearings on and vote without needing to take any change in fees to town meeting. The town voted to keep one district at this time. More information will be published later in the year when the Attorney General accepts our changes, and we vote on the full regulations.

At the end of September, the board held a Special Expedited Permit Hearing for Nupro LLC. This hearing was held to review the application of Nupro LLC to build a 124,680 sqft building to consolidate their business in the last two lots they purchased in the old Oxford Pickle factory on Merrigan Way.

In October, we held the South County Flu and COVID Clinic. This was held again at the Deerfield DPW and was a great success with 778 vaccines administered. We thank all our partners who pulled together to vaccinate so many of our residents.



After the town meeting, we approved the ballot question on the debt exclusion for the Tilton Library Project. The project will begin with a review of the plans. We want to thank our state legislators as they have been working hard to lobby the State for additional funding to help with the increase in cost to build the library due to the impact of COVID-related inflation and the costs of infrastructure projects.

In November each year, we hold a hearing, which dictates the Sewer Rate for the following year. This year we voted for a sewer rate of \$18.84 per 1000 gallons for FY 2023. Please see the chart below, which explains the revenues and expenses for the following year. This rate increase will cover the yearly operating budget along with loan and debt payments for the upgrades and to cover the cost of the support vehicle that was voted on at the town meeting.

Table 1
Proposed FY2023 Sewer Rates
Town of Deerfield, MA
 Prepared on October 20, 2022



Updated FY2022 Expenses (Prepared on October 28, 2021)	
	\$ 1,724,843.00
FY2022 Sewer Rate	
FY2022 Sewer Use Charge (per 1,000 gallons)	\$ 16.38
FY2023 Expenses	
Salaries/Wages	\$ 344,107.00
Operating Expenses	\$ 776,133.00
Debt Service	\$ 585,000.00
Indirect Costs	\$ 69,000.00
Total =	\$ 1,774,240.00
FY2023 Revenues	
User Fees	\$ 1,474,240.00
Retained Earnings	\$ 300,000.00
Investment Income	\$ -
Total =	\$ 1,774,240.00
Proposed FY2023 Sewer Rate (Based on Approved FY2023 Budget)	
Proposed FY2023 Sewer Use Charge (per 1,000 gallons)	\$ 16.85
Percent Increase from FY2022 =	2.9%
Additional FY2023 Expenses	
Increased Sludge Disposal Costs	\$ 34,532.00
Additional ODWWTF Planning (thru September 30, 2022)	\$ 24,225.00
Operational Support Vehicle	\$ 40,000.00
Estimated Future ODWWTF Planning (Balance of FY2023)	\$ 15,000.00
Total =	\$ 113,757.00
Recommended Minimum FY2023 Sewer Rate (Based on Approved FY2023 Budget Plus Additional Expenses)	
Proposed FY2023 Sewer Use Charge (per 1,000 gallons)	\$ 17.83
Percent Increase from FY2022 =	9.5%
Proposed FY2023 Sewer Rate (With Additional Contribution to Retained Earnings)	
Additional Contribution to Retained Earnings	\$ 95,572.45
Proposed FY2023 Sewer Use Charge (per 1,000 gallons)	\$ 18.84
Percent Increase from FY2022 =	15.0%

We finished out the year digging back into budget season and holding a tax classification hearing with the Deerfield Board of Assessors to set the tax rate for FY2023. The Assessors recommended it and the Selectboard agreed to, voted a Single Rate again this year, and set the rate at \$14.97 per \$1000.

We conducted a dog hearing on December 14, 2022 for a dog that resides at 357 Greenfield Road. After a hearing where the facts were heard and witnesses sworn in and testified, the board found the dog to be neither a nuisance nor dangerous.

We ended 2022 with an amazing New Year 350th Jubilee held at the dining common at Deerfield Academy. This jubilee was the first of many programs and events planned to celebrate Deerfield's 350th year anniversary.

Thank you for your trust in us. We know we do not always make perfect decisions but with the knowledge, we have at the time we make the best decisions we can, always with an eye on our history and the future to build a better town for our next generation.

Respectfully submitted by,

Trevor D. McDaniel Chair
 Carolyn Shores Ness Chair of Board of Health
 Tim Hilchey Clerk

TOWN MODERATOR

Daniel Graves

Term Expires 2023

The current Moderator is Daniel F. Graves, Esq. and can be reached by email at dgraveslaw@gmail.com. He has served as Deerfield's elected Town Moderator since 2016.

The Moderator does not set the agenda or articles for Town Meeting or serve in any other office or position within the Town to maintain neutrality. The Moderator serves as the presiding officer at the Annual Town Meeting and any Special Town Meetings, regulating the proceedings, deciding all questions of order and making public declaration of all votes.

The Moderator's goal is to conduct the Town Meeting in a civil, fair, and expeditious manner, allowing all points of view a fair hearing and voice and to balance those voices with the volume of articles often before the Meeting in any given year.

While the Selectboard calls Town Meetings and Special Town Meetings, the Selectboard members are only equal voices at the meeting where all citizens are entitled to a voice and vote.

The Town of Deerfield has adopted a set of rules under a publication called "Town Meeting Time." The Moderator enforces the rules using that publication as his guideline.

The Moderator also makes all appointments to the Finance Committee and makes other various appointments on a variety of boards.

The Moderator invites any citizen to reach out to him at any time with any interest in serving on Town Boards or with questions regarding process or proceedings at any time.

Daniel F. Graves, Moderator

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

350th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Over the course of 2022, the Steering Committee has made steady progress towards planning events for Deerfield's 350th anniversary. The Friends of Deerfield (FoD), an organization established to take on the fundraising necessary to support this yearlong event, received their 501C3 certificate from the IRS in January. A website was created. An active campaign to raise funds began in the following months. The Steering Committee and FoD are currently working together to identify, plan, facilitate, assist, and fund programs throughout the year. Additional financial support was also voted at town meeting in October.

It is noted that both the Steering Committee and FoD comprise core groups of fewer than 20 extremely hard-working individuals, even though numerous requests for residents to volunteer have been made at town meeting and through various media. We hope that others will step forwards to assist with individual events and make this yearlong celebration in 2023 a rousing success.

Organized by the Steering Committee's Parade Working Group and FoD, the highlights of next summer's events will occur on June 17 and 18 when a parade, fireworks and a chicken barbeque will be held, accompanied by musical and other activities between show-case events. Events will take place in both South Deerfield and Old Deerfield. See the events calendar at www.deerfield350.org for particulars.

In 2022, a contest took place for local elementary and high school students to create a Pictorial Postmark Cancellation stamp for both of our town zip codes. The winners are Ainsley Southergill (age 10) for the South Deerfield postmark and Brooke Charest (age 11) for the Old Deerfield postmark. A rollout of the cancellation stamps and a recognition ceremony will be held on May 6, as part of the 2023 Founders' Day event.

A commemorative cake with 350 lit candles will provide a beacon for our anniversary celebrations. It is located in front of the South Deerfield fire station, at the junction of Route 116 and Routes 5 & 10. Twenty-five feet in diameter at its base, five tiers high and topped with a large candle and Deerfield logo, the cake will remain lit each night until early November, when it will be moved to Leverett to help that town celebrate its 250th birthday.

Previously used by Whately, the giant cake was taken apart on November 5 and moved to Deerfield where it was assembled the following Saturday on November 12. This could not have happened without the efforts of generous volunteers and local businesses. Whately volunteers included Keith Bardwell and Wayne Hutkowski, along with Deerfield volunteers Fred Beckta (Project Manager), Aaron Clark, Jason Clark, Theodore Hanks, Michael Phillips, and Peter & Marie Thomas all worked to disassemble the cake. The Deerfield site was prepared and Kevin Scarborough (Road Superintendent) and crewmembers Chris Miller, Jason Miller, Kevin Kolakoski, Michael Kolakoski, Brandon Sevigne, and Brian Chyz laid a gravel pad. The assembly team included Fred Beckta, Jason and Aaron Clark, David Dacyczyn, Tim Hilchey, Sean Keller, Michael Phillips, and Peter and Marie Thomas (photographer and cookie maker). Brian Goodridge from USI and Justin Galenski of Galenski Farms donated the vehicles and expertise to transport the cake.

The cake lighting at dusk on January 1 was preceded by a recognition ceremony in the South Deerfield Fire District training room, with opening remarks by Trevor McDaniel (Chair of Selectboard), a video recording the history of the cake by Jon Boschen, a slide show of the cake being taken down and reconstructed and a salute to volunteers was presented by Peter Thomas. This teamwork is a great example of what it takes to be a citizen. There will be many more volunteer opportunities for anyone who wants to help with the celebrations.

The grand kickoff for our anniversary year was the Jubilee Dinner and Dance held at Deerfield Academy on December 31. Beth Karas was Master of Ceremonies, brief presentations were given by Jennifer Remillard (President of FoD), Trevor McDaniel (Chair of the Selectboard, and Liz Coldwind Santana-Kiser (Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Chaubunagungamaug Band of Nipmuck Indians) before being served a scrumptious and elegant dinner by Hillside Organic Catering. The O-Tones provided the music for those of the roughly 200 attendees who could dance to midnight. A truly memorable time was had by all. (See www.friendsofdeerfield.org for a list of sponsors.)

The Steering Committee's History Working Group is coordinating with other entities to support and advertise events that involve local and regional history and to sponsor activities that commemorate both Deerfield's and Northfield's 350th anniversaries. Cooperating organizations include Historic Deerfield, the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, Northfield's 350th committee, Deerfield Historical Commission, Turners Falls Battlefield Project, Tilton Library, *Our Museum of Industrial Heritage*, and the Pioneer Valley Historical Network.

While understanding the legacy of Old Deerfield village and its families from its initial settlement is important, looking back at the Native American presence on the land, exploring the history of other parts of town, the commercial, agricultural and residential growth of South Deerfield, and the arrival and settling of numerous immigrant families throughout town, is also essential to fully grasp where we have come from as a community, who we are today, and allow us to better plan for the future. To address such varied subjects, many of the scheduled talks in a monthly speaker series to be held at Frontier and at Historic Deerfield this year will specifically focus on Native Americans and immigrant histories and stories. Various other initiatives are underway.

- Creation of an **Oral History and Deep Listening Program** was enthusiastically supported by the Selectboard and initial funds for training and implementation were authorized by the Steering Committee. Nine volunteers have been trained in the techniques of conducting oral interviews by Michael and Carrie Kline of *Talking Across the Lines*, long-time professionals in the field. Over twenty interviews had been completed with elderly residents by year's end. Interviews will continue throughout the year. These will be highlighted in November 2023.
- **Family History Program** – If there is interest, a group of experienced researchers will be assembled to train residents how to explore their own family histories using various approaches - genealogy, photographs; land and house through deeds/land records.
- **Remembering Deerfield, People, Places and Events** - The 350th History Working Group is inviting residents to share up to 10 photos of their favorite Deerfield memories. Photos will be scanned and included in an exhibit later this year. Sign-ups are available at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0948A5AD2BA6FAC70-remembering>

- ***This is Deerfield 2023*** - In the early 1900s - the Howes brothers, professional photographers from Ashfield and Greenfield, took photos of families standing in front of their houses, creating a great snapshot of Deerfield in the first decade of the 20th century. This collection has inspired us to invite residents to take photos of themselves in front of their residences. It need not be a historic house. This will capture the essence of Deerfield in 2023 - a gift to the future to freeze Deerfield in time. Digital photos should be sent to deerfieldstories2023@gmail.com. Include names, addresses, date taken and any other information you think interesting (date of construction, ages of participants, etc.). Photos may be published in an online gallery or printed to create a memory book to be submitted to the library and Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association.
- Sponsored by FoD, a ***Time Capsule*** has been constructed and is ready for use. It is 24" long, by 18" wide and high. Residents may submit ideas for items to include to Rocky Foley at rfoley8439@comcast.net.

Members of the Steering Committee -- Peter A. Thomas (Chair), Kelly Charest, Holly Lankowski, Diane Martin, Carolyn Shores-Ness, and Jay Stryker -- **hope to see you all throughout the year.**

AD HOC SENIOR HOUSING COMMITTEE

Members:

Lili Dwight, Chair
 Carolyn Shores Ness, Member
 Pam Predmore, Member
 Jennifer Remillard, Member
 Analee Wulfkuhle, Member

The Ad Hoc Senior Housing Committee meets on a *weekly* basis and is making considerable progress towards creating affordable housing for Deerfield seniors. Also in our priorities, we have worked diligently to be collaborative with other Boards and committees (e.g. Connecting Communities Initiative/CCI) in order to achieve Deerfield-wide goals.

Specifically, we have:

- Completed the market survey that demonstrated strong interest in two-bedroom affordable and subsidized senior housing. We had a much lower return rate this time (10%) than in 2012 (30%), presumably because:

1. The survey was confused with the Senior Center survey
2. Due to fiscal constraints, FRCOG limited us to an online survey, which may have been difficult for some of our older adults to complete. We tried to mitigate this by:
 - a. Holding multiple supported sessions with laptops at the Senior Center and the Senior picnic
 - b. Printing paper copies and placing them in Town Hall
 - c. Posting on Deerfield Now

- Applied for the Complete Neighborhoods grant for support in:
 - Municipal Campus design services for cohesive design (\$40-\$50K)
 - Support in Elm Circle work to retain affordable workforce housing in Deerfield (up to \$30K)

- Completed the senior housing demographic and market analysis, which determined:
 - Need:
 - Over 32% of our population is 55+.
 - The age group projected to have the most significant growth (30.2%) is 55-74+.
 - Both our renters and homeowners are “rent burdened,” i.e., 40.8% of homeowners pay more than 50% of their income for housing (“severely rent burdened”); 40.8% of renters pay more than 30% of their income for housing (“rent burdened”).
 - Demand:
 - Wait times for affordable housing in the Valley are 6 months to 2 years or more.
 - The high occupancy and long wait times demonstrate immediate demand for additional affordable housing in our Study Area.
 - None of the existing / competing Affordable Developments contains two-bedroom units at the income level our community survey indicates we need.

- Initiated site evaluation assessment work:
 - Wetlands delineation
 - Fire Flow tests for Conway and North Main Street
 - Flagged utilities (sewer, gas, electric, water) on the Municipal Campus
 - Documenting and mapping the utilities on the Municipal Campus

- Upcoming:
 - Continuing to work with CCI and the CCI Municipal Campus sub-committee to support the “campus” development with senior housing as an integral component
 - Applying for the next round of CPC money to:
 - Complete the campus physical survey and documentation
 - Develop multiple site and building proposals
 - Develop a plan for, and engage in, Community Outreach
 - Working with the Planning Board in support of Accessory Dwelling Units
 - Identifying sites for smaller cluster housing
 - Working with existing subsidized and affordable properties to retain our good-standing in order to qualify for State and Federal money

AD HOC TOWN COMMON COMMITTEE

The Ad Hoc Town Common Committee of volunteers has been working over the last six years to realize this project, collaborating with Berkshire Design Group.

The plan:

- Aligns improved walkways on the Common with crosswalks for increased safety and visibility for pedestrians; it places a landing area at the main four-way intersection for a safe and welcoming entry to the Common.
- Improves access for people with disabilities.
- Shifts one war monument slightly to make space for the landing area.
- Adds more seating options with durable, historically accurate benches throughout.
- Makes the Common 10% larger for more green space downtown with the relocation of three parking spots along Sugarloaf Street to the Leary Lot.
- Preserves the historical look of the fountain center, making it safer with a surrounding seating wall (reusing the existing stones), reducing the depth of the water, and adding a recirculating pump, conserving water.
- Adds historically accurate ballards to the entryways, recalling the Common of the 19th Century.
- Creates enlarged plaza space around the fountain to include additional seating and the potential for larger gatherings.
- Installs native plantings throughout with drip irrigation for lower maintenance.

Voters at the Town of Deerfield's April 25, 2022, Annual Town Meeting voted to allocate \$350,000 of Community Preservation Act funds toward the project, which would meet the full estimated cost of the project. The Town is currently working with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to iron out the details of road crossings, as the state owns Sugarloaf Street and Park Street, two of three sides of the triangle of roadways that frame the Town Common.

Dozens of downtown businesses (Deerfield Pharmacy, Giannifig's, Ciesluk's, Primo's, Coldwell Banker, BBC, CISA, etc.), as well as individuals and town boards and committees, signed letters of support for this project.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE

Members:

Mark Brennan (Chair)

Ken Cuddeback

Denise Mason

Albert "Skip" Olmstead

Carolyn Shores Ness

Francis "Skip" Sobieski

The Deerfield Capital Improvement Planning Committee (CIPC) is composed of Deerfield residents and is charged with organizing and considering capital requests from the Town's departments. These requests may be for equipment purchases, vehicles, building upgrades, or feasibility studies. We research, consider, and debate the merit of these requests. Our recommendations on the merits of capital requests are made to the Finance Committee, the Selectboard, and ultimately the Town Meeting. We are an advisory body only. We have no authority to spend taxpayer dollars.

The CIPC held numerous meetings throughout 2021 and 2022 in preparation for the 2023 Fiscal Year Capital Budget.

The committee considered and recommended:

\$15,500 for Deerfield Elementary School Restroom Upgrades

\$22,200 for Deerfield Elementary School Flooring Replacements

\$16,000 for Deerfield Elementary School Air Conditioning for Skills and Music Room

\$30,000 for Deerfield Elementary School Dishwasher

\$31,283 for Frontier Regional School Walk-in Cooler Replacement

\$11,000 for Ostrowski Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) Purchase

\$475,000 for Old Grammar School Historical Preservation

\$100,000 for Police Department HVAC Design, Engineering, and Construction

\$5,602,841 for Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrades

\$100,000 for Highway Department Mini-excavator Lease

\$100,000 for Public Works Asphalt Sidewalk Repairs

\$350,000 for Town Common Rehabilitation

\$500,000 for Leary Lot Design and Construction

\$59,000 for Highway Department Wood Chipper

\$10,000 for Transfer Station Shed Replacement

\$10,000 for Highway Department Building HVAC Software

\$80,000 for Senior Housing Phase 1 Feasibility Study

\$10,000 for Senior Center Repairs

The following items were approved by the voters at the Annual Town meeting of April 25, 2022:

- \$15,500 for Deerfield Elementary School Restroom Upgrades
- \$22,200 for Deerfield Elementary School Flooring Replacements
- \$16,000 for Deerfield Elementary School Air Conditioning for Skills and Music Room
- \$30,000 for Deerfield Elementary School Dishwasher
- \$36,727.47 for Frontier Regional School Walk-in Cooler Replacement
- \$11,000 for Ostrowski Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) Purchase
- \$475,000 for Old Grammar School Historical Preservation
- \$350,000 for Town Common Rehabilitation
- \$59,000 for Highway Department Wood Chipper
- \$10,000 for Transfer Station Shed Replacement
- \$30,000 for Senior Housing Phase 1 Feasibility Study

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Brennan, Chair
Capital Improvement Planning Committee

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Membership:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Appointing Authority</u>
Tim Hilchey, Chair until May	Conservation Commission
Alan Swedlund, Vice Chair	Open Space Committee
Ben Bensen, Clerk	Historical Commission
Analee Wulfkuhle	Planning Board
Charles Shattuck	Board of Assessors
Lili Dwight	Moderator Appointee
Vacant	Selectboard Appointee
Robert Ackermann	Recreation Committee
Vacant	Regional Housing Authority

The Community Preservation Committee was created after acceptance of the Massachusetts Community Preservation Act, General Law Chapter 44B, by Town Meeting in 2007.

The Massachusetts Community Preservation Act website (www.communitypreservation.org) details aspects of the enabling legislation, but a brief synopsis of its purpose is noted below:

“The Community Preservation Act” provides new funding sources which can be used to address three core community concerns:

1. Acquisition and preservation of open space
2. Creation and support of affordable housing
3. Acquisition and/or preservation of historic buildings, structures, documents, etc.

A minimum of 10% of the annual revenues of the fund must be reserved for each of the three core community concerns, and up to 5% may be used for administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee. The remaining funds can be allocated for any combination of the allowed uses, or “for permissible recreational use”.

Each Community Preservation Committee must follow certain steps as part of the grant process. In Deerfield, the committee begins by holding an information session to notify interested parties of funding availability and to detail the application schedule. After applications are received and reviewed, public information sessions are held. These open meetings allow applicants to improve their proposals for funding as well as provide the public an opportunity to discuss the grant submittals. Once the CPC has approved proposals, recommendations are presented at Annual Town Meeting and the voters decide which funding requests to approve.

Deerfield approved a surcharge of three percent (3%) of property taxes with a \$100,000 residential exemption to provide funding for these activities. As a 3% community, Deerfield is eligible to receive two additional rounds of matching funds from the Commonwealth's CPA fund.

In the most recent funding cycle, the state sent Deerfield \$252,546, which represents a 100 percent match of the money raised locally by the Town. Since Deerfield voted to become a CPA participant, the state's match has exceeded 80 percent. This leverage is critical for the impact these funds can have on bettering our Town.

Last year, the CPC recommended that Town Meeting participants vote on the following projects:

1. Appropriate \$475,000 for Phase 1 of the Rehabilitation of the Old Grammar School Building (ex-Senior Center) into a New Town Hall Project, and to meet said appropriation, transfer \$160,200 from the Community Preservation Fund 2023 Estimated Revenues, \$29,550 from the Reserve for Historic Resources and \$285,250 from the Undesignated Fund Balance. Approved by vote at Town Meeting.
2. Voted to appropriate \$11,000 from the Community Preservation Fund 2023 Estimated Revenues – a 5 percent local match for a Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources grant of \$209,000 to create an Agricultural Preservation Restriction on a 12.4-acre farm parcel identified in the Assessors' Records as Map 149, Lot 6, all in a manner consistent with the proposal submitted by the Deerfield Selectboard and approved by the Community Preservation Committee. Approved by vote at Town Meeting.
3. Voted to appropriate \$350,000 for the Town Common Rehabilitation & Restoration Project request, and to meet said appropriation, transfer \$200,000 from the Community Preservation Fund 2023 Estimated Revenues and \$150,000 from the Undesignated Fund Balance, all in a manner consistent with the proposal submitted by the Ad-Hoc Town Common Committee and approved by the Community Preservation Committee. Approved by vote at Town Meeting.
4. Voted to appropriate \$30,000 from the Community Preservation Fund 2023 Estimated Revenues for the "Subsidized Senior Housing Feasibility Study" request, all in a manner consistent with the proposal submitted by the Ad Hoc Senior Housing Committee and approved by the Community Preservation Committee. Approved by Vote at Town Meeting.
5. Voted to appropriate \$800 from the Community Preservation Fund 2023 Estimated Revenues for the "Preservation of 18th and 19th Century Account Books of the Ware and Williams families," all in a manner consistent with the proposal submitted by the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association and approved by the Community Preservation Committee. Approved by Vote at Town Meeting.
6. Voted to transfer \$13,000 of the Community Preservation Fund 2023 Estimated Revenues to the Reserve for Community Housing. General Law Chapter 44B requires that a minimum of 10% of estimated revenues be used or set aside for Community Housing. Approved by vote at Town Meeting.
7. Voted to appropriate \$15,000 from the Community Preservation Fund 2023 Estimated Revenues for Community Preservation Committee administrative expenses. Approved by vote at Town Meeting.

Community Preservation Reserve Balances as of June 30, 2022:

Reserve for Open Space	\$ 25,000
Reserve for Historic Resources	\$ 33,525
Reserve for Community Housing	\$ 559,455
Undesignated Fund Balance	\$ 1,144,297

The committee would like to thank applicants, residents and town officials for participating in this process. The CPA program works to contribute to keeping Deerfield a great place to live.

CONNECTING COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

Board Members:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| James Cambias | Trevor McDaniel |
| Julie Chalfant | Darius Modestow |
| Lili Dwight – Tech Support | Carolyn Shores Ness |
| Tim Hilchey | John Paciorek, Jr. – Vice Chair |
| Kate Lawless | M.A. Swedlund |
| Andrea Leibson | Analee Wulfkuhle |
| Denise Mason - Chair | |



The purpose of Connecting Community Initiative is to ensure better collaboration, communication, and innovation among our 20 boards and committees in town. We are fortunate to have so many dedicated residents who are devoting countless time and energy into continuing to make Deerfield a great place to live.

Deerfield’s Connecting Community Initiative (CCI) unites more than 20 Boards to design a vibrant downtown that links our civic buildings and community services while breathing new life into our architectural treasures.

OUR VISION:

A centralized municipal campus as a dynamic gathering place for all town residents

- Housing for older adults — safe, affordable, subsidized, near civic and business resources
- Senior/Community center for all ages
- Library with expanded space and programs
- Town Hall in a renovated historical building
- Town Common with attractive footpaths, benches, fountain, and plantings
- Improved parking, bikeways and walkways that support businesses and activities

OUR MISSION:

- Shared energy-efficient infrastructure that serves all downtown municipal and commercial buildings
- Zoning to encourage development in the heart of the community and preserve forests and farms
- Structures designed for accessibility, energy efficiency and anticipated impacts of climate change

We are working on multiple concurrent projects on our municipal campus one of which is a Geothermal Exchange system that will serve municipal buildings and senior housing. By doing so it will reduce our energy cost substantially. The potential addition of solar panels on some of the buildings will also help to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels.

One of our main goals is finding a consolidated space for the Senior Center. Presently, it is housed in two separate buildings, one in Deerfield and the other in Sunderland. Our goal is to house both programs and administration at one location to provide a permanent home for both senior center and community use.

We are in conversation with the Senior Center Board of Oversight (Whately, Sunderland & Deerfield) to determine whether the former Church (1821 building) on North Main Street would be suitable for a permanent home. Once the feasibility study is completed, the Board of Oversight will make that determination. We are working on another grant proposal for pre-construction repairs such as mold remediation, asbestos removal, mitigating water infiltration in the basement and structural support.

Another large project is the plan to move our town administration to the former schoolhouse/senior center (1888 building). After numerous conversations and meetings, it was determined that residents wanted to preserve this building which is one of the few remaining historic buildings in our town center (the 1821 church is the other). Although we do have some funding allocated for the building, it is not enough to complete rehabilitating and repurposing it. We are working with state and federal agencies to secure earmarks.

See Ad Hoc Senior Housing report for details on Senior Housing Progress.

See Selectboard report for progress on the Leary lot that will increase parking for downtown.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

With the 2022 election of Tim Hilchey, former Chair of the Conservation Commission, to the Town's Selectboard, the remaining Commissioners voted to appoint Pete Law as his successor. Pete started with the Chair role in June of 2022. Also in June, a new Commissioner, Sean Libbey was appointed to serve on the Conservation Commission. Sean brings to the Commission his professional credentials as a Forester, currently employed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. William Marrapese, a valued and long-time member of the Commission retired at the end of July. The Conservation Commission finished the year with four serving Commissioners and the search for a volunteer to fill the final open spot on the Commission continues.

The Commission's scheduled meetings continued to be held remotely in 2022 due to the on-going restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. While all regular meetings were held remotely, a number of field site visits were conducted in person with appropriate health & safety precautions employed.

2022 was a very active year for the Conservation Commission with numerous "Request for Determination" (RDA), "Notice of Intent" (NOI) and "Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation" (ANRAD) filings submitted relative to the MassDEP Wetlands Protection Act, 310 CMR 10.00. A few examples of the projects reviewed:

- Town of Deerfield, North Main Street. NOI project reviews for the proposed Municipal Parks & Fields.
- Nupro, LLC NOI regarding the proposed construction of a 124,680 square foot building and project support items at Merrigan Way.
- Sunnydayz Inc., ANRAD for potential marijuana cultivation, distribution and analytical facilities located off Greenfield Road.
- Tree House Brewing Company, Phase 3A NOI project for maintenance and renovations of walking trails.
- All States Material Group NOI for the improvement of an existing gravel road, including the widening of the road, stream crossing and provision of parking areas.
- Town of Deerfield, DPW. An NOI for a proposed "bundled NOI" review relative to a variety of routine and on-going maintenance projects.

In addition, the Commission received numerous requests from property owners throughout the town planning to build or expand homes and home projects in areas located near streams and wetlands.

The Conservation Commission was also involved with seven (7) Emergency Certifications throughout the year, primarily related to major rain events causing flooding and/or roadway damage in various locations within the Town of Deerfield. The Commission was called upon to issue emergency approvals for work in protected wetlands to alleviate dangerous flooding and/or road deterioration in areas along Route 5 as well as several roads in the Eaglebrook area.

The Commission also worked throughout the year to establish a more standardized list of potential Special Orders of Conditions, which can be applied to various RDA's and NOI's submitted. This will help streamline the work completed by the Commission as well as provide for a consistent approach to the application of these Orders.

Upcoming initiatives include:

- Development of conservation related educational signage to be utilized at selected projects to notify and alert visitors to the environmentally related importance of key project aspects.
- Incorporation of the pollinator initiative when wetland reclamation or new plantings are required at selected project sites.
- Continued educational seminars for the Commissioners to keep all members current with applicable regulations. We are pleased to report that in 2022, our Commissioner Kate Devlin completed the full series of the Fundamentals for Conservation Commissioners offered by the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Law, Chair
Ben Byrne
Kate Devlin
Sean Libbey

CULTURAL COUNCIL

Members

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| • Emily Gaylord, Chair | Term Ending 2023 |
| • Annie Curtis, Member | Term Ending 2024 |
| • Roberta LaBarbera, Member | Term Ending 2023 |
| • Olivia Leone, Member | Term Ending 2024 |
| • Emily Luker, Member | Term Ending 2024 |
| • Denise Schwartz, Member | Term Ending 2023 |
| • Patricia Ryan, Member | Term Ending 2024 |
| • Max Sherrill, Member | Term Ending 2024 |

To see the full list of funded applications, visit massculturalcouncil.org/local-council/deerfield.

ENERGY COMMITTEE

Members:

David Gilbert-Keith, Chair
Laurie Boosahda, Member
Stephen Eipper, Member
Greg Francheschi, Member
Read Predmore, Member
MA Swedlund, Member
Jay Stryker, Member
Steven Svoboda, Member

Despite meeting mostly remotely, the Deerfield Energy Committee continued to work to reduce town energy use and to lower energy costs, but especially to reduce our carbon footprint.

Aggregation: In coordination with regional towns, the Energy Committee facilitated energy “aggregation,” using the improved negotiating power of towns working together to get greener energy generation sources while also reducing the price to below our local utility’s basic rates.

As it happened, we got a very good deal that locked in our rates for the three-year contract even though local utility rates went way up. Though we do not have the final tally, it is already clear that aggregation has saved ratepayers in Deerfield over \$700,000.

Unfortunately, even the aggregation rates are likely to go up when the next contract begins next January, but we still anticipate both savings over the utility’s base rates while at the same time offering greener (less carbon intensive) generation sources.

Green Communities: As reported last year, the Energy Committee has overseen implementation of the Green Communities grant of over \$160,000 awarded in 2020. This year we cleared the decks to apply for another grant by completing the work and our final reporting of spending. That grant allowed us to:

1. Save the town thousands of dollars each year by buying and replacing streetlights in town
 - a. Between savings on rent and energy—with maintenance costs included—the town is projected to save over \$39,000 every year.
 - b. The town had been paying rent on the streetlights as well as paying for their energy usage. Thanks are also due to Eversource Energy for contributing the cost of the new light fixtures.
 - c. The new LED streetlights use a fraction as much energy, which should save roughly 20,000kWh each year.
 - d. By directing light more toward where it is needed and not into the sky, the new lights may even make the stars seem a little brighter.
2. Build a dual-port charging station in the Leary parking lot to serve electric vehicles. Special thanks to Greenfield Savings Bank which has offered \$1,000 for each of five years to subsidize their use.
3. Help pay for a hybrid police cruiser.

Coordinating with Energy Committees of the Frontier Regional School District:

We are initiating a collaboration with energy committee representatives from Whately, Conway, and Sunderland to work on long-term planning to reduce fossil fuel use at Frontier Regional School.

The biggest public building in town is not surprisingly a big user of energy. As Massachusetts leads the way nationally toward carbon neutral energy use, weaning Frontier off fossil fuels within the next ten years is not only productive, but also prudent.

Surprisingly, however, it is likely that by working together, the four communities can get grants to cover the costs of moving away from fossil fuels at the school. Such conversion, moreover, is prudent for contributing toward mitigating our effect on the climate, but it will likely add resilience for the school by diversifying its fuel sources. As we wrote to the school committee, if the school's goals include preparing its students to go out into the world, it is not off-topic to do what we can to protect that world.

Within Town: The Energy Committee has:

1. Joined with the town's Municipal Vulnerability Project to seek creation of a Climate Resiliency Fund using money received from alternative energy projects in town to keep available for unexpected climate-related events. Income from alternative energy projects is itself a kind of beneficial windfall from climate action. The idea is to set aside some of that windfall for less beneficial effects of climate change, from extreme weather to changing ranges for insects.
2. Supported efforts toward improving bike lanes while minimizing impacts of other projects on carbon-absorbing trees and wetlands. Especially with the increasing popularity of electric bicycles, bike lanes offer a realistic (and cost effective) alternative to cars for even moderate trips and commutes.
3. Representation on the Connecting Community Initiative, which seeks to improve coordination and communication among the various town boards and committees.
4. Been working with others on Municipal Vulnerability Project through its Green Infrastructure subcommittee.
5. Monitored the progress of Nexamp's application to state agencies and the utilities toward approval to build a solar array over the town's retired landfill, adjacent to the transfer station. When complete, the array will be a valuable source of revenue to the town

Mass Save: As always, the Energy Committee encourages each of you to take advantage of MassSave (massave.com) to get free home energy audits. You are likely to get free light bulbs and good advice. If you choose to go ahead with recommended insulation or other work to save energy, up to 3/4 of your costs may be paid for by your utility—and you get the continued savings from using less energy.

Ideas? We were looking forward to applying for a new Green Communities grant. If you have ideas of how the town can save energy, we would love to hear them.

Respectfully,

David Gilbert Keith
(Chair, Deerfield Energy Committee)

FINANCE COMMITTEE

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Term Expiration</u>
Julie Chalfant	Chair	2025
James Cambias	Secretary	2023
John Paresky	Member	2023
Elizabeth Brown	Member	2023
Allison van der Velden	Member	2024
Mark Brennan	Member	2025
David Sharp	Member	2025

The finance committee provides an independent review of the municipal budget and makes recommendations to the people of the town. Further, the committee is required by state law to consider every municipal question (warrant article) presented to the town for the purpose of making reports or recommendations to the town. The committee's primary role is as the fiscal watchdog of the town, which is the lens through which the municipal questions are considered.

The committee achieves this by meeting with the department head or committee responsible for each line item in the municipal budget and discussing the budget recommendation with them during open meetings. The committee then assesses the full budget along with warrant article expenditures and compares this to expected revenues, reserves, and other funding sources. The Selectboard has been invited to join in these meetings to provide input on town priorities. The meetings for the Fiscal Year 2024 budget and warrant articles are still ongoing at the time of writing this report, so a separate report providing a set of recommendations is planned to be provided at Annual Town Meeting.

The Finance Committee has reviewed the financial position of the town using data for fiscal years 2012-2022, with some data available for FY 2023. This review is in arrears since 2022 is our most recent complete fiscal year; we are currently in fiscal year 2023, and the proposed budget to be reviewed at town meeting will be for fiscal year 2024.

The town revenues, assessed values, new growth and reserves are all fairly strong.

- Our revenues from property taxes and local receipts have grown at a sustained rate.
- The assessed values of property in town in all categories (residential, commercial and industrial) have increased slightly over the past five years, and there has been genuine new growth in both housing and commercial/industrial properties.
- We have healthy reserves in our general stabilization fund for use in emergencies.

Several areas of concern warrant attention during the budget review process:

- The average single-family tax bill has increased 51% since 2012, while a 2.5% increase year-on-year would yield a 31% increase. The library construction project debt, not yet included in this value, will cause an even greater increase.
- Our debt load and debt service, while still within the acceptable limits of state law, continue to increase due to the major capital projects that the town has voted to support.
- Operating expenditures through 2022 have increased 39% in ten years, which is greater than the 2.5% per year expected by Proposition 2½. When the impact of inflation is included, operating expenditures declined during the past two years, which may indicate a reduction in services.
- The town had significant increases in personnel costs in 2023 due to contract negotiations, cost of living increases, and new positions added to the budget.
- The town has not adequately maintained buildings or replaced aging equipment.
- School budgets are a very large percentage of the overall town budget. Although the total school budgets have kept increases in line with Prop 2½ requirements, state support of schools has not kept pace with expenses or state mandates, and declining enrollments have not yielded a decrease in total budgets.

If we compare our average single-family home tax bill (including S.D. fire and water bills) to other towns in the state:

- We are about the middle of the pack in the state - 156th highest average bill out of 351 towns.
- We are also around the middle amongst towns of similar size - 10th highest of 26 towns with populations between 4000 and 6000 residents (our population in 2020 was 5090).
- We have the second highest bill of 26 towns in Franklin County, and the eleventh highest bill of 101 towns in the four western Massachusetts counties (Berkshire, Franklin, Hamden and Hampshire).

The Financial Indicators used in this study are available publicly on the Deerfield Finance Committee website: <https://www.deerfieldma.us/finance-committee>

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Members:

John Nove (chair)

Ben Bensen (clerk and representative to the Community Preservation Committee)

Bonita Conlon

Henrietta Kocot

Jennifer Ferrara Remillard

(Currently two vacancies)

As with most other volunteer-staffed Town Commissions, this was an unusual year for the Deerfield Historical Commission (DHC). We met only six times, and in various formats, but were able to continue working on several projects.

North Main Street Walking Tour

A first draft of the walking tour brochure, a project originally headed up by Mike Muilenberg, and released during the summer of 2020, continued to attract comments and additions. Most notably, local historians Peter Thomas and Gary Sanderson have been contributing information to an area of town they and their families know well. A final version will be ready for the town's 350th anniversary next year with copies of the draft version currently available at the Town Hall 'table' and the Tilton Library.

Ongoing Community Preservation Act (CPA)-funded Project

In 2020, work on restoring The Dead of 1704 memorial stone and mound in the Albany Road Cemetery was put on hold. In the summer of 2022, a new contract was awarded to Negus and Taylor of Greenfield. They lifted the original stone off its crumbling footing, cleaned lichen off its surface and then poured a new concrete footing onto which the stone was set. All that remains to be done on the project will happen in the spring of 2023 when the Deerfield Academy Grounds Crew will re-landscape the mound to resemble its original shape, concealing the footing.

Archaeology

The DHC was notified by the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) of two recent archaeological permits it had issued for work at Deerfield Academy. One 'big-picture' project involves an addition to the school's Dining Hall. In order to do that, the current building will be temporarily closed and replaced by a large dining tent across Albany Road on existing playing fields. The loss of playing fields there will require the creation of additional playing field space on a former agricultural field along Rtes. 5/10 just north of the Deerfield Market/gas station. Archaeological surveys were carried out in the fall adjacent to the existing dining hall and at the Rtes. 5/10 site by Heritage Consultants, LLC of Connecticut with a representative of the MA Native American Community present. Construction and field grading are likely to begin in 2023.

Historic Deerfield (HD) began archaeological work in 2021 as part of its restoration of the Stebbins House. Prior to that work and in response to the Town's Archaeological Accountability Policy, Claire Carlson, HD's Director of Archaeology, met with the Commission to describe the project. Initially a test pit was dug as part of an educational event during Massachusetts Archaeology Month in October followed by a ground-penetrating radar (GPR) study of the area around the house in December. Several other test pits were dug in the spring and summer of 2022 in areas that the GPR suggested might be of interest. A copy of the final report on the project has yet to be received.

A team of archaeologists from the National Conservation Resources Service (NCRS), based locally in New Hampshire, was contracted in relation to a U.S. Department of Agriculture permit. They were encountered by chance carrying out an archaeological survey along Mill Village Rd. and said that their row of test pits was related to a permit for the installation of an in-ground irrigation pipe on property owned by Pioneer Gardens. They were informed of the Town's Archaeological Accountability Policy and said they would submit a final report on their findings to the DHC. In December, a thorough report was received. This project made us aware of a permitting 'gray area' in the State-issued (Mass. Historical Commission) archaeological permitting system, the means by which we usually learn of archaeological activity within Deerfield. That a MHC permit was not required for this project came as a surprise but a good working relationship was established with the NCRS.

Town Records

Local historian Peter Thomas continued the digitizing of old records from the Town's two vaults, one in Town Hall and a second in the basement of the currently closed former Senior Center (Old Grammar School). These include Town Meeting records dating back to 1680. The plan in the spring of 2023 calls for the boxing and consolidation of all the Town's older historical records, possibly at the PVMA (Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association), where storage conditions can be more stringently controlled and scholars can have easier access to them. Peter has also been gathering old photos of town buildings and creating framed displays for use during the town's 350th festivities.

PVMA Tapes

In the 1990s, PVMA staff recorded oral histories on tape cassettes of individuals whose family members immigrated to Deerfield from Lithuania and Poland. In order to make these interviews more widely accessible, they have now been transcribed and digitally posted online at the PVMA website. The project was deemed ineligible for CPA support, so the Deerfield Historical Commission funded the project, providing \$674.

National Park Service Battlefield Protection Program

Funding was renewed for a fourth (and likely final) cycle for this project that involves Historical Commissions from Deerfield, Montague (the primary applicant), Greenfield, Northfield, and Gill as well as representatives from four National or State-recognized tribes. This Advisory group, which the Chair attends monthly, seeks to better understand the dynamics of the 1676 Colonial massacre of a camp of approximately 300 Native American elders, women and children at the Great Falls, then a part of Deerfield, and now the Riverside neighborhood of Gill. Working with archaeologists from the University of Connecticut for nearly 10 years, the project has mapped the route of the attack as well as the retreat, primarily through present-day Greenfield, in which many militiamen, including the leader, Col. William Turner, were killed. Part of the requirement of the grant is for three public information meetings to be held to share information. Meetings have usually been held in Montague, but in honor of the 350th Anniversaries of both Northfield and Deerfield, two of the meetings will be hosted farther afield.

A Tale of Three Photos.

Allen Sisters photo of The Dead of 1704 monument in the Albany Road Cemetery taken soon after its dedication in 1901. The monument in 2018 showing erosion of the mound, crumbling of the exposed brick footing and extensive lichen growth. The cleaned monument sitting on its new concrete footing in 2022. The mound will be reshaped in the spring of 2023 to hide the footing and return the monument to its original appearance.



OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Members:

Alan Swedlund, Chair

Lynn Rose

Susan Haff

Andrea Leibson

Julie Caswell (Volunteer 2022, Committee Member 2023)

Voted that the Town establish an Open Space Committee to coordinate the implementation of and the timely revision of the Open Space and Recreation Plan of 2006, the Conservation Vision Statement of 2007, and the conservation tools contained therein, specifically including the following powers and duties:

1. To make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen and to Town Meeting, including sponsorship of warrant articles, regarding the acquisition and use of lands for conservation, recreation and open space;
2. To determine and review priority target parcels for protection with the Board of Selectmen, and other committees and boards as warranted;
3. To work with funding organizations, other Town committees, and private land trusts for the common interest of acquiring or preserving open space; and
4. To participate as a member of the Community Preservation Committee under the provision of the Community Preservation Act, [1] when said act is accepted by the Town.

There shall be five (5) members of the committee who shall be residents of the Town who shall serve for three (3) year terms. The Selectboard shall appoint three of said five members and the Moderator shall appoint two of said five members. Said appointing authority may reappoint said members for one or more additional three-year terms, without limitation.

2022 was a very busy year for the Open Space and Recreation Committee (OSRC). The original Open Space Master Plan, completed in 2014, was expiring and we needed to start the process of updating and rewriting a new plan, which would, when signed off by the State, commence in 2023. We were very fortunate to receive a Franklin Regional Council of Government (FRCOG) planning grant, and therefore receive the counsel and guidance from one of their regional planners.

Allison Gage, Senior Land Use and Natural Resources Planner joined us in January 2022, met with us each month and did an outstanding job in providing her expertise, suggestions, maps, and additional resources from FRCOG. We created, distributed, and completed a resident survey in the spring, which was helpful in assessing their priorities and concerns. In addition, a public forum on the new plan was held on December 13. We incorporated their input into the final draft of the plan. We concluded our work on December 20 and submitted our plan to the State in early January. We would like to thank FRCOG, and especially Allison, for her exceptional contributions to the project.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Swedlund, Chair

PERSONNEL BOARD

Members:

Raloon Bialek, Chair	Term expires: 2023
Eric Farrell, Member	Term expires: 2025
Lisa Middents, Member	Term expired: 12.31.2022
G. David Sharp (Finance Committee Rep)	Term expires: 2023
Kayce Warren, Rep to the Personnel Board	

TOWN BUILDINGS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Members:

Julie Chalfant	Chair
John P. Paciorek	Member
Greg Francheschi	Member
Kevin Scarborough	(ex-officio)
Carol Moro	Member
Matthew Russo	Member

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Members:

Adam Sokoloski, Chair	Term Expiration: 2024
Robert Decker, III, Member	Term Expiration: 2023
Alex Herchenreder, Alternate	Term Expiration: 2023
David Potter, Member	Term Expiration: 2024
Jennifer Remillard, Alternate	Term Expiration: 2023
G. David Sharp	Term Expiration: 2025
Vacant	

During the past year, the Deerfield ZBA has received applications for and held hearings for zoning variance and special permit applications, and made decisions in compliance with the Deerfield Zoning Bylaws.

Thank you to the residents of Deerfield for their engagement and support throughout the year. Thank you to the members who currently volunteer and former members who have volunteered in the past. I look forward to continuing to serve the community in 2023.

Adam Sokoloski
Chair Person

TOWN DEPARTMENTS

ACCOUNTANT

Brenda K. Hill Town Accountant

Free Cash was certified on October 3, 2022 for \$1,092,989. The calculation of Free Cash is the result of a combination of many factors, including unspent Free Cash from the previous certification year, receipts in excess of estimated for the year just ended, and unspent appropriation balances for the year just ended. In Deerfield, Free Cash has historically been used to finance capital purchases. In some years, it has also been used to cover budget shortages due to tax levy limitations.

The South County EMS Enterprise Fund completed its eighth full year of operations as of June 30, 2022. Retained Earnings was certified at \$542,054.

The Sewer Enterprise Fund finished its fourth full year of operations as an “Enterprise Fund” and had Retained Earnings certified at \$1,172,896.

Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Expenditure Report

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Total Budget</u>	<u>Actual Expense</u>	<u>Amt Remaining</u>
Moderator	400.00	350.00	50.00
Selectboard's Salaries	16,000.00	16,000.00	-
Selectboard's Staff Salaries	225,167.00	225,167.00	-
Selectboard /Administrator Expense	16,100.00	12,325.84	3,774.16
Finance Committee Expense	500.00	210.00	290.00
Reserve Fund	17,343.75	-	17,343.75
Accountant Salary	56,358.00	56,358.00	-
Accountant/Audit Expense	16,525.00	16,513.55	11.45
Assessor's Salaries	11,000.00	11,000.00	-
Assessor's Admin Assistant Salary	66,026.00	66,025.84	0.16
Assessor's Expense	23,125.00	14,937.71	8,187.29
Quinquennial Recertification	34,612.77	18,525.30	16,087.47
Clerk/Treas/Collector Staff Salaries	190,517.00	181,172.97	9,344.03
Treasurer/Collector Expense	35,560.00	29,154.78	6,405.22
Legal Expense	99,306.33	99,306.33	-
Personnel Board Expense	500.00	-	500.00

Account Name	Total Budget	Actual Expense	Amt Remaining
Encumbered IT Hardware Exp FY21	12,000.00	10,851.94	1,148.06
PEG Access Capital	67,396.10	4,211.37	63,184.73
Office Contracted Services	261,472.00	250,672.87	10,799.13
Town Clerk Expense	17,598.00	9,995.68	7,602.32
Conservation Commission Expense	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Open Space Committee Expense	10,000.00	10,000.00	-
Encumbered Open Space Exp FY21 & FY22	5,000.00	(2,552.75)	7,552.75
Planning Board Expense	7,000.00	7,000.00	-
Encumbered Planning Board Expense FY22	-	(494.55)	494.55
Zoning Board of Appeals Expense	1,000.00	243.53	756.47
Agriculture Commission Expense	100.00	-	100.00
Capital - Streetscape Planning	8,738.61	-	8,738.61
Energy Committee Expense	1,000.00	86.00	914.00
Town Office Building Maintenance	96,100.00	92,759.65	3,340.35
Town Office Expense	14,350.00	14,272.28	77.72
Capital - Church Feasability Study	15,000.00	-	15,000.00
Capital - Senior Center Needs Assess/Feas	42,500.00	10,000.00	32,500.00
Capital - Municipal Office Repairs	52,118.00	-	52,118.00
Capital - SCEMS Building Asphalt Paving	25,000.00	25,000.00	-
Capital - SCEMS Building Exhaust System	30,000.00	-	30,000.00
Capital - Church Building Repairs	150,000.00	-	150,000.00
General Insurance	67,500.00	67,256.00	244.00
Police Department Payroll	932,657.00	877,637.79	55,019.21
Police Department Expense	119,300.00	116,270.13	3,029.87
Capital - Police Cruiser	55,000.00	-	55,000.00
Capital - Police Data Migration	23,000.00	-	23,000.00
SCEMS Expense	309,243.00	309,243.00	-
Inspections Department Salaries	165,181.00	159,809.92	5,371.08
Inspections Department Expense	3,650.00	1,937.29	1,712.71
Emergency Management	2,800.00	2,718.96	81.04

Account Name	Total Budget	Actual Expense	Amt Remaining
Canine Control Program	20,485.00	20,485.00	-
Elementary School Expense	4,945,986.00	4,945,986.00	-
Encumbered Elementary School Exp FY21	82,377.64	82,098.27	279.37
Encumbered Elementary School Exp FY22	-	(135,581.40)	135,581.40
Frontier Regional School Expense	4,016,567.00	4,016,567.00	-
Frontier - Dickinson Trust	1,095.49	-	1,095.49
Frontier - Transportation	122,920.00	122,920.00	-
Franklin County Tech Expense	323,023.00	323,023.00	-
Out of District Placement Exp	63,159.91	63,159.91	-
Franklin County Tech Capital	17,697.00	17,696.10	0.90
Capital - DES Generator	27,000.00	-	27,000.00
General Highway Payroll	528,532.00	512,695.49	15,836.51
General Highway Expense	280,050.00	260,789.58	19,260.42
Capital - Complete Streets	40,000.00	-	40,000.00
Capital - Asphalt Sidewalk Repairs	250,000.00	-	250,000.00
Snow and Ice Removal	147,842.00	147,841.05	0.95
Street Lighting	37,000.00	32,464.06	4,535.94
Transfer Station Expense	211,600.00	190,664.74	20,935.26
Capital - Fence	12,000.00	12,000.00	-
Landfill Monitoring	40,000.00	33,600.00	6,400.00
Board of Health Salaries	59,336.00	58,815.64	520.36
Board of Health Expense	33,525.00	33,384.53	140.47
COVID-19 Expense	15,000.00	12,616.46	2,383.54
Council on Aging Expense	500.00	-	500.00
Senior Center Expense	47,558.00	47,558.00	-
Veterans Services Assessment	13,910.00	13,909.45	0.55
Veterans Benefits	21,000.00	17,772.15	3,227.85
War Memorial Maintenance	375.02	-	375.02
ADA Coordinator	250.00	-	250.00
Tilton Library Expenses	194,105.00	193,825.40	279.60
Tilton Library - Dickinson Trust	3,798.11	1,768.67	2,029.44
Capital - Carpet	12,603.00	-	12,603.00
Capital - Air Conditioner	15,500.00	-	15,500.00

Account Name	Total Budget	Actual Expense	Amt Remaining
Summer Swim Program	1,310.00	-	1,310.00
Tri-Town Beach Expense	18,160.00	18,160.00	-
Encumbered Tri-Town Beach Exp FY22	-	(7,520.46)	7,520.46
Recreation Director Salary	51,849.00	51,841.71	7.29
Capital - Town Common Design	27,840.00	6,140.00	21,700.00
Historic Commission Expense	1,175.00	826.31	348.69
350th Anniversary Celebration Expense	10,000.00	10,000.00	-
Vet/Memorial Day Expense	2,000.00	2,000.00	-
Principal - Maturing Debt	496,429.00	496,428.26	0.74
Interest - Maturing Debt	130,917.00	118,106.03	12,810.97
Interest - Temporary Loans	5,000.00	4,044.99	955.01
Air Pollution District	1,601.00	1,601.00	-
RMV Marking Surcharge	3,660.00	3,420.00	240.00
Regional Transit Authority	30,451.00	30,451.00	-
Charter School Assessment	128,723.00	141,890.00	(13,167.00)
School Choice Assessment	154,764.00	191,869.00	(37,105.00)
Franklin Regional Council of Governments	41,574.00	41,574.00	-
Sick Leave/Vacation Reserve	10,000.00	1,186.90	8,813.10
Franklin County Retirement	563,504.00	563,504.00	-
Workers Compensation	47,144.00	36,284.30	10,859.70
Workers Compensation 2000	42,956.93	-	42,956.93
Unemployment Insurance	27,675.01	27,675.01	-
Group Insurance - Town	292,280.00	279,649.67	12,630.33
Group Insurance - Deerfield Elementary	657,526.00	591,321.91	66,204.09
Medicare Expense	103,987.00	99,885.00	4,102.00
Transfer to OPEB Trust	41,610.00	41,610.00	-
Total Year to Date Expenditures	17,781,675.67	16,492,974.16	1,288,701.51

Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Revenue Report

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Total Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Over/(Under)</u>
Personal Property Taxes	731,466.15	730,181.70	(1,284.45)
Real Estate Taxes	12,018,936.49	11,880,076.63	(138,859.86)
Tax Liens Redeemed	-	65,290.93	65,290.93
Other Taxes	-	4,625.14	4,625.14
Motor Vehicle Excise	625,000.00	758,712.39	133,712.39
Abated MV Taxes Recovered	-	1,214.92	1,214.92
Pen & Int on Prop Taxes	22,000.00	24,067.10	2,067.10
Pen & Int on Excise Taxes	12,000.00	17,872.26	5,872.26
Pmts in Lieu of Taxes	165,000.00	174,827.00	9,827.00
Room Occupancy Tax	100,000.00	229,632.16	129,632.16
Local Meals Tax	60,000.00	97,776.14	37,776.14
Total Tax Revenue	13,734,402.64	13,984,276.37	249,873.73
Rentals	45,000.00	52,242.23	7,242.23
Fees-Assessors	-	210.00	210.00
Fees-Collector	3,000.00	4,575.00	1,575.00
Fees-Registry Markings	2,500.00	2,660.00	160.00
Fees-Comcast Subscriber	500.00	780.00	280.00
Fees-PEG Access	88,000.00	95,523.52	7,523.52
Fees-Town Clerk	9,000.00	13,821.60	4,821.60
Fees-Zoning Board	2,500.00	1,418.56	(1,081.44)
Fees-Police	25,500.00	32,259.20	6,759.20
Fees-Canine Control	3,000.00	4,265.00	1,265.00
Fees-Dump Stickers	60,000.00	76,685.00	16,685.00
Fees-Bulky Items	8,000.00	14,369.00	6,369.00
Fees-Trash Bag Receipts	87,000.00	89,438.00	2,438.00
Fees-Health Board-Septic	5,000.00	20,600.00	15,600.00
Fees-Health Board-Other	6,000.00	16,205.00	10,205.00
I & E Delinquent Charges Rev	10,000.00	16,750.00	6,750.00
Total Fee Revenue	310,000.00	389,559.88	79,559.88
Licenses-Liquor	24,000.00	32,557.00	8,557.00
Licenses-Other	1,000.00	3,640.25	2,640.25
Total License Revenue	25,000.00	36,197.25	11,197.25

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Total Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Over/(Under)</u>
Permits-Trench	100.00	550.00	450.00
Permits-Police Dept	2,000.00	1,700.00	(300.00)
Permits-Building Insp	149,900.00	147,313.20	(2,586.80)
Permits-Plumbing Insp	23,000.00	26,325.00	3,325.00
Permits-Electrical Insp	30,000.00	40,319.00	10,319.00
Total Permit Revenue	205,000.00	216,207.20	11,207.20
Medicaid Reimbursement	15,000.00	22,744.33	7,744.33
Reimb for State Owned Land	102,242.00	102,242.00	-
Veterans Abatements	-	46,140.00	46,140.00
Elderly Abatements	24,400.00	5,522.00	(18,878.00)
School Aid Chapter 70	1,123,153.00	1,123,153.00	-
School Transportation	-	623.00	623.00
Charter Tuition Reimb	6,566.00	36,870.00	30,304.00
Unrestricted Govt Aid	527,871.00	527,871.00	-
Veterans Benefits	12,912.00	14,319.00	1,407.00
Other State Revenue	-	6.00	6.00
Total State Revenue	1,812,144.00	1,879,490.33	67,346.33
Fines-Court	33,000.00	48,090.95	15,090.95
Fines-Parking	500.00	555.00	55.00
Fines-District Court	1,500.00	2,982.50	1,482.50
Total Fine Revenue	35,000.00	51,628.45	16,628.45
Earnings on Investments	15,000.00	27,065.43	12,065.43
Miscellaneous Revenue	6,000.00	25,175.67	19,175.67
Refunds & Reimbursements	2,000.00	9,549.93	7,549.93
Tr From Special Revenue Funds	5,716.00	50,086.29	44,370.29
Tr from Stabilization Funds	205,000.00	205,000.00	-
Tr From Trust Funds	54,779.00	57,878.00	3,099.00
Tr From Enterprise Funds	112,565.00	112,565.00	-
Total Other Revenue	401,060.00	487,320.32	86,260.32
Total Year To Date Revenue	16,567,606.64	17,096,922.03	529,315.39

Special Revenue Funds Fiscal Year 2022

	<u>Opening Balance</u>	<u>YTD Revenue/Trfrs</u>	<u>YTD Expense/Trfrs</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
<u>Highway Funds</u>				
Mass Highway Funds	(16,424.32)	132,574.79	610,558.27	(494,407.80)
<u>Revolving Funds</u>				
Recycling Program Revolving Fund	22,235.31	12,715.21	5,562.00	29,388.52
Police Detail Revolving Fund	(16,140.00)	502,796.00	535,212.00	(48,556.00)
Wetlands Protection Fund	28,150.02	2,537.50	152.75	30,534.77
Recreation Revolving Fund	22,718.04	31,227.50	36,196.32	17,749.22
Swim Program Revolving Fund	11,794.15	-	-	11,794.15
Planning Board Revolving Fund	6,499.43	6,491.62	171.12	12,819.93
Plan Bd/ConsComm Peer Review Funds	-	-	-	-
350th Celebration Fund	20,000.00	10,000.00	216.00	29,784.00
<u>Receipts Reserved For Appropriation</u>				
Sale of Cemetery Lots	30,582.82	2,800.00	-	33,382.82
Insurance Claims	843.93	8,192.55	1,278.99	7,757.49
TNC Surcharge Distribution	509.40	39.30	-	548.70
<u>Other Special Revenue Funds</u>				
School Resource Officer Fund	18,699.71	45,701.53	43,665.02	20,736.22
HCOG Wellness Minigrant	0.20	700.00	700.20	-
Veterans Street Sign Fund	1,013.89	-	129.68	884.21
Sadoski Memorial Day/Vets Fund	63.20	-	-	63.20
Police Donations Fund	5,779.43	-	3,432.38	2,347.05
Deerfield Academy WWTP Donation Fund	235,800.00	-	183,252.08	52,547.92
Senior Center Gift Fund	12,116.81	6,270.47	6,144.83	12,242.45
Recreation Dept Gift Fund	10,327.24	-	250.00	10,077.24
Roadside Mower Fund	36,514.91	600.00	28,555.60	8,559.31
Sci Fri Library Grant	-	1,000.00	506.09	493.91
Memorial Day Gift Fund	3,613.74	620.00	999.66	3,234.08
350th Anniversary Celebration Gifts	44.00	-	-	44.00
Yankee Candle Gift Fund - EMS	6,304.55	-	2,599.98	3,704.57
Fred Wells Health Grant	4,600.00	-	4,600.00	-
EWP Donations	48,263.27	-	20,000.00	28,263.27
Albany Road Cemetery Donation Fund	1,640.57	-	-	1,640.57
Senior Center Operations Fund	24,160.59	95,116.00	98,684.83	20,591.76
Senior Center EOEA Grant Fund	2,234.60	27,252.00	20,821.15	8,665.45
FCHCC Senior Center Fitness Grant	1,771.00	-	1,771.00	-
Public Works Donation Fund	10,856.13	6,260.00	6,050.00	11,066.13
EV Charging Donation Fund	1,000.00	-	500.00	500.00
<u>Community Preservation Act</u>				
	1,822,044.14	460,951.33	16,089.25	2,266,906.22

	Opening Balance	YTD Revenue/Trfrs	YTD Expense/Trfrs	Ending Balance
<u>State & Federal Grants</u>				
Community Policing Grant	901.71	-	-	901.71
Bulletproof Vest Grant	(7,832.00)	7,832.00	-	-
Drug Forfeiture Grant	15,636.67	5,161.65	10,149.59	10,648.73
Gov Highway Safety Grant	(2,132.56)	2,940.76	8,465.20	(7,657.00)
Council on Aging Grant	-	14,568.00	14,568.00	-
Library State Aid	15,589.84	10,044.55	15,713.18	9,921.21
Cultural Council Grant	7,785.12	5,600.77	5,890.82	7,495.07
MAPHCO Minigrant	(0.30)	-	(0.30)	(0.00)
Mass RDP Small Scale Grant	11,396.41	5,600.00	6,774.44	10,221.97
MEMA EMPG Grant	(2,700.00)	5,348.17	2,648.17	-
Green Community Grant	1,803.19	-	-	1,803.19
COA Service Incentive Grant	(5,659.56)	5,659.56	13,135.05	(13,135.05)
EOAF Mosquito Control Grant	17,086.45	-	-	17,086.45
Green Community Grant	36,438.50	-	176,596.13	(140,157.63)
MVP Action Grant #3	(22,847.46)	25,261.44	2,413.98	-
MVP Action Grant #4	(508,649.31)	527,500.00	-	18,850.69
ADA Grant	(10,770.58)	10,770.58	-	-
COVID-19 FEMA Grant	(57,740.75)	94,526.10	36,785.35	-
COVID-19 CARES SVRF	65,604.28	-	65,604.28	-
EPS Mobile Terminals Grant	(36,925.50)	36,925.50	-	-
SHRAB Veterans Records Grant	3,600.00	2,000.00	-	5,600.00
ARPA Grant	261,200.38	484,721.61	102,175.00	643,746.99
FEMA-Vaccination Clinic Costs	(1,866.91)	-	-	(1,866.91)
MVP Action Grant #6	-	-	37,832.70	(37,832.70)
Senior Needs Assess Grant	-	15,000.00	15,000.00	-
Bridge Academy Grant	-	12,600.00	14,195.32	(1,595.32)
DMH Jail Diversion CIT Grant	-	3,501.54	13,665.62	(10,164.08)
2021 Storm Damage Grant	-	376,511.00	70,471.43	306,039.57
MCOA Walk MA Challenge Grant	-	244.11	244.11	-
<u>Education Funds</u>				
School Lunch	58,044.79	256,898.65	103,381.60	211,561.84
School Choice	1,220,577.49	340,138.00	344,520.44	1,216,195.05
Grant Funded Stipends	-	66,438.10	66,438.10	-
Title I Grant	-	34,507.76	34,507.76	-
REAP Grant	(7,119.88)	64,132.71	57,112.83	(100.00)
Circuit Breaker Rev Fund	11,212.75	35,761.00	31,648.00	15,325.75
SPED Assistance Grant	-	75,929.49	79,002.13	(3,072.64)
Dionne Mem Music Award	40.00	-	-	40.00
School Building Use Fund	8,111.21	700.00	-	8,811.21
Fall Daybreak Program	53,229.19	28,000.00	7,808.57	73,420.62
Summer Daybreak Program	13,798.97	1,100.00	-	14,898.97

	Opening Balance	YTD Revenue/Trfrs	YTD Expense/Trfrs	Ending Balance
Community Partnership Program	15,841.71	98,827.99	5,043.51	109,626.19
After School Program	55,550.14	104,491.01	80,757.30	79,283.85
Retail Store Gift Fund	5,880.76	265.50	-	6,146.26
River Valley Day Camp Fund	62,383.48	86,492.08	76,819.24	72,056.32
Wm Benoni DES Library Fund	90.14	-	-	90.14
School Health Services Grant	-	420.00	420.00	-
DES Yankee Candle Gift Fund	-	4,000.00	275.00	3,725.00
Rural School Aid Grant	-	28,126.07	17,458.92	10,667.15
ESSER II Grant	-	110,901.57	112,551.37	(1,649.80)
ESSER III Grant	-	6,000.00	6,000.00	-
<u>South County EMS Enterprise Fund</u>	671,157.16	1,335,187.18	1,291,034.04	715,310.30
<u>WWTP Fund</u>	1,500,062.57	1,264,856.27	1,292,022.67	1,472,896.17
<u>Capital Project Funds</u>				
Oxford Land Purchase	(358,780.00)	12,815.00	-	(345,965.00)
School Roof Project	(283,486.21)	125,000.00	-	(158,486.21)
Albany Road Gravestones Project	1,006.25	-	-	1,006.25
Sewer Clarifier	(554,453.04)	554,453.04	-	0.00
Sewer Upgrade Phase 1	(1,626,616.04)	-	6,788,031.16	(8,414,647.20)
Recreation Fields	1,861,145.97	-	163,879.14	1,697,266.83
Sewer Upgrade Phase 1 Finance Costs	91,285.50	69,506.01	123,837.50	36,954.01
Sewer Upgrade Phase 2	-	-	427,423.83	(427,423.83)
<u>Trust Funds</u>				
Dickinson Library Trust	116,191.36	(1,881.47)	2,661.00	111,648.89
Dickinson/Billings Fund	3,021.12	0.90	-	3,022.02
Cemetery/Brookside Fund	33,823.62	(538.05)	25.41	33,260.16
Fr Wells/Pine Nook Fund	61,319.25	(944.16)	-	60,375.09
Land Preservation Trust	1,016.97	0.93	1,017.90	-
May Topp Cemetery Fund	13,702.34	58.70	-	13,761.04
Surp War Bonds/Conway Forest	18,651.12	5.59	-	18,656.71
Deerfield/Whately Veterans	2,146.04	0.65	-	2,146.69
Municipal Building Fund	54,167.17	-	54,167.17	-
Insurance Indemnification Fund	31.93	-	31.93	-
Stabilization Fund	1,419,451.78	(22,572.89)	-	1,396,878.89
Capital Stabilization Fund	867,086.32	3,624.61	150,000.00	720,710.93
OPEB Trust Fund	148,409.96	13,255.27	-	161,665.23
SCEMS Rent Stabilization Fund	81,000.00	26,964.75	55,000.00	52,964.75
<u>Agency Funds</u>				
Firearm ID Cards	2,175.00	5,100.00	5,775.00	1,500.00
S Mill Village Development Escrow	26,455.32	13.17	-	26,468.49
Deputy Collector Fees	-	7,252.00	7,252.00	-
Districts	-	1,375,031.45	1,375,031.45	-
Student Activities Fund	12,184.33	13,456.36	14,126.75	11,513.94
	\$ 7,797,330.92	\$ 9,129,938.38	\$ 15,015,488.99	\$ 1,911,780.31

Town of Deerfield							
Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Account Groups							
as of June 30, 2022							
(Unaudited)							
	Governmental Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Types	Fiduciary Fund Types	Account Groups	Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Trust and Agency	Long-term Debt	
ASSETS							
Cash and cash equivalents	3,803,604.07	5,401,839.59	9,945,380.40	2,257,949.71	2,617,415.87		24,026,189.64
Receivables:							
Personal property taxes	2,066.45						2,066.45
Real estate taxes	123,600.89	2,433.78					126,034.67
Allowance for abatements and exemptions	(59,745.49)						(59,745.49)
Tax liens	79,855.37	977.59		1,168.46	7,067.92		89,069.34
Motor vehicle excise	32,531.32						32,531.32
User fees				1,703,994.84			1,703,994.84
Departmental	250.00						250.00
Due from other governments		774,613.82					774,613.82
Foreclosures/Possessions	41,711.81						41,711.81
Amounts to be provided - payment of bonds						2,940,000.00	2,940,000.00
Total Assets	4,023,874.42	6,179,864.78	9,945,380.40	3,963,113.01	2,624,483.79	2,940,000.00	29,676,716.40
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY							
Liabilities:							
Warrants payable	238,985.75	643,293.36	889,062.54	31,992.87	2,843.04		1,806,177.56
Accounts payable	21,190.68	135.32	33,316.60	668.18			55,310.78
Accrued payroll	469,580.02	38,114.75		37,082.19			544,776.96
Withholdings	72,255.13						72,255.13
Other liabilities			361,345.41				361,345.41
Deferred revenue:							
Real and personal property taxes	65,921.85	2,433.78					68,355.63
Tax liens	79,855.37	977.59		1,168.46	7,067.92		89,069.34
Foreclosures/Possessions	41,711.81						41,711.81
Motor vehicle excise	32,531.32						32,531.32
User fees				1,703,994.84			1,703,994.84
Departmental	250.00						250.00
Due from other governments		774,613.82					774,613.82
Notes payable			16,272,951.00				16,272,951.00
Bonds payable						2,940,000.00	2,940,000.00
Total Liabilities	1,022,281.93	1,459,568.62	17,556,675.55	1,774,906.54	9,910.96	2,940,000.00	24,763,343.60
Fund Equity:							
Reserved for encumbrances	151,149.16						151,149.16
Reserved for expenditures	788,189.47	464,800.00		473,256.00			1,726,245.47
Reserved for continuing appropriations	858,888.69	39,829.00					898,717.69
Reserved for Charter School spending	10,915.00						10,915.00
Reserved for premiums	39,716.60						39,716.60
Reserved for working deposit		617,980.00					617,980.00
Undesignated fund balance	1,152,733.57	3,597,687.16	(7,611,295.15)		2,614,572.83		(246,301.59)
Unreserved retained earnings				1,714,950.47			1,714,950.47
Total Fund Equity	3,001,592.49	4,720,296.16	(7,611,295.15)	2,188,206.47	2,614,572.83	0.00	4,913,372.80
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	4,023,874.42	6,179,864.78	9,945,380.40	3,963,113.01	2,624,483.79	2,940,000.00	29,676,716.40

ASSESSORS

Board of Assessors as of May 2022 Elections

Francis (Skip) Sobieski, Chair
Charles Shattuck III
Frank J. Leone

Term Expires: 2023
Term Expires: 2024
Term Expires: 2025

Administrative Assistant to the Board of Assessors: Karen S. Menard, M.A.A.

How the Assessors Determine Value

Real property valuation in Massachusetts is based on “full and fair cash value,” the amount a willing buyer would pay a willing seller on the open market. Assessors must collect, record, and analyze a great deal of information about property and market characteristics in order to estimate the fair market value of all taxable properties in their communities. All properties, including churches, educational institutions, State and Town-owned land, are also valued, even though they may be exempt from taxation.

Personal property valuation in Massachusetts (property not considered real estate and, generally, not part of one’s home) is based on a combination of market value and utility value. Personal property located within the town as of January 1, preceding the next fiscal year, is required to be reported to the town on a Form of List by March 1.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts requires that the assessed values be reviewed annually with sales statistics for the previous calendar year and that all properties be recertified every five years, starting fiscal year 2018. Deerfield has completed interim updates for fiscal year 2023. The Town of Deerfield uses an independent appraisal service to inspect properties and to analyze sales.

Why Assessments Go Up When a Property Has not Changed

Since assessments reflect market value, rising/falling real estate prices in the community will result in generally higher/lower assessments. As several factors influence market value, the changes to assessments may not be uniform. One such factor is the style of the building. For example, one year, colonials will be in demand, thus raising their market value more than other styles and, another year, capes will be more popular. Another factor is location. For various reasons, certain neighborhoods are more attractive to buyers (in-town one year, rural the next...). Again, the resulting demand raises the price for homes in the preferred neighborhood. In addition, the condition of the property will affect its value. For two homes comparable in style, grade, and location, the better maintained home would have a higher value. While changes made to a property can affect value, these other factors must also be considered.

If You Disagree With the Assessed Value of Your Property

If, in your opinion, the assessment of your property is incorrect, by all means, discuss it with the Board of Assessors. At the meeting, you will need to specify the items about which you disagree such as misinformation on the property record card or values of comparable properties lower or higher than yours. Cite specific examples. Information on all properties is available in the Assessors’ Office and on-line at www.deerfieldma.us.

Abatements and Appeals

Once the tax bills have been mailed, an aggrieved taxpayer must go through the more formal process of filing for an abatement. These forms may be picked up at the Assessors' Office. They must be filed with the Assessors on or before the due date of the first installment of the actual tax bill.

If the Assessors do not grant the desired abatement, the taxpayer then has the right to appeal to the State's Appellate Tax Board. The appeal must be filed within three months of the denial from the Board of Assessors. Information and applications are available from the following:

The Appellate Tax Board
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 200
Boston, MA 02114
Phone: (617)727-3100
<http://www.mass.gov/atb/>

How Property Taxes Are Computed

Before Proposition 2½ went into effect in Massachusetts in Fiscal Year 1982, the amount to be raised by the property tax in each community was essentially determined by what the community decided to spend in the coming year, through either its Annual Town Meeting, or its City and Town Council. Budgets were so determined and, then the tax rates were set to raise that amount. With Proposition 2½ in effect, the process is reversed. The tax limitation law sets the maximum amount a community may collect, or levy, from the property tax to "...2.5 percent of the total full and fair cash value of all real and personal property in the community" based on the previous year's valuation plus new growth. At the Annual Town Meeting, a budget is adopted. Budgets must be made to fit within that limit (with the exception of any override(s) or debt exclusion(s) passed by the voters). The budget total less the monies anticipated from other sources, such as state aid and local receipts from fees, etc., is the amount that needs to be raised through property taxes.

Determining the Tax Rate

Before the tax rate can be set, the town must decide if they want all property to be taxed at the same rate, or if they prefer separate rates for a certain class of property, such as commercial/industrial. The Assessors prepare a Tax Rate Recapitulation sheet showing the total value for each class of property and its percentage of the town total. Using this information, the Selectboard holds a Classification Hearing to decide if there will be a single or multiple tax rate(s).

What Assessors Do Not Do

Assessors do not make the laws that affect property owners. The Massachusetts Legislature enacts tax laws. Various guidelines and regulations to implement the legislation are established by the Department of Revenue. The Assessors must follow these procedures and act in accordance with the law.

**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS
FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022
TOWN APPROPRIATIONS VOTED JUNE 12, 2021**

Appropriations To Be Raised:

From Raise and Appropriate	\$15,884,561.00	
From Free Cash	839,064.00	
From Other Available Funds	297,927.00	
From CPA Funds	380,000.00	
From Enterprise Funds	2,553,976.00	<u>\$19,955,528.00</u>

Other Amounts To Be Raised:

Amounts Certified for Tax Title	4,450.00	
Overlay Deficits	0.00	
Cherry Sheet Offsets	303,731.00	
State and County Cherry Sheets Charges	319,199.00	
Overlay Reserve	<u>93,901.64</u>	<u>\$721,281.64</u>

Total Amount To Be Raised:

\$20,676,809.64

Estimated Receipts & Other Revenue Sources:

Estimated Receipts From State:

Cherry Sheet Estimated Receipts	\$2,100,875.00	
Mass. School Building Authority Payment	0.00	<u>\$2,100,875.00</u>

Local Estimated Receipts:

Motor Vehicle Excise	\$625,000.00	
Other Excise	0.00	
Room Occupancy Tax	100,000.00	
Meals Tax	60,000.00	
Cannabis Tax	0.00	
Penalties & Interest	34,000.00	
Payment In Lieu Of taxes	165,000.00	
Trash Disposal	155,000.00	
Fees	155,000.00	
Rentals	45,000.00	
Departmental Revenue - Cemeteries	0.00	
Other Departmental Revenue	0.00	
Licenses & Permits	230,000.00	
Fines & Forfeits	35,000.00	
Investment Income	15,000.00	
Medicaid Reimbursement	15,000.00	
Miscellaneous Non-Recurring	<u>8,000.00</u>	<u>\$1,642,000.00</u>

Free Cash		<u>\$839,064.00</u>
Free Cash to reduce tax rate		<u>0.00</u>
Enterprise Funds		<u>\$2,666,541.00</u>
Community Preservation Act Surcharge		<u>\$380,000.00</u>
Other Available Funds		<u>\$297,927.00</u>

Total Estimated Receipts & Revenue

\$7,926,407.00

Total Tax Levy

\$12,750,402.64

Total Assessed Value of Real & Personal Property

\$840,501,163.00

Total Levy ÷ Total Value x 1,000 = Tax Rate

12,750,402.64 ÷ 840,501,163.00 x 1,000 = \$15.17

BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board of Health (BOH) and your Health Agent did an enormous amount of work this year on behalf of the public. All in the efforts of prevention, health promotion, and protection of public health:

- We hired our new Public Health Nurse, Cindy Majewski, to further the clinical and social activities for the Town of Deerfield.
- We partnered with community organizations to provide six vaccination clinics during the year resulting in over 1,800 immunizations being administered.
 - Over 95% of Deerfield residents have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, and about 75% of individuals have received their first booster.
 - Nearly 4,000 COVID-19 PCR diagnostic tests were administered by Curative and over 5,040 COVID-19 rapid antigen tests were distributed to residents.
- Actively worked with our schools, local businesses, and Town leadership in efforts to minimize the spread of COVID-19 with masks and other preventative measures.

Our efforts to partner with other agencies proved quite fruitful as the BOH joined:

- The Pioneer Valley Tobacco Collaborative, a regional tobacco control program.
- The Pioneer Valley Healthy Air Network, a regional project to install air sensors for communities to monitor air quality levels.
- The Franklin County Solid Waste Management District Sharps Disposal Program for residents to exchange their used sharps for new containers.
- The Department of Public Health Public Health Excellence Grant (PHE), a regional program spearheaded by the Greenfield Health Department for public health nursing and inspectional services for surrounding communities in the amount \$279,000.
- The BOH also participated in the COVID-19 wastewater surveillance program as another epidemiological tool of the South Deerfield wastewater, observing community transmission of schools, hospitals, etc., collection for our PHE group's weekly COVID-19 Alert Level Data.

The BOH was awarded \$35,000 from the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO).

- The BOH collected \$46,665 in permit/license fees.

Board of Health Activity	No.
Title 5 inspections	34
Percolation tests	22
Housing complaints/inspections	16
Well permits	4
Food establishment permits	50
Food inspections	94
Other food type permits	77
Hotel permits	2
Tobacco Sales permits	6
Title 5/septic installers, pumpers	24
Offal permits	7
Recreational camp for children permits	9
Semi-/Public pool permits	6

I am always ready to help you.

I can be reached at 413-665-1400 ext. 109 or emailed at healthagent@town.deerfield.ma.us

Thank you,

Alex White
Board of Health Agent

BUILDING INSPECTIONS

Robert Walden Building Commissioner
 Wayne Shaw..... Wiring Inspector
 Eric Henderson Alternate Wiring Inspector
 Steven Baranoski..... Plumbing & Gas Fittings Inspector
 Mark Wendolowski Alternate Plumbing & Gas Fittings Inspector
 Amy Hahn..... Administrative Assistant

The Building Inspections office ensures safety and code compliance.

Detailed below are new permits issued by the Building Department in 2022, and annual permits issued in 2022.

PERMIT TYPE	RESIDENTIAL PERMITS	COMMERCIAL PERMITS	TOTAL PERMITS
Building	124	34	158
Electrical	84	23	107
Gas Fittings	34	18	52
Plumbing	38	12	50

ANNUAL PERMITS

Restaurant, Bar	Church, Lecture Hall, Recreational Center	Hotel, Motel, Lodging, etc.	Educational & Daycare
19	8	3	74

Building permits may be required when work on a home or either the homeowner or a contractor is doing business. If you are unsure if you need a building permit, please contact the Building Inspections office.

Work Requiring a Permit (examples)

- New homes, additions, garages or storage sheds (over 200 sq. ft.)
- Interior renovations, involving the cutting away of any wall or structural member.
- Decks and ramps.
- Roofing (when re-roofing more than 25% of existing roof).
- Siding (when re-siding more than 25% of existing house)
- Windows or exterior door replacement.
- Fences over 7ft high.
- Retaining walls over 4ft high.
- Wood stoves, fireplace inserts, fireplaces, or chimneys, outdoor wood furnace.
- Demolition of any existing structure.
- Signs-new or alterations of existing signs.
- Changes of use (e.g. from storage to living space).

Why Should I Get a Permit?

It is the law. Massachusetts Building Code (780 CMR 5110.1.0) states: It shall be unlawful to construct, reconstruct, alter, repair, remove or demolish a building or structure...without first filing a written application with the building official and obtaining the required permit therefore.” In addition, a building permit is for your own protection. The building official will require the work performed to meet the standards of the Mass Building Code, which translates into your security. Insurance companies may require a Certificate of Occupancy or approval of the building official for certain work.

TOWN ADMINISTRATION

Kayce D. Warren, Town Administrator
Chris Nolan, Assistant Town Administrator
Patricia A. Kroll, Administrative Assistant



TOWN CLERK

Often considered the core of local government, the Town Clerk's Office serves as the central information point for residents and citizens at large. Our office is responsible for maintaining and preserving the town's vital records. The office also issues various licenses and permits such as business certificates, raffle/bazaar permits, and dog licenses. The office of the Town Clerk also issues birth, death, and marriage certificates as well as accepting marriage intentions from couples wishing to be married.

The Town Clerk's Office posts all meeting notices and agendas. Additionally, a calendar on the homepage of the town's website lists all meetings and other important dates. This feature provides an easy way for residents to keep abreast of upcoming meetings. The Town's website provides a wealth of information including the ability for customers to pay online for a variety of services.

Dogs are licensed on the calendar year: January-December. Dogs six months and older must be registered annually. Dog licenses are sold at the Town Clerk's Office or can be purchased by mail or online. The Town Hall is open on Mon -Thu 9 am-4 pm. Unless already on file, a valid rabies certificate is required to purchase a dog license. Proof of spaying or neutering is also necessary for all dogs that were not licensed as such last year. Spayed or neuter certificates or a short note from your veterinarian will be acceptable. Feel free to contact the Town Clerk's Office to verify what is on file. To purchase a dog license online, please visit the Town's Website: www.deerfieldma.us and click "online payments". Once your dog is licensed, please make every effort to renew your dog license every year by the end of April. A \$50 late fee per dog is effective on May 1. This late fee does not apply to a new dog.

The Town Clerk also serves as the Chief Election Official and as such is responsible for all Elections: local, state, and federal. Massachusetts General Law C.51 s.4 requires an annual census be mailed to each residence. Replying to the census assures that you remain on the active voter list and provides documentation of your legal residence. In 2022, the Town Clerk's office conducted the following elections: May 2, Annual Town Election, September 6, State Primary, November 8th State Election and Special Town Election, December 6. All voting is at the Municipal Town Offices, 8 Conway Street. Register to Vote online: www.RegisterToVoteMA.com.

The following is a summary of activities of the Town Clerk's Office for 2022.

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Births	25	25	19	34	18	36
Deaths	35	48	44	39	51	48
Marriages	17	23	30	20	29	25

Respectfully Submitted,

Carlene C. Hamlin, Interim Town Clerk

Annual Town Meeting Minutes April 25, 2022

FRANKLIN SS

I, Jennifer Wallace, duly appointed and qualified Assistant Town Clerk of the Town of Deerfield hereby verify that the following votes were taken at the Annual Town Meeting held on Monday, April 25, 2022 at the Frontier Regional School on 113 North Main Street, in the Village of South Deerfield, with 165 voters in attendance. Meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Daniel Graves at 7:05pm.

A motion was made and seconded to elect Jennifer Wallace as Temporary Town Clerk for the purpose of Annual Town Meeting. A ballot vote was conducted resulting in 106 ballots in favor of Jennifer Wallace with 2 blank votes.

Moderator's Motions:

Voted that the reading of all articles be waived and that prior to the reading of a motion under the article, the Moderator briefly summarize the content of the article to be considered; and, further, that unless objection is raised, the reading of detailed motions be waived where the article as printed can, in the opinion of the Moderator, be incorporated by reference in any motion presented.

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

Voted that the following people be allowed to address the audience during the Town Meeting:

- Attorney Lisa Mead, Town Counsel
- Brenda Hill, Town Accountant
- Kayce Warren, Town Administrator
- Darius Modestow, Superintendent, Frontier Regional/Union 38 Schools
- Shelly Poreda, Director of Business Administration, Frontier Regional/Union 38 Schools
- Tina Gemme, Principal, Deerfield Elementary School
- Richard Martin, Superintendent, Franklin County Technical School
- Russell Kaubris, Business Manager, Franklin County Technical School

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 1 Consent Article

Voted to approve Article 1, A through G, as a consent article, as follows:

- A.** Reports of Officers
- B.** Hear the reports of the Selectboard, the Deerfield School Committee, and all other Town officers, boards, committees, and commissions.
- C.** Elected Officials Compensation

Establish the salaries and compensation of all elected officers of the Town as contained within the omnibus budget of the Town, for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022.

OFFICIAL	REQUESTED	RECOMMENDED
<i>Moderator, Annual Town Meeting</i>	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
<i>Moderator, Special Town Meeting (\$50/mtg.)</i>	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
<i>Selectboard, Chair</i>	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
<i>Selectboard, Associate Members (2)</i>	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
<i>Assessors, Chair</i>	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
<i>Assessors, Associate Members (2)</i>	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
<i>School Committee, Chair</i>	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
<i>School Committee, Assoc. Members (4)</i>	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00

A. Acknowledgement of Gifts

Acknowledge the following monetary gifts made to the Town in appreciation of services rendered, that have been deposited by the Treasurer in the General or related Special Funds of the Town; and to acknowledge countless non-monetary gifts made to the Town by our non-profit partners.

Monetary Gifts in appreciation for services rendered

Deerfield Academy	\$133,000
Eaglebrook School	\$26,000
Bement School	\$10,000
Woolman Hill	\$4,327

Monetary pledges toward replacement of the Deerfield Elementary School Roof completed in 2016, paid over a 5 -to- 10-year period.

Deerfield Academy	\$105,000
Eaglebrook School	\$75,000
Historic Deerfield	\$25,000
Bement School	\$20,000

Pledges received in the last 12 months

Deerfield Academy	\$21,000
Eaglebrook School	\$7,500
Historic Deerfield	\$5,000
Bement School	\$2,000

Monetary donation towards School Resource Officer Program the past 12 months

Deerfield Academy	\$30,000
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Monetary donation towards replacement of sewer pipes

Deerfield Academy	\$270,000
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Monetary donation towards July 2021 storm damage/Greenfield Rd

Deerfield Academy \$5,000

Monetary donation towards South County EMS operations

Deerfield Academy \$700

The Town gratefully acknowledges countless non-monetary gifts made by all our non-profit partners during the last 12 months.

A. Library Interest

Transfer the interest earned for the preceding year from the Dickinson Library Trust fund to the Tilton Library, and to Frontier Regional School for Library use, for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022, as referenced in this article.

Dickinson Library Trust Interest

Tilton Library for Library Use (85%)	\$2,303
Frontier Regional School for Library use (15%)	\$406
Total	\$2,709

B. Acceptance of Grants

Authorize the Selectboard to apply for, accept and expend for specific purposes any monies provided by any Federal or State Grants or Programs, which may be awarded to the Town.

C. Selectboard Contract Authority

Authorize the Selectboard, in accordance with G.L c. 30B §12(b), to negotiate and enter into contracts with vendors as they deem necessary or beneficial, for a term of no more than five (5) years.

D. Assessors Contract Authority

Authorize the Board of Assessors, in accordance with G.L c. 30B §12(b), to negotiate and enter into contracts with vendors as they deem necessary or beneficial, for a term of no more than five (5) years.

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 2 Consent Article – Special Appropriations

Voted to transfer from Free Cash for the following items A, B, C, and D, as set forth below

A. Reserve Fund Appropriation

The sum of **\$100,000** for the Reserve Fund of the Town in accordance with G.L. c.40 §6 for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022;

B. OPEB Liability Trust Fund Appropriation

The sum of **\$39,760** for the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022;

C. Out of District Placement (Vocational Education) Appropriation

The sum of **\$64,500** for the tuition and transportation expenses of students to the Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022;

D. 350th Celebration Appropriation

The sum of **\$10,000** for the Town’s 350th Anniversary Celebration for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022.

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 3 Revolving Funds

Voted to fix the maximum amount that may be spent for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022, for the revolving funds established in the Deerfield General Bylaws, c. 20 §20-3, Departmental Revolving Funds for certain departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers in accordance with G.L. c.44 §53E½, as referenced in this article, or take any action relative thereto.

FUND	SPENDING LIMIT
Recycling	\$20,000.00
Parks and Recreation	\$75,000.00
Planning	\$25,000.00

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 4 Creation of Revolving Fund for Foster Care Transportation

Voted to pass over this Article

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 5 Authorization to Enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Foster Care Transportation

Voted to authorize the Town of Deerfield, acting through its School Committee, to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), whereby, children in foster care are required to remain in their School of Origin if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the child; or take any action relative thereto.

The School of Origin is responsible for funding the cost of this transportation. EOHHS, in a partnership with Department of Children and Families (DCF) and Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), has developed a methodology that could reimburse a share of these transportation costs through Title IV-E. The MOU is an agreement between the Town of Deerfield, EOHHS, DESE, and DCF to comply with the accuracy of the information being reported; maintenance of record requirements; and audit implications.

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 6 Classification-Compensation Plan

Voted to adopt the Classification-Compensation Plan per the Deerfield General Bylaws c.35, Personnel, Article III, Classification-Compensation Plan, for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022, as referenced in this article, or take any action relative thereto.

Grade	Position	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10	Step 11	Step 12
A													
	Landfill Attendants	17.00	17.43	17.87	18.32	18.78	19.25	19.73	20.22	20.73	21.25	21.78	22.32
	Library Assistant(s)	17.00	17.43	17.87	18.32	18.78	19.25	19.73	20.22	20.73	21.25	21.78	22.32
B													
	Outreach Coordinator	19.55	20.04	20.54	21.05	21.58	22.12	22.67	23.24	23.82	24.42	25.03	25.66
	Adult Circulation *	19.55	20.04	20.54	21.05	21.58	22.12	22.67	23.24	23.82	24.42	25.03	25.66
	Circulation & Technical Services Assistant(s)	19.55	20.04	20.54	21.05	21.58	22.12	22.67	23.24	23.82	24.42	25.03	25.66
	Program Coordinator	19.55	20.04	20.54	21.05	21.58	22.12	22.67	23.24	23.82	24.42	25.03	25.66
C													
	Head of Adult Services	22.48	23.04	23.62	24.21	24.82	25.44	26.08	26.73	27.40	28.09	28.79	29.51
	Head of Young Adult Services	22.48	23.04	23.62	24.21	24.82	25.44	26.08	26.73	27.40	28.09	28.79	29.51
	Operator-in-Training	22.48	23.04	23.62	24.21	24.82	25.44	26.08	26.73	27.40	28.09	28.79	29.51
	Administrative Assistant(s)	22.48	23.04	23.62	24.21	24.82	25.44	26.08	26.73	27.40	28.09	28.79	29.51
	EMT-Basic (s)	22.48	23.04	23.62	24.21	24.82	25.44	26.08	26.73	27.40	28.09	28.79	29.51
	Assistant Town Clerk	22.48	23.04	23.62	24.21	24.82	25.44	26.08	26.73	27.40	28.09	28.79	29.51
D													
	Children's Librarian	25.85	26.50	27.16	27.84	28.54	29.25	29.98	30.73	31.50	32.29	33.10	33.93
	Advanced EMT	25.85	26.50	27.16	27.84	28.54	29.25	29.98	30.73	31.50	32.29	33.10	33.93
	Operator(s) - Sewer	25.85	26.50	27.16	27.84	28.54	29.25	29.98	30.73	31.50	32.29	33.10	33.93
E													
	Paramedic(s)	29.73	30.47	31.23	32.01	32.81	33.63	34.47	35.33	36.21	37.12	38.05	39.00
	Senior Center Director	29.73	30.47	31.23	32.01	32.81	33.63	34.47	35.33	36.21	37.12	38.05	39.00
	Assistant to Board of Assessors	29.73	30.47	31.23	32.01	32.81	33.63	34.47	35.33	36.21	37.12	38.05	39.00
	Assistant Treasurer/Collector	29.73	30.47	31.23	32.01	32.81	33.63	34.47	35.33	36.21	37.12	38.05	39.00
	Recreation Director	29.73	30.47	31.23	32.01	32.81	33.63	34.47	35.33	36.21	37.12	38.05	39.00
F													
	Health Agent	34.19	35.04	35.92	36.82	37.74	38.68	39.65	40.64	41.66	42.70	43.77	44.86
	EMS Deputy Chief	34.19	35.04	35.92	36.82	37.74	38.68	39.65	40.64	41.66	42.70	43.77	44.86
	Asst Town Administrator	34.19	35.04	35.92	36.82	37.74	38.68	39.65	40.64	41.66	42.70	43.77	44.86
	Chief WWTP Operator	34.19	35.04	35.92	36.82	37.74	38.68	39.65	40.64	41.66	42.70	43.77	44.86
	Library Director	34.19	35.04	35.92	36.82	37.74	38.68	39.65	40.64	41.66	42.70	43.77	44.86
	Town Clerk	34.19	35.04	35.92	36.82	37.74	38.68	39.65	40.64	41.66	42.70	43.77	44.86
	Asst Public Works Supt	34.19	35.04	35.92	36.82	37.74	38.68	39.65	40.64	41.66	42.70	43.77	44.86

G													
Public Works Superintendent	37.61	38.55	39.51	40.50	41.51	42.55	43.61	44.70	45.82	46.97	48.14	49.34	
Treasurer/Collector	37.61	38.55	39.51	40.50	41.51	42.55	43.61	44.70	45.82	46.97	48.14	49.34	
Town Clerk/Treasurer/Collector ☐	37.61	38.55	39.51	40.50	41.51	42.55	43.61	44.70	45.82	46.97	48.14	49.34	
Building Commissioner	37.61	38.55	39.51	40.50	41.51	42.55	43.61	44.70	45.82	46.97	48.14	49.34	
Town Accountant/Budget Director	37.61	38.55	39.51	40.50	41.51	42.55	43.61	44.70	45.82	46.97	48.14	49.34	
EMS Chief	37.61	38.55	39.51	40.50	41.51	42.55	43.61	44.70	45.82	46.97	48.14	49.34	
LONGEVITY	10-14 Yrs \$200			15-19 Yrs \$300			20-24 Yrs \$400			25+ Yrs \$500			

Must remain until such time as Town Meeting and the Legislature vote to split the position.

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 7 Snow and Ice Shortfall

Voted to transfer from Free Cash, the sum of \$57,842 to fund a Fiscal Year 2022 shortfall related to Snow and Ice Removal Expenses.

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 8 Omnibus Budget

Voted the Moderator read amounts recommended to be appropriated under this article as referenced in the handout and unless objection is made, each item recommended in the report of the Finance Committee shall be tentatively accepted as appropriated for the purpose stated. If an objection is made to any recommendation, such appropriation shall be taken separately and the amount thereof and the manner of taking the same shall be determined by vote of the meeting and tentatively accepted. One vote shall be taken appropriating each amount so accepted as single appropriation not to be exceeded.

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

The FY2023 Omnibus Budget

100 SERIES - GENERAL GOVERNMENT	FY2022 Appropriated	FY2023 Requested	FY2023 Recommended
114-5100 - MODERATOR	\$400	\$400	\$400
122-5100 - SELECTBOARD SALARIES	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$16,000
122-5110 - SELECTBOARD STAFF SALARIES	\$225,167	\$254,724	\$254,724
122-5400 - SELECTBOARD/ADMINISTRATOR EXP	\$13,100	\$12,250	\$12,250
131-5400 - FINANCE COMMITTEE	\$500	\$500	\$500
135-5110 - ACCOUNTANT SALARY	\$56,358	\$78,094	\$78,094
135-5400 - ACCOUNTANT EXPENSE	\$16,525	\$17,025	\$17,025
141-5100 - ASSESSORS SALARIES	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$11,000
141-5110 - ASSESSORS ADMIN ASSISTANT	\$66,026	\$69,007	\$69,007
141-5400 - ASSESSORS EXPENSE	\$23,125	\$18,875	\$18,875
142-5400 - ASSESSORS QUINQUENNIAL RECERT	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
145-5110 - TREAS / COLLECTOR SALARIES	\$190,517	\$191,507	\$191,507
145-5410 - TREASURER / COLLECTOR EXPENSE	\$31,110	\$37,710	\$37,710
151-5110 - LEGAL EXPENSE	\$74,000	\$75,500	\$75,500
152-5400 - PERSONNEL BOARD	\$500	\$750	\$750
155-5400 - IT HARDWARE	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
155-5800 - PEG ACCESS CAPITAL EXPENSE	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
159-5410 - CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$229,558	\$271,435	\$271,435

161-5110 - TOWN CLERK SALARY	\$0	\$34,760	\$34,760
161-5400 - TOWN CLERK EXPENSE	\$17,598	\$25,568	\$25,568
171-5400 - CONSERVATION COMMISSION	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
172-5400 - OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE	\$10,000	\$250	\$250
175-5400 - PLANNING BOARD	\$7,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
176-5400 - ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
179-5400 - AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION	\$100	\$100	\$100
182-5400 - ENERGY COMMITTEE	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
192-5400 - TOWN OFFICE BLDG MAINTENANCE	\$81,100	\$85,500	\$85,500
192-5430 - TOWN OFFICE EXPENSE	\$13,250	\$14,000	\$14,000
196-5400 - GENERAL INSURANCE	\$60,000	\$63,000	\$63,000
TOTAL - GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$1,174,934	\$1,316,955	\$1,316,955
	FY2022	FY2023	FY2023
200 SERIES - PUBLIC SAFETY	Appropriated	Requested	Recommended
210-5110 - POLICE PAYROLL	\$932,657	\$994,014	\$994,014
210-5400 - POLICE DEPT EXPENSE	\$119,300	\$114,300	\$114,300
210-5800 - POLICE DEPT - CRUISER	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$55,000
241-5110 - INSPECTIONS DEPT PAYROLL	\$165,181	\$169,177	\$169,177
241-5400 - INSPECTIONS DEPT EXPENSE	\$4,750	\$4,950	\$4,950
291-5400 - EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	\$2,800	\$2,800	\$2,800
292-5400 - CANINE CONTROL	\$20,485	\$20,954	\$20,954
TOTAL - PUBLIC SAFETY	\$1,300,173	\$1,361,195	\$1,361,195
	FY2022	FY2023	FY2023
300 SERIES - EDUCATION	Appropriated	Requested	Recommended
300-5400 - DEERFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	\$4,945,986	\$5,098,948	\$5,098,948
310-5400 - FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL	\$4,016,567	\$4,100,475	\$4,100,475
310-5800 - FRONTIER REGIONAL - CAPITAL	\$0	\$1,385	\$1,385
315-5800 - FRONTIER REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION	\$122,920	\$79,511	\$79,511
320-5410 - FRANKLIN TECH ASSESSMENT	\$323,023	\$541,163	\$541,163
320-5800 - FRANKLIN TECH - CAPITAL	\$17,697	\$18,561	\$18,561
TOTAL - EDUCATION	\$9,426,193	\$9,840,043	\$9,840,043
	FY2022	FY2023	FY2023
400 SERIES - PUBLIC WORKS	Appropriated	Requested	Recommended
422-5110 - GEN HIGHWAY PAYROLL	\$543,532	\$549,444	\$549,444
422-5400 - GEN HIGHWAY EXPENSE	\$280,050	\$304,550	\$304,550
423-5400 - WINTER SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL	\$90,000	\$95,000	\$95,000
424-5400 - STREET LIGHTING	\$37,000	\$23,000	\$23,000
433-5400 - TRANSFER STATION EXPENSE	\$211,600	\$219,900	\$219,900
439-5400 - TEST WELL MONITORING / MAINT	\$40,000	\$38,000	\$38,000
TOTAL - PUBLIC WORKS	\$1,202,182	\$1,229,894	\$1,229,894

500 SERIES - HUMAN SERVICES	FY2022 Appropriated	FY2023 Requested	FY2023 Recommended
512-5110 - BOARD OF HEALTH SALARY	\$39,336	\$97,884	\$97,884
512-5400 - BOARD OF HEALTH EXPENSE	\$33,525	\$13,975	\$13,975
512-5500 - EMERGENCY COVID-19 EXP	\$15,000	\$0	\$0
541-5400 - COUNCIL ON AGING	\$500	\$500	\$500
541-5420 - SENIOR CENTER EXPENSE	\$47,558	\$64,993	\$64,993
543-5400 - VETERANS DISTRICT ASSESSMENT	\$13,910	\$13,743	\$13,743
543-5410 - VETERANS BENEFITS	\$21,000	\$21,000	\$21,000
549-5400 - ADA COORDINATOR	\$250	\$250	\$250
TOTAL - HUMAN SERVICES	\$171,079	\$212,345	\$212,345

600 SERIES - CULTURE AND RECREATION	FY2022 Appropriated	FY2023 Requested	FY2023 Recommended
610-5400 - TILTON LIBRARY	\$194,105	\$202,983	\$202,983
630-5400 - SUMMER SWIM PROGRAM	\$1,310	\$6,310	\$6,310
630-5410 - TRI-TOWN BEACH EXPENSE	\$18,160	\$27,220	\$27,220
634-5110 - RECREATION DEPT DIRECTOR SALARY	\$51,849	\$53,167	\$53,167
691-5400 - HISTORICAL COMMISSION	\$1,175	\$1,175	\$1,175
692-5800 - VETERANS DAY / MEMORIAL DAY EXP	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
TOTAL - CULTURE AND RECREATION	\$268,599	\$292,855	\$292,855

700 SERIES - DEBT SERVICE	FY2022 Appropriated	FY2023 Requested	FY2023 Recommended
710-5900 - MATURING DEBT	\$483,614	\$457,815	\$457,815
751-5900 - INTEREST ON MATURING DEBT	\$130,917	\$196,545	\$196,545
752-5900 - INTEREST ON TEMPORARY LOANS	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
TOTAL - DEBT SERVICE	\$619,531	\$659,360	\$659,360

800 & 900 SERIES - BENEFITS	FY2022 Appropriated	FY2023 Requested	FY2023 Recommended
830-5400 - FRCOG CORE ASSESSMENT	\$41,574	\$45,091	\$45,091
910-5800 - UNFUNDED SICK LEAVE AND VACATION	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
911-5400 - FRANKLIN CTY REGIONAL RETIREMENT	\$563,504	\$623,521	\$623,521
912-5400 - WORKERS COMPENSATION	\$47,144	\$40,928	\$40,928
913-5400 - UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$27,000
914-5400 - GROUP INSURANCE - TOWN	\$292,280	\$310,939	\$310,939
914-5410 - GROUP INSURANCE - SCHOOL	\$657,526	\$635,418	\$635,418
916-5400 - MEDICARE INSURANCE	\$103,987	\$103,386	\$103,386
TOTAL - BENEFITS	\$1,743,015	\$1,796,283	\$1,796,283
TOTAL - OMNIBUS BUDGET	\$15,905,706	\$16,708,930	\$16,708,930

Voted to appropriate \$16,708,930 to fund the accepted amounts voted, and to meet this appropriation, transfer:

\$65,000 From SCEMS Enterprise Fund
 \$6,700 From SCSC Fund
 \$69,000 From Sewer Enterprise Fund
 \$5,984 From Receipts Reserved for Debt
 \$8,500 From the Cemetery RRA Fund
 \$38,809 From Free Cash

and raise and appropriate \$16,514,937

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 9 Collective Bargaining Agreements

Voted to appropriate \$45,094, pursuant to G.L. c.150E §7, sufficient and included in the Omnibus Budget to fund the Massachusetts Coalition of Police I.U.P.A. AFL-CIO collective bargaining agreement for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022 (Fiscal Year 2023)

Motion carried, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 10 Sewer/WWTP Enterprise Fund

Voted to appropriate, \$1,774,240 for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022 to fund the Sewer/WWTP Enterprise Fund as noted below.

Revenues

<i>User Fees</i>	<i>\$ 1,472,240</i>	
<i>Retained Earnings</i>		<i>\$ 300,000</i>
<i>Investment Income</i>		<i>\$ 2,000</i>
<hr/> <i>Total Revenues</i>	<hr/> <i>\$1,774,240</i>	

Expenses

<i>Salaries/Wages</i>	<i>\$ 431,040</i>	
<i>Operating Expenses</i>		<i>\$ 648,200</i>
<i>Debt Service</i>		<i>\$ 585,000</i>
<i>Indirect Costs</i>	<i>\$</i>	<i>69,000</i>
<i>Operational Reserve</i>	<i>\$</i>	<i>41,000</i>
<hr/> <i>Total Enterprise Fund Expenses</i>	<hr/> <i>\$1,774,240</i>	

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 11 South Deerfield Wastewater Treatment Facility Phase II Upgrade Project

Voted to appropriate \$3,000,000 to pay the costs of upgrading the South Deerfield Wastewater Treatment Facility and appurtenances thereto, including, but not limited to, planning, design, permitting, bidding and construction, as well as all other costs incidental and related thereto; and to meet this appropriation to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to borrow said sum under G.L. c. 44, or any other enabling authority and issue bonds or notes of the Town upon such terms as the Treasurer and the Selectboard shall determine; and further provided, that said appropriation shall be subject to and contingent upon an affirmative vote of the Town to exempt the amounts required for the payment of interest and principal on said borrowing from the limitations on taxes imposed by G.L. c. 59, §21C (Proposition 2 ½, so called).

Motion carried by 2/3rds, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 12 SCEMS Enterprise Fund

Voted to appropriate the sum of \$1,416,117 and to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$345,693 to fund the South County Emergency Medical Service Enterprise Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022, and to meet the Town of Deerfield’s allocated share of costs as follows:

Revenues

<i>Medical Service Fees</i>	\$ 575,000	
<i>Grants</i>	\$ 0	
<i>Retained Earnings</i>	\$ 173,256	
<i>Deerfield Assessment (from Free Cash)</i>	\$ 345,693	
<i>Sunderland Assessment</i>	\$ 210,221	
<i>Whately Assessment</i>	\$ 111,947	
<i>Other</i>	\$ 0	
Total Revenues	\$ 1,416,117	

Expenses

<i>Salaries/Wages</i>	\$ 1,144,082	
<i>Operating Expenses</i>	\$ 207,035	
<i>Indirect Costs</i>	\$	65,000
Total Enterprise Fund Expenses	\$ 1,416,117	

Town of Deerfield’s Allocated Share of Total Enterprise Fund Expenses:

FY2023 Subsidy from Free Cash \$ 345,693

Information Only:

FY2023 Assessments Calculation

<i>Total Expenses</i>		\$ 1,416,117
<i>Less Estimated Medical Service Fees</i>		-\$ 575,000
<i>Less Retained Earnings</i>		-\$ 173,256
 <i>Equals Amounts to be Assessed</i>		 \$ 667,861
 <i>Deerfield</i>	 51.76%	 \$ 345,693
<i>Sunderland</i>	31.48%	\$ 210,221
<i>Whately</i>	16.76%	\$ 111,947

Capital Expenditure requests

None for the Enterprise Fund

ARTICLE 13 Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Projects

Voted to pass over the Article

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 14 Fiscal Year 2023 Capital Projects

Voted to transfer from Free Cash, the sum of \$152,700 to fund the Capital Improvements Projects for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2022, as follows:

DETAIL OF CAPITAL REQUESTS

FUNDING SOURCE: FREE CASH	Requested	CIPC	Fin Comm	Selectboard
Elementary School: Replace Flooring	\$22,200	\$22,200	\$22,200	\$22,200
Elementary School: Restroom Renovations	\$15,500	\$15,500	\$15,500	\$15,500
Elementary School: Air Conditioning for Skills & Music Room	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$16,000
Elementary School: Commercial Dishwasher	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
DPW: Brush-wood Chipper	\$59,000	\$59,000	\$59,000	\$59,000
Transfer Station: Shed Replacement	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
TOTAL - CAPITAL REQUESTS	\$152,700	\$152,700	\$152,700	\$152,700

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 15 Reallocation of Congregational Church Repair Funds

Voted to pass over this Article

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator.

ARTICLE 16 Frontier Regional School Capital Request

Voted to transfer free cash the sum of \$36,727.47 from Free Cash to fund Deerfield’s allocation of the costs to replace the walk-in cooler for the Frontier Regional School District, as referenced in this article.

Allocated Costs:

Conway	\$12,360.52
Deerfield	\$36,727.47
Sunderland	\$17,414.16
Whately	\$ 8,497.85
Total	\$75,000.00

This article was voted on and supported by the 4-town Frontier Capital Improvement Committee made up of members of both Select Board and School Committee Members from each town.

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 17 Community Preservation Fund

Voted to act on the recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee for the Community Preservation Fund budget for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation.

Motion carried, so declared the Moderator

- Voted to appropriate \$475,000 for Phase 1 of the Rehabilitation of the Old Grammar School Building (ex-Senior Center) into a New Town Hall Project, and to meet said appropriation, transfer \$160,200 from the Community Preservation Fund 2023 Estimated Revenues, \$29,550 from the Reserve for Historic Resources and \$285,250 from the Undesignated Fund Balance, all in a manner consistent with the proposal submitted by the Deerfield Selectboard and approved by the Community Preservation Committee with the following stipulations:

- All interior and exterior work shall comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Properties.
- An independent historic preservation consultant shall be hired at the beginning of Phase 1 and participate in all facets of Phase 1 to ensure compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Properties.
- Any federal or state grant money, American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money designated by the Selectboard, if any, or other funds received for use on this project shall be the funds of first resort in payments, with CPA funds to be tapped after all other monies have been exhausted.
- Said funds to be expended within three years under the direction of the Selectboard and any unused funds to be returned to the Community Preservation Fund as required by statute.

Motion carried, so declared the Moderator

- Voted to appropriate \$11,000 from the Community Preservation Fund 2023 Estimated Revenues – a 5 percent local match for a Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources grant of \$209,000 to create an Agricultural Preservation Restriction on a 12.4- acre farm parcel identified in the Assessors’ Records as Map 149, Lot 6, all in a manner consistent with the proposal submitted by the Deerfield Selectboard and approved by the Community Preservation Committee, said funds to be expended within three years under the direction of the Selectboard and any unused funds to be returned to the Community Preservation Fund as required by statute.

Motion carried, so declared the Moderator

- Voted to appropriate \$350,000 for the Town Common Rehabilitation & Restoration Project request, and to meet said appropriation, transfer \$200,000 from the Community Preservation Fund 2023 Estimated Revenues and \$150,000 from the Undesignated Fund Balance, all in a manner consistent with the proposal submitted by the Ad-Hoc Town Common Committee and approved by the Community Preservation Committee, with the stipulation that any federal or state grant money, American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money designated by the Selectboard, if any, or other funds received for use on this project shall be the funds of first resort in payments, with CPA funds to be tapped after all other monies have been exhausted. Said funds to be expended within three years under the direction of the Selectboard and any unused funds to be returned to the Community Preservation Fund as required by statute.

Motion carried, so declared the Moderator

- Voted to appropriate \$30,000 from the Community Preservation Fund 2023 Estimated Revenues for the "Subsidized Senior Housing Feasibility Study" request, all in a manner consistent with the proposal submitted by the Ad Hoc Senior Housing Committee and approved by the Community Preservation Committee, said funds to be expended within three years under the direction of the Selectboard and any unused funds to be returned to the Community Preservation Fund as required by statute.

Motion carried, so declared the Moderator

- Voted to appropriate \$800 from the Community Preservation Fund 2023 Estimated Revenues for the "Preservation of 18th and 19th Century Account Books of the Ware and Williams families," all in a manner consistent with the proposal submitted by the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association and approved by the Community Preservation Committee, said funds to be expended within three years under the direction of the Selectboard and any unused funds to be returned to the Community Preservation Fund as required by statute.

Motion carried, so declared the Moderator

- Voted to transfer \$13,000 of the Community Preservation Fund 2023 Estimated Revenues to the Reserve for Community Housing. General Law Chapter 44B requires that a minimum of 10% of estimated revenues be used or set aside for Community Housing.

Motion carried, so declared the Moderator

- Voted to appropriate \$15,000 from the Community Preservation Fund 2023 Estimated Revenues for Community Preservation Committee administrative expenses.

Motion carried, so declared the Moderator

Community Preservation Reserve Balances as of June 30, 2021:

Reserve for Open Space	\$0
Reserve for Historic Resources	\$29,550
Reserve for Community Housing	\$350,455
Undesignated Fund Balance	\$1,406,685

ARTICLE 18 Extension of Indian House and Bloody Brook Tavern Rehabilitation and Restoration Project, Phase II

Voted to extend the Community Preservation grant funding period for the Indian House and Bloody Brook Tavern Rehabilitation and Restoration Project, Phase II by an additional year to allow for completion of the project in 2023.

Motion carried, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 19 Proceeds from the sale of Real Property to Satisfy Town Purchase of “Oxford” Land

Voted to apply the proceeds from the sale of land to the indebtedness incurred in acquiring such parcels of land in accordance with G.L. c. 44 sec. 63, parcels identified on Assessors Map 168, Lot 21, shown as “Parcel 2-1” consisting of approximately ± 7.971 acres, and “Parcel 2-2”, consisting of approximately ± 0.924 acres, on the “Subdivided Site Plan”, “The Plan”, recorded in the Franklin County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 138, Page 7, dated October 21, 2020, upon receipt of the funds.

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 20 Request for Special Act to Separate Town Clerk/Collector/Treasurer Position

Voted to authorize the Selectboard to submit a proposed Special Act to the General Court of the Commonwealth as follows:

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE ELIMINATION OF THE APPOINTED TAX COLLECTOR/TOWN CLERK/TREASURER IN THE TOWN OF DEERFIELD AND THE CREATION OF AN APPOINTED TOWN CLERK AND AN APPOINTED TOWN TREASURER/COLLECTOR

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 676 of the Acts of 1972, as amended by Chapter 446 of the Acts of 2002 are hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, the office of town clerk for the town of Deerfield shall be separate from the office of treasurer and from the office of the collector of taxes. The office of the town clerk shall be an appointive office. The town clerk shall perform all functions of the town clerk's office and shall continue to be an ex-officio member of the board of registrars in accordance with the general laws. The town clerk shall be appointed by the Selectboard for a term of one, two or three years, and may be removed by the Selectboard at their discretion. The Selectboard may enter into a personal services contract with the town clerk to provide for salary, fringe benefits and other conditions of employment, including, but not limited to, severance pay, reimbursement for expenses incurred in the performance of the duties of office, liability insurance, and conditions of discipline, termination, dismissal, reappointment, performance standards and leave.

SECTION 3. The office of treasurer and the office of collector of taxes for the town of Deerfield shall be separate from the office of the town clerk. The offices of town treasurer and collector of taxes of the town of Deerfield shall be merged into one office to be known as treasurer/collector. The office of the treasurer/collector shall be an appointive office. The treasurer/collector shall have all the powers, perform the duties and be subject to the liabilities and penalties now or hereafter conferred and imposed by law on town treasurers and town collectors of taxes. The treasurer/collector shall be appointed by the Selectboard for a term of one, two or three years, and may be removed by the Selectboard at their discretion. The Selectboard may enter into a personal services contract with the treasurer/collector to provide for salary, fringe benefits and other conditions of employment, including, but not limited to, severance pay, reimbursement for expenses incurred in the performance of the duties of office, liability insurance, and conditions of discipline, termination, dismissal, reappointment, performance standards and leave.

SECTION 4. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of law and nothing in this act shall prevent the Selectboard from appointing one person to serve as town clerk and treasurer/collector.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

SECTION 6. That the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Selectboard approve amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court, and provided further that the Selectboard is hereby authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition.

Or take any action relative thereto.

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 21 Speed Limits

Voted to accept the provisions of G.L. c.90, §17C, to allow the Selectboard to establish a speed limit of 25 miles per hour in all areas in the Town defined by state law as “thickly settled” or “business district” that are not a state highway.

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 22 Sewer Bylaw

Voted to pass over this Article

Motion carried, so declared the Moderator

ARTICLE 23 Citizens’ Petition for Resolution in Support of Changing the State Flag & Seal of Massachusetts

Vote to adopt the Resolution in Support of Changing the State Flag & Seal of Massachusetts as presented in the warrant:

Whereas the 400th anniversary of the landing of the Colonists at Plymouth Plantation, which gave rise to the long chain of genocidal wars and deliberate policies of cultural destruction against Native Nations of this continent, occurred in the year 2020, affording every citizen of the Commonwealth a chance to reflect upon this history and come to an appreciation of the need for better relations between the descendants of the Colonial immigrants and the Native Nations of the Commonwealth;

Whereas the land area now known as the Town of Deerfield shares a rich Native history with tribal Nations like the Pocumtuck and the Wabanaki, who inhabited this area for thousands of years before the first colonial settlers arrived, in 1670;

Now, Therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town of Deerfield hereby adopts this resolution in support of the work of the Special Commission Relative to the Seal and Motto of the Commonwealth, established by a Resolve of the General Court in 2020 and appointed by the Governor to recommend changes to the current flag and seal of Massachusetts, and in support of a new seal and motto for the Commonwealth that may better reflect our aspirations for harmonious and respectful relations between all people who now call Massachusetts home. The Town Clerk shall forward a copy of this resolution to Sen. Marc Pacheco and Rep. Antonio Cabral, co-chairs of the Joint Committee on State Administration, who serve as members of the Special Commission Relative to the Seal and Motto of the Commonwealth, and to Sen. Jo Comerford and Rep. Natalie Blais, with the request that they continue their strong advocacy and support the work of the aforementioned Special Commission.

Motion passed, so declared the Moderator

The Meeting will then adjourn to meet in the polling places at the MEETING ROOM at the TOWN OFFICES, 8 Conway Street in the Village of South Deerfield on MONDAY the 2nd day of May, 2022, next at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to act on the following article:

To choose all necessary Town Officers, including:

- One (1) Selectboard for a term of three (3) years
- One (1) Assessor for a term of three (3) years
- One (1) Frontier Regional School Committee member for a term of (3) years
- Two (2) Deerfield School Committee members for a term of three (3) years
- One (1) Elector Under Oliver Smith Will for a term of one (1) year
- Two (2) Planning Board members for a term of three (3) years
- One (1) Constable for a term of (3) years
- One (1) Tilton Library Trustee for a term of (3) years And upon closure of the polls, to dissolve.

Moderator motioned and it was so voted, to adjourn at 8:45pm.

A true copy,

Attest: _____
Jennifer Wallace, Assistant Town Clerk

**Special Town Meeting
Monday, October 24, 2022**

A Special Town Meeting was held on Monday, October 24, 2022 at the Frontier Regional School on 113 North Main Street, in the Village of South Deerfield. True and attested copies of the warrant were posted by Constable Sharon Paciorek in five of the town's posting locations. All additional local by-law requirements were met prior to opening this meeting. The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm by Town Moderator, Daniel Graves with a declared quorum of three hundred and seventy-one registered voters present.

Prior to opening the warrant Moderator Graves, moved the body to waive the reading of all articles prior to reading of a motion under the article stating he would briefly summarize the content of the articles to be considered unless objection is raised.

TM VOTE: Unanimous Affirmative Voice Vote. Moderator declared motion passed.

The Town also voted that the following people be allowed to address the audience during the Special Town Meeting: Lisa Mead, Town Counsel, Brenda Hill, Town Accountant, Kayce Warren, Town Administrator, Daniel Pallotta, Owner's Project Manager (OPM), P3, Philip O'Brien, Architect, Johnson Roberts, Candance Bradbury-Carlin, Library Director

TM VOTE: Unanimous Affirmative Voice Vote. Moderator declared motion passed.

The following business was transacted:

ARTICLE 1 Contracted Services

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from Unreserved Free Cash the sum of \$60,000 for technical assistance and grant writing activities for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022 as follows: \$50,000 for engineering services for the Leary Lot development project and \$10,000 for Planning Board technical assistance.

TM VOTE: Affirmative Voice Vote. Moderator declared motion passed.

ARTICLE 2 Selectboard Personnel Services

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from Unreserved Free Cash the sum of **\$5,000** to fund additional support staff in the Selectboard Office for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022.

TM VOTE: Affirmative Voice Vote. Moderator declared motion passed.

ARTICLE 3 Unemployment Claims

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from Unreserved Free Cash the sum of **\$20,000** to pay accrued fees and interest for unemployment claims to the department of Unemployment Assistance for prior and current fiscal years.

TM VOTE: Affirmative 9/10s Voice Vote. Moderator declared motion passed.

ARTICLE 4 Tuition and Transportation Expenses

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from Unreserved Free Cash the sum of **\$34,000** for tuition and transportation expenses of students at the Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022.

TM VOTE: Affirmative Voice Vote. Moderator declared motion passed.

ARTICLE 5 Town's 350th Anniversary Celebration Account

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from Unreserved Free Cash the sum of \$30,000 to the Town's 350th Anniversary Celebration Account for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022.

TM VOTE: Affirmative Voice Vote. Moderator declared motion passed.

ARTICLE 6 Sewer & Wastewater Treatment Department Vehicle

The Town voted to transfer **\$40,000 from the Sewer/Wastewater Enterprise Retained Earnings Fund** to purchase a vehicle to be used for Sewer and Wastewater Treatment Department.

TM VOTE: Affirmative Voice Vote. Moderator declared motion passed.

ARTICLE 7 Church Building Repairs

The Town voted to transfer the sum of \$150,000 from the Capital Stabilization Account for repairs to the South Deerfield Congregational Church Building.

TM VOTE: Affirmative Voice Vote. Moderator declared motion passed.

ARTICLE 8 No Motion

ARTICLE 9 Rescind Borrowing Authorization

The Town voted to rescind borrowing authority of \$100,000 approved at a Special Town Meeting on March 11, 2019 (Article 1) for the installation of Clarifier.

TM VOTE: Affirmative Voice Vote. Moderator declared motion passed.

ARTICLE 10 Police and Highway Collective Bargaining Agreements FY23

The Town voted, pursuant to G.L. c.150E §7, the sum of \$45,094 from the Omnibus Budget to fund the collective bargaining agreement for Fiscal Year 2023 with Massachusetts Coalition of Police I.U.P.A. AFL-CIO, and appropriate \$18,401, \$10,000 from Omnibus Budget and \$8,401 from Unreserved Free Cash to fund the collective bargaining agreement with the UNITED PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES' UNION, LOCAL 424M-MADIV-115 for Fiscal Year 2023.

TM VOTE: Affirmative Voice Vote. Moderator declared motion passed.

ARTICLE 11 Local Incentive Application of NUPRO, LLC

The Town voted to approve the Local Incentive Application of NUPRO, LLC, and their affiliates and voted to authorize the Selectboard to submit to the Massachusetts Office of Business Development an application designating the property located on Tax Parcel ID map 168-21, consisting of approximately 7.971 acres, more or less, shown as "Parcel 2-1" on the attached "Subdivided Site Plan", "The Plan", and recorded in the Franklin County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 138, Page 7, dated October 21, 2020, as an Economic Opportunity Area, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. Chapter 23A; and further to authorize the Selectboard to enter into a Tax Increment Financing Agreement and Tax Increment Financing Plan with NUPRO, LLC and affiliates, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. Chapter 40, Section 59, in connection with the development of said property, and to authorize the Selectboard to take such action as is necessary to obtain approval of the Local Incentive Application and to implement the Tax Increment Financing Agreement and Tax Increment Financing Plan.

TM VOTE: Affirmative Voice Vote. Moderator declared motion passed.

ARTICLE 12 Land Use Change

The Town voted to change the use of the land identified in the Assessor's records as Map 168 and Lot 128, located at 59 Main Street, South Deerfield, including approximately 0.991 acres, to land for disposition and thereafter authorize the Selectboard to convey, sell or otherwise dispose of same and to authorize the Selectboard to enter into and negotiate all necessary documents subject to such restrictions and limitations as the Selectboard deems appropriate, in order to effectuate the disposition of said parcel.

TM VOTE: Affirmative Voice Vote. Moderator declared motion passed.

ARTICLE 13

Land Acquisition

The town voted to purchase, take or otherwise acquire the parcel of land identified as Hamshaw’s as part of the article, identified in the Assessor’s records as Map 168, lot 121, located at 14 Elm Street, including approximately 0.34 acres, more or less, and to pay for said request appropriate a sum of money and/or authorize the exchange of real property similarly situated and further to authorize the Select Board to enter into any and all agreements necessary to effectuate said acquisition.

TM VOTE: Affirmative 2/3rds Voice Vote. Moderator declared motion passed.

Home Rule Amendment Petition (Retirement Age for Police Officers)

The Town voted to authorize the Selectboard, pursuant to section 89 of the amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution, the Home Rule Amendment, to request its legislators to petition the General Court, requesting the enactment of a special act of the state legislature to exempt Mr. Michael W. Habel, Mr. Robert A. Thrasher, and Mr. Mark Jacques, three Deerfield Police Officers, from mandatory retirement age of sixty-five (65) and extend their ability to serve in the capacity of police officers for an additional five (5) years to seventy (70) years old, and further provide that the selectboard is hereby authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition.

TM VOTE: Affirmative Voice Vote. Moderator declared motion passed.

ARTICLE 14

Home Rule to Amend Chapter 343 of Acts of 1935

The Town voted to authorize the Select Board to submit a Home Rule Petition by which to amend Chapter 343 of the Acts of 1935 as follows:

SECTION 1: Throughout: Change the terms board of selectmen to select board.

SECTION 2: Section 5 shall be amended as follows (cross through deletion and underline and bold new):

Section 5. The town, shall, by vote, determine what proportion of the cost of said system or systems of sewerage and sewage disposal the town shall pay; ~~provided, that it shall pay not less than one fourth nor more than two thirds of the whole cost.~~ In providing for the payment of the remaining portion of the cost of said system or systems or for the use of said system or systems, the town, **through its select board acting as the sewer commissioners**, may avail itself of any or all of the methods permitted by general laws, and the provisions of said general laws relative to the assessment, apportionment, division, reassessment, abatement and collection of sewer assessments, to liens therefor and to interest thereon, shall apply to assessments made under this act. ~~At the same meeting at which it determines the proportion of the cost which is to be borne by the town, it may by vote determine by which of such methods the remaining portion of said cost shall be provided for.~~ The collector of taxes of said town shall certify the payment or payments of such assessments or apportionments thereof to the said **select** board ~~of selectmen~~ which shall preserve a record thereof.

SECTION 3: Section 10 shall be amended as follows (cross through deletion and underline and bold new):

Section 10. Said board may, from time to time, prescribe rules and regulations for the connection of estates and buildings with main drains and sewers, and for the inspection of materials, the construction, alteration and use of all connections and drains entering into such main drains or sewers, and may prescribe penalties, ~~not exceeding twenty dollars~~ **in accordance with the general laws and any bylaw adopted by the town**, for each violation of any such rule or regulation. Such rules and regulations shall be published at least once a week for three successive weeks in some newspaper published in the county of Franklin, and shall not take effect until such publications have been made.

SECTION 4. That the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the select board approve amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court, and provided further that the select board is hereby authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

TM VOTE: Affirmative Voice Vote. Moderator declared motion passed.

ARTICLE 15

Amend General Bylaw Chapter 150

The Town voted to amend Chapter 150 of the Town of Deerfield General Bylaws as follows:

Delete Article II Section 150 – 1 in its entirety and replace it as follows:

CHAPTER 150 SEWERS

Article II. Sanitary Sewer Systems

§150-1 TITLE AND AUTHORITY: The "Deerfield Sewerage By-Law" and all subsequent amendments thereto, hereinafter called "this By-Law," is adopted pursuant to the authority granted by Chapter 83 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and amendments thereto, Chapter 343 of the Acts of 1935 and amendments thereto (the "Act"), and the powers granted to the Town of Deerfield, hereinafter called "the Town," under the Home Rule amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution. In addition to the purposes stated herein this By-Law gives consideration to the development objectives and recommendations contained in the Town's Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan, hereinafter referred to as the "CWMP."

§150-2 PURPOSE: The purposes of this By-Law are to promote the health, safety, morals, convenience and general welfare of the inhabitants of the Town; to lessen the risk from the collection, transmission, treatment and disposal of sewage; to protect and conserve health; to secure safety from untreated or improperly treated sewage dangers; to conserve natural resources and protect public and private water supply; to improve the value of real estate and beautify the Town by encouraging the most appropriate uses of land within the Town; and to preserve, increase and sustain the amenities of the Town.

§150-3 Definitions and Meaning

For the purpose of this By-Law certain terms and words shall have the following meanings, as stipulated herein or in the Sewer Use Regulations. Words used in the present tense include the future; the singular number includes the plural; the plural includes the singular; the words "used" or "occupied" include the words "designed," "arranged," "intended," or "offered," to be used or occupied; the words "building," "structure," "lot," "land," or "premises" shall be construed as though followed by the words "or any portion thereof"; and the word "shall" is always mandatory and not merely directory. Terms and words not defined herein but defined in the Sewer Use Regulations shall have the meanings given therein unless a contrary intention clearly appears.

150-3.1. Deerfield Sewer Districts – The Board of Sewer Commissioners may divide the Town into separate sewer districts but only upon prior approval by the Town Meeting. Until such time, there shall be one sewer district within the Town.

150-3.2. Sewage/Wastewater – shall mean wastewater from residential structures, public buildings, school buildings, commercial and industrial establishments, or any combination thereof, exclusive of ground-, storm- and surface waters, roof and surface runoff, uncontaminated cooling water and noncontact industrial process waters and exclusive of industrial wastes.

150-3.3. Sewer System/Sewerage – the public, physical infrastructure that is constructed by the Town within the Deerfield Sewer District(s), including the necessary equipment and appurtenances, to collect, transmit and treat sewage and dispose of residual product.

150-3.4. Board of Sewer Commissioners – the Selectboard as authorized by the Act.

§150-4 DEERFIELD SEWER DISTRICT MAP:

The location and boundaries of the Deerfield Sewer Districts are hereby established as shown on a map titled: "Town of Deerfield Collection System" dated January 10, 2019 by DPC Engineers consisting of two sheets, Figure 2-1 and 2-2, and accepted by approval of this By-Law by ARTICLE 16 of the 2022 Special Town Meeting on October 24, 2022 which accompanies and is hereby declared to be a part of this By-Law. Said Map shall be kept on record at the Town Clerk's Office and may be amended from time to time by the Town Meeting.

§150-5 CHANGES TO DISTRICT MAP:

Any change in the location of boundaries of the District(s) shall only be made through the amendment of this By-Law and shall be indicated by the dated alteration of the District Map; and the Map, as altered, shall become a part of the By-law, as amended. It shall be the responsibility of the Board of Sewer Commissioners to recommend such alterations; and said recommended alterations shall require a vote of Town Meeting.

150-6 BOUNDARIES OF DISTRICTS:

Where any uncertainty exists with respect to the boundary of any portion of the District, as shown on the District Map, the following rules apply:

150-6.1. Where a boundary is indicated as a street, railroad, watercourse or other body of water, the boundary shall be construed to be the centerline or middle thereof, or where such boundary approximates a Town boundary, then to the limits of the Town boundary.

150-6.2. Where a boundary is indicated as following approximately or parallel to a street, railroad, watercourse, or other body of water, the boundary shall be construed to be parallel thereto and at such distance therefrom as dimensioned on the District Map. If no dimension is given, such distance shall be determined by use of the scale shown on the District Map.

150-6.3. Where a boundary is indicated as intersecting the centerline of a street, railroad, watercourse or other body of water, the boundary shall be construed to intersect at right angles to said centerline, or in the case of a curved centerline, at right angle to the tangent to the curve at the point of intersection.

150-6.4. Whenever any dispute arises on the District boundaries as to the exact location of a District boundary line, the location of such line shall be determined by the Board of Sewer Commissioners.

§150-7 INTERPRETATION:

The provisions of this By-Law shall be interpreted to be the minimum requirements adopted for the promotion of the health safety, and general welfare of the Town of Deerfield, Massachusetts; and the provisions of this By-Law are not intended to repeal, or in any way impair or interfere with any other lawfully adopted by-law, regulations, or rules. Whenever any regulations made under the authority hereof differ from those prescribed by any by-law or other regulations, that provision which imposes the greater restriction or the higher standard shall govern.

§150-8 APPLICATION:

Except as herein provided, the provisions of this By-Law shall apply to the construction, reconstruction, repair, alteration and use of public sewer systems in the Districts as set forth on the District Map.

§150-9 BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Pursuant to the Act, the Selectboard shall serve as the Board of Sewer Commissioners. The Board of Sewer Commissioners shall determine the operating budget, user fees and annual appropriation request, if any, for the Sewer System.

§150-10 MANAGEMENT AND BUDGETING:

150-10.1. The Board of Sewer Commissioners may appoint annually a Superintendent of Sewers and a Clerk who shall not be a member of the Board.

150-10.2. The Superintendent shall submit annually to the Board of Sewer Commissioners a summary of revenue and expense estimates for the ensuing fiscal year, in accordance with General Laws Chapter 44 Section 53F ½ "Enterprise Funds," for its review and approval and recommendation for budget approval at Town Meeting.

150-10.3. The Board of Sewer Commissioners shall determine the operating budget, user fees and annual appropriation request, if any, for the Sewer System. Prior to submitting its annual appropriation request, if any, the Board of Sewer Commissioners shall determine its schedule of user fees.

150-10.3.1. User fees shall be set by the Sewer Commissioners to generally reflect the costs of administering the day-to-day Sewer System operation, maintenance, capital improvements and the processing of the content of the waste stream in each District, and may include a schedule of fees based on user categories.

150-10.3.2. Prior to adopting new user fees or rates, the Sewer Commissioners shall hold a public hearing, notice of which is published once per week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation.

150-10.4. Betterments: The Board of Sewer Commissioners shall determine and assess betterments in accordance with the provisions of the Act, Chapters 80 and 83 of the Massachusetts General Laws, and any other enabling authority.

150-10.4.1. Authority: This By-Law is authorized pursuant to General Laws Chapter 83 Section 15 and is intended to provide an alternative to the conventional betterment assessments for sewer projects in the Town of Deerfield. It shall be applied to all sewer betterment assessments levied after the effective date of the By-Law.

150-10.4.2. Assessing owners: The Board of Sewer Commissioners shall assess owners of land abutting a sewer line installed by the Town by a rate based upon a uniform unit method. Such assessments shall be made regardless of whether an owner makes a connection to the sewer line. As used in this By-Law, the terms "uniform unit method," "sewer unit," "general benefit facilities," and "special benefit facilities" shall have the same meanings as set forth in Section 15 of Chapter 83 of the General Laws as from time to time amended (the "Statute").

150-10.4.3. Calculation of Per Unit Assessment: Whenever the Town constructs sewerage facilities, a betterment assessment shall be levied on properties that receive a benefit from such construction. The betterment assessment per unit shall be calculated by dividing the total cost of the project by the number of existing and potential units. The assessment shall then be apportioned as permitted by the Statute.

150-10.5 For the payment of the estimated and/or final capital costs attributable to the construction of each Sewer System service area, such betterments shall not, in the aggregate, exceed seventy-five percent of the capital costs of such System, and the balance of any such capital costs shall be raised through the appropriation of any other available funds of the Town. Pursuant to the Act, the Town Meeting shall determine what portion shall be paid by the Town and what portion shall be paid by the user, but in no event shall the Town pay less than one quarter or not more than two thirds of the costs of any such improvements or systems. However, in the event the Act is amended, then this provision shall be of no further effect, and the Act shall control.

150-10.6 In accordance with General Laws Chapter 83 Section 15, the costs of Sewer System general benefit facilities shall be separated from the costs of special benefit facilities. Such separation of general and special benefit facilities will allow the Board of Sewer Commissioners to apply the pro rata share of the general benefit facilities to the initial phase and each succeeding phase of Sewer System construction within the Districts when calculating the applicable betterments.

150-10.7 Fees: In addition to betterment assessments provided for herein, the Town may charge fees for connections made to any sewer line and may charge different fees based upon the type of user.

150-10.7.1. In addition to all other betterment assessments and fees provided for in this By-Law, the Town shall charge each owner of a building or dwelling unit using the Town sewer system such fees as are in effect from time to time together with the cost of any service work, materials or inspection with respect to connecting lines from the sewer main to the building.

150-10.7.2. Except as herein provided, the provisions of the General Laws and the Act relative to the assessment, apportionment, division re-assessment, abatement and collection of sewer assessment to liens therefor and to interest thereon shall apply to assessments made under this By-Law, and the Tax Collector of the Town shall have all of the powers conveyed by the General Laws.

150-10.8 The Board of Sewer Commissioners may from time-to-time create, issue and amend Sewer Use Regulations to fulfill the purpose of this By-Law, as provided in Section 10 of the Act. Such Sewer Use Regulations or amendment thereto, shall be published at least once per week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper published in Franklin County, and shall not take effect until such publications have been made.

§150-11 PROTECTION FROM DAMAGE:

No unauthorized person shall maliciously, willfully or negligently break, damage, destroy, uncover, deface or tamper with any pipeline, structure, appurtenance or equipment which is a part of the Sewer System.

150-11.1. Prohibition from Dumping or Discharging: No person shall cause to place and/or discharge into the Town of Deerfield Sewer System anything other than Sewer/Wastewater.

§150-12 POWER AND AUTHORITY OF INSPECTORS:

The Superintendent and other duly authorized employees of the Town, hereinafter called “the representatives”, bearing proper credentials and identification, shall be permitted to enter all properties within the Districts for the purpose of inspection, observation, measurement, sampling and testing in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter. The Superintendent or the representatives shall have no authority to inquire into any processes, including metallurgical, chemical, oil, refining, ceramic, paper or other industries, beyond that point having a direct bearing on the kind and source of discharge to the sewers or waterways or facilities for waste treatment.

§150-13 SAFETY; INDEMNIFICATION:

While performing the necessary work on private properties referred to in §150-12, above, the Superintendent or the representatives shall observe all safety rules applicable to the premises established by the owner, and the owner shall be held harmless for injury or death to the Town employees.

§150-14 RIGHT OF ENTRY:

The Superintendent or the representative shall be permitted to enter all private properties through which the Town holds a duly negotiated easement for the purpose of, but not limited to, inspection, observation, measurement, sampling, repair and maintenance of any portion of the Sewer System lying within said easement. All entry and subsequent work, if any, on said easement, shall be done in full accordance with the terms of the duly negotiated easement pertaining to the private property involved.

§150-15 VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES:

150-15.1. Any person found to be violating any provision of this By-Law shall be served by the Town with written notice stating the nature of the violation and providing a reasonable time limit for the satisfactory correction thereof. The offender shall, within the time frame stated in such notice, permanently cease all violations.

150-15.2. Any person who shall continue any violation beyond the time limit provided for in §150-15 shall be in violation of this by-law and may be fined in an amount not in excess of that which is permitted by the Act or \$300 per day, whichever is less, in addition to any additional fines as may be imposed by applicable Rules and Regulations adopted by the Board of Sewer Commissioners. Each day in which any such violation shall continue shall be deemed a separate violation.

150-15.3. Any person violating any of the provisions of this By-Law shall become liable to the Town for any expense, loss or damage occasioned the Town by reason of such violation.

150-15.4. The Superintendent shall be responsible for the enforcement of this By-Law.

§150-16. SEVERABILITY:

The invalidity of any section, clause, sentence or provision of this By-Law shall not affect the validity of any other part of this By-Law which can be given effect without such invalid part or parts.

Or take any action relative thereto.

Recommended by Finance Committee

The Town voted to amend chapter 150 of the Town of Deerfield General Bylaws as follows:

Delete Article II Section 150 – 1 in its entirety and replace it as follows:

CHAPTER 150 SEWERS

Article II. Sanitary Sewer Systems

§150-1 TITLE AND AUTHORITY: The "Deerfield Sewerage By-Law" and all subsequent amendments thereto, hereinafter called "this By-Law", is adopted pursuant to the authority granted by Chapter 83 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and amendments thereto, Chapter 343 of the Acts of 1935 and amendments thereto (the "Act"), and the powers granted to the Town of Deerfield, hereinafter called "the Town", under the Home Rule amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution. In addition to the purposes stated herein this By-Law gives consideration to the development objectives and recommendations contained in the Town's Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan, hereinafter referred to as the "CWMP".

§150-2 PURPOSE: The purposes of this By-Law are to promote the health, safety, morals, convenience and general welfare of the inhabitants of the Town; to lessen the risk from the collection, transmission, treatment and disposal of sewage; to protect and conserve health; to secure safety from untreated or improperly treated sewage dangers; to conserve natural resources and protect public and private water supply; to improve the value of real estate and beautify the Town by encouraging the most appropriate uses of land within the Town; and to preserve, increase and sustain the amenities of the Town.

§150-3 Definitions and Meaning

For the purpose of this By-Law certain terms and words shall have the following meanings, as stipulated herein or in the Sewer Use Regulations. Words used in the present tense include the future; the singular number includes the plural; the plural the singular; the words "used" or "occupied" include the words "designed," "arranged," "intended," or "offered," to be used or occupied; the words "building," "structure," "lot," "land," or "premises" shall be construed as though followed by the words "or any portion thereof"; and the word "shall" is always mandatory and not merely directory. Terms and words not defined herein but defined in the Sewer Use Regulations shall have the meanings given therein unless a contrary intention clearly appears.

150-3.1. Deerfield Sewer Districts – The Board of Sewer Commissioners may divide the Town into separate sewer districts but only upon prior approval by the Town Meeting. Until such time, there shall be one sewer district within the Town.

150-3.2. Sewage/Wastewater – shall mean wastewater from residential structures, public buildings, school buildings, commercial and industrial establishments, or any combination thereof, exclusive of ground-, storm- and surface waters, roof and surface runoff, uncontaminated cooling water and noncontact industrial process waters and exclusive of industrial wastes.

150-3.3. Sewer System/Sewerage – the public, physical infrastructure that is constructed by the Town within the Deerfield Sewer District(s), including the necessary equipment and appurtenances, to collect, transmit and treat sewage and dispose residual product.

150-3.4. Board of Sewer Commissioners – the Selectboard as authorized by the Act.

§150-4 DEERFIELD SEWER DISTRICT MAP:

The location and boundaries of the Deerfield Sewer Districts are hereby established as shown on a map titled: "Town of Deerfield Collection System" dated January 19, 2019 by DPC Engineers consisting of two sheets, Figure 2-1 and 2-2, and accepted by approval of this bylaw by ARTICLE 16 of the 2022 Special Town Meeting on October 24, 2022 which accompanies and is hereby declared to be a part of this By-Law. Said Map shall be kept on record at the Town Clerk's Office and may be amended from time to time by the Town Meeting.

§150-5 CHANGES TO DISTRICT MAP:

Any change in the location of boundaries of the District(s) shall only be made through the amendment of this By-Law and shall be indicated by the dated alteration of the District Map; and the Map, as altered, shall become a part of the By-law, as amended. It shall be the responsibility of the Board of Sewer Commissioners to recommend such alterations; and said recommended alterations shall require a vote of Town Meeting.

150-6 BOUNDARIES OF DISTRICTS:

Where any uncertainty exists with respect to the boundary of any portion of the District, as shown on the District Map, the following rules apply:

150-6.1. Where a boundary is indicated as a street, railroad, watercourse or other body of water, the boundary shall be construed to be the centerline or middle thereof, or where such boundary approximates a Town boundary, then to the limits of the Town boundary.

150-6.2. Where a boundary is indicated as following approximately or parallel to a street, railroad, watercourse, or other body of water, the boundary shall be construed to be parallel thereto and at such distance therefrom as dimensioned on the District Map. If no dimension is given, such distance shall be determined by use of the scale shown on the District Map.

150-6.3. Where a boundary is indicated as intersecting the centerline of a street, railroad, watercourse or other water body, the boundary shall be construed to intersect at right angles to said centerline, or in the case of a curved centerline, at right angle to the tangent to the curve at the point of intersection.

150-6.4. Whenever any dispute arises on the District boundaries as to the exact location of a District boundary line, the location of such line shall be determined by the Board of Sewer Commissioners.

§150-7 INTERPRETATION:

The provisions of this By-Law shall be interpreted to be the minimum requirements adopted for the promotion of the health, safety, and general welfare of the Town of Deerfield, Massachusetts; and the provisions of this By-Law are not intended to repeal, or in any way impair or interfere with any other lawfully adopted by-law, regulations, or rules. Whenever any regulations made under the authority hereof differ from those prescribed by any by-law or other regulations, that provision which imposes the greater restriction or the higher standard shall govern.

§150-8 APPLICATION:

Except as herein provided, the provisions of this By-Law shall apply to the construction, reconstruction, repair, alteration and use of public sewer systems in the Districts as set forth on the District Map.

§150-9 BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Pursuant to the Act, the Selectboard shall serve as the Board of Sewer Commissioners. The Board of Sewer Commissioners shall determine the operating budget, user fees, and annual appropriation request, if any, for the Sewer System.

§150-10 MANAGEMENT AND BUDGETING:

150-10.1. The Board of Sewer Commissioners may appoint annually a Superintendent of Sewers and a Clerk who shall not be a member of the Board.

150-10.2. The Superintendent shall submit annually to the Board of Sewer Commissioners for its approval a summary of revenue and expense estimates for the ensuing fiscal year in accordance with G. L. c. 44 §53F ½ "Enterprise Funds" for Board of Sewer Commissioners review and approval and recommendation for budget approval at Town Meeting.

150-10.3. The Board of Sewer Commissioners shall determine the operating budget, user fees, and annual appropriation request, if any, for the Sewer System. Prior to submitting its annual appropriation request, if any, the Board of Sewer Commissioners shall determine its schedule of user fees.

150-10.3.1. User fees shall be set by the Sewer Commissioners to generally reflect the costs of administering the day-to-day Sewer System operation, maintenance, capital improvements and the processing of the content of the waste stream in each District, and may include a schedule of fees based on user categories.

150-10.3.2. Prior to adopting new user fees or rates, the Sewer Commissioner shall hold a public hearing, notice of which is published once per week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation.

150-10.4. Betterments: The Board of Sewer Commissioners shall determine and assess betterments in accordance with the provisions of the Act, Chapters 80 and 83 of the Massachusetts General Laws, and any other enabling authority.

150-10.4.1. Authority: This bylaw is authorized pursuant to § 15 of Chapter 83, MGL and is intended to provide an alternative to the conventional betterment assessments for sewer projects in the Town of Deerfield. It shall be applied to all sewer betterment assessments levied after the effective date of the bylaw.

150-10.4.2. Assessing owners: The Board of Sewer Commissioners, shall assess owners of land abutting a sewer line installed by the Town by a rate based upon a uniform unit method. Such assessments shall be made regardless of whether an owner makes a connection to the sewer line. As used in this bylaw, the terms "uniform unit method," "sewer unit," "general benefit facilities" and "special benefit facilities" shall have the same meanings as set forth in Section 15 of Chapter 83 of the General Laws as from time to time amended (the "Statute").

150-10.4.3. Calculation of per Unit Assessment: Whenever the Town constructs sewerage facilities, a betterment assessment shall be levied on properties that receive a benefit from such construction. The betterment assessment per unit shall be calculated by dividing the total cost of the project by the number of existing and potential units. The assessment shall then be apportioned as permitted by the Statute.

150-10.5 For the payment of the estimated and/or final capital costs attributable to the construction of each Sewer System service area, such betterments shall not, in the aggregate, exceed seventy-five percent of the capital costs of such System, and the balance of any such capital costs shall be raised through the appropriation of any other available funds of the Town. Pursuant to the Act the Town Meeting shall determine what portion shall be paid by the Town and what portion shall be paid by the user but in no event shall the town pay less than one quarter or not more than two thirds of the costs of any such improvements or systems. However, in the event the Act is amended, then this provision shall be of no further effect and the Act shall control.

150-10.7 In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 83 section 15, the costs of Sewer System general benefit facilities shall be separated from the costs of special benefit facilities. Such separation of general and special benefit facilities will allow the Board of Sewer Commissioners to apply the pro rata share of the general benefit facilities to the initial phase and each succeeding phase of Sewer System construction within the Districts when calculating the applicable betterments.

150-10.8 Fees: In addition to betterment assessments provided for herein, the town may charge fees for connections made to any sewer line and may charge different fees based upon the type of user.

150-10.8.1. In addition to all other betterment assessments and fees provided for in this bylaw, the Town shall charge each owner of a building or dwelling unit using the town sewer system such fees as are in effect from time to time together with the cost of any service work, materials or inspection with respect to connecting lines from the main to the building.

150-10.8.2. Except as herein provided, the provisions of the General Laws and the Act relative to the assessment, apportionment, division re-assessment, abatement, and collection of sewer assessment, division, re-assessment, abatement, and collection of sewer assessments to liens therefor and to interest thereon shall apply to assessments made under this bylaw, and the Tax Collector of the Town shall have all of the powers conveyed by the General Laws.

150-10.9 The Board of Sewer Commissioners may from time-to-time create, issue and amend Sewer Use Regulations to fulfill the purpose of this By-Law, as provided in Section 10 of the Act. Such Sewer Use Regulations or amendment thereto, shall be published at least once per week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper published in Franklin County, and shall not take effect until such publications have been made.

§150-11 PROTECTION FROM DAMAGE:

No unauthorized person shall maliciously, willfully or negligently break, damage, destroy, uncover, deface or tamper with any pipeline, structure, appurtenance or equipment which is a part of the Sewer System.

§150-11.1 Prohibition from Dumping or Discharging: No person shall cause to place and/or discharge into the Town of Deerfield Sewer System anything other than Sewer/Wastewater.

§150-12 POWER AND AUTHORITY OF INSPECTORS:

The Superintendent and other duly authorized employees of the Town, hereinafter called “his representatives”, bearing proper credentials and identification, shall be permitted to enter all properties within the Districts for the purpose of inspection, observation, measurement, sampling and testing in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter. The Superintendent or his representatives shall have no authority to inquire into any processes, including metallurgical, chemical, oil, refining, ceramic, paper or other industries, beyond that point having a direct bearing on the kind and source of discharge to the sewers or waterways or facilities for waste treatment.

§150-13 SAFETY; INDEMNIFICATION:

While performing the necessary work on private properties referred to in § 150-12, above, the Superintendent or his representatives shall observe all safety rules applicable to the premises established by the owner and the owner shall be held harmless for injury or death to the Town employees.

§ 150-14 RIGHT OF ENTRY:

The Superintendent or his representative shall be permitted to enter all private properties through which the Town holds a duly negotiated easement for the purpose of, but not limited to, inspection, observation, measurement, sampling, repair and maintenance of any portion of the Sewer System lying within said easement. All entry and subsequent work, if any, on said easement, shall be done in full accordance with the terms of the duly negotiated easement pertaining to the private property involved.

§ 150-15 VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES:

150-15.1. Any person found to be violating any provision of this By-Law shall be served by the Town with written notice stating the nature of the violation and providing a reasonable time limit for the satisfactory correction thereof. The offender shall, within the time frame stated in such notice, permanently cease all violations.

150-15.2. Any person who shall continue any violation beyond the time limit provided for in § 150-15 shall be in violation of this by-law and may be fined in an amount not in excess of that which is permitted by the Act or \$300 per day, which ever is less, in addition to any additional fines as may be imposed by applicable Rules and Regulations adopted by the Board of Sewer Commissioners. Each day in which any such violation shall continue shall be deemed a separate violation.

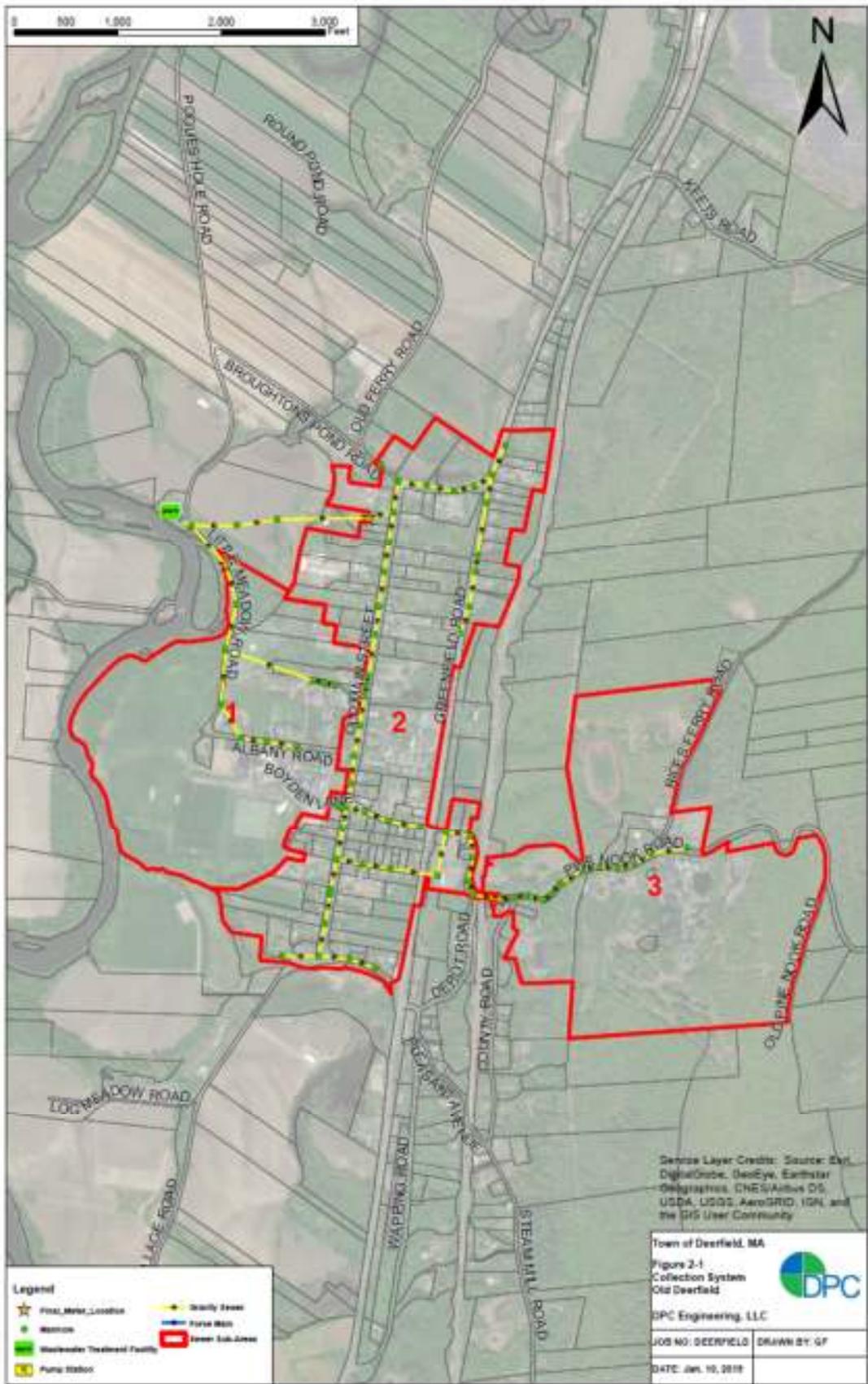
150-15.3. Any person violating any of the provisions of this By-Law shall become liable to the Town for any expense, loss, or damage occasioned the Town by reason of such violation.

150-15.4. The Superintendent shall be responsible for the enforcement of this By-Law.

§ 150-16. SEVERABILITY:

The invalidity of any section, clause, sentence or provision of this By-Law shall not affect the validity of any other part of this By-Law which can be given effect without such invalid part or parts.

TM VOTE: Affirmative Voice Vote. Moderator declared motion passed.





ARTICLE 16

Repeal Chapter 236, Sewers General Bylaw

To see if the Town will vote to repeal Chapter 236, Sewers, of the General Bylaws of the Town of Deerfield, said repeal shall not take effect until the Town adopts and said adoption is approved, the proposed amendment to Chapter 150, Sewers, or take any other action relative thereto.

TM VOTE: Affirmative Voice Vote. Moderator declared motion passed.

ARTICLE 17

Tilton Library

The Town voted to appropriate the sum of \$12,300,000 to fund the construction, renovation and expansion of the Tilton Library, including demolition, landscaping, paving, utility and other site improvements incidental or directly related to such construction, renovation and expansion, and all necessary architectural, engineering or other professional and legal expenses and fees associated with this project, and including temporary library operational space, storage and moving expenses, furnishings and equipment and for all other costs incidental or related thereto; and, in order to fund said appropriation, authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Selectboard to borrow said funds pursuant to G.L. c.44, §7 or any other enabling authority and issue bonds and notes therefor; to authorize the Town to apply for any grants or loans available for the project, and accept and expend the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners grant of \$3,944,338 for the project described in this article, and, further, that the amount of the authorized borrowing under this vote shall be reduced by the amount of any grants received for the project prior to the issuance of bonds or notes under this vote; provided however, that the vote taken hereunder shall be expressly contingent upon approval by the voters of the Town at an election to exempt from the limitation on total taxes imposed under G.L. c. 59, §21C (Proposition 2½) the amounts required to pay the principal of and interest on the borrowing authorized by this vote, or take any other action relative thereto.

TM VOTE: Affirmative Voice Vote. Moderator declared motion passed.

And you are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at five (5) public places in said Town, fourteen (14) days at least before the holding of said meeting.

Hereof, fail not, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doing thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands this _____ of _____ in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Two.

Selectboard of the Town of Deerfield

Trevor D. McDaniel, Chair

Carolyn Shores Ness

Tim Hilchey

A true copy.

Attest:



Carlene C. Hamlin, Interim Town Clerk

_____, 2022

FRANKLIN, SS:

Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Deerfield by posting up attested copies of the same at: Deerfield Convenience Store, Tilton Public Library, South Deerfield Post Office, Old Deerfield Post Office and the Deerfield Town Offices fourteen (14) days before October 24, 2022, as directed.

Constable of Deerfield

TOWN COLLECTOR

FROM THE TOWN COLLECTOR							
TO THE SELECTBOARD AND THE CITIZENS OF THE TOWN OF DEERFIELD							
REPORT OF RECEIPTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022							
	BALANCE AS OF 7/1/2021	COMMITMENTS	PAYMENTS	ABATEMENTS/ EXEMPTIONS	REFUNDS	MOVED TO TAX TITLE	BALANCE AS OF 6/30/2022
REAL ESTATE TAX							
FY2021	\$ 105,862.37	\$ -	\$ 99,861.45	\$ 28,866.02	\$ 28,980.37	\$ 5,990.07	\$ 125.20
FY2022	-	\$ 12,018,937.81	\$ 11,849,795.94	\$ 46,255.25	\$ 17,151.68	\$ 16,562.61	\$ 123,475.69
CPA							
FY2021	\$ 2,114.40	\$ -	\$ 1,996.67	\$ 865.98	\$ 865.98	\$ 113.98	\$ 3.75
FY2022	\$ -	\$ 266,702.15	\$ 263,345.77	\$ 815.00	\$ 167.62	\$ 278.97	\$ 2,430.03
SEWER LIEN							
FY2022	\$ -	\$ 19,998.76	\$ 19,998.76	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
INCOME & EXP							
FY2021	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FY2022	\$ -	\$ 16,750.00	\$ 16,500.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 250.00
PERSONAL PROP							
FY2019	\$ 217.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 217.50
FY2020	\$ 448.42	\$ -	\$ 105.28	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 343.14
FY2021	\$ 11,692.20	\$ -	\$ 11,567.22	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 124.98
FY2022	\$ -	\$ 731,466.13	\$ 718,871.47	\$ 11,576.10	\$ 362.27	\$ -	\$ 1,380.83
EXCISE TAX							
FY2019	\$ 2,556.25	\$ -	\$ 549.48	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,006.77
FY2020	\$ 4,133.64	\$ 1,310.06	\$ 3,656.12	\$ 371.75	\$ 587.81	\$ -	\$ 2,003.64
FY2021	\$ 44,555.72	\$ 72,757.66	\$ 112,837.29	\$ 9,423.48	\$ 8,665.21	\$ -	\$ 3,717.82
FY2022	\$ -	\$ 685,701.82	\$ 657,101.94	\$ 9,976.21	\$ 6,179.42	\$ -	\$ 24,803.09
SEWER USAGE							
FY2022	\$ 10,611.05	\$ 692,094.42	\$ 178,579.99	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 524,125.48*
* FY2022 Winter Commitment bills were mailed 2 weeks before the close of the fiscal year resulting in a large outstanding balance							
TAX TITLE - REAL ESTATE TAX ONLY							
ALL YEARS	\$ 71,090.78	\$ 22,552.68	\$ 20,094.83	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 73,548.63
	\$ 253,782.33	\$ 14,528,271.49	\$ 13,955,362.21	\$ 108,399.79	\$ 63,210.36	\$ 22,945.63	\$ 758,556.55
TOTAL INTEREST COLLECTED ON DELINQUENT TAXES			\$ 36,336.73				
TOTAL FEES COLLECTED ON DELINQUENT TAXES			\$ 23,956.79				
Respectfully submitted, Sarah M. Kimball - Tax Collector							

TOWN TREASURER

REPORT OF THE TREASURER			
TO THE SELECTBOARD AND THE CITIZENS OF THE TOWN OF DEERFIELD			
REPORT OF FY2022 ACTUAL BANK CASH BALANCES			
ACCOUNT TYPE	BALANCE AS OF 7/1/2021	BALANCE AS OF 6/30/2022	TOTAL INTEREST EARNED IN FY2022
General Cash Accounts:	\$ 15,318,315	\$ 17,599,299	\$ 46,896
Operational Accounts, Money Markets (14)			
Trust and Agency Accounts:			
Cemetery Trust Funds (4)	\$ 92,508	\$ 93,722	\$ 1,239
Library Trust Funds (2)	\$ 112,913	\$ 111,754	\$ 1,503
Other Town Trust Funds (8)	\$ 143,744	\$ 80,021	\$ 1,616
OPEB	\$ 129,657	\$ 181,708	\$ 10,441
Capital Accounts:			
CPA Fund	\$ 3,527,915	\$ 3,886,211	\$ 49,706
SCEMS Fund (added 6/30/22)		\$ 46,258	\$ -
Stabilization (2)	\$ 2,246,482	\$ 2,118,909	\$ 22,427
Total Funds held by Treasurer	\$ 21,571,534	\$ 24,117,883	\$ 133,828
<i>* All money amounts rounded to the nearest dollar</i>			
Respectfully submitted, Sarah M. Kimball - Treasurer			

PUBLIC SAFETY

DEERFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mission Statement

"We, the members of the Deerfield Police Department, are committed to excellence in law enforcement and are dedicated to the people, traditions and diversity of Deerfield. In order to protect life and property, prevent crime and reduce the fear of crime, we will provide service with understanding, response with compassion, performance with integrity and law enforcement with vision."

I am pleased to present to you the 2022 Deerfield Police Department Annual Report. The officers, supervisors, and staff continue to deliver a superior product to the residents of Deerfield.

Staffing

The Deerfield Police Department is comprised of the Chief of Police, three (3) full-time police Sergeants, six (6) additional full-time and fourteen (14) part-time officers. Officers are organized into three shifts with two officers per shift who are accessible to the public 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year. On each shift, there is an officer assigned to the Old Deerfield area (District 2), and one officer assigned to South Deerfield (District 1). This ensures that residents all across town get equal response and patrol time.

The Police Department also employs a full-time administrator who is responsible for handling day-to-day administrative functions including but not limited to public information requests, payroll, bills, detail billing, emergency scheduling, equipment acquisition, fleet maintenance scheduling, speaking with citizens in the lobby, and answering telephones.

Sergeant Brian Ravish continues to expand the School Resource Officer (SRO) position. He is teaching many different classes with faculty at Frontier Regional High School and overseeing internships for several students that are interested in Law Enforcement. Brian also continues to teach the RAD (Rape Aggression Defense) class, Forensics class, and pedal cars to teach about the dangers of drunk and/or drugged driving. Not only does Brian teach all aspects of use of force for our agency, he teaches many surrounding departments. Brian is certified by the National Associations of School Resource Officers in both the Basic and Advanced SRO as well as the MPTC SRO training.

Officer Timothy Capuano moved from part to full time within our agency, completing the twenty-two-week Municipal Police Training Committee Academy. In the past, we were known as a reputable training ground for part-time personnel who become exceptional full-time officers for our agency and others, however with new POST standards, there are no longer academies to train part-time personnel.

Our part-time personnel completed the MPTC Bridge training academy, which along with their road experience and part-time certification, keeps them eligible within this new legislation to continue working. In a normal year, there are three to four part-time appointments; however, with the new POST police reform standards that is no longer an option. We continue to navigate the challenges this creates within our agency.

The CSO Co-Response program continues to expand this year. We currently share Kaitlin Richotte with both Greenfield and Montague Police. Kaitlin is the Assistant Program Director for the Co-Response programs through Clinical and Support Options and helps in overseeing both the Franklin and Hampshire County Co-Response teams. Kaitlin holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a double minor in Criminal Justice and Substance Use as well as a Master of Arts with a focus in Forensic Mental Health Counseling. Kaitlin is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor. She is an outstanding asset to our community.

Equipment

The police department continues to replace one cruiser annually. This is due to the mileage driven, idle time, and wear and tear on a vehicle. With two personnel on duty twenty-four hours a day, our annual mileage is around 140,000 miles. We continue to be conscious of our carbon footprint, moving towards eventually being a Hybrid fleet. The Hybrid cars are proving to use about half the fuel as the fully gas-powered cruisers.

We upgraded our outdated Taser system, which were 8-10 years old and no longer serviceable. The new T-7 Tasers contain the latest technology and are high visibility yellow.

We have moved to using Electronic Citations, with in-car printers. In the past, we used hand-written carbon copy citations that required manual entry and mailing to the RMV. Electronic Citations are sent to the RMV at the time of issuance and are printed out in the car.

Calls for Service

The Department is very active in responding to calls for service. Calls for service within this area are defined as requiring a police action; this does not include mere directions, parties that come to our station to speak with officers, administrative duties such as LTC renewals, or questions. Officers also respond to all fire and ambulance calls. Officers are often first on scene and assist with rendering emergency medical aid and if needed, traffic control, and are authorized to drive the ambulance to a medical facility. The total number of assigned calls for service for the 2022 calendar year was 13,641. This is an average of 37 calls for service on the average day.

There were 150 arrests, 261 active investigations, 123 motor vehicle crashes, 1125 motor vehicle stops, and 463 medical emergencies in 2022. Our officers also helped in responding to over 200 mental health emergencies and worked diligently with Crisis Services to ensure that our residents received the best possible available care and follow up treatments. With the new program across all three towns, 65% of people were diverted from being arrested or being brought to the hospital for involuntary treatment.

Our Officers patrol all areas of the Town of Deerfield, watching for any unusual activity, while keeping all residents and visitors' safety in mind, making notifications to the utility companies as well as reporting any road hazards to the appropriate highway agency. We continue to have an open communication with business owners and perform business checks daily. Officers continue to perform vacant house checks and provide target traffic enforcement in problem areas. We respond to areas of concern brought up by citizens, and work to mitigate those problems through targeted enforcement.

Officers on road patrol perform law enforcement patrol activities including, but not limited to, arresting violators of the law, checking on property and persons, conducting security checks of buildings, and dwellings, investigating traffic crashes, and enforcing traffic offenses, such as Operating Under the Influence (OUI) investigations. Aside from road patrol, these officers also assist with criminal

investigations, including searching for missing persons, runaways, and wanted persons. All of this activity is documented in reports, logs and calls for service as officers are responsible to present testimony and evidence in court.

The Police Department daily logs have been placed online. They are accessible on the Town of Deerfield website, Police Department Page, under “Police Logs”. This allows the residents to view the day-to-day activities, as well as research events that may have transpired in your area.

Major Events

Our officers continued to work every day throughout the end of the COVID-19 pandemic as we adjust to our new normal following safety guidelines and continuing to protect the community throughout these difficult times. We have seen an increase in mental health related calls, and as mentioned, have joined forces with Crisis Services to create a co-response program in which a CSO clinician can respond with police officer to calls that may not require involuntary hospitalization, but may require follow up and assistance.

Our officers are also working with the Opioid Task Force Connect Program, which connects those who have experienced or witnessed Opioid overdoses with free and confidential support programming within 72 hours of an Opioid overdose. This program also includes a database that is state wide to identify high-risk candidates who have overdosed in multiple jurisdictions and connect them with services.

The Deerfield Police Department continued to have officers assigned to the Northwestern District Attorney’s Anti-Crime Task Force (NDATF) throughout 2022. As of July 1, 2022, the Deerfield Police Department committed an officer, on a full-time basis, to the NDATF.

As a result, multiple arrests and search warrants were executed within the Town of Deerfield, as well as other participating municipalities. Overall, the arrests and search warrant executions conducted by NDATF personnel in 2022 resulted in multiple felony arrests, seizures of trafficking weight quantities of narcotics, seizures of large amounts of US Currency, as well as the seizures of illegal firearms and ammunition.

During the course of 2022, investigators with the NDATF initiated 130 cases resulting in 95 arrests in our area. The NDATF also applied for, and were granted, 92 search warrants. As a result, arrests and search warrant executions made by the NDATF produced the following seizures:

- MDMA/Ecstasy- approximately 2.757 kilograms
- Cocaine/Crack cocaine- approximately 3.128 kilograms
- Heroin/Fentanyl- approximately 14,024 bags/dosage units & 1 kilogram
- Methamphetamine- approximately 13.15 kilograms
- Counterfeit/prescription pills- over 500 pills
- Psilocybin- approximately 270 grams
- Marijuana- over 600 lbs.
- Firearms- 7
- Vehicles- 1
- US Currency- \$362,044.80

Of the cases, arrests, and seizures conducted/made by the NDAF during 2022, a notable amount involved residents or frequent visitors of the Town of Deerfield. These investigators continue to work diligently and conduct thorough investigations to keep illegal and dangerous narcotics out of our town.

Training

December 31, 2020, Governor Charles Baker signed the Criminal Justice Reform Act into law. We continue to navigate the changes to our and other small agencies with the elimination of the part-time police academy— thereby eliminating the vast majority of part-time personnel in the State. In addition, there have been modifications of Use of Force Standards, as well as many additional requirements for Police Officer certification. These changes will have a large financial impact on the vast majority of communities under ten thousand, and more especially Deerfield's size and smaller. Many of the small towns police departments (population 500-3,000) will cease to exist.

This year, members of our department attended specialized training in:

Crisis Intervention including the CIT conference to learn advanced de-escalation methods and programs that are available through the mental health system.

Firearms training trailer that included nighttime, low light, blue light, and scenario based training that included changes of force.

Cyber Crimes Conference to learn about ever changing technology and how it is being used in criminal activity as well as how to use technology in investigations to solve and prove crimes.

School Shooters and Teen Killers training that looked into the similarities, differences, ideology, and patterns behind these terrible incidents so we can learn to intercept early warning signs and prevent violence in young people.

All officers completed in-service training that include Firearms, Use of Force, Legal Updates, CPR and First Responder, Trauma Informed Policing, Preventing Officer Crisis, Duty to Intervene, and Frontline Digital Evidence.

Grants

Grants continue to be scarce within law enforcement with the vast majority going to large cities with exceptionally high crime data statistics. Sergeant Harry Ruddock applied for and received a traffic safety grant dedicated to enforcement patrols assigned to high impact areas to address traffic safety. This grant also includes a stipend for equipment, used to purchase more speed sign boards around town. I am pleased that we have received this grant two years in a row thanks to Sergeant Ruddock.

Department of Mental Health grant covers the co-response program that we share with Greenfield and Montague. The grant covers a full time co-responding clinician from Clinical Support Options and the program is working to expand to hire more Co-Responders that will be covering more times of the day as we continue to see an increase in mental health and crisis related calls.

School Safety

We are in constant partnership to make sure the schools are as safe as possible. As most are aware this is challenging since Deerfield has five schools; Deerfield Elementary, Frontier Regional High School, Bement, Eaglebrook, and Deerfield Academy. In total, there are over 2,500 students in Deerfield. This does not include school staff. The schools, including students and staff, bring in a daily influx of over 4,000 people.

As part of school safety, we have an active partnership and leadership role in the four-town safety committee, which is comprised of EMS, Police, Fire, and School Officials from all Union 38 schools and towns. This includes quarterly meetings, active shooter training, lockdown drills, and shelter in place drills. Annual review of school safety documents and plans.

Focused areas

On January 1, 2018, I started as the President of the Franklin County Chiefs of Police Association. I am also the Franklin County appointed representative to the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Executive Board (since 2014). In addition, I serve as the police representative to the Western Mass. Homeland Security Council, which is a Governor's appointment (since 2015). I was also appointed this year as the State Wide Law Enforcement Liaison on the State Child Fatality Review Team. There are eleven regional teams across the State that report their findings to the State Team.

As always, the Deerfield Police Department is dedicated to serve the community, residents and visitors of the Town of Deerfield. As the days, months, and years continue to pass, please do not ever hesitate to contact us if you have a question or concern, we are available 24/7 365 days a year.

Sincerely,

John P. Paciorek, Jr.
Chief of Police
Emergency Management Director

“PROTECTING AND SERVING OUR COMMUNITY”

The Law Enforcement Oath of Honor

On my honor, I will never betray my badge, my integrity, my character, or the public trust.

I will always have the courage to hold myself and others accountable for our actions.

I will always uphold the Constitution, my community and the agency I serve.

SOUTH COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

South County EMS (SoCEMS) is the premier regional EMS service in the state. As a municipal “third-service” that provides only medical-related services, our budget, infrastructure, training focus, and culture is 100% devoted to providing the best emergency medical care possible. In 2022, our department experienced the busiest year-to-date with an 8% increase over 2021, and we expect the requests for response to continue increasing through 2023. To meet these demands, South County EMS is always considering ways to provide better care more efficiently, and solidify itself as a public good our citizens can be proud of.

Our agency provides Paramedic level response to Deerfield, Sunderland, and Whately by staffing one transporting ALS ambulance 24/7 with predominantly full-time staff. For our busiest times we add per diem responders for the anticipated increased demands for service. Last year SoCEMS responded to 1,071 calls for medical emergencies in our primary coverage area and an additional 145 to neighboring communities. Of the patients we treated, 83% required and received Advanced Life Support (ALS) interventions. In addition to the medical related emergencies, SoCEMS also responded to over 95 calls including Fire, Search and Rescue, HAZMAT, and Law Enforcement issues, where we provided both medical support and subject matter expertise. Our full time and per diem staff represent some of the highest and most diversely trained emergency responders in the state.

In 2022, South County hired additional full-time staff to cover our primary ambulance staffing, and reduce the dependency on per diem employees who are not always available on account of their full-time positions elsewhere. By adjusting our scheduling and shift coverage, we have been able to increase our ability to adapt and respond to outside forces while also decreasing the likelihood of medical provider burnout, which has become all too common in recent years.

Additionally, South County EMS continues to work closely with our Franklin County and Western MA public safety partners. As a well-respected agency in the region, and a golden model of what can be accomplished when multiple towns come together, South County has become the go-to place when other agencies or communities are looking for insight in providing outstanding emergency medical care.

I would like to thank our talented and compassionate team of providers who work here at South County EMS. Every day they give back to this community in ways that are not always obvious. Through studying and researching so that they can provide better care, by advocating for EMS and patients on the regional, state, and federal level, and by taking time on calls to provide companionship to community members, they truly go above and beyond what is typically expected from our pre-hospital medical providers. The people who wear the South County EMS patch are amongst the finest around.

As always, I wish to thank the members of our community for your support over the years. Our team of providers were chosen because of their skill, knowledge, compassion, and dedication, and they would not be able to serve the community in the way that they know is right, were it not for the championing many of you do on our behalf. It is your support that has made South County such a rewarding and respected place to serve.

Thank you.

Statistics

Here is the breakdown of the 2022 calendar year stats:

EMS Patient Responses by Type	EMS Patient Responses by Town
Total: 1,216	Deerfield: 600
ALS Transports: 700	Sunderland: 313
BLS Transports: 140	Whately: 158
Paramedic Intercepts: 17	Mutual Aid: 145
Refusals: 264	
Other: 95	

We look forward to continuing to provide high-quality and state-of-the-art emergency medical care to our community and supporting public health and education initiatives in 2023.

More information about our department can be found on our website: www.SoCEMS.org

Respectfully,

Chief Z. Smith, Paramedic
South County Emergency Medical Services



PUBLIC WORKS

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Kevin ScarboroughSuperintendent of Public Works
Chris MillerAsst. Superintendent of Public Works
Charles Willor IIIMaintenance Foreman/HEO
Jason MillerHeavy Equipment Operator/Laborer
Brian ChyzHeavy Equipment Operator/Laborer
Michael KolakoskiHeavy Equipment Operator/Laborer
Kevin KolakoskiHeavy Equipment Operator/Laborer
Brandon Savigne Truck Driver/Laborer
Dianne CornwellAdministrative Assistant

Description of Services

The highway department primarily serves to maintain the Town’s “public works”. The Department helps to insure public safety services through road maintenance (including snow removal), road drainage, flood mitigation, tree work, wastewater collection and treatment, special projects, maintenance projects etc. These services are provided on a 24/7/365 basis in cooperation with our public safety collaborates Police, Fire and EMS. The Highway Department is responsible for maintaining the town’s public roads. The Department helps insure safe travel by maintaining the roads as well as the infrastructure underneath such as sewer and drainage systems. During the winter, the Department focuses on keeping the roads free of snow and ice. In the summer, mowing is a weekly duty for roadsides, cemeteries, town buildings and commons.

Road Repairs

We are working with a pavement management program, in order to properly analyze and document the road conditions, and determine what roads need repair; Priority for repair is established by traffic counts, safety, and roadway conditions. Through Chapter 90 and WRAP monies provided from the State, this past year we were able to pave Upper Road and River Road.

Culverts

To assist with culvert repairs we utilize a contractor with larger equipment as needed. The Highway Department supervises and completes the culvert jobs saving the town money. We continue to work with Mass DOT and Mass DEP to identify all of our culverts within the town and to set priorities for repair, replacement, and/or upgrades. In 2012, The Massachusetts Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs, along with Fish & Game Division of Ecological Restoration established very strict “stream crossing” regulations, which insures that in making culvert repairs we are making the proper ecological restorations. Over this past year, we have had two culverts and multiple under the road drainage pipe replacements.

Vehicle/Equipment Maintenance

The town is very fortunate to have a highly qualified mechanic and fabricator on the Highway Department Staff who repeatedly can save the town money, In addition to tracking repairs and performing preventive maintenance on highway vehicles and equipment, we have been able to service the vehicles and equipment for the Recreation, Police Department, and Wastewater.

Building Maintenance Operations

The Municipal Offices, Police Department, South County EMS building, the 1888 Building (formerly known as the Senior Center, Tilton Library, the DPW building, Transfer Station, Captain Lathrop Drive Lift Station and the Church are all maintained by the Department of Public Works. During this past year, we have upgraded the heating software for the DPW. The church is undergoing a study for use as temporary Senior Center; repairs should begin spring 2023. Town Hall has needed a significant number of repairs. The library has undergone mold remediation and repainting areas.

Cemeteries

The town owns and maintains 10 cemeteries. The Highway Department performs maintenance on all 10 cemeteries during the growing season, which includes grass cutting, string trimming and bush/shrub pruning.

Sewer Collection System

The town has been looking at the entire sewer collection system. This has consisted of every manhole having to be documented, to condition, size and materials of construction, all sewer pipe for condition and I&I to see if ground water is infiltrating into our system. The town sewer system infrastructure consists of two wastewater treatment plants, Old Deerfield and Deerfield and miles of pipe. The Deerfield plant is undergoing some expansion construction. The Old Deerfield Plant needs upgrades. While the DPW maintains the distribution part of the system, other licensed employees operate the treatment plants 7 days a week. In the past year, a new Chief Operator was hired along with two other employees who have been completing training to become certified operators.

Asset Management

The town, through our insurance company MIIA, received grants to purchase software, which has the ability to track everything from culverts to light switches in Town Hall, to pumps at the wastewater plants. With the software, we are able to manage workflow, track costs of projects and better project expenditures and services that affect the residents of the town. Our future goal is for residents to report issues and concerns online, and be able to produce a job ticket to make our departments' services more efficient.

As we close out this year, I would like to publicly offer sincere thanks especially to the following:

To the Highway, Transfer Station and Wastewater crews that have not lost any productivity during the pandemic. This department has worked every day to provide services to the residents of this town and have stepped up to meet the many challenges of this past year.

It has been my pleasure to serve the residents and I look forward to serving for many years to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin H Scarborough
Superintendent of Public Works Operations

TRANSFER STATION

James Schaefer..... Transfer Station Attendant
Kyle Kabanice Transfer Station Attendant
William Rotkiewicz Transfer Station Attendant

The Deerfield Transfer Station is open to Town residents on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM. Staff changes at Town hall required that we change a few things as to how we operate and provide stacker sales. We are actively pursued sticker enforcement and properly charging for the bulky items’ dumpster. We have introduced Mattress recycling and are a regional location for this service We are continually looking for ways to lower expenses at the Transfer Station by revising the hauling schedules, compacting more to reduce trucking & tipping costs. The Food Waste composting and the book-recycling bin continue to be utilized steadily. It is nice to see recycling instead of dumping into a landfill.

We strongly encourage Deerfield residents to continue their recycling efforts, and to make every effort to curb their solid-waste generation. We also encourage Deerfield residents to be aware of those items that have special rules regarding disposal, such as:

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Appliances | Furniture | Paints |
| Automotive | Glass | Paper |
| Batteries | Hazardous Waste | Plastics |
| Cleaners | Lighting | Yard Waste |
| Containers | Medications | Building/Remodeling & |
| Electronics | Metal | Construction/Demolition |

Residents are also encouraged to speak to a transfer station attendant, or to visit the town’s website, for more information.

Thanks are extended to the Transfer Station staff for their continued service to the town especially during the Pandemic, hot summer & cold winter days. Their courteous and helpful assistance to town residents helps to insure the safety and effectiveness of our Transfer Station operations.

WWTP

The Town of Deerfield’s two Wastewater Treatment Plants process raw sewage from two separate collection systems. The South Deerfield collection system is made up of approximately 12.4 miles of gravity sewer mains, 344 manholes, and 1 pump station while the Old Deerfield collection system is made up of 3.8 miles of gravity sewer mains with 71 manholes. South Deerfield and Old Deerfield Wastewater Treatment Plants combined to treat over 168 million gallons of raw sewage in 2022. This generated 909,000 gallons of liquid sludge that was transported off-site to be processed at Lowell Regional Wastewater Facility.

During this past year, we saw big changes in personnel. 2022 started out with only one operator and support being given by DPC Engineering Company and operators from the Amherst Wastewater Plant through an operating agreement. A new Chief Operator was hired, and he officially took over May 2022. Upon being hired, interviews were held for two operators in training positions and two candidates were chosen. A full-time crew of four personnel now staffs the department, and they are responsible for operating and maintaining both Wastewater Treatment Plants, repairing faulty equipment, and the upkeep of the buildings and grounds.

The Old Deerfield Wastewater Treatment Plant is an aging facility that needs various upgrades to allow it to continue processing wastewater for years to come. With that being said, through hard work the plant staff has been able to keep the plant effluent well above discharge permit standards. The staff has repaired and replaced a good portion of the plant water system, extending the life of the current equipment. Elm electric has been busy at the plant keeping the electrical MCC panel that distributes power to all the equipment, running even with most parts for the panel being obsolete. Lastly, a lighting upgrade was complete making the plant safer for the operators during overnight call-ins.

The South Deerfield Wastewater Treatment Plant continues its transformation with the upgrade project in full effect. Plant staff and contractors are working together to ensure the project is being completed while also ensuring the plant discharge permit levels are met. Various parts and pieces of equipment, of the newly upgraded plant, should start coming on-line throughout 2023. As of the latest construction, update substantial completion of the project should be met by December 15, 2023, with completion set for a January 14, 2024.

Thank you for your continued support of the Wastewater Treatment Plants and the staff. We will continue to work hard to ensure the Town’s needs are met, long into the future.

Sincerely,

Eric Meals
Chief Wastewater Operator



EDUCATION

DEERFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Carey Etchells, Chair
Deerfield School Committee
Deerfield, MA 01342

Dear Ms. Etchells:

I respectfully submit the 2022 Annual Report for the Deerfield Elementary School:

DEERFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Carey Etchells, Chair	Term Expires: 2025
Ken Cuddeback, Vice Chair	Term Expires: 2023
Erica Jacob, Secretary	Term Expires: 2024
*Mary Ramon, Member	Term Expires: 2024
Anne Curtis, Member	Term Expires: 2025

*Representative to Frontier Regional School Committee

ADMINISTRATION

Superintendent of Schools	Darius Modestow
Director of Business Administration	Shelley Poreda
Director of Special Education	Karen Ferrandino
Director of Elementary Education	Lara Ramsey
Director of Early Childhood	Kimberly McCarthy
Director of Instructional Technology	Scott Paul
Director of School Facilities	William Hildreth
Director of Food Services	Geoffrey McDonald
Principal	Tina Gemme
Assistant Principal	Elaine Mount

SUPPORT STAFF

Executive Assistant to Superintendent	Jennifer Shumway
Administrative Assistant (SPED)	Penny Smiarowski
Administrative Assistant/Facilities	Mary Jane Whitcomb
Receptionist/Early Childhood Assistant	Sarah Butler
Payroll Specialist, FRS/Union #38	Brenda Antes
Accounts Payable/Bookkeeper	Michelle Melnik
Grants Accountant	Stephan Shepherd
Secretary to Principal	Catherine Eckert
School Secretary	Lisa Jackson
Special Education Secretary	Jody Skalski

DEERFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ENROLLMENT - OCTOBER 1, 2022

Grade	Resident Students	School Choice Students	Tuition-In Students	Total
PK	16	0	10	26
K	31	8	0	39
1	31	8	0	39
2	24	4	0	28
3	45	10	0	55
4	28	12	0	40
5	50	5	0	55
6	43	9	0	52
TOTAL	268	56	10	334

Union #38 Teacher Salary Schedule
Effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

STEP	B	B+15	M	M+15	M+30	CAGS
3	\$45,969	\$47,404	\$48,884	\$50,415	\$51,990	\$53,535
4	\$47,404	\$48,884	\$50,415	\$51,990	\$53,616	\$55,162
5	\$48,884	\$50,415	\$51,990	\$53,616	\$55,291	\$56,837
6	\$50,415	\$51,990	\$53,616	\$55,291	\$57,015	\$58,560
7	\$51,990	\$53,616	\$55,291	\$57,015	\$58,796	\$60,341
8	\$53,616	\$55,291	\$57,015	\$58,796	\$60,635	\$62,181
9	\$55,291	\$57,015	\$58,796	\$60,635	\$62,529	\$64,075
10	\$57,015	\$58,796	\$60,635	\$62,529	\$64,482	\$66,027
11	\$58,796	\$60,635	\$62,529	\$64,482	\$66,496	\$68,042
12	\$60,635	\$62,529	\$64,482	\$66,496	\$68,576	\$70,121
13	\$62,529	\$64,482	\$66,496	\$68,576	\$70,723	\$72,269
14	\$68,447	\$70,515	\$73,056	\$75,253	\$78,233	\$79,793
20	\$70,571	\$72,679	\$75,272	\$77,514	\$80,554	\$82,116

Nature's Classroom Teacher: One hundred dollars (\$100) per day of attendance by a teacher. Workshop Presenters: \$30 per hour of presentation and reimbursement for reasonable expenses. Tutoring Rate: \$33.00 per hour. Head Teachers: \$1,500. Placement on Step 20 occurs when a teacher has completed 19 years as a teacher in Union #38. Mentors: \$500 per each new teacher, \$250 for second-/third-year teacher, \$250 for each additional teacher being mentored, to a maximum of three (3) in any year. The Town of Sunderland currently pays 60% of the health insurance premium contribution, with the eligible employees who elect to participate in the Town offered health insurance paying the remainder 40% of the health insurance premium contribution.

UNION #38 INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANTS' SALARY SCHEDULE
CONWAY, DEERFIELD, SUNDERLAND, WHATELY

2021-2022	
Step 1	\$14.85
Step 2	\$15.36
Step 3	\$15.87
Step 4	\$16.39
Step 5	\$16.90
Step 6	\$17.41
Step 7	\$17.94
Step 8	\$18.45
Step 9	\$18.97
Step 10	\$19.52

UNION #38 EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT NURSES, LPN, COTA, SLPA & PTA

2021-2022	
Step 1	\$24.42
Step 2	\$25.47
Step 3	\$26.51
Step 4	\$27.55
Step 5	\$28.59
Step 6	\$29.63
Step 7	\$30.68
Step 8	\$31.73
Step 9	\$32.79
Step 10	\$33.80

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
DEERFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
District Mission Statement**

Building dynamic learning communities, one student, one teacher, one family at a time.

District Vision Statement

Vibrant, collaborative, engaging, and inclusive learning communities promoting the growth of every student.

Opening Statement:

This September, after over two years of COVID restrictions, our students, staff and families enjoyed a refreshingly normal start to the school year. Although COVID-19 is still with us, the stress it caused has diminished and we are pleased to have returned to pre-COVID programming in our schools.

I am grateful for the ongoing support of our families and communities during this time. Despite the distractions and inconveniences the pandemic created, our dedicated faculty and staff inspired students to remain focused on learning and students persevered in their academic efforts. The experience of the last three years has confirmed my belief that our schools are strong and get better every year. I look forward to a successful completion of the current year and to continuing to serve our communities and schools.

In Service,

Darius Modestow,
Superintendent of Schools

Enrollment & School Choice: The October 1, 2022 enrollment for Deerfield Elementary School totaled 334 (PreK-6) students. This is an increase of 7 students from the October 1, 2021 (PreK-6) enrollment figures of 327 students. Of those 334 (PreK-6) students, 56 were School Choice students. This is neither an increase nor decrease of students from the October 2021 (PreK-6) School Choice enrollment figures of 56 students.

Curriculum and Professional Development:

Members of the Union 38 educational community have participated in professional development and committee work in order to align curriculum materials and classroom instruction with current educational research.

English Language Arts (ELA)

In response to research on the importance of implementing regular screenings for dyslexia and providing explicit, systematic instruction in foundational skills in grades K-3, we have adopted DIBELS 8 as our dyslexia screener and will make a final selection regarding a foundational reading skills program in April. Additionally, research tells us that students with more core knowledge have stronger reading comprehension, so we are in the final stages of selecting language arts curriculum materials that emphasize the acquisition of core knowledge. Ten teachers have participated in LETRS, a curriculum-agnostic training about the science of reading. We are setting up more LETRS training opportunities for the fall of 2023.

Math

The district is uniting around several projects. This fall, we began implementing a universal screener for number sense in grades K-2, which we will expand to all grades in 2023-24. The district purchased Bridges Intervention materials for K-6 mathematics in all schools. For 6th grade, to align with grades 7 and 8, the district purchased ALEKS, a digital platform for independent math practice that provides acceleration and enrichment at individualized levels and pacing. Finally, the district is in the process of selecting core curriculum materials that are updated and aligned with standards of math practice.

Health

With support from a grant for Comprehensive School Health Services, the district acquired up-to-date curriculum resources for 5th and 6th grade health classes. We are in the process of documenting the scope and sequence of health topics that are taught K-6 by a combination of classroom teachers, PE teachers, counselors, and nurses.

Social Studies

With support from a Civics grant, the district acquired curriculum resources from Cornerstones for Civic Education. This is an engaging curriculum that draws on primary sources and puts students in the position of “thinking like historians”. Teachers are working together to pilot lessons from this program and to create a scope and sequence of lessons for 3rd and 4th grade.

Nature’s Classroom

The district is sending all 6th graders to Nature’s Classroom in Ivoryton, CT for a three day/two night outdoor education experience. In addition to participating in hands-on science and social studies classes, students will explore ecosystems and work through team building challenges; a goal for the experience is to provide positive social and academic connections among members of the class of 2029.

Staff:

We are pleased to announce the addition of Lara Ramsey as Director of Education, Elementary Focus who replaced Kimberly McCarthy. Kimberly McCarthy has replaced Aimee Smith-Zeoli as the Director of Early Childhood.

Faculty Retirements: Gretchen Law, Reading Teacher

Faculty Resignations: Shannon Brown, Grade 5; Lauren Cheek, Special Education Liaison; Kathryn Smith, School Nurse; Layla Hazen, Kindergarten Teacher

New Faculty: Rebecca Nicholson, Grade 5; Kacey Snape, School Nurse; Athena Giles, Special Education Teacher; Carla Chilton, Grade 6 Teacher; Christopher Cleland, Grade 4 Teacher

Special Thanks: We are pleased to acknowledge the dedication of Deerfield School Committee members Chair Carey Etchells. Vice Chair Ken Cuddeback, Secretary Erica Jacob, and Members Mary Ramon and Anne Curtis. The members of the Committee work tirelessly on behalf of the children in Deerfield. Together, I look forward to working with this group to continue to strive for the best educational experience for our students.

Respectfully submitted,

Darius E. Modestow
Superintendent of Schools

FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL

Robert Halla, Chair
Frontier Regional School District Committee
South Deerfield, MA 01373

Dear Mr. Halla:

I respectfully submit the 2022 Frontier Regional School Annual Report.

FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

* Robert Halla, Chair, Whately	Term Expires: 2023
William Smith, V. Chair, Whately	Term Expires: 2025
Christopher White, Secretary,	Term Expires: 2025
Olivia Leone, Member, Deerfield	Term Expires: 2024
* Philip Kantor, Member, Conway	Term Expires: 2023
* Mary Ramon, Member, Deerfield	Term Expires: 2023
* Keith McFarland, Member, Sunderland	Term Expires: 2023
Melissa Novak, Member, Deerfield	Term Expires: 2023
Lyn Roberts, Member, Sunderland	Term Expires: 2023
Damien Fosnot, Member, Deerfield	Term Expires: 2025
Jared Campbell, Member, Conway	Term Expires: 2025

*Representing the local Elementary School Committees for a one-year term.
Regular meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month, in the Media Center, Frontier Regional School, South Deerfield, Massachusetts at 6:00 p.m.

ADMINISTRATION

Superintendent of Schools	Darius Modestow
Director of Business Administration	Shelley Poreda
Director of Student Services	Karen Ferrandino
Director of Secondary Education	Sarah Mitchell
Director of School Facilities	William Hildreth
Director of Instructional Technology	Scott Paul
Director of Food Services	Geoffrey McDonald

SUPPORT STAFF

Executive Assistant to Superintendent	Jennifer Shumway
Administrative Assistant (Special Ed.)	Penny Smiarowski
Administrative Assistant/Facilities	Mary Jane Whitcomb
Receptionist/Substitute Coordinator	Sarah Butler
Payroll Specialist, FRS/Union #38	Brenda Antes
Accounts Payable/Bookkeeper, FRS	Donna Lloyd
Treasurer	Michael DeBarge
Grants Accountant	Stephan Shepherd
SIS Data Specialist	Megan Donovan
Network Administrator	Stuart Dusenberry
Information Technology Specialist	Keith VanBuren

FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL

George Lanides	Principal
Scott Dredge	Assistant Principal
Roberta Reiter	Principal's Secretary
Deb Mason	School Secretary
Kelly Blanchette	Special Education Secretary
Michelle Russell	Attendance Secretary
Mary Lapinski	Guidance Secretary

FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL
ENROLLMENT - OCTOBER 1, 2022

Grade	Conway	Deerfield	Sunderland	Whately	School Choice	Tuitioned In	Total
7	13	33	28	5	35	0	114
8	14	36	12	13	30	1	106
9	9	29	24	6	25	1	94
10	15	38	11	10	27	0	101
11	12	28	14	5	41	0	100
12	8	36	16	6	25	0	91
SP	0	3	2	1	3	1	10
Total	71	203	107	46	186	3	616

FRONTIER REGIONAL

UNIT A SALARY SCHEDULE

2021-2022

STEP	Bachelors	Masters	M+30	CAGS/DOC
0	\$45,337	\$47,522	\$50,199	\$52,710
1	\$47,6747	\$49,587	\$52,099	\$54,703
2	\$49,652	\$51,706	\$54,064	\$56,767
3	\$50,875	\$55,623	\$56,099	\$58,903
4	\$52,655	\$55,623	\$58,158	\$61,066
5	\$54,035	\$57,446	\$60,342	\$63,359
6	\$56,361	\$59,279	\$62,334	\$65,449
7	\$57,847	\$61,161	\$64,343	\$67,559
8	\$59,379	\$62,702	\$67,248	\$70,608
9	\$62,333	\$66,265	\$70,236	\$73,748
10	\$65,601	\$70,105	\$73,318	\$76,986
11	\$66,690	\$72,689	\$76,702	\$80,537
12	\$69,281	\$75,375	\$79,452	\$83,425
13	\$70,320	\$76,505	\$80,643	\$84,675
*20	\$71,320	\$77,505	\$81,643	\$85,675
**25	\$72,320	\$78,505	\$82,643	\$86,675

*Placement on Step 20L occurs when an individual has completed 19 years of service as a Frontier Regional School faculty member.

**Placement on Step 25L occurs when an individual has completed 24 years of service as a Frontier Regional School faculty member.

FRONTIER REGIONAL

UNIT C INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANTS SALARY SCHEDULE
2021-2022

Step	HOURLY RATES		
	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
		2%	2%
*2	\$14.57	\$14.87	\$15.16
3	\$15.09	\$15.39	\$15.70
4	\$15.57	\$15.89	\$16.20
5	\$16.10	\$16.42	\$16.75
6	\$16.59	\$16.93	\$17.26
7	\$17.14	\$17.48	\$17.83
8	\$17.61	\$17.97	\$18.33
9	\$18.15	\$18.51	\$18.88
10	\$18.67	\$19.05	\$19.43
11	\$19.20	\$19.58	\$19.98

Unit C Educational Support Nurses

Step	HOURLY RATES		
	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
	1%	2%	2%
1	\$23.47	\$23.94	\$24.42
2	\$24.48	\$24.97	\$25.47
3	\$25.48	\$25.99	\$26.51
4	\$26.48	\$27.01	\$27.55
5	\$27.48	\$28.03	\$28.59
6	\$28.48	\$29.05	\$29.63
7	\$29.49	\$30.08	\$30.68
8	\$30.50	\$31.11	\$31.73
9	\$31.51	\$32.14	\$32.79
10	\$32.49	\$33.14	\$33.80

**FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL
SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Building dynamic learning communities, one student, one teacher, one family at a time.

As Superintendent of the Frontier Regional and Union #38 Schools, I am pleased to submit the 2022 Superintendent's Annual Report on behalf of the dedicated teachers and administrators of the district.

Frontier Regional and Union #38 schools continue to serve our communities by providing excellent Public education with an ongoing focus on meeting the individual needs of students.

Opening Statement:

This September, after over two years of COVID restrictions, our students, staff and families enjoyed a refreshingly normal start to the school year. Although COVID-19 is still with us, the stress it caused has diminished and we are pleased to have returned to pre-COVID programming in our schools.

I am grateful for the ongoing support of our families and communities during this time. Despite the distractions and inconveniences the pandemic created, our dedicated faculty and staff inspired students to remain focused on learning and students persevered in their academic efforts. The experience of the last three years has confirmed my belief that our schools are strong and get better every year. I look forward to a successful completion of the current year and to continuing to serve our communities and schools.

In Service,

Darius Modestow,
Superintendent of Schools

Overview: Frontier Regional School opened in 1954 in the town of South Deerfield, Massachusetts. The school includes students in grades 7 through 12 with an enrollment of 616 students. This is an increase of 6 students from the October 1, 2021 enrollment figures of 610 students.

The class of 2022 had 92 graduates; 62% planned to attend a four-year college, 15% a two-year college, 1% plan to attend vocational schools, 0% planned on a post-grad year, 0% will enter military service, 4% will take a gap year, 9% plan to enter the labor market, and 9% plans are unknown. This is different from previous years. There were 98 graduates in the class of 2021: 69% planned to attend a four-year college, 18% a two-year college, 2% vocational schools, 2% military, 1% prep school, 7% planned to enter the labor market and 1% plans were unknown.

Curriculum and Professional Development

Frontier Regional

Members of the Frontier Regional school community are involved in a number of initiatives and professional development experiences to expand the support and opportunities available to students.

Restorative Practices

Social emotional well-being and academic success for all students continue to be a focus in the ongoing efforts to recover from the impact of the pandemic. Towards that end faculty and support staff participated in workshops and the implementation of a restorative practice model of student support. Restorative practices is a whole school teaching and learning approach that encourages positive relationships and repair to others and the community when an individual's actions cause harm. The model uses restorative circles to allow students to be seen and heard as a member of a classroom community.

Culturally responsive teaching and learning

Recognizing and valuing all learners in our school community continues to be a focus of professional development. Faculty are working to implement the five pursuits of culturally and historically responsive teaching outlined by Gholdy Muhammad: identity, skills, intellectualism, criticality, and joy. A presentation by Liza Talusan provided faculty with a framework of practical strategies for creating an inclusive classroom community through the model outlined in her book *The Identity-Conscious Educator*.

Project Based Learning

The social studies department engaged in a professional development series to transform the social studies classroom into an environment where students engage in learning projects that allow them to connect with historical content.

Innovation Pathways

Frontier was designated an Innovation Pathways School. Innovation Pathways are programs within Massachusetts high schools that are designed to connect students to industry sectors that are in demand in the regional and state economy. Frontier is partnering with a number of community organizations and businesses to offer students an opportunity to be exposed to careers in the healthcare and social services and advanced manufacturing and engineering industries. Some of our partners include: Baystate Medical, Community Health Care Center, Pelican Industries and hosts of other businesses that are offering our students internship opportunities as well as providing guest speakers for industry related courses that are offered at Frontier. Grant funding support allowed for the implementation of the IP program, with funding available to purchase equipment for the hands on training components of this program.

My Career and Academic Plan (MYCAP)

A development team of faculty and administrators is engaged in the planning process to implement the MYCAP program. *My Career and Academic Plan* prepares students for college, career and civic readiness. The MyCAP process engages students in authentic postsecondary planning through a continuum of learning focused on the individual student's interests, skills and talents. Frontier students will collect representative work samples in a portfolio during their courses at Frontier. The portfolio will allow students to collect important information for later presentation to colleges or employers as they transition from Frontier to post graduation education or work environments.

Staff:

Retired Faculty: Lisa Winter, School Nurse; Sandra Spiewak, Speech/Language Pathologist; William Benoit, Technology Education Teacher; Karen Ziomek, Guidance Counselor;

Faculty Resignations: Kristin McLaughlin, Science (MS); Carolyn Eddy, Special Education Team Leader; Kelly Wilkerson, Special Education Teacher, Karen Johnston, Physical Therapist

New Faculty: Reina Dastous, School Nurse; Daniel Murphy, Woodshop/Fab Lab Teacher; Casey Gavin, Occupational Therapist; Sigal Kadden, Guidance Counselor; Rema Mills, Speech/Language Pathologist; Axel Anderson, English (HS); Danielle Manna, Science/Math; Sarah Crawford, Special Education Team Leader; Kristine Bourque, Special Education Teacher; Grant Bialek, Restorative Practice Coordinator, Sarah Berger, Physical Therapist

Special Thanks

We are pleased to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of Frontier Regional School Committee Members: **Chair Robert Halla, Vice Chair William Smith, Secretary Christopher White, Members Mary Ramon, Lyn Roberts, Philip Kantor, Keith McFarland, Damien Fosnot, Olivia Leone, and Melissa Novak.** I look forward to continuing our work together.

Thank you to the citizens of our four towns for being supportive of public education and our wonderful schools.

Respectfully submitted,

Darius E. Modestow
Superintendent of Schools

FRANKLIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL

82 Industrial Boulevard
Turners Falls, Massachusetts 01376
TEL: 413-863-4239 FAX: 413-863-2816
www.fcts.us



Richard J. Martin
Superintendent

FY24 Annual Report to Towns

We submit this annual report for 2022-23 school year on behalf of the Franklin County Technical School District and its administration, faculty, staff and students. As a reminder, the FY24 budget represents October 1, 2022 count, which is always a year behind the state budget process. FCTS has an enrollment submission of 559 students with town breakouts as follows:

Bernardston	25	Erving	28	Montague	93	Sunderland	9
Buckland	17	Gill	15	New Salem	11	Warwick	6
Colrain	21	Greenfield	117	Northfield	40	Wendell	9
Conway	9	Heath	8	Orange	94	Whately	22
Deerfield	25	Leyden	1	Shelburne	9		

Franklin County Technical School awarded 113 diplomas to our seniors in June of 2022. Massachusetts students are required to pass the MCAS in order to receive a high school diploma and once again our students were very successful in meeting this high academic standard. The state has adjusted their measures for evaluating district/school accountability and FCTS maintained the equivalent of a Level 2 accountability status out of a 5-point scale with 1 being the highest and 5 the lowest. Additionally, the district is meeting targets set by the Department of Education for passing rates of students of high risk with disabilities.

FCTS has the advantage of utilizing vocational students and licensed instructors from carpentry, electrical, plumbing and landscaping to provide maintenance and repairs to our school grounds and facility saving member towns tens of thousands of dollars annually. These shop programs also saved member towns an estimated \$100,000 with the bond authorization projects.

Franklin County Technical School students are learning the value of paid work opportunities through a newly revamped Cooperative Education Program (Coop). In 2019, FCTS had approximately 50% of our seniors involved in paid Coop jobs related to their vocational field of study. FCTS offers excellent academic offerings with increased courses in Advanced Placement, Honors, Foreign Language, credit recovery, and special education to provide all students with the opportunity to be prepared for college and career readiness.

Franklin County Technical School continues to experience increased enrollment and popularity within Franklin County, which has translated to new vocational technical programs in the fields of Veterinary Animal Science, Medical Assisting, and a future new Aviation Technician program. These new vibrant programs are the first new vocational programs at FCTS in more than 40 years and bring the total number of Chapter 74 vocational-technical programs to 14 and soon to be 15. Unlike other school districts which may offer a 45-minute course in a trade, FCTS students must follow strict Chapter 74 guidelines where students are in their vocational shop program for 6.5 hours per day for a full week to meet industry standard competency guidelines and in academics the next week.

FCTS is in the final process of completing a new 4800 sq. ft. Veterinary Science Learning Center and Clinic. The new building is located on Industrial Blvd next to FCTS. The facility is planning to open in the fall of 2023 and will be used for our relatively new FCTS Veterinary program and provide students with real world experiences in the veterinary field.

The new Aviation program is slated to start during the 2024-25 school year. This program will provide students with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) credentials to be certified as an Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT). FCTS was fortunate to receive a 4.1 million-dollar grant to build a new 12,000 sq. ft. aviation hangar, which will include airplanes, equipment, engine simulators, and tools and materials required by the FAA to start a new program. FCTS is planning to become one of the few high schools in the United States to offer a credentialed FAA program.

FCTS is nearly 50 years old and is one of the few remaining regional vocational schools in Massachusetts without a Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) funded facility. FCTS has been invited into the eligibility stage of the process during the 2022-23 school year and then will move into the Design Phase followed by a Feasibility Study during the next several years. FCTS anticipates going out to towns for a district wide vote for a core building project as part of a Feasibility Study in the next several years.

Franklin County Technical School's technical programs continue to improve and evolve through the use of competitive Skills Capital Grants. FCTS has received more than 6.2 million dollars in grants over the last 6 years without using tax dollars from member communities. These funds have significantly enhanced our Welding, Medical Assisting, Veterinary Science, Machine Technology and Aviation vocational technical programs. FCTS also partners with the Franklin Hampshire Regional Employment Board and Greenfield Community College to offer an evening program for underemployed and displaced workers to obtain a certification in Advanced Precision Machining using our 21st Century modernized CNC machines. Through the highly competitive skills grant FCTS also received \$500,000 to build a mobile welding simulator lab to be used to develop technical skills towards certification. FCTS reached out to the Franklin County House of Corrections to utilize the new mobile welding simulator lab as an opportunity to help inmates acquire advanced technical skills, which can lead to employment upon release. The welding mobile simulator lab should be ready by the spring of 2023.

In addition, FCTS applied and received a \$660,000 grant to start adult evening training programs through the Commonwealth's Career Technical Initiative (CTI). During the Fall of 2022, FCTS initiated two adult training courses in Welding and Auto Technology through the CTI grant, and plans to add two more programs for the Spring of 2023. FCTS also started its own Electrical adult program and plans to add more in the near future. To accomplish these goals to meet community needs, FCTS hired a full-time adult coordinator.

Franklin County Tech's Carpentry, Electrical, Plumbing, and Landscaping programs established a foundation in collaboration with the Greenfield Savings Bank to build a new home for the community on an annual basis. FCTS has finished its second new home in Erving and is beginning a new home building project in Greenfield.

FCTS vocational programs consistently reach out to support community needs to save tax payer dollars. Plumbing and Electrical students continues to work on the House Project and recently completed the Conway D.P.W. Electrical students support camera hookups, computer and telecommunication cables, rewiring switches, outlets, changing halogen lighting to LED, laying conduit and pipe for outside service, and retrofitting offices at the Heath Town Hall. Cosmetology is open to the public and provide outreach to the Athol, Poet Seat, Linda Manor Nursing Homes and provide service to the Bernardston Senior Center. Welding students built a water wheel to power a home, building a steel gate for Highland Cemetery, and building steel carts for Judd Wire. Culinary Arts is open to the public for lunch, provide special luncheons for the Western MA. SROs, Franklin County Supt. Award Banquet, and Montague Housing Authority. The Health Technology/Medical Assistant students organized a hygiene drive to donate to the needy and homeless, have public blood pressure clinics and nail care for the Erving Senior Center and volunteer at the Arbors and Regal Care in Greenfield. Landscaping did fall cleanup for the Hill Cemetery in Shelburne, Source to Sea River cleanup in Turners, and the Franklin County Fairgrounds tree planting and fence installation in Greenfield. Landscaping students also provide maintenance to FCTS grounds care, installation of sprinkler system, and provide plants and flowers for events and for the community.

Franklin County Tech is forward thinking as it continues to review labor demand and market analysis to add new programs and skills to support students to obtain competencies and training to make them competitive in the workplace, college, and career.

Our partnerships with our communities are important for our programs, and we thank those which allow our students the opportunity to practice their trades out in the field.

Respectfully,



Mr. Richard J. Kuklewicz
School Committee Chairman



Mr. Richard J. Martin
Superintendent-Director

RESIDENT SERVICES

RECREATION COMMITTEE AND PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Committee Members (Current):

Gretchen Bysiewski- Chairman

Eileen Skribiski-Banack

Beth Brown

Jeff Galli

Rod Warnick

Becky Zoly

Meagan Washburn

Recreation Department Director: Sue Antonellis

The 2022-2023 year has been a continued pursuit of program developments and offerings for residents by the Deerfield Recreation Committee and Department. The department provides comprehensive programs and activities for adults & children. These programs are a vital part of the community promoting physical activities, recreation, entertainment, art, family and certification programs as well as providing a social network and major health and wellness outlets for all who are involved.

The Deerfield Recreation programs are part of a regionalized effort with surrounding towns, collaborating and meeting with the Chairperson or Director of Conway, Hatfield, Hadley, Sunderland and Whately. The coordination requires regularly scheduled organizational meetings to ensure the needs of our community's teams and leagues are met and carefully programmed and scheduled.

Overall, the department had a successful year with an increase in participants in soccer, field hockey, basketball, baseball and softball programs.

Throughout this past year, a variety of programs have been offered. These programs all require similar administrative support including selection of coaches, teams, team drafts, scheduling of practices and games, scheduling of fields/facilities, hiring and training referees, umpires, instructors, etc. The programs offered this year include:

Children's Programs

- **Soccer** – Our Start Smart Soccer program, for ages 3 & 4, continues to grow with the help of soccer players from Deerfield Academy. We had over 120 players in the entire program.
- **Field Hockey** – Grades 3-6. Deerfield runs the program for girls from the Union 38 towns. This is the fourth year we offered team play. We had 22 girls participating in the Western Mass League. They also participated in two jamborees, winning the Valley Cup and performing incredibly well against the competition from much larger towns.
- **Volleyball** – Grades 3-6. Sunderland runs the program for girls from Union 38 towns, but Deerfield has a highly active group of participants.
- **Basketball** – Grades 1-6 play teams from Conway, Hatfield, Sunderland and Whately. Grades 7-9 combines players from Frontier to form teams. We had 123 participants.

- **Baseball** – Grades K-6. This program involves team play with organizations from Conway, Hadley, Hatfield, Sunderland, Whately, Amherst and Shelburne Falls. We had 90 players.
- **Softball** – Grades 2-6. This program combined girls from Union 38 towns. The Recreation Directors from Deerfield and Sunderland organize and implement this program. This year we had 82 players.
- **Skiing at Berkshire East** – There was renewed interest in the ski program this year. Berkshire East offered lift tickets, rentals and lessons at a reduced and reasonable cost. There were 23 adults and children enrolled in the program.

Scholarships – We offer scholarships for high school students who are dedicated and give back to the local community through work and volunteer efforts in assisting the department. Students who have helped in the department during their high school years as: referees, umpires, scorekeepers, councilors, assisted at clinics, and helped with assessments and special programs, are encouraged to apply. We have supported 40 students through our scholarship program.

Frontier Regional School Car Parade – With the help of the Deerfield Police Department, a car parade was organized for Frontier’s graduates. They decorated their cars and drove from the highway garage to Frontier with parents, friends and townspeople lining the streets to wish them well.

Adult Programs

These adult programs are open to surrounding towns, but Deerfield residents have first priority. There is an additional fee of \$5.00 for non-residents. All of these programs have participants ranging in age from the mid-20’s to mid-70’s.

Pilates – We offered a combination of beginner/intermediate classes this year.

Community Events

Summer Concerts were held at Memorial Field in July. These were great entertainment for the community with the most ever in attendance.

Light Up the Night – A Holiday Decorating contest was a fun way to get everyone in the holiday spirit. There were four categories and prizes were by donated by local businesses. Recreation Committee members had the extremely hard task of choosing winners. The town was a winter wonderland of lights.

Deerfield Donates was a toy and food drive. True Christmas, which gives to local families, was the beneficiary of a carload of toys. The Franklin Area Survival Center also received donations of food for the county. Our community went above and beyond helping those in need this year.

You Light Up My Heart Luminary Night was held on Valentine’s Day to celebrate those we love and make us happy. It was beautiful to drive throughout town and to see the Town Common all lit up with the luminaries.

New recreational fields are in the development phase for the property on North Main Street. We are excited to watch the plans progress to offer a much-needed space for the community.

The Department has continuous correspondence with local schools for mutual support – Deerfield Elementary, Frontier Regional, Deerfield Academy and Eaglebrook School. We extend our appreciation to these groups for assisting the community in offering a space for these valuable programs. Without their continued assistance, recreation for the town residents would be minimal.

The Recreation Committee would like to thank the Selectboard, the Deerfield Town officials/staff, the Deerfield Highway Department, the Deerfield Police Department, the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, Sokoloski's Landscaping, The Polish American Citizens Club and the many businesses that contribute throughout the year, the youth participating in community service, and others for their continued interest and support in our committee's efforts.

Within the community, there are always those individuals and businesses that contribute that extra time and effort to volunteer for recreational activities. These include coaches, assistants, officials and scorekeepers, event organizers and program supporters. The Committee would like to extend special thanks for your continued endeavors to support the community of Deerfield.

Due to the Deerfield Recreation Committee's work this year, the Committee remains active in continuing our ambitious efforts. We strive to maintain a minimal growth budget by creating and enhancing our programs to be self-funded where possible and to support the residents' financial concerns of taxation growth by keeping fees low and giving residents the choice of a user's pay programming philosophy. We would like consideration from the town's residents to support our current budget requests to maintain our Parks and Recreation Department for a broad cross-section of the community and to ensure a healthy and active community wellness initiative.

SOUTH COUNTY SENIOR CENTER

South County Senior Center
67 N Main St., South Deerfield, MA 01373
413.665.2141 • 413.665.9508

Email: scsc@town.deerfield.ma.us

Website: <https://www.deerfieldma.us/senior-center>

Jennifer M Remillard, Director
Susan Corey, Program Coordinator
Chris Goudreau, Outreach Coordinator
Tom Fydenkevez, Chair, Board of Oversight (Sunderland)
Trevor McDaniel, Board of Oversight (Deerfield)
Joyce Palmer-Fortune, Board of Oversight (Whately)

The South County Senior Center provides services to seniors who reside in Deerfield, Sunderland, and Whately. We also welcome seniors from other communities who find value in our programming. Programs are regularly offered on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Since November 2021, Programming has taken place at Holy Family Parish, Pope John Paul II Hall, located at 29 Sugarloaf St., South Deerfield. During 2022, we also moved to 22 Amherst Road, Sunderland. It hosts our Administrative Office for staff, our food pantry (open to anyone), a computer lab, a lending library, an arts center, a television area, a sitting area, and space to host up to 45 people for small programs.

Staffing

In January 2022, the South County Senior Center welcomed its new Director, Jennifer Remillard. In April, we welcomed our new Outreach Coordinator, Chris Goudreau. During 2022, he has been able to provide support to more than 52 seniors with services. Our Director has supported 23 seniors with services.

During 2022, the SCSC has increased membership by 94 members. This brings the total number of members who have attended events or received services from the SCSC to 295 individuals in 2022. In addition to new members, 176 guests age 60+ and 27 guests under 60 have attended the SCSC during 2022. *This is an increase of 63%, 111 people, becoming members from the last full program calendar year of 2019 (pre-COVID).* Eighteen individuals became members prior to 2022.

Programs

During 2022, the South County Senior Center hosted more than 950 events. These events include Fitness/Exercise Classes, Arts & Crafts programs, Cultural Events, Information Sharing programs, Recreation, Socialization, Congregant Meals, and Food Support.

Our average daily attendance for programs during 2022 was 39. Based on information in MySenior Center, our database used to capture statistical data at the Senior Center, the average number of individuals in attendance on a program day has increased from an average of 31, per day, per month (Jan-Aug 2022), to 60 per day, per month (Sept-Dec 2022). *This is an increase of 97% in attendance at the SCSC.* The highest daily average of individuals attending program, per day, per month for 2022 (Jan-Nov) was 68 during the month of November. The lowest daily average of individuals attending program, per day, per month for 2022 (Jan-Nov) was 26 individuals in the month of January.

Through our partnership with LifePath, 65 seniors were able to regularly receive daily Grab n' Go meals (weekdays only), with more than 3,091 meals distributed amongst them.

Our food truck distribution program, which occurs on the second Wednesday of each month, is one of our most attended days at the Center. We average between 50-75 households who receive support. During 2022, we had more than 185 individuals receive support from our monthly pop-up food truck. This event is through our community partnership with the Franklin Area Survival Center.

In addition to our monthly food truck distribution program, the SCSC collaborates with The Food Bank of Western Mass to offer the Brown Bag program. This program has approximately 32 recipients each month. It offers a free bag of groceries to those who meet specific income guidelines.

We have also added a food pantry to our Sunderland space, where we can store and offer items to our community daily. We will begin offering regular hours each week when the Outreach Coordinator begins his full-time status in February 2023.

During the fall of 2022, the South County Senior Center became partners with the Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA) and UMass to become an application site for SNAP benefits. In doing so, we can reach more individuals in our community who may be experiencing food insecurity.

In August, we hosted our first Informational Fair & Cruise night offering connection to more than 15 community partners. More than a 100 people attended.

During the holiday season in 2022, we offered a Friendsgiving in November. One hundred and six individuals attended for the congregant meal. It is also on a date that LifePath has an administrative day where no meals are provided or delivered to the seniors.

With the success of Friendsgiving, we worked with the community to deliver more than 53 meals to seniors who otherwise may not have a meal for Christmas Day. We had a large volume of volunteers come together from the community to prepare, package, and deliver meals across South County. With the success of these events, they will continue annually.

Funding

Our funding comes from the three towns of Deerfield, Sunderland, and Whately. In addition to the funds the Towns provide, we receive funds during FY22/FY23 from the Commonwealth; the Service Incentive Grant and the Formula Fund Grant and private funds; grants through LifePath, and the Fred G. Wells Trust.

We received \$13,135.05 for the Service Incentive Grant. During FY24, this grant will no longer be guaranteed to the current 18 communities who receive it. It will become a competitive grant, for which we will apply.

We initially received \$27,252 for the Formula Fund Grant. During 2022, the Commonwealth used the estimated 2020 Census Data provided through UMass, until the Federal Government officially released the Census data. The Commonwealth provides \$12/per senior age 60+ to each community. Based upon the increase in the population, we received an additional \$12,504 for a total of \$39,756.

We applied for and received a grant from the Fred G. Wells Trust in the amount of \$4,600. It is being utilized for Tai Chi and Balance classes.

We applied for and received five grants from LifePath totaling \$11,720. These funds are used to fund two Title III exercise programs – Enhanced Fitness \$6,000 – Chair Yoga \$3,000 (total of \$9,000) and \$2,720 (Church Street Home Fund) towards 3 other programs (Birding, Telling My Story (Writing Workshop) and Creative Cooking).

In addition to the above funds, the Cultural Councils from Deerfield, Sunderland, and Whately provided funding in support of various activities including dance programming and musical performances by a variety of local artists.

There are several areas of priority moving into 2023. They include: continue to expand and build new community partnerships; expand and create programs to attract current and new members; and create a 5-year plan for the South County Senior Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer M Remillard, MBA
Director, South County Senior Center

TILTON LIBRARY

Tilton Library – Deerfield’s Public Library

The Tilton aims to enrich our community through opportunities for learning, sharing, growth, and fun.

Tilton Library Board of Trustees

Appointed: Nancy Maynard, Elizabeth Schmitt, Cynthia Von Flatern (Secretary), Satu Zoller (Chair)

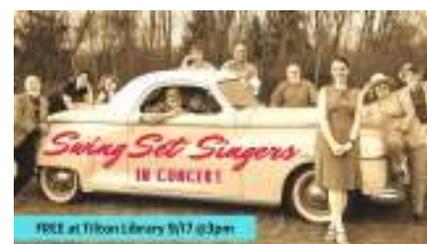
Elected: James Cambias, Kathleen O’Rourke, Marjorie Shearer (Vice Chair)

2022 HAS BEEN A YEAR OF CELEBRATION, serving our community in all ways possible, with an eye to the future.

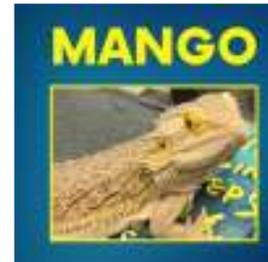
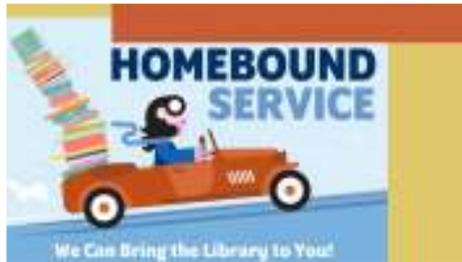
BUILDING PROJECT: To continue to instruct, inspire, and innovate we need to grow so that we can provide the appropriate amount of space for all ages, use of technology, better energy efficiency, and flexibility for the future. On July 7, 2022, after close to 15 years of hard work by many people, we got the opportunity to improve and expand our beloved library to be even better, with a one-time state library construction grant of \$4 million dollars. At special community event we offered heartfelt thanks to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) for joining us in this vision for an expanded Tilton Library. Then came a special town meeting on Monday October 24, where the project passed by two-thirds majority in at the Frontier School auditorium full to capacity. Finally, there was a special ballot election on December 6, where the project passed by a simple majority, allowing this project to move forward.



PROGRAMS: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in the early months of 2022 several programs were held virtually, including: a healthy soups class, winter birding talk, and a talk about Mars from a NASA volunteer. We hosted a variety of programs outdoors including a goat petting zoo, Mad Science presentation, Monday Night Music, Summer Reading programs, a dinosaur program, a live reptile program, the knitting circle, ukulele lessons, and outdoor teen movie night. Our take and make packets, such as: bird nesting kits and astronomy embroidery kits, were very popular. We continue to hold two after hours book discussion groups and monthly themed drop-in crafts in the children’s room. We collaborated with Sunderland Library on programs at Mt. Sugarloaf, including plant identification and mountaintop family yoga. The library is well versed in offering diverse programs, whether it be virtual, outdoors, indoors after hours, or via take and make kits, sponsored by grants from **Deerfield Cultural Council** and support of **The Friends of Tilton Library**.



Collection and Services: Quite a few items were added to the library’s popular Library of Things collection, supporting the “sharing economy” and the Town of Deerfield’s sustainability efforts, as patrons sharing items means less waste. New items include snowshoes, Nintendo Switch, Kindle, and an induction cooktop. In 2022 the library added a Homebound Delivery Service of library items to Deerfield residents of any age who are unable to visit the library due to illness, disability, or other mobility issues.



Staff: In 2022, the library welcomed a new Children’s Librarian, Holly Johnson, as well as a Head of Young Adult Services, Andrea DeLuliis. Holly brings several years’ experience working with children. Besides being a Librarian, she holds a degree in child psychology, has worked as a kindergarten teacher, and served many years on the PTO. Besides keeping up our stellar children’s collection and hosting a variety of popular educational and entertaining family programs, Holly added a brand-new library pet – Mango, the bearded dragon, which was fully-funded by the Friends. Andrea brings several years’ experience working with young adults. In addition to being a librarian, she has trained teen mentors at Big Brothers Big Sisters and helped teens in crisis with various life skills programs and one-on-one support. Andrea has done outreach to Frontier Regional Middle and High School in offering teen programs such as drop-in crafts and a teen outdoor movie night and is developing a teen book discussion group.

The Tilton Board of Trustees worked closely with the director and capital fundraising committee in preparation of an expanded library building vote. The Trustees also reviewed and updated policies, monitored the library budget, goal attainment as outlined in the yearly action plan, and advocated for the library in multiple settings.

Thank You! Generous donations were made to Tilton Fund’s annual appeal. Contributions to the library were also made by South Deerfield Women’s Club, Greenfield Savings Bank, Barker Family Charitable Fund, the Oakes Family Charitable Fund, and the Elizabeth and Frank Odell Family Fund. Proceeds from fundraising sponsored by **Tilton Fund, Inc.** and **Friends of Tilton Library** paid for building project consultants, library programs, equipment and furniture purchases, travel, and conference and membership fees for library staff.

Tilton Library’s regular hours are Monday 11-4; Tuesday 1-7; Wednesday 11-4; Thursday 1-7; and Saturday 11-4. Visit us on our website www.tiltonlibrary.org to reserve books, DVDs, audiobooks, and to borrow from our digital collections including Overdrive, Kanopy Films, Consumer Reports, Creativebug, and the Boston Public Library eCard. Follow us on Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube.

Respectfully submitted,
Candace Bradbury-Carlin
Library Director



REGIONAL PARTNERS

FRANKLIN COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING & REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



**FRANKLIN COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING &
REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

42 Canal Road • Turners Falls, MA 01376
Telephone: (413) 863-9781 • Facsimile: (413) 863-9289

January 19, 2023

Select Board
Deerfield Town Hall
8 Conway Street
South Deerfield, MA 01373

Dear Select Board,

I am writing to provide you with an annual report on activity in Deerfield's Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Fund (HRRRLF) account during the period **January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022**.

The terms of HRA's agreement with the Town of Deerfield establishes the process for handling proceeds repaid from Community Development Block Grant housing rehabilitation loans.

The following chart provides a summary of **THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITY** during this period:

A	Beginning Balance of funds in account as of December 31, 2021	\$41,494.10
B	Deposits – loan repayment and interest	20581
C	Withdrawals – loan funds expended	\$.00
	If applicable, funds returned to Town	\$.00
D	Withdrawals – fees paid (24%, 2% HRA, 2% DHCD)	\$815.01
E	Ending Balance of funds in account as of December 31, 2022	\$61,260.09

This next chart provides information on **THE PROJECTS** completed or in progress during this period:

F	Number of new loans closed from the HRRRLF (1/1/22 – 12/31/22)	0
G	Total amount of new loan funds committed	\$.00

Rental Assistance • Housing Development • Housing Management • Community Development
Municipal Assistance • Rehab Financing • Homeownership • Public Infrastructure

Equal Housing Opportunity



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of the Sheriff
FRANKLIN COUNTY

CHRISTOPHER L. DONELAN
SHERIFF



EDWARD S. BROTHAN
SUPERINTENDENT

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE FRANKLIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REGIONAL DOG SHELTER:

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Regional Dog Shelter has been in operation since 2012. The shelter was started by Sheriff Christopher Donelan who saw the need in the community for a dog sheltering facility and is currently the only brick and mortar dog shelter in Franklin County.

As of this date, the dog shelter provides services to 23 of the 26 Franklin County towns. During the course of 2022, the Regional Dog Shelter logged 190 canine intakes, (164 where brought in as strays, and 26 where Surrendered, Transferred or Returned to our facility)

- 🐾 102 where returned to their owners;
- 🐾 74 where adopted into new fur-ever homes; and
- 🐾 11 where transferred to another facility to better meet their specific needs.

While we are primarily a dog facility with the addition of the Sheriff's Office Regional Animal Control Position the shelter assisted in the holding and transfer of 18 felines. At this time, the shelter does not have the capability to process cat adoptions, therefore all felines are transferred to an appropriate agency.

Working with the Community:

Food Pantries: If you are struggling to feed your pet, or know of a food pantry that could use dog/cat food please let us know!

Rabies Clinics: In 2022, the shelter partnered with (2) local veterinarians to sponsor rabies clinics in Turners Falls and Heath.

Dog Licensing: Some Town Clerks have granted the ability for the shelter to issue a dog license for a dog that is brought in and not licensed. As Massachusetts General Law requires every dog be licensed and vaccinated for rabies before it can be released from the shelter. This ability has drastically reduced the time that an owned dog must stay at the shelter, if it was unlicensed upon intake.

Volunteers: Volunteers are essential to the smooth operation of the shelter, without them, we would not have the success that we have today. Donating over 6,167 hours in 2022, volunteers helped with Daily Kennel Chores, Foster Homes, Event Staffing and providing Enrichment specific to each dog's needs. We are always in need of new volunteers, if you are interested in joining our volunteer team, please check out the volunteer application on our website.

Did you know? The overall average length of stay for a dog at our kennel is 30 days? During this time, all their costs and care are covered by the Friends of the Franklin County Regional Dog Shelter.

FRANKLIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

To the Residents of the Solid Waste District:

The Solid Waste District was formed in 1989 to help Franklin County towns manage all aspects of their solid waste – recyclables, organics, hazardous waste, wastewater treatment sludge, and trash. We continue to provide assistance to twenty-one member towns through administrative support, professional consultation, trainings, and outreach to residents and businesses.

A review of recycling tonnage for 2022 shows a decrease of 200 tons of recycling compared to 2021. District residents recycled just over 2,500 tons of paper and containers. The recyclables were processed at the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility and sold, primarily to domestic companies, to be recycled.

We returned to holding our Clean Sweep bulky waste collections in 2022 with events in May and October. Events were held at Mohawk Trail Regional High School, Northfield highway Garage, and Whately transfer station. The May event was the first one held since October 2019 due to the pandemic. Combined, the events served almost 600 households and collected over 60 tons of bulky waste, scrap metal, appliances, electronics, propane tanks, tires, and other items.

We held our annual household hazardous waste collection in September 2022 at Greenfield Community College and Orange transfer station. This event allows residents to properly dispose of toxic cleaners, automotive products, pesticides, and other toxic products. A total of 374 households participated in this event. Residents have access to other hazardous waste collection events in the Pioneer Valley.

We applied for and received grants from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection worth \$101,400 for District towns. This grant funding is a result of a town's successful waste management infrastructure.

If you have questions about District programs, call us at 413-772-2438 (MA Relay for the hearing impaired: 711 or 1-800-439-2370 TTY/TDD), visit our website at www.franklincountywastedistrict.org or visit us at 117 Main St. in Greenfield.

Jan Ameen - *Executive Director*

Chris Boutwell, Montague - *Chair*

Terry Narkewicz, Shelburne - *Vice-Chair*

M.A. Swedlund, Deerfield - *Treasurer*



Franklin Regional Council of Governments Services to Deerfield in 2022

The FRCOG provides planning services, programming, and advocacy to all Franklin County municipalities. Our municipal service programs – Collective Purchasing, Cooperative Public Health, Cooperative Inspection, and Town Accounting – are available to any municipality. The Community Health programs provide substance use and chronic disease prevention; the Planning Department assists with local planning and larger regional projects; and the Emergency Preparedness and Homeland Security Programs prepare and train first responders and health officials.

The following pages list services specific to Deerfield.

Climate Resilience and Land Use

- Worked with the open space committee to complete the update of the Deerfield Open Space and Recreation Plan, and submitted a copy to the MA Department of Conservation Services for review.
- Assisted the energy committee and town administrator with completing the FY22 MA Green Communities annual report.
- Assisted the select board with applying to the US Department of Energy’s Community Geothermal Heating and Cooling Design and Deployment Grant Program. If awarded, the grant would fund the design of a community geothermal system for the town’s municipal buildings.
- Continued development of a watershed-based plan for Bloody Brook that would make the watershed area eligible for water quality grants.
- FRCOG was awarded a planning grant to complete a Deerfield Pollinator Action Plan as part of a Franklin County Regional Pollinator Habitat Corridor Acton Plan, with work to begin in 2023.
- Provided technical assistance to the planning board on zoning and planning services.
- Assisted the Deerfield Housing Committee to conduct a comprehensive on-line survey to get community input on options for affordable senior housing. Prepared a report summarizing the survey results.

Community Health

- Conducted the annual student health survey to assess teen attitudes and behavior among middle and high school students. Staff reported to Frontier Regional School District (FRSD) administrators on results from 224 Frontier students, representing 71% of the 8th, 10th, and 12th grade classes. Survey data meets federal requirements for the school and is valuable for grant writing and program planning.
- Provided coaching on restorative practices in the FRSD.
- Provided resources and direct technical assistance for advancing racial justice in school districts/schools to the school district.
- Provided training, materials, and technical assistance for the new, evidence-based PreVenture substance use prevention and mental health promotion program to the school district.
- Provided information on the Mass in Motion age-friendly municipal planning initiative and a memorandum of understanding to the select board for work to be done in 2023.

Economic Development

- Coordinated creation of Deerfield River Outdoor Recreation Study, and the Deerfield River Connectivity Project Report, with information on possible WiFi connectivity provisions at key river access locations.

Shared Municipal Services

- Deerfield contracted with the FRCOG to receive collective bid pricing for highway products and services, including rental equipment; heating and vehicle fuel; elevator maintenance; and school district fire extinguisher services. Staff assisted the town with the procurement of an owner’s project manager for the so-called 1888 Building, and assisted the town with contract research and procurement requirements for the SDFD Cell Tower expansion.
- Through June of 2022, the Town was a member of the Cooperative Public Health District (CPHS) at the FRCOG, for public health nursing services. CPHS Staff:
 - Hosted CPHS Walk-in Wellness nursing hours at the town offices: saw 55 residents for a total of 156 separate visits.
 - Gave 363 flu and 548 COVID vaccinations at CPHS Walk-in Wellness hours, vaccination clinics, and home visits. Among these, Deerfield residents received 51 vaccines.
 - Offered sharps collection and box exchange in collaboration with Franklin County Solid Waste Management District at all CPHS Walk-in Wellness hours: 118 boxes were exchanged.
 - Provided state-mandated infectious disease surveillance and reporting for communicable disease cases in district member towns, including Deerfield.

Training and Education

The following list represents the FRCOG workshops, roundtables and training sessions that Deerfield public officials, staff, and residents attended, and the number in attendance.

Emergency Prep & Homeland Security
Tactical Emergency Casualty Care – 2

Planning, Conservation & Development
Diversifying Rural Housing Opportunities – 1
Small Town Housing – 2

Municipal Officials’ Continuing Education
State Funding for Western MA – 3
Town Administrator Roundtable (qtrly) – 1
Highway Superintendents Roundtable – 1

Public Health & Community Awareness:
The Att’y General’s Housing Renewal – 2
Pre-Rental Housing Inspections – 1
Public Health Roundtable (monthly) – 1

Additionally, staff organized and facilitated educational information meetings for members of town energy committees, including presenting information on various topics and conducting follow-up communication.

Transportation

- Continued coordinating marketing campaign for the Valley Flyer to support passenger train operation in the region.
- Assisted the town in applying for the MA Shared Streets and Spaces application for funding to complete pedestrian improvements on North Main Street near Frontier Regional School.
- Assisted the DPW by providing GIS data for the Deerfield Asset Management database.
- Administered a MassTrails grant for trail improvements and information kiosks on the Mohican-Mohawk Trail. Facilitated the design of kiosk panels at trailheads.
- Completed planning and pre-implementation work for the installation of Franklin County Bikeway wayfinding signs.

FRANKLIN REGIONAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM
101 MUNSON STREET, SUITE 108
GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01301-9675

Annual Report for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2021

To the reader:

The Franklin Regional Retirement System is a government agency that serves the 627 retirees, 50 beneficiaries, 1,086 active employees, and 681 inactive members of the towns and agencies in Franklin County. We are organized under Chapter 34b, and subject to the provisions of Chapter 32 of the Massachusetts General Laws. We receive oversight on the state level from the Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC). We contract with an independent auditor to do a full audit of our system each year. We also contract with an actuary to perform a complete actuarial valuation every two years. PERAC audits our operations and financial records every three years.

The retirement benefit we provide replaces participation in the Social Security system and is described as a “defined benefit”, which means that we pay monthly retirement benefits based on the age, salary, and number of years worked at the time a member of our system retires. To be a member, an employee in one of our government units must be working in a permanent position scheduled at 20 hours or more per week and earning \$5,000 or greater annually. Funding of these benefits begins with deductions from the member, and combined with matching funds from the employing unit, are invested in a mix of stocks, bonds, and indexed funds. Investment earnings are a large part of the funding of retirement benefits, and the allocation of those funds are spread to a variety of sectors to take advantage of positive activity as it occurs in each sector. Please make note of our investment performance percentages in the chart on the next page.

Up until 1988, we were a “pay-as-you-go” system. In 1988, it was legislated that we begin saving to become “fully-funded” over the ensuing 40 years. Fully-funded means we have enough in reserves to pay for all the current and future potential benefits of our present membership. At the end of 2021, we are 97.7% funded at 33 years (82.5%) into the 40-year mandate.

Our fiscal year is the calendar year; therefore, our annual report is not filed until May of the subsequent year, and as a consequence the information provided herein will be a year old by the time you read this. Current reports and information can be found on our website: www.FRRSMA.com.

What follows is a synopsis of our annual report, as filed with our state oversight commission, PERAC. The full PERAC report can be read on the “Finances” page of our website.

	CY 2021	CY 2020	CY 2019
Balances			
Cash	1,428,506	1,492,254	1,579,892
Investments	207,207,180	174,179,165	155,459,951
Receivables	97,899	101,506	73,637
Payables	2,581,944	2,209,591	2,988,090
Annuity Savings (members)	33,909,443	32,662,132	31,675,249
Retirement Reserves	170,813,691	140,901,202	125,438,231
Revenues			
Member's contributions	4,423,787	3,955,793	4,368,605
Towns, Schools, Agencies	7,684,673	7,268,256	6,871,971
Retirement Cost Sharing	546,491	565,436	516,330
Miscellaneous Revenue	21,318	11,867	10,781
Investment Income (net)	35,121,918	20,436,491	24,332,594
Expenses			
Retirement Benefits	12,576,161	12,010,238	11,329,395
Operating Expenses	605,897	590,757	567,347
Investment Expenses	1,056,568	820,937	637,388
Retirement Cost Sharing	1,808,102	1,956,450	2,262,262
Refunds to Members	591,658	409,606	390,827
Investment Performance			
Target	7.75%	7.75%	7.75%
Since 1984	8.89%	6.59%	8.47%
10 years	11.26%	9.31%	9.57%
5 years	12.32%	10.14%	7.79%
Current Year	20.40%	12.65%	17.92%
Demographics			
	01/01/2022	01/01/2020	01/01/2020
Members' Average Age	48.00	47.50	47.50
Members' Average Service	9.50	9.20	9.20
Members' Average Salary	41,628.00	37,982.00	37,982.00
Retirees' Average Age	72.90	72.80	72.80
Retirees' Average Pension	18,949.00	17,171.00	17,171.00
Disabled Members' Average Age	60.60	60.30	60.30
Disabled Members' Average Pension	28,793.00	29,998.00	29,998.00

Dale Kowacki
 Executive Director
 Franklin Regional Retirement System

FRONTIER COMMUNITY ACCESS TELEVISION



2022 was a productive year for Frontier Community Access Television. In February 2022, Jonathan A. Boschen was appointed as the General Manager, following the passing of the station's previous manager Chris Collins. Since his appointment, Boschen has reorganized FCAT and was hard at work on several different infrastructure projects for the station.

Throughout 2022, FCAT was involved with covering numerous events and government meetings for the four towns of Conway, Deerfield, Sunderland and Whately, and functions put on by Frontier Regional School. FCAT also managed the community bulletin boards on FCAT channels 12 and 23, and on the channel 15's for Deerfield and Sunderland. All of the work FCAT completed throughout 2022 was made possible by its staff and volunteers.

In regards to local government, FCAT was behind the scenes documenting various meetings and a large number of Selectboard meetings throughout 2022. FCAT oversaw the documentation of the town's Annual Town Meetings, Special Town Meetings, and other presentations, hearings, etc. Selectboard meetings throughout 2023 were held in a hybrid fashion, and therefore FCAT's role in covering them varied by town. FCAT video recorded the meetings of Deerfield and Sunderland, while the towns of Conway and Whately recorded their own Selectboard meetings utilizing Zoom technology and the automated Meeting Owl 360° Cameras.

For non-Government related events, FCAT covered numerous events ranging from Conway and Whately Historical Society presentations, and events by Frontier Regional School. As the COVID-19 Pandemic was still ongoing throughout 2022, not as many historical society presentations or common interest events occurred throughout the year. The vast majority of non-government projects was covering Frontier school sports, concerts, and other events. Coverage of these events was overseen by FCAT youth coordinator and Frontier teacher Kevin Murphy. Amongst some of the FCAT volunteers that assisted with these school video projects were Frontier students who were recruited by Mr. Murphy. This opportunity gave students firsthand experience working on a professional video set.

Amongst one of the 2022 events, FCAT was honored to be a part of and involved with documenting, was the Whately 250th celebration in June 2022. (A celebration originally scheduled for 2021, but postponed to 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic). This special weeklong celebration, which was composed, of numerous community events, music concerts, and parades, etc. was extensively documented by the station resulting in the completion of numerous video productions. Amongst one of these productions was a 40 to 45 minute highlight video entitled "Whately's Belated Birthday Party" documenting and chronicling the entire celebration. It is hoped that this video, along with the other 250th videos, will be cherished by Whately, and also serve as a fun look back in 2071 during Whately's Tricentennial.

Moving forward during 2023, FCAT will continue to proudly serve its four towns, and will also focus on building its volunteer base. FCAT plans to offer workshops on video production to both Frontier students and adults within our four towns. Some of these workshops will even focus on producing videos with iPhones, to give community members basic understanding on how to use them and make effective videos. FCAT will also work with its four towns to help address issues with audio and video that occur during hybrid meetings. The station will be extremely busy this year, but is looking forward to the tasks that lay ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan A. Boschen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jonathan A. Boschen FCAT General
Manager

MISCELLANEOUS

DEERFIELD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION

Deerfield Economic Development and Industrial Corporation (DEDIC)

John P. Paciorek, Sr.	Chairman
Robert J. Decker III.....	Assistant Vice Chairman
Richard C. Andriole	Treasurer
Ralph E. Healy	Secretary
Franklin C. Sherburne	Member
Chris Harris.....	Member
Frank Moro	Member

The focus of activities for the DEDIC Board in 2022 was: continued scheduled maintenance and repairs to the infrastructure systems within the Deerfield Industrial Park.

In 2015, the DEDIC Board updated the original 1977 Economic Development Plan when DEDIC was formed to create the Park. The updated 2015 Economic Development Plan is forward thinking and ultimately resulted in Massachusetts House Bill #4596 being passed and signed by Governor Baker in January 2017 granting DEDIC commercial development authority.

While DEDIC's granted authorities as an Economic Development Industrial Corporation are designated to the operations and management of the Park, the DEDIC Board has offered to engage in working with the governing Boards and Committees on numerous occasions over the years. The purpose being to share resources, experience and expertise of DEDIC Board members on commercial construction and business development. The Board remains optimistic that this extended offer will be accepted one day to benefit the Town.

The Town of Deerfield received taxes and fees exceeding \$340,000.00.

DEDIC thanks the governing Boards and Committees that the Board was engaged with during the year. Also, special thanks to Kayce Warren and Jennifer Gannett, Town Administrators serving in 2022, Kevin Scarborough - Superintendent of Public Works Operations and Robert Walden - Building Commissioner / Zoning Enforcement Officer, who all provided their assistance to the DEDIC Board during the year.

Most importantly, the DEDIC Board expresses continued appreciation to the property owners / business operators within the Deerfield Industrial Park for their continued contributions towards town and area economic development and their support and cooperation with the DEDIC Board.

Sincerely Yours,



John P. Paciorek, Sr.
Chairman

FRED WELLS TRUSTEES

This trust fund was established under the Will of Fred W. Wells. Mr. Wells, a former resident of Greenfield, directed that a portion of income from the fund be used for awarding scholarships in agricultural, mechanical or professional fields. Funds available for the Fiscal Year 2022/2023 were \$295,229.56 (inclusive of unused scholarship money from previous years that was reallocated to be granted this year).

EDUCATION

The Trustees received 172 applications and approved 171 of those received. Trustees awarded a total of \$169,700.00. This amount includes two \$1,000.00 scholarships in honor of Ralph and Hilda Haskins. The Trustees worked diligently throughout the year to provide all eligible applicants an award to assist in their education.

HEALTH

Five applicants were provided grants totaling \$84,892.51

The Care Collaborative	\$25,000.00
Community Health Center of Franklin County	\$ 7,892.51
Community Action Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program	\$10,000.00
LifePath Inc. for Meals on Wheels Program	\$30,000.00
New England Learning Center for Women in Transition (NELCWIT)	\$12,000.00

Eight applicants were provided COVID Support Grants totaling \$28,875.00

Charlemont Senior Center	\$ 2,000.00
Conway Council on Aging	\$ 1,900.00
Greenfield Senior Center/Council on Aging	\$10,000.00
Heath Council on Aging	\$ 1,500.00
Leyden Council on Aging	\$ 1,500.00
Shelburne Falls Senior Center	\$ 4,500.00
South County Senior Center	\$ 4,475.00

Total Health Grants Awarded were \$110,767.51

AGRICULTURE

Three applicants were provided grants totaling \$14,761.48

Franklin County Agricultural Society	\$ 6,790.28
Heath Agricultural Society	\$ 6,347.44
Shelburne Grange Fair	\$ 1,623.76

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret K. Doyle

OLIVER SMITH WILL

\$25,119 TOTAL BENEFICIARY GIFTS PAID FYE 1/31/2023

The Trustees of the Smith Charities

During the past fiscal year, February 1, 2022 - January 31, 2023, the following beneficiary activity has occurred within the nine (9) designated communities of Amherst, Deerfield, Easthampton, Greenfield, Hadley, Hatfield, Northampton, Whately, and Williamsburg:

Brides – Gifts permanently doubled from \$100 to \$200.

- Three (3) brides each received a \$200 marriage gift. \$ 600 Total

Nurses – Gifts doubled from \$600 to \$1200 for this fiscal year period.

- One (1) new student nurse was enrolled.
- One (1) nurse graduated this year and each received a \$1200 nurse gift. \$ 1,200 Total

Tradespersons – Gifts doubled from \$600 to \$1200 for this fiscal year period.

- No new tradespersons were enrolled.
- One (1) tradesperson received a \$1200 apprentice gift. \$ 1,200 Total

Widows – Gifts permanently doubled from \$300 & \$100 to \$600 & \$200.

- No new widows.
 - Sixteen (16), who renewed, were paid annual gift. \$11,200 Total
- \$14,200 Beneficiaries Total**

The total sum disbursed as gifts to beneficiaries, was \$25,119 which includes the *\$5,919 that will be paid to the City of Northampton, after our monthly Trustees meeting on February 15, 2023, for the account of Smith’s Agricultural School, being the net income from the permanent fund established for the school. Also included in this figure is the \$5,000 cash donation given directly to the school with payment made out to “Friends of the Farm” as a result of the May 23, 2022 fire.

Since the provision of the Will went into effect, the beneficiaries from the nine (9) communities have been paid the following:

\$1,498,500	Bride’s Gift (originally designated in the Will as Indigent Young Women)
\$ 816,533	Nurse’s Gift (originally designated in the Will as Indigent Female Children)
\$2,929,500	Tradesperson’s Gift (originally designated in the Will as Indigent Boys)
\$1,845,479	Widow’s Gift
\$1,573,340	Smith’s Agricultural School Yearly Distribution
\$ 5,000	Cash Donation to Smith’s Agricultural School for 2022 fire damage
\$ 35,374	Annuities
<u>\$ 613,717</u>	<u>Taxes</u>
\$9,317,443	Total Amount Paid to Date

Current Trustees

David A. Murphy, Leslie Dwight, & Carol Gray

*Special Note: The amount to be paid to the City of Northampton for the benefit of Smith Vocational & Agricultural High School has been rounded to the nearest dollar; the exact amount disbursed will be \$5,918.79.

UPPER PIONEER VALLEY VETERANS' SERVICES DISTRICT



Department of Veteran Services
294 Main Street • Greenfield, MA 01301
Phone 413-772-1571 • Fax 413-772-1401
www.greenfield-ma.gov

Christopher Demars, Director
Laura Thorne, Assistant
Joshua Anderson, Deputy Director
Brian Brooks, VSO

UPPER PIONEER VALLEY VETERANS' SERVICES DISTRICT
Veteran Resource and Referral Center located in Greenfield, satellite locations throughout the district

Member Towns

- Ashfield*
- Bernardston*
- Buckland*
- Charlemont*
- Colrain*
- Conway*
- Deerfield*
- Erving*
- Gill*
- Greenfield*
- Hawley*
- Heath*
- Leverett*
- Leyden*
- Monroe*
- Montague*
- New Salem*
- Northfield*
- Plainfield*
- Rowe*
- Shelburne*
- Shutesbury*
- Sunderland*
- Warwick*
- Wendell*
- Whately*

District Annual Report CY22

Mission Statement: To advocate for veterans, their spouses, dependants, widows or widowers for Veterans' Benefits on the Local, State and Federal levels

Office has maintained continued outreach operations across the district. We have dramatically increased the amount of VA claims we have been completing due to increased VA Presumptive diseases for numerous eras of service:

- District now brings in \$1,850,500.00 in Federal and State money **per month** from all sources (VA, State Reimbursements, State Annuities and sales).
- Tim Niejadlik retired in October of 2022, with Chris Demars taking over as Director.
- VSA Laura Thorne has maintained her SHINE certification and is helping veterans and their dependents, taking some of the load off the Senior Centers. Brian Brooks, Veteran Service Officer, was named the Massachusetts Marine Corps League Commandant, representing Marine Veterans across Massachusetts for the second year in a row.
- Office participated in numerous protests against potential VA closures, this seems to have helped along with our local elected officials in keeping VA Leeds open for now.
- We project a slight increase for Fiscal Year 24 budget while continuing to expand services in 2023

Christopher Demars, Director
Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans' Services District

The 2022 Annual Town Report

Editor:

Patricia Kroll

Proofreader:

Cassie Sanderell

