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# DEERFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

## THE 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

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## GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Deerfield employs the open town meeting form of government and is led by a three-member Selectboard. The town has its own police, fire, and public works departments. The fire department and the post office both have two branches, in South Deerfield (where most of the town offices are) and in Old Deerfield Village, near Memorial Hall and the Old Town Hall. The library in South Deerfield (Tilton Library) is connected to the regional library network. The nearest hospital, Baystate Franklin Medical Center, is located in Greenfield, as are many regional and state offices.

Deerfield is represented in the Massachusetts House of Representatives by the First Franklin District, which includes the southeastern third of Franklin County and towns in north central Hampshire County. The town is represented in the Massachusetts Senate by the Hampshire and Franklin district, which includes much of eastern Franklin and Hampshire Counties. The town is patrolled by the Second (Shelburne Falls) Barracks of Troop B of the Massachusetts State Police.

Deerfield is represented in the United States House of Representatives as part of Massachusetts 2nd Congressional District and has been represented by James "Jim" McGovern of Worcester. Massachusetts is currently represented in the United States Senate by Senators Edward "Ed" Markey and Elizabeth Warren.

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## ELECTED OFFICIALS

### **BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

John P. Coderre, M.A.A. (Chair).....	2019
Francis G. Sobieski.....	2017
Charles A. Shattuck III.....	2018

### **SELECTBOARD / BOARD OF HEALTH**

Henry Komosa .....	2019
Trevor D. McDaniel.....	2017
Carolyn Shores Ness .....	2018

### **PLANNING BOARD**

John R. Baronas, Jr.....	2019
Henry Komosa, Jr.....	2017
John F. Waite, Chair.....	2019
Roger J. Sadoski, Jr. ....	2017
Paul W. Allis.....	2018
Max R. Antes, Jr. ....	2018
Rachel S. Blain .....	2018

### **TOWN CONSTABLE**

Sharyn A. Paciorek.....	2017
Roger J. Sadoski, Jr .....	2017

### **TOWN MODERATOR**

Peter R. James (resigned)

Presiding over every Annual and Special Town Meeting, the Moderator is elected for a three-year term. Peter James served as Town Moderator for the Town of Deerfield for **36 years!** As Town Moderator, he served our Town with professionalism and his guidance has been invaluable over the years. His poise and management have helped guide Town Meetings through many spirited debates and complex issues. Peter resigned from the post at the conclusion of the 2016 Annual Meeting. Subsequently, Daniel F. Graves was elected to serve as the Town's next Town Moderator. The Town is immensely grateful for Peter's years of service.

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## **APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

### **AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION**

John R. Baronas, Jr.  
Thomas G. Clark  
Peter S. Melnik  
Francis G. Sobieski, Clerk  
Stephen D. Taylor, Chair  
Kenneth S. Williams, IV

The Agricultural Commission shall consist of five members and two alternate members, appointed by the Selectboard. Members should: represent Town geographically, represent the diversity and scale of agricultural businesses, represent the diversity of the Town's population, encourage next generation farmers. The overall intent is to be inclusive not exclusive. The mission will be to: promote agricultural-based economic opportunities; preserve, revitalize and sustain the Deerfield agricultural industry, and encourage the pursuit of agriculture as a career opportunity and lifestyle.

### **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The members of the Committee are:

John Paresky, Chairperson (appointed by Town Moderator)  
Jack Davey, Secretary (appointed by Town Moderator)  
Kenneth M. Cuddeback (School Committee)  
Jeffrey Upton (Finance Committee)  
Roger J. Sadoski, Jr. (Planning Board)  
Carolyn Shores Ness (Board of Selectmen)  
Francis G. Sobieski (Board of Assessors)

The members of the Capital Improvement Planning Committee are appointed by several different boards, committees and town officials. The primary purpose of the committee is to study requested town capital improvement activities such as large equipment purchases, land acquisition, building construction and major repairs, as well as any other individual purchases that do not fall under the Omnibus Budget Line Items.

The Committee considers the relative need, impact, timing and cost for these requested expenditures and the effect each will have on the financial position of the Town. The Committee prepares a report recommending a Capital Improvement Budget for the next fiscal year which it submits to the Board of Selectmen for the Board's consideration and approval.

The Capital Improvement Planning Committee annually creates a projection of capital expenditures, for each of the ensuing five years, which it will submit to the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee.

## **COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

Membership:

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Appointing Authority</u></b>
Dan Graves, Chair	Moderator
Rachel Blain	Board of Selectmen
Ken Schoen	Historical Commission
Roger Sadoski, Jr.	Planning Board
Charles Shattuck	Board of Assessors
Alan Swedlund	Open Space Committee
VACANT	Conservation Commission
Robert Ackerman	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](http://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, another public information session is held. This open meeting allows for public discussion on the grant submittals. Once the CPC has approved proposals, recommendations are presented for funding at Annual Town Meeting.

Deerfield approved a surcharge of three percent (3%) of property taxes with a \$100,000 residential exemption to provide funding for these activities. By becoming a 3% community, the Commonwealth provides matching funds in two additional rounds of funding which results have resulted in historically matching funds of between 29% and 100% of the town’s surcharge. This leverage is critical for the impact these funds can have on bettering our Town. For the Fiscal Year 2017 funding cycle, the CPC recommended Town Meeting reserve funding for the projects noted below.

Preservation Category	Application	Purpose	Voted Amount
Historical Preservation	Enclosure for Civil War Memorial Soldier	Preservation	\$5,100.00
Historical Preservation	Albany Road Cemetery	Preservation	\$20,000.00
Administrative		Administrative	5% Est. Revenue

The Deerfield CPC would like to thank applicants, residents, and town officials that have participated in this process. We look forward to continued preservation activities that meet the needs of the community.

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

- Stephen M. Barrett.....2018
- Benjamin Byrne .....2019
- Brian W. Dejnak.....2018
- Louis S. Misiun, Jr. .... 2019

The Deerfield Conservation Commission strives to assist residents in understanding and complying with provisions of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, MGL Chapter 131, § 40. Meetings are held regularly on the fourth Thursday each month and more frequently, if needed.

Residents are encouraged to consult the Commission when planning a project that is near a wetland area. To do this a Request for Determination (RDA) form can be filed with the Commission. The Commission will visit the site, review the plan, and make a determination.

**CULTURAL RESOURCE OFFICER REPORT**

Deerfield’s Historical Commission (DHC) was formed under MGL c. 40 s. 8d. The DHC adopted an Archaeological Accountability Policy that helps to protect private landowners’ property rights, town cultural assets from being mismanaged, and promotes transparency between relevant parties involved.

As Deerfield’s appointed Cultural Resource Officer, (CRO) my focus has been developing strategy and defending against impacting archaeological sites in Deerfield. I have been advocating for private landowners’ property rights of freehold in relation to the proposed pipeline footprint route through Deerfield.

Private landowners’ rights are under attack and having been vigilant in monitoring legislative H. bills #744, #698, #3585 over a six year period, has helped to ensure private lands are clarified as not to be included in the context. The last H. bill #3585 introduced, private lands were removed. Hurray!

Also, all state permitted archaeological entities that excavate Native American pre-historic / historic archaeological sites on public or private lands in Deerfield fall under the Archaeological Accountability Policy and shall meet with the DHC and the CRO prior to starting any archaeological survey field work.

I would like to honor Deerfield’s native news reporter, Gary Sanderson who wrote weekly in his sports column for years informing the public about his on-going investigations into Archaeology Science and how excavations were carried out in Deerfield by professionals vs. amateurs. Thank you for doing a great job!

Respectfully Yours,  
Cultural Resource Officer  
David (Bud) Driver

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

William J. Cummings .....	2016
Ralph E. Healy (resigned).....	2017
Albert N. Olmstead, Jr. ....	2019
Dylan E. Korpita .....	2016
John P. Paciorek.....	2019
Mary A. Stokarski.....	2018
Jeffrey A. Upton.....	2017

The Deerfield Finance Committee, appointed by the Town Moderator, functions in an advisory role formulating and overseeing the town budget. Working closely with departments, boards and committees, the Finance Committee recommends spending for both individual appropriations as well as the entire Omnibus Budget for submission to Town Meeting.

## HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Mary V. Andrianopoulos.....	2016
Bonita Conlon .....	2019
David A. Driver.....	2019
Henrietta J. Kocot .....	2019
John J. Nove.....	2017
Kenneth N. Schoen .....	2018
Jane Trigère .....	2018

Bonita Conlon, David Driver, Henrietta Kocot, John Nove (chair), Kenneth Schoen, Jane Trigère; Dr. Peter Thomas (archaeological consultant).

Projects initiated or completed during the past year were overshadowed by the passing in December of Betty Hollingsworth, a member *emerita* of the Commission. She will be remembered for her encyclopedic knowledge of the history of South Deerfield in the 20th century and her willingness to share that information. A final act of sharing took place in the last year of her life when a five hour oral history of the area was filmed by FCAT and Commission members. She was responsible for the signage honoring veterans that can be seen throughout Deerfield, as well as for the placing of flags and markers in town cemeteries prior to Memorial Day. She will be missed!

### COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT - FUNDED PROJECTS

**Albany Road Cemetery Restoration** - CPA funds were awarded to the DHC over the past two years for the restoration of 180 stones, including four unusual table graves in the Albany Road Cemetery in Old Deerfield. Additional funds were provided for the project in the form of a \$10,000 gift from Deerfield Academy. Requests for bids for the work went out in mid-December. The contract will be awarded in early 2017 and work will begin in the spring. In addition, Historic Deerfield agreed to provide a sturdy interpretive panel at the cemetery entrance. A new edition of their Cemetery brochure was printed during the year.

**Installation of the Deerfield Civil War Memorial Soldier in Town Hall**— After being conserved and crated, the statue was taken down from its 29-foot pedestal on the Old Deerfield Common in early December of 2015. In October of 2016 it was moved from its temporary home at the PVMA to Town Hall where it was installed on a cherry wood base and enclosed in an acrylic case constructed by the Small Corp. of Greenfield. The extent of the

cracking of the sandstone that argued against repairing the statue in place is clearly visible and shows the seriousness of the liability it posed. Thanks to conservator Frances Miller of ConservArt LLC for his work on this project, that has spanned three years.

**Replacement of the Sugarloaf Street Cemetery Fence**- After a delay of several years, a granite post / cedar rail fence in keeping with the style of several other historic cemeteries in the town was installed by the Fitzgerald Fence Co. of Northampton along the north (Sugarloaf St.) side of the cemetery. A bench made of local stone by Sonam Lama was added by the DHC.

## ARCHAEOLOGY-RELATED ACTIVITIES

**Deerfield Academy Hockey Rink Project** - As part of a plan to demolish and then reconstruct a new hockey rink on its campus, Deerfield Academy (DA) in conjunction with the engineering firm Tighe & Bond planned to construct an underground stormwater discharge system and other infrastructure improvements adjacent to the rink. Because the system would release water into the Deerfield River floodplain, a permit from the Environmental Protection Agency was required. The EPA, because the site most likely contained Native American cultural material, required an archaeological survey of the area prior to construction. Because of the project's complexity, we enlisted the aid of Dr. Peter Thomas, formerly of Deerfield, who is very familiar with both federal and state regulations related to archaeological matters. UMass Archaeological Services (UMAS), directed by Dr. Eric Johnson, was contracted by DA and, after obtaining a permit from the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC), they conducted a preliminary study. As part of this survey, areas of undisturbed soil (not previously disturbed by previous construction and likely to contain cultural material - both European and Native American) were identified. Further excavation, all supervised by tribal representatives, revealed large, circular sub-surface dark features in the soil suggestive of a village with dwellings and storage areas. Very little cultural material was discovered. The area was covered up after careful mapping and grass replanted.

These findings led Tighe & Bond to propose an alternative location and configuration for the stormwater system. A linear strip next to the Albany Road Cemetery adjacent to and under an existing driveway was finally chosen and the system installed by DA's contractor to the satisfaction of the EPA, Massachusetts Historical Commission, federally-recognized tribes and the DHC.

Meanwhile, laboratory investigations are underway at UMAS to further analyze and date the material taken from the original area. A complete report on the project will be distributed in the spring of 2017 along with a community program and other educational material describing the site.

### **Glacial Lake Hitchcock Symposium**

A gathering co-sponsored with the Western Chapter of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society, the PVMA and the DHC attracted nearly 100 participants who listened to a dozen presentations by scientists related to the geology and archaeology of the local area in pre-historic times. The Symposium was graciously hosted by the Eaglebrook School which provided an auditorium, refreshments, and a buffet lunch.

### **Tennessee Gas Pipeline Project**

Commissioner Driver together with Philip Zea of Historic Deerfield prepared a formal written comment to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. It described the potential impact of the pipeline on the archaeology of the North Meadows and specifically on the ancient burial places that would be compromised along with an overview of legal precedents in Massachusetts law.

**OTHER PROJECTS**

Work was begun on a printed walking tour guide to downtown South Deerfield based on information gathered by Shirley Majewski and Marilyn McArthur and written-up by Shirley. FRCOG in Greenfield has been helping with the preparation of a map.

**SPECIAL THANKS**

We thank David Barclay from the staff of Historical Deerfield for regularly attending our monthly meetings and serving as a non-voting member of the Commission.



Photo Caption: The Civil War soldier arrives at Town Hall.

**OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE**

- Corrinne E. Dugas
- John L. Knuerr
- Alan C. Swedlund
- Lynn F. Rose

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] at such time as 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 members may be reappointed by said appointing authority for one or more additional three year terms, without limitation.

**PERSONNEL BOARD**

Marie Guerin .....	2016
Michele Komosa .....	2021
Karen Moro .....	2018
Mary A. Stokarski (Finance Committee Appointee) .....	2017
Nanci S. Schwartz .....	2019

The Personnel Board consisting of five (5) members, one (1) of whom shall be a member of the Finance Committee, is hereby established.

Initially, one (1) member will be appointed for a term of four (4) years, one (1) member for a term of three (3) years, one (1) member for a term of two (2) years and one (1) member for a term of one (1) year. Subsequently, one (1) member of said Board shall be appointed annually for a four-year term by the Selectmen in the month of March. The Finance Committee shall appoint one (1) of its members to the Board annually.

It shall be the duty of the Board to make a study from time to time of the work and compensation of all employees of the Town subject to the provisions of this chapter.

The Board shall report to the Town Meeting its recommendations as to all articles in the warrant pertaining to the Classification-Compensation Plan.

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

Ronald J. Bohonowicz, Chair .....	2019
Robert J. Decker, III, Alternate .....	2017
Linda M. Dumas.....	2019
Christopher R. Pichette .....	2017
Ben Wadham .....	2018
Jamie Wadham .....	2017

There is hereby established a Board of Appeals which shall consist of five members and two alternate members, who shall be appointed and act in all matters under this By-Law in the manner prescribed in G.L. c. 40A.

The Board of Appeals shall have and exercise all the powers granted to it by Chapters 40A, 40B, and 41 of the General Laws and by this By-Law. The Board's powers are as follows:

- To hear and decide applications for special permits. Unless otherwise specified herein, the Board of Appeals shall serve as the special permit granting authority, to act in all matters in accordance with the provisions of Section 5300, or as otherwise specified.

- To hear and decide appeals or petitions for variances from the terms of this By-Law, with respect to particular land or structures, as set forth in G.L. c. 40A, s. 10. The Board of Appeals shall not grant use variances in any residential district of the Town.
- To hear and decide appeals taken by any person aggrieved by reason of his inability to obtain a permit or enforcement action from any administrative officer under the provisions of G.L. c. 40A, ss. 8 and 15.
- To hear and decide comprehensive permits for construction of low or moderate income housing by a public agency or limited dividend or nonprofit corporation, as set forth in G.L. c. 40B, ss. 20-23.

# TOWN DEPARTMENTS

## ACCOUNTANT

Brenda K. Hill ..... Town Accountant

Free Cash was certified on October 3, 2016 for \$1,585,583. The calculation of Free Cash is the result of a combination of many factors, including unspent Free Cash from the previous year, receipts in excess of estimated for FY2016, and unspent appropriation balances for FY2016. In Deerfield, Free Cash has historically been used to finance capital purchases. In recent years, it has also been used to cover budget shortages due to tax levy limitations.

The South County EMS Enterprise Fund completed its second full year of operations as of June 30, 2016. On October 3, 2016, Retained Earnings was certified at \$517,405.

### Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Expenditure Report

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Total Budget</u>	<u>YTD Expenses</u>	<u>Over/(Under)</u>
Moderator	450.00	450.00	-
Selectmen's Salaries	7,000.00	7,000.00	-
Selectmen's Staff Salaries	153,906.00	139,643.48	14,262.52
Selectmen/Administrator Expense	7,600.00	6,957.27	642.73
Finance Committee Expense	250.00	155.00	95.00
Reserve Fund	6,830.12	-	6,830.12
Accountant Salary	36,393.00	36,318.31	74.69
Accountant/Audit Expense	17,110.00	16,785.90	324.10
Assessor's Salaries	7,000.00	7,000.00	-
Assessor's Clerk Salary	50,445.00	50,387.84	57.16
Assessor's Expense	21,310.00	14,881.18	6,428.82
Capital - GIS	16,244.47	-	16,244.47
Triennial Recertification	62,639.32	19,500.00	43,139.32
Clerk/Treas/Collector Staff Salaries	148,597.00	147,520.13	1,076.87
Treasurer/Collector Expense	35,070.00	26,422.66	8,647.34
Oliver Smith Trustee	20.00	-	20.00
Legal Expense	32,330.61	31,753.50	577.11
Personnel Board Expense	250.00	-	250.00

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Total Budget</u>	<u>YTD Expenses</u>	<u>Over/(Under)</u>
Capital Plan - Hardware/Software	6,399.28	6,087.56	311.72
Capital Plan - File Server	20,000.00	17,196.89	2,803.11
Office Contracted Services	94,259.00	92,659.71	1,599.29
Encumbered Office Contracted Serv 2013	3,000.00	1,007.50	1,992.50
FRCOG Services - Pipeline Issues	8,500.00	-	8,500.00
Town Clerk Expense	18,731.00	15,761.70	2,969.30
Conservation Commission Expense	500.00	487.16	12.84
Open Space Committee Expense	250.00	-	250.00
Planning Board Expense	7,500.00	186.15	7,313.85
Zoning Board of Appeals Expense	1,200.00	1,093.02	106.98
Agriculture Commission Expense	200.00	-	200.00
Capital - Streetscape Planning	8,738.61	-	8,738.61
Town Office Building Maintenance	65,670.00	55,915.79	9,754.21
Town Office Expense	27,000.00	19,354.92	7,645.08
General Insurance	70,918.00	59,649.03	11,268.97
Police Department Payroll	698,476.00	696,339.50	2,136.50
Police Department Expense	77,000.00	76,912.56	87.44
Capital - Police Cruiser	42,500.00	42,276.00	224.00
SCEMS Expense	349,304.79	349,304.79	-
Ambulance Replacement	38,685.21	38,685.21	-
Inspections Department Salaries	71,777.00	69,815.25	1,961.75
Inspections Department Expense	2,570.00	1,668.23	901.77
Canine Control Program	15,704.88	15,704.88	-
Elementary School Expense	4,361,539.00	4,361,539.00	-
Encumbered Elementary School Exp 2015	21,852.27	21,852.27	-
Encumbered Elementary School Exp 2016	-	(44,705.36)	44,705.36
Frontier Regional School Expense	3,284,940.00	3,284,940.00	-
Frontier - Dickinson Trust	209.04	-	209.04
Frontier - Interest/Debt	27,594.00	27,594.00	-
Frontier - Transportation	49,631.00	49,631.00	-
Frontier Regionalization Study	4,000.00	-	4,000.00

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Total Budget</u>	<u>YTD Expenses</u>	<u>Over/(Under)</u>
Franklin County Tech Expense	258,291.00	258,291.00	-
Out of District Placement Exp	73,058.00	24,934.00	48,124.00
Capital - DES Roof Study	10,000.00	10,000.00	-
Capital - DES Generator	27,000.00	-	27,000.00
Capital - DES Roof	203,875.00	203,875.00	-
Capital - DES Door Hardware	9,200.00	-	9,200.00
General Highway Payroll	425,949.00	377,094.19	48,854.81
General Highway Expense	251,780.00	224,810.32	26,969.68
Capital - Roller and Trailer	20,000.00	19,635.50	364.50
Capital - Ford F350 with Plow	40,000.00	39,729.00	271.00
Capital - Brush hog	9,000.00	8,603.00	397.00
Snow and Ice Removal	83,000.00	82,707.66	292.34
Street Lighting	39,200.00	38,862.49	337.51
Transfer Station Expense	265,800.00	193,513.90	72,286.10
Board of Health Salaries	19,878.00	19,866.46	11.54
Board of Health Expense	23,510.00	22,513.47	996.53
Council on Aging Expense	200.00	-	200.00
Senior Center Expense	27,820.00	27,820.00	-
Veterans Services Assessment	11,316.00	11,316.00	-
Veterans Benefits	35,000.00	19,382.37	15,617.63
War Memorial Maintenance	1,505.00	-	1,505.00
ADA Coordinator	250.00	-	250.00
Tilton Library Expenses	157,119.00	157,103.82	15.18
Tilton Library - Dickinson Trust	400.98	375.00	25.98
Summer Swim Program	11,040.00	8,931.13	2,108.87
Tri-Town Beach Expense	14,862.00	14,247.92	614.08
Recreation Director Salary	43,241.00	43,240.97	0.03
Historic Commission Expense	1,175.00	1,174.76	0.24
Vet/Memorial Day Expense	1,750.00	1,675.64	74.36
Principal - Maturing Debt	615,700.00	615,700.00	-
Interest - Maturing Debt	200,327.00	188,127.11	12,199.89
Interest - Temporary Loans	5,000.00	1,380.66	3,619.34

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Total Budget</u>	<u>YTD Expenses</u>	<u>Over/(Under)</u>
Air Pollution District	1,555.00	1,555.00	-
RMV Marking Surcharge	3,320.00	3,320.00	-
Regional Transit Authority	17,333.00	17,333.00	-
Charter School Assessment	115,041.00	41,400.00	73,641.00
School Choice Assessment	114,130.00	127,939.00	(13,809.00)
Special Education Assessment	-	1,396.00	(1,396.00)
Franklin Regional Council of Governments	42,750.00	42,750.00	-
Sick Leave/Vacation Reserve	10,000.00	-	10,000.00
Franklin County Retirement	364,291.00	362,655.59	1,635.41
Workers Compensation	46,800.00	36,723.44	10,076.56
Workers Compensation 2000	42,956.93	-	42,956.93
Unemployment Insurance	46,260.00	9,176.32	37,083.68
Group Insurance	805,413.00	736,028.30	69,384.70
Medicare Expense	86,605.00	84,865.11	1,739.89
Medicare Security Act	50.00	-	50.00
<b>Total Year to Date Expenditures</b>	<b>14,564,846.51</b>	<b>13,845,785.16</b>	<b>719,061.35</b>

## Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Revenue Report

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Total Budget</u>	<u>YTD Revenues</u>	<u>Over/(Under)</u>
Personal Property Taxes	436,373.72	427,388.11	(8,985.61)
Real Estate Taxes	9,627,308.17	9,563,698.91	(63,609.26)
Tax Liens Redeemed	-	81,840.66	81,840.66
Motor Vehicle Excise	580,000.00	695,307.52	115,307.52
Farm Animal Excise	-	4,008.98	4,008.98
Pen & Int On Prop Taxes	30,000.00	36,730.60	6,730.60
Pen & Int On Excise Taxes	15,000.00	17,426.83	2,426.83
Pmts In Lieu Of Taxes	145,000.00	187,186.00	42,186.00
Other Taxes	-	6.00	6.00
Room Occupancy Tax	110,000.00	187,853.60	77,853.60
Local Meals Tax	70,000.00	82,325.64	12,325.64
Abated MV Taxes Recovered	-	481.82	481.82
<b>Total Tax Revenue</b>	<b>11,013,681.89</b>	<b>11,284,254.67</b>	<b>270,572.78</b>
Utility Tower Rental	25,000.00	39,660.02	14,660.02
Fees-Assessors	-	124.50	124.50
Fees-Collector	3,500.00	3,350.00	(150.00)
Fees-Registry Markings	2,000.00	2,500.00	500.00
Fees-Comcast Subscriber	800.00	877.00	77.00
Fees-Town Clerk	10,000.00	8,246.55	(1,753.45)

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Total Budget</u>	<u>YTD Revenues</u>	<u>Over/(Under)</u>
Fees-Conservation Comm	1,000.00	782.34	(217.66)
Fees-Zoning Board	1,000.00	1,702.90	702.90
Fees-Police	9,000.00	13,777.48	4,777.48
Fees-Weights & Measures	3,000.00	-	(3,000.00)
Fees-Canine Control	5,000.00	4,920.50	(79.50)
Fees-Dump Stickers	65,000.00	57,125.00	(7,875.00)
Fees-Bulky Items	8,000.00	8,173.50	173.50
Fees-Trash Bag Receipts	82,000.00	91,850.00	9,850.00
Fees-Health Board-Septic	10,000.00	10,650.00	650.00
Fees-Health Board-Other	4,700.00	8,989.00	4,289.00
I & E Delinquent Charges Rev	-	11,050.00	11,050.00
Total Fee Revenue	205,000.00	224,118.77	19,118.77
Licenses-Liquor	25,000.00	23,670.00	(1,330.00)
Licenses-Other	10,000.00	8,182.77	(1,817.23)
Total Licenses Revenue	35,000.00	31,852.77	(3,147.23)
Permits-Trench	1,000.00	5,290.00	4,290.00
Permits-Police Dept	1,000.00	1,437.50	437.50
Permits-Building Insp	117,000.00	125,499.10	8,499.10
Permits-Plumbing Insp	1,500.00	2,410.50	910.50
Permits-Electrical Insp	4,500.00	5,581.47	1,081.47
Total Permits Revenue	125,000.00	140,218.57	15,218.57
Medicaid Reimbursement	-	61,756.78	61,756.78
Reimb for State Owned Land	99,940.00	99,940.00	-
Veterans Abatements	7,084.00	-	(7,084.00)
Elderly Abatements	15,000.00	10,542.00	(4,458.00)
Shool Aid Chapter 70	1,067,968.00	1,067,968.00	-
School Transportation	-	8,811.00	8,811.00
Charter Tuition Reimb	46,100.00	2,651.00	(43,449.00)
Unrestricted Govt Aid	442,768.00	442,768.00	-
Veterans Benefits	9,686.00	13,660.00	3,974.00
Total State Revenue	1,688,546.00	1,708,096.78	19,550.78
Fines-Court	75,000.00	78,368.15	3,368.15
Fines-Parking	2,000.00	2,060.00	60.00
Fines-District Court	3,000.00	6,952.50	3,952.50
Total Fines Revenue	80,000.00	87,380.65	7,380.65
Earnings On Investments	9,000.00	17,300.73	8,300.73
Miscellaneous Revenue	22,500.00	63,943.32	41,443.32
Refunds & Reimbursements	2,500.00	1,973.87	(526.13)
Tr Fr Special Revenue	70,000.00	179,161.96	109,161.96
Tr Fr Trust Funds	57,227.00	57,227.00	-
Tr Fr Enterprise Fund	-	57,899.00	57,899.00
Total Other Revenue	161,227.00	377,505.88	216,278.88
<b>Total Year To Date Revenue</b>	<b>13,333,454.89</b>	<b>13,893,088.11</b>	<b>559,633.22</b>

## Special Revenue Funds Fiscal Year 2016

<u>Highway Funds</u>	<u>Opening Balance</u>	<u>YTD Revenue /Transfers</u>	<u>YTD Expense /Transfers</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Mass Highway Funds	(110,461.83)	175,513.16	288,953.55	(223,902.22)
<b><u>Revolving Funds</u></b>				
Recycling Program Revolving Fund	16,946.17	10,320.76	4,962.25	22,304.68
Police Detail Revolving Fund	(5,242.00)	188,493.00	185,383.00	(2,132.00)
Wetlands Protection Fund	19,424.79	566.65	215.00	19,776.44
Recreation Revolving Fund	20,000.00	51,065.00	39,948.90	31,116.10
Swim Program Revolving Fund	8,908.15	1,170.00	-	10,078.15
Planning Board Revolving Fund	9,926.69	12,126.20	8,244.29	13,808.60
Plan Bd/ConsComm Review Fund	-	6,500.00	6,500.00	-
Plan Bd/ConsComm Review Fund	1,402.57	5,600.00	3,002.57	4,000.00
Plumbing/Gas/Wire Inspection	40,066.25	71,927.73	111,993.98	-
School Resource Officer Fund	-	30,000.00	2,602.78	27,397.22
Public Health & Safety Fund	-	-	-	-
<b><u>Receipts Reserved For Appropriation</u></b>				
Deerfield Ambulance Services	75,200.36	4,091.37	70,266.39	9,025.34
Sale of Cemetery Lots	22,605.00	920.00	-	23,525.00
Insurance Claims	7.37	-	-	7.37
Receipts Reserved for Debt	94,242.80	-	94,242.80	-
<b><u>Other Special Revenue Funds</u></b>				
HCOG Wellness Minigrant	469.65	600.00	908.89	160.76
Veterans Street Sign Fund	1,468.42	-	-	1,468.42
Sadoski Memorial Day/Vets Fund	839.11	-	333.08	506.03

<b><u>Other Special Revenue Funds (cont'd)</u></b>	<b><u>Opening Balance</u></b>	<b><u>YTD Revenue /Transfers</u></b>	<b><u>YTD Expense /Transfers</u></b>	<b><u>Ending Balance</u></b>
PEG Access Fund	189,187.85	86,021.49	275,209.34	-
Police Donations Fund	1,247.89	1,600.00	2,403.50	444.39
Senior Ctr Gift Fund	8,640.60	1,176.00	1,639.76	8,176.84
Youth Baseball Gift Fund	1,568.49	-	-	1,568.49
Recreation Dept Gift Fund	14,583.36	1,321.00	1,258.09	14,646.27
Memorial Day Gift Fund	1,732.01	560.00	240.00	2,052.01
Yankee Candle Gift Fund	3,020.23	-	-	3,020.23
EWP Donations	55,338.58	-	-	55,338.58
Albany Rd Cemetery Donation Fund	1,640.57	-	-	1,640.57
Senior Ctr Operations Fund	1,272.66	55,640.00	43,954.97	12,957.69
Senior Ctr EOE Grant Fund	-	20,199.88	20,199.88	-
FCHCC Senior Cntr Fitness Grant	(580.00)	1,530.00	1,290.00	(340.00)
Senior Cntr My Life My Health Grant	1,103.49	-	120.00	983.49
EDS Donations	-	9.75	-	9.75
Public Works Donation Fund	20,961.11	7,018.00	5,366.07	22,613.04
Mass in Motion Grant	-	-	374.32	(374.32)
<b><u>Community Preservation Act</u></b>	<b>1,861,297.42</b>	<b>375,763.10</b>	<b>210,288.75</b>	<b>2,026,771.77</b>
<b><u>State &amp; Federal Grants</u></b>				
Community Policing Grant	4,006.51	-	2,668.20	1,338.31
Bulletproof Vest Grant	(2,350.50)	7,491.00	11,519.00	(6,378.50)
Drug Forfeiture Grant	4,643.32	19.90	-	4,663.22
Council on Aging Grant	-	10,926.00	10,926.00	-

<u>State &amp; Federal Grants (cont'd)</u>	<u>Opening Balance</u>	<u>YTD Revenue /Transfers</u>	<u>YTD Expense /Transfers</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Library State Aid	21,792.16	7,172.45	5,240.74	23,723.87
Cultural Council Grant	4,239.55	4,511.35	5,245.00	3,505.90
ECEMP Grant	2,500.00	-	-	2,500.00
43D Permitting Grant	10,000.00	-	-	10,000.00
MAPHO Minigrant	0.50	-	1,260.80	(1,260.30)
Mass DEP Minigrant	1,800.00	-	1,001.82	798.18
MEMA EMPG Grant	-	-	2,460.00	(2,460.00)
Greent Community Grant	(91,471.81)	84,375.00	4,000.00	(11,096.81)
COA Service Incentive Grant	(9,469.22)	11,649.55	3,265.01	(1,084.68)
CIC EMS Grant	190.91	16,062.00	14,852.00	1,400.91
P&D Library Grant	32,964.00	8,241.00	32,964.00	8,241.00
<b><u>Education Funds</u></b>				
School Lunch	(7,468.65)	113,102.44	115,082.16	(9,448.37)
School Choice	715,413.50	647,624.00	606,081.31	756,956.19
Grant Funded Stipends	-	9,508.26	14,165.76	(4,657.50)
Title I Grant	-	35,600.00	35,600.00	-
REAP Grant	3,239.87	48,379.78	58,007.97	(6,388.32)
Circuit Breaker Rev Fund	1,175.64	45,806.00	16,286.25	30,695.39
SPED Assistance Grant	(1,611.09)	55,041.62	55,674.75	(2,244.22)
Special Activities Fund	11,111.22	1,753.64	12,844.86	20.00
Dionne Mem Music Award	40.00	-	-	40.00
6th Grade Class Fund	98.99	-	-	98.99

<u>Education Funds (cont'd)</u>	<u>Opening Balance</u>	<u>YTD Revenue /Transfers</u>	<u>YTD Expense /Transfers</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
School Building Use Fund	5,222.80	645.00	-	5,867.80
Fall Daybreak Program	40,982.22	74,827.20	85,412.19	30,397.23
Summer Daybreak Program	21,811.80	4,000.00	11,074.83	14,736.97
Community Partnership Program	518.41	264,989.94	240,316.94	25,191.41
Half Day EC Program	9,802.39	792.00	10,594.39	-
After School Program	105,527.13	170,391.61	211,366.51	64,552.23
Writing Camp Fund	74.43	-	-	74.43
Retail Store Gift Fund	3,581.00	1,570.02	1,426.75	3,724.27
Mass Clean Energy Grant	12.51	-	-	12.51
River Valley Day Camp Fund	73,556.06	42,913.84	43,139.02	73,330.88
Wm Benoni DES Library Fund	90.14	-	-	90.14
<b><u>South County EMS Enterprise Fund</u></b>	502,973.09	1,249,435.12	889,929.11	862,479.10
<b><u>WWTP Fund</u></b>	519,467.23	463,631.76	610,145.55	372,953.44
<b><u>Capital Project Funds</u></b>				
Oxford Land Purchase	10,000.00	-	-	10,000.00
Energy Conservation Project	(275,700.00)	275,700.00	-	-
Highway Garage	208,353.49	-	99,856.17	108,497.32
School Roof Project	-	-	35,770.07	(35,770.07)
<b><u>Trust Funds</u></b>				
Dickinson Library Trust	92,167.64	226.87	441.00	91,953.51
Dickinson/Billings Fund	2,988.91	5.99	-	2,994.90
Cemetery/Brookside Fund	29,657.98	997.60	-	30,655.58
Fr Wells/Pine Nook Fund	54,274.92	1,827.44	-	56,102.36

<u>Trust Funds (cont'd)</u>	<u>Opening Balance</u>	<u>YTD Revenue /Transfers</u>	<u>YTD Expense /Transfers</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Land Preservation Trust	999.89	2.98	-	1,002.87
May Topp Cemetery Fund	13,266.25	74.23	-	13,340.48
Workers Comp Fund	34.73	0.07	-	34.80
Surp War Bonds/Conway Forest	18,452.29	36.99	-	18,489.28
Deerfield/Whately Veterans	2,123.16	4.26	-	2,127.42
Municipal Building Fund	144,825.93	3,456.10	47,386.00	100,896.03
Insurance Indemnification Fund	9,418.00	13.40	9,400.00	31.40
Stabilization Fund	1,192,751.01	34,197.75	-	1,226,948.76
<b><u>Agency Funds</u></b>				
Firearm ID Cards	768.75	3,881.25	3,662.50	987.50
S Mill Village Development Escrow	26,376.23	13.20	-	26,389.43
Deputy Collector Fees	(342.87)	8,729.37	8,386.50	-
Districts	(114.54)	965,469.19	965,354.65	-
	<b>\$5,871,583.64</b>	<b>\$5,784,830.26</b>	<b>\$5,662,709.97</b>	<b>\$5,993,703.93</b>

**Town of Deerfield**  
**Combined Balance Sheet- All Funds**  
**June 30, 2016**

	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Capital Project Funds	Enterprise Fund (EMS)	Trust & Agency Funds	Long Term Debt	Totals
<b>Assets</b>							
Cash & Cash Equivalents	3,388,249	3,835,130	107,186	877,122	1,574,352		9,782,040
Receivables:							
Property Taxes	132,668	2,077					134,745
Excise Taxes	33,153						33,153
Tax Liens	84,371	3,086			8,052		95,509
Tax Deferrals	9,945						9,945
User Charges		147,420		334,661			482,081
Departmental	750	321,359					322,109
Less: Allowance for							
Uncollectable Accts.	-273,780						-273,780
Due from Other Governments		659,533					659,533
Tax Foreclosures	28,387						28,387
Amount to be Provided for the Payment of Debt						5,545,000	5,545,000
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>3,403,743</b>	<b>4,968,606</b>	<b>107,186</b>	<b>1,211,782</b>	<b>1,582,404</b>	<b>5,545,000</b>	<b>16,818,721</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>							
Warrants Payable	101,070	355,008	24,459	6,196	2,398		489,131
Accounts Payable	22,042	603		50			22,696
Accrued Payroll	351,384	2,976		8,397			362,756
Employee Withholdings	53,251						53,251
Deferred Revenue:							
Property Taxes	-141,111	2,077					-139,034
Other (excise & tax liens)	156,605	1,131,398		334,661	8,052		1,630,716
Bond Indebtedness						5,545,000	5,545,000
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>543,242</b>	<b>1,492,062</b>	<b>24,459</b>	<b>349,303</b>	<b>10,450</b>	<b>5,545,000</b>	<b>7,964,516</b>
<b>Fund Equity</b>							
Reserved for Encumbrances	46,698						46,698
Reserved for Continuing Approp.	154,619	206,010					360,629
Reserved for Subsequent Yrs Exp.	684,902	0		345,074			1,029,976
Reserved for Debt Service	85,043						85,043
Reserved for CPA		285,325					285,325
Unreserved Fund Balance	1,889,240	2,985,208	82,727	517,405	1,571,954		7,046,535
<b>Total Fund Equity</b>	<b>2,860,502</b>	<b>3,476,543</b>	<b>82,727</b>	<b>862,479</b>	<b>1,571,954</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,854,205</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Fund Equity</b>	<b>3,403,743</b>	<b>4,968,606</b>	<b>107,186</b>	<b>1,211,782</b>	<b>1,582,404</b>	<b>5,545,000</b>	<b>16,818,721</b>

## BOARD OF ASSESSORS

John P. Coderre, M.A.A. (Chair).....	2019
Francis G. Sobieski.....	2017
Charles A. Shattuck III.....	2018

### 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<sup>st</sup> preceding the next fiscal year is required to be reported to the Town on a Form of List by March 1<sup>st</sup>.

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 re-valuation for fiscal year 2017. The Town of Deerfield uses an independent appraisal service to inspect properties and to analyze sales.

### Why Assessments Go Up When a Property Hasn’t 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. If so, cite specific examples. Information on all properties is available in the Assessors’ Office and on-line at [www.deerfieldma.us](http://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 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, either through 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 Board of Selectmen 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. Tax laws are enacted by the Massachusetts Legislature. 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.

**Appropriations to Be Raised:**

From Raise and Appropriate	\$13,364,300.00	
From Free Cash	665,908.10	
From Other Available Funds	257,367.21	
From Offset Receipts	951,743.00	<u>\$15,239,318.31</u>

**Other Amounts to Be Raised:**

Amounts Certified for Tax Title	6,620.00	
Overlay Deficits	0.00	
Cherry Sheet Offsets	718,723.00	
State and County Cherry Sheets Charges	251,379.00	
Overlay Reserve	<u>111,141.89</u>	<u>\$1,087,863.89</u>

**Total Amount to Be Raised:** \$16,327,182.20

**Estimated Receipts & Other Revenue Sources:**

**Estimated Receipts From State:**

Cherry Sheet Estimated Receipts	\$2,407,269.00	
Mass. School Building Authority Payment	0.00	<u>\$2,407,269.00</u>

**Local Estimated Receipts:**

Motor Vehicle Excise	\$580,000.00	
Other Excise	0.00	
Room Occupancy Tax	110,000.00	
Meals Tax	70,000.00	
Penalties & Interest	45,000.00	
Payment In Lieu Of taxes	145,000.00	
Sewer Charges	527,213.00	
Trash Disposal	155,000.00	
Fees	50,000.00	
Rentals	25,000.00	
Departmental Revenue - Cemeteries	0.00	
Other Departmental Revenue	0.00	
Licenses & Permits	160,000.00	
Fines & Forfeits	80,000.00	
Investment Income	9,000.00	
Miscellaneous Non-Recurring	<u>25,000.00</u>	<u>\$1,981,213.00</u>

Free Cash		\$665,908.10
Free Cash to reduce tax rate		0.00
Enterprise Funds		741,743.00
Community Preservation Act Surcharge		210,000.00
Other Available Funds		<u>257,367.21</u>

**Total Estimated Receipts & Revenue** **\$6,263,500.31**

**Total Tax Levy** \$10,063,681.89

**Total Assessed Value of Real & Personal Property** 659,913,566.00

**Total Levy ÷ Total Value x 1,000 = Tax Rate** **10,063,681.89 ÷ 659,913,566.00 x 1,000 = \$15.25**

## **BUILDING INSPECTIONS**

Richard J. Calisewski .....Building Commissioner  
Kyle J. Scott.....Assistant Building Commissioner  
Wayne E. Shaw .....Wiring Inspector  
Steven B. Baranoski.....Gas & Plumbing Inspector

### When Is A Building Permit Necessary?

As a homeowner or contractor, there may be times when you are uncertain whether it is necessary to secure a building permit. The following guidelines should be used:

#### Work Requiring a Permit:

- New homes, additions, garages, or storage sheds.
- 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).
- Window or exterior door replacement.
- The installation of swimming pools, hot tubs, or spas.
- Fences over 6ft high.
- Retaining walls over 4ft high.
- Wood stoves, fireplace inserts, fireplaces or chimneys, outdoor wood furnaces.
- Demolition of any existing structure.
- Signs-new or alteration of existing signs.
- Change of use (e.g., from storage to living space).

(This list is not meant to be exclusive. If you are in doubt as to whether the work you are considering needs a permit, please call the Building Commissioner.)

#### A Permit Is Not Necessary For Ordinary Repairs

Ordinary repairs includes any maintenance which does not affect the structure, egress, fire protection systems, fire ratings, energy conservation provisions, plumbing, sanitary, gas, electrical or other utilities. If you are not sure if your repair is 'ordinary', call the inspections office.

#### Why Should I Get A Permit?

**Because 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 therefor." In addition, a building permit is for your own protection. The building inspector 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.

If you are a licensed contractor, failure to secure a building permit could result in the loss of your license.

## CLERK / TREASURER / COLLECTOR

Barbara J. Hancock ..... Town Clerk/Treasurer/Collector  
Sarah M. Misiun..... Assistant Collector/Treasurer  
Patricia M. Raymer ..... Assistant Town Clerk

The Town of Deerfield issues Real Estate and Personal Property tax bills on a Semi-Annual schedule using actual data, rather than preliminary. The tax rate setting process is a multi-step process that begins shortly after the close of the prior fiscal year and involves several different Town departments as well as State agencies. The release of the first half tax bills can vary depending on the progress of the tax rate setting process. The first half fiscal year 2016 taxes were issued on December 7<sup>th</sup> and were due thirty days later, on January 6<sup>th</sup>. The second half installment was due May 2<sup>nd</sup>. The following report of receipts for the fiscal year 2016 is for informational purposes:

Real Estate	9,547,016
Community Preservation Act	195,474
Personal Property	431,402
Motor Vehicle Excise	662,415
Sewer	455,158
Income & Expense Liens	11,050
Tax Title	91,410
Interest & Fees	64,493
Farm Animal	2,400
Transfer Station Stickers	48,055
<u>Transfer Station Bags</u>	<u>26,190</u>
	11,535,063

It was a busy year full of several well attended elections. The Selectmen presented voters with a Proposition 2 ½ ballot question to fund the Deerfield Elementary School Roof replacement. The ballot election was run simultaneously with the Presidential Primary. Voter turnout was strong, 56% of voters marked a Presidential Primary ballot and 52% weighed in on the Town’s ballot question, passing it with 1387 yes votes and 518 no votes. The Town Elections held in May, elected 13 candidates. The election produced two new Selectmen. Henry Komosa won the three year term previously held by Mark Gilmore. Trevor McDaniel won the one-year unexpired term left open when David Wolfram resigned. Over 1,000 voters turned out on Election Day to vote, about 28%. The State Primary in September had very few contested seats. The hot and humid September day produced only 6% voter turnout. The dismal turnout was followed by a record setting Presidential Election in November where 3095 voters marked their ballots. The heated contest between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump along with the option for Early Voting for the first time in Massachusetts produced the 81.2% voter turnout. Early Voting was available during the Town Clerk’s office hours for the two full weeks leading up to the election along with a three hour session on one Saturday. 1200 voters took advantage of the Early Voting option. While Deerfield voters supported Hillary Clinton over Donald Trump 1968 to 777, Donald Trump prevailed. There were four statewide ballot questions that also generated much interest, a gaming question, charter school question, a question regarding the crowding of farm animals, and a question to legalize recreational marijuana. In the end, there would be no expansion of slot parlors or charter schools, while space requirements for caged livestock passed along with the legalized use of recreational marijuana.

April's Annual Town Meeting required two evenings to complete, partly due to the Special Town Meeting held just before the Annual Town Meeting business. The fiscal climate remained tight through this budget season. The Special Town Meeting addressed a couple of financial "house-keeping" articles, a vote to clarify the shift differential bylaw C35, S23, a change to the zoning bylaws allowing self-storage by special permit in limited zones, and an article to petition the MA General Court to extend expanded powers to DEDIC under MGL C 121C. The Annual Town Meeting vote included all the annual articles necessary to fund and operate in the upcoming fiscal year. It also marked the last meeting to be conducted by Moderator, Peter James. Mr. James announced his retirement after serving 36 years as Deerfield's Town Moderator. Another Special Town Meeting was held on June 6<sup>th</sup> to vote a few capital items, rescind the unused borrowing associated with the 2010 Energy Project, and voted to authorize a net metering power purchase agreement and the Schematic Design for the Tilton Library's renovation.

In addition to finding useful information and announcements on the Town's website, residents may also order and pay for birth, death, and marriage records as well as dog licenses by choosing Online Bill Pay. The following is a summary of activities of the Town Clerk's Office for 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Hancock, Town Clerk

**Vital Statistics**

	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Births	31	40	24	30	36
Deaths	38	31	46	37	35
Marriages	35	26	21	25	21

FY16 Total Fees Collected by the Town Clerk

Recording Fees: \$11,110.30      Dog Licenses: \$5,043.00

**SELECTBOARD / BOARD OF HEALTH**

Henry Komosa .....	2019
Trevor D. McDaniel.....	2017
Carolyn Shores Ness .....	2018

This year was another year of transition for the Selectboard. David Wolfram took an out-of-state job and left the Board over the winter. Henry “Kip” Komosa was elected to the 3-year position on the Board and Trevor McDaniel was elected to fill David’s remaining term. Long time hard-working town employee and Town Administrator Kayce Warren left to take another job and Executive Assistant, Douglas Finn stepped up to act as Interim Town Administrator before leaving for a new position on Martha’s Vineyard in September. Wendy Foxmyn was hired to run a search for a new Town Administrator. Unfortunately, the search ended in failure and after much discussion, we invited Wendy to apply and we appointed her to be our full-time Town Administrator.

The Selectboard was busy and accomplished much despite the lack of staff. We wish to thank all departments, Patricia Kroll and Priscilla Phelps for stepping up to make sure the town was able to operate successfully during this stressful period.

The Elementary School roof was replaced under budget and on time with extraordinary efforts by Dick Calisewski, our Building Commissioner, and Selectboard Member, Kip Komosa. With the help of our partners PVMA, Historic Deerfield and Deerfield Academy, the Civil War soldier monument was stabilized and moved to the Deerfield Municipal Offices.

The proposed Kinder Morgan Northeast Direct pipeline was withdrawn after an extensive battle, with the Selectboard intervening as the Board of Health. The final proposal was designed to dig and drill on 22 properties in Deerfield and would have altered the North Meadows extensively and forever. We wish to thank Attorney Cristobal Bonifaz for volunteering his energy and expertise to bring this to a successful conclusion as well as the entire Deerfield community that rallied in support of their withdrawal.

Deerfield has joined Montague in the fight with Berkshire Gas Co. to lift the existing moratorium that is negatively impacting growth in Deerfield. We are recommending a vigorous conservation program, curtailment contracts with large volume customers, and upgrades to the Greenfield feed line.

Faced with the potential for tens of millions of dollars in repairs, the Ad Hoc Sewer Committee was formed to prioritize and recommend to the Selectboard repairs to the aging sewer treatment plants in both Old Deerfield and South Deerfield.

Stillwater Bridge was closed for several weeks due to safety concerns. The bridge was repaired and reopened the week after Thanksgiving at very little cost to the town due to the outstanding collaboration by the Mass. Department of Transportation and our Superintendent of Public Works Operations, Kevin Scarborough.

Terry Williams from the Department of Revenue, Division of Local Services did a presentation to the Selectboard, Finance Committee, and the Capital Improvement Planning Committee to help us improve our budget process.

The Selectboard appointed themselves to the Oversight Board of the South County EMS to facilitate a housing donation by Deerfield Academy and ensure smooth transition to the new facility.

We signed a five year contract with “Good Energy” to save on our electric bills. We have just completed our first year with Vector Disease Control to trap mosquitoes and were able to get free testing by the Department of Public Health. EEE rates were low statewide due to the drought although there were still nine cases of West Nile Disease in Hampshire County. The town was the lead community in securing a Regionalization and Efficiency Grant to create a Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District. The focus will be to move the process forward while identifying habitats, species, and disease load on a voluntary contribution basis to the new district structure. This has been the outcome of several years of work by public health officials up and down the valley in an effort to address the growing mosquito problem and the drainage ditch maintenance issue.

As we reflect on the good work that has been completed, and the work yet to be done, we can all recognize and acknowledge the efforts made by so many to preserve the character, integrity, and vitality of our Town. We thank them for their efforts, their commitment, and their dedication to community service.

# PUBLIC SAFETY

## **BUILDING INSPECTIONS**

Richard J. Calisewski .....Building Commissioner  
Kyle J. Scott..... Assistant Building Commissioner  
Wayne E. Shaw .....Wiring Inspector  
Steven B. Baranoski .....Gas & Plumbing Inspector

## **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 2016 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, two full-time police Sergeants, six (6) additional full-time and twelve (12) part-time officers. Officers are organized into three shifts of 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 Old Deerfield area (District Two), and one officer assigned to South Deerfield (District One). 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: public information requests, payroll, bills, detail billing, emergency scheduling, equipment acquisition, fleet maintenance scheduling, and answering both the lobby and telephones, as well as other duties.

At the end of August 2015, an additional position of School Resource Officer (SRO) had been added. The individual, Officer Brian Ravish, who was born and raised in Deerfield, developed a rapport with all five schools. With well over 2,000 children and young adults in town on a daily basis, it is important to have a critical liaison. This position was possible due to Deerfield Academy providing a significant annual donation towards the position.

In September, Tyler Hersom was appointed as a full-time police officer to backfill the nearly year old vacancy. Tyler was born and raised in South Hadley and has been a part-time police officer for Deerfield for the past two years. He is especially good with residents and children alike.

October 1, Jacob Eugin was hired full-time. Jake was hired to backfill for the school resource officer position. While Jake grew up in Turners Falls, half his family is still in Deerfield.



### **Equipment**

The police department continues to replace one cruiser on an annual basis. This is due to the annual mileage driven, idle time, and wear and tear on a vehicle. With two personnel on twenty-four hours a day, our annual mileage is around 140,000 miles.

In September 2013, I spearheaded a regional computer system for police and fire departments in Franklin County. This will allow for interoperability and sharing of information. This system will encompass 81 different agencies which all share the same regional dispatch center. It will save the Town of Deerfield several thousands of dollars a year in annual maintenance fees. My goal was to have the system operational in fiscal year 2017. Five hundred thousand dollars was allocated for this project through the state emergency 911 grant funds. Several meetings have taken place, and the project is moving forward. Like most large scale projects, they take time. This project is scheduled to be completed in the calendar year of 2017. As is the norm with technology advancements, several delays have been realized, however we remain optimistic.

Social media has become a standard with today's technology. Our agency started a Facebook web application page in 2011. Since last year, we have noted the individuals looking at our social media pages to be in excess of 4,400. Officer Adam Sokoloski routinely maintains both Facebook and Twitter. When significant events are posted, it is not abnormal to see in excess of 44,000 views.

### **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, or questions. Officers respond to all fire and ambulance calls. Officers assist at these scenes with traffic control, rendering medical aid and if needed are authorized to drive the ambulance to a medical facility. The total number of assigned calls for service for the

2016 calendar year was 18,319. This is an average of 50.19 calls for service on the average day.

There were 259 arrests, 247 active investigations, 2,300 motor vehicle stops, 782 motor vehicle citations issued, 60 parking tickets, and 414 medical emergencies in 2016.

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.

Officers on road patrol perform law enforcement patrol activities including, but not limited to, arresting violators of the law, checks of property and persons, conducting security checks of buildings, and dwellings, investigate traffic crashes, and enforcement of traffic offenses, including 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.

For patrol activity and coverage of calls for service, we divide the Town into two primary patrol areas. District One is South Deerfield, and District Two is Old Deerfield. The line primarily follows Hillside Road, over Lee Road. This allows for the officers to be visible in all areas of the community.

The Police Department daily logs have been placed online. They are accessible through the Department's website, on the bottom right hand corner, under "Weekly Logs". This will allow the residents to view the day to day activities, as well as research events that may have transpired in your area.

### **Major Events**

Deerfield is a hub of activity with several events taking place throughout the year. It's not uncommon for these events to draw hundreds if not thousands of visitors and participants to our town. With the constant fluctuation of our population for these events it is imperative that we maintain an active role to insure the safety of all. Our participation in these events can range from traffic control to community policing and everything in between.

Stillwater Bridge was closed to both pedestrian and vehicular traffic for four and a half weeks, from Monday, October 24, 2016 to Wednesday, November 23. On Wednesday, October 19 the Town received a bridge inspection report stating there was significant undermining below the northern pier. The bridge was deemed unsafe by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (DOT) engineers, and therefore was closed for emergency repairs.

This resulted in multiple temporary action plans for police, fire, EMS, highway department, school busses, and home health care transportation for the safety of all that were affected.

Our Highway Superintendent Kevin Scarborough worked closely with officials from the Conservation Committee, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Army Corps of Engineers, Structural Engineers from Mass DOT, and the Mass DOT Dive Team. With just over four weeks of closure, all necessary permits were filed, funding approved, and work was completed. This is normally a two or three year project. We thank both Kevin and the Mass DOT officials that made this happen.

In July, August and September, we received multiple 911 calls for shots fired. Without notifying the police department, several farmers in Deerfield purchased a piece of equipment called a "bird cannon". These are propane fired cannons that do not shoot a projectile, however are extremely loud, and scare away the birds that normally feast on the sweet corn. Several farmers had to be advised that the cannons need to be shut off at night in order for residents to sleep. An informational letter will be provided to all farmers in 2017 with recommended guidelines that several other states have adopted.

Throughout the spring, summer and fall, several road races are held in town. Some of these races are the 2nd Annual VFW-SMAC Run Round the Mountain 5K and 10K, Old Home Day 5K Run/Walk Road Race and The Deerfield Mile. In August, the Deerfield Dirt Road Randonne. (D2R2) Each year, this event brings more than 1,500 riders to our area. In November, 93.9 The River's radio host Monte Belmonte walks 26 miles from Northampton, through Deerfield to Greenfield to raise awareness and funds for hunger in Western Massachusetts. Officers direct traffic and block roads so that participants and spectators can relax and enjoy the day.



With the town utilizing two fire districts, the police department has taken a more active role in facilitating communication in regards to emergency management. This has been accomplished through a team atmosphere with the South County EMS, South Deerfield Fire District, Deerfield Fire District, Board of Health/Building Inspector, and Selectmen's Office. In October 2016, the Selectboard appointed me as the Assistant Emergency Management Director.

### **Training**

Both Tyler Hersom and Jacob Eugin graduated from the full-time police academy. As both officers self-sponsored to better their education and training, they paid the full tuition out of their own pockets. The academy is 26 weeks of rigorous and challenging training. Personnel who graduate are better suited to serve the people of the community and we are proud of this extraordinary accomplishment.

Sergeant Harry Ruddock, Sergeant Krusiewski, and Officer Adam Sokoloski attended basic arson investigation which was provided by the North Western District Attorney's Office. The conference provided a base line on cases of Arson.

The North Western District Attorney's Office started a program called Juvenile Fire Setters. It is a program that provides valuable education and intervention to Juveniles with potentially destructive thoughts or actions. It is not a criminal action; it is a diversion program that focuses several partners, psychologists, psychotherapists, local fire department representative, and others. It has been of extreme value to Deerfield over the past few years.

We are in constant partnership to make sure the schools are as safe as possible. As most are aware, this is challenging being that 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.

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.

Sincerely,  
John P. Paciorek, Jr.  
Chief of Police

***“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.



*Photo courtesy of Officer Adam Sokoloski*

## **SOUTH COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

South County EMS (SoCEMS) continues to provide high-quality medical care and rise to the challenge every day. With a staffing model of full time, per diem, and local EMTs who respond on a call-by-call basis, the department handled more than 1,000 calls for service in 2016, marking a 20% increase from 2015.

Utilizing our fleet of three ambulances, our department ultimately cared for 876 patients with our full-time “On Duty” staff, and our local EMTs and Per Diem staff cared for another 85, totaling 961 patients assessed and treated by our department in 2016. We attribute this increase to both better community awareness of our services, as well as a full complement of full time staff allowing for increased efficiency and decreased reliance on mutual-aid.

With our increasing efficiency and experience, our department also expanded our revenue generating programs this past year. Using pre-scheduled staff and local responders, we began providing stand-by services at private events and paramedic intercepts for neighboring communities.

A full 80% of the patients we treated last year required and received Advanced Life Support (ALS) medical interventions from our cadre of Paramedics. The ability of our staff to provide this level of care means that our patients can receive the same life-saving interventions they would at the hospital, right in their own home. Our staff can even diagnose heart attacks in the field, and transport patients directly to the Cardiac Catheterization lab at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield; shaving hours off the time that person would otherwise have to wait for such treatment.

These success stories would not be possible were it not for the outstanding medical providers we have on the department. Every one of our staff represents the very best in emergency medicine, and each brings their own unique experience and perspective to serving the community. We regularly get feedback from our patients, their families, and other emergency service agencies regarding the significant professionalism and knowledge our department consistently delivers. Representative of the group of providers we have, our very own Gary Ponce, a full-time Paramedic with South County EMS, was recently named a recipient of the American Red Cross Hometown Hero Award for his contributions and dedication to pre-hospital emergency medicine and the people he serves.

Looking forward, South County EMS is hopeful that we will have a permanent home established soon. Currently our agency staff and equipment is still divided between four separate locations across the three member towns of Deerfield, Sunderland, and Whately. A single, centralized location would help relieve our current operational inefficiency, personnel space, and equipment security concerns.

For anyone interested in finding out more about South County EMS, including what types of medical interventions we can provide, I encourage you to tune into the Frontier Community Access Television (FCAT) series produced about our agency. Along with this “Getting to know SCEMS” series, you can also view our public meetings and information sessions. Videos can be found on the internet at [YouTube.com/FCATmedia](https://www.youtube.com/FCATmedia).

Finally, I would like to extend a very sincere “thank you” to everyone in the community who has supported our mission this past year in one form or another. It has been our pleasure to serve the citizens of the three towns, and we look forward to be at your service well into the future.

Respectfully,

Chief Zachary Smith, Paramedic  
EMS Director, South County Emergency Medical Services

# PUBLIC WORKS

## HIGHWAY DEPT

Kevin Scarborough..... Superintendent of Public Works Operations  
Michael Phillips..... Foreman / Equipment Operator  
Kevin Helstowski..... Foreman / Equipment Operator  
Chuck Willor ..... Mechanic / Equipment Operator  
Michael Kolakoski..... Equipment Operator  
Kevin Kolakoski..... Equipment Operator  
Brian Chyz..... Equipment Operator  
Jason Miller..... Equipment Operator

## **DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES**

The highway department primarily serves to maintain the Town’s “public works”. The Department helps to insure the public safety services through road maintenance (including snow removal), road drainage, flood mitigation, tree work, wastewater collection and treatment, etc. These services are provided on a 24/7/ 365 basis in cooperation with our public safety partners, police, fire and EMS.

## **ROAD REPAIRS**

The remainder of North Main Street, Brae Burn Road and Town Hall Front parking lot has been milled and repaved. This was accomplished through the use of Chapter 90 funds, provided by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

We have started a pavement management program, in order to properly analyze and document the road conditions, and determine what roads need repair, and in what order of priority. Priority is established by traffic counts, safety, and roadway conditions.

## **BRIDGE REPAIRS**

The Stillwater Bridge is a town owned bridge. Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) performs inspections of the bridge for the Town on an annual basis. During the last inspection the engineers had determined that the north pier had severe scour (undermining). This resulted in the temporary closure of the bridge on Monday, October 24, 2016. Recognizing the fact that this bridge is a major route of travel for both standard vehicular traffic, as well as all public safety services (highway, police, fire and EMS) it was of extreme importance to get it reopened in the most expeditious manner. The major challenges were environmental permitting, Conservation Commission, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), National Heritage, and Army Corps of Engineers.

Normal design and permitting for a project like this ranges from several months to years; recognizing the public safety aspect we were able to get it done within 2 weeks. The Engineering, SCUBA divers, laborers and crane w/operator were provided by the state. The towns’ responsibility was to provide assistance and concrete for the repair. Had the town assumed the entire estimated cost of this repair, it would have exceeded \$300,000. The cost to residents - \$13,346.00.

Many thanks go out to MassDOT district 2 for the extraordinary support that they provided. Thanks to their incredible assistance the bridge was re-opened on Wednesday, November 23, 2016.

## **CULVERTS**

We had a few culvert failures within town. To assist with repairs, we utilized a contractor for larger equipment on the site, while the Highway Department “ran the job”. This also saved the town money. We continue to work with MassDOT and Mass DEP to identify all of our culverts within town, and to set priorities for repair, replacement, and/or upgrades. The Massachusetts Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs, along with Fish & Game Division of Ecological Restoration, established very strict “stream crossing” regulations in 2012, which insures that we are making the proper ecological restorations.

## **VEHICLE/EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE**

The town is very fortunate to have a highly qualified mechanic and fabricator that has saved the town money, time and time again. In addition to tracking repairs and performing preventive maintenance on highway vehicles and equipment, we are also able to service the Recreation Department’s equipment, and the Police Department’s vehicles and equipment.

### **New equipment (Approved Capital Expenses)**

Replacement of the John Deere 2555. The replacement tractor was unavailable so we got a FREE upgrade to a higher horsepower and which increased our options to add many different attachments that were not compatible with the lower horsepower.

Replacement of one ton dump truck; replacement was an upgrade from a F350 gas engine to a Ford F550 Diesel Engine, which is a one and a half ton truck. This will increase the longevity & use of this equipment.

## **BUILDING MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS**

The Municipal Offices, Police Department, South County Senior Center, Tilton Library, Highway Garage, Transfer Station and Captain Lathrop Drive Lift Station are all maintained by the Highway Department. We are constantly looking at what we have for assets, and for opportunities to perform maintenance. The age of our buildings makes this an increasing challenge, but I believe we are making strides to protect them.

We have been shorthanded since the resignation of our previous superintendent. I would like to publicly thank all of the Highway crew for stepping up to the challenges that we’ve taken on over this past year. This town is extremely lucky to have such a dedicated, hardworking and talented crew.

I would also like to thank the residents for their overwhelming support of the highway department over the past several years. 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

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## **TRANSFER STATION**

David Driver ..... Transfer Station Attendant  
Luke Morton ..... Transfer Station Attendant  
Alan Blake ..... 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.

The Fiscal Year 2016 budget was approved at \$190,100. We expended \$170,378 leaving an unexpended balance of \$19,722 which was returned to the general fund.

Revenues for FY2016 are listed below:

Bulky Item Fees .....	\$8,173.50
Dump Sticker Fees .....	\$57,125.00
Trash Bags Fees.....	\$91,850.00
Total Revenue.....	\$157,148.50

The fees for the use of the Transfer Station still do not fully cover expenditures. For next year, we are again working towards lowering expenses at the Transfer Station by revising the hauling schedules of the recycling and solid waste containers. The wood pellet bags recycle bin has been a great hit. 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
- Automotive
- Batteries
- Cleaners
- Containers
- Electronics
- Furniture
- Glass
- Hazardous Waste
- Lighting
- Medications
- Metal
- Paints
- Paper
- Plastics
- Yard Waste
- Building/Remodeling & Construction/Demolition

Residents are 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. Their courteous and helpful assistance to town residents helps to insure the safety and effectiveness of our Transfer Station operations. **Special thanks go to Alan Blake for his years of service. You will be missed!**

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## **WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS**

The Town's two wastewater treatment plants process and treat influent wastewater from both the South Deerfield sewer system and the Old Deerfield sewer system. Two Certified Operators are responsible for all aspects of plant operations, supervised by the Chief Operator. The Chief Operator is additionally responsible to Town management for all reporting requirements as required by law, policy, and environmental discharge permits. The Chief Operator also acts as the Town's liaison to the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. The plants operate under discharge permits jointly issued by these two agencies and all operators must be licensed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

This past year saw continued success in the treatment of wastewater with both facilities routinely producing higher quality effluent than required by U.S. EPA, with zero permit violations at either plant.

Unfortunately, solid waste that should be put into a trash receptacle continues being put into the sewer system and is very problematic at both plants. For several years now, both plants serving the Town have seen large increases in the amount of these materials coming in, causing higher levels of electrical use at both facilities due to these materials wrapping around the drive shafts of both aerators, bogging them down. This phenomenon results not only in increasing energy consumption, but also shortens the life of equipment critical to the treatment of the waste coming in, which is very expensive to have repaired or replaced. Therefore, residents are asked to *please refrain from flushing any material that does not dissolve within minutes*. This includes wipes made of synthetic, woven fibers, paper towels, dental floss, elastics, personal hygiene plastics and other products, etc. If it won't dissolve in water within minutes, it should be placed in an appropriate solid waste container.

A solid waste removal system that includes an aerated grit channel, a mechanical bar screen, and grease separator, collectively known in the industry as a "Headworks Facility" is desperately needed, and will continue being advocated for until they are built. Properly planning all aspects of infrastructure improvements are critical, and as a result of this need, FY 2017 saw the formation of the new Sewer Committee. The Sewer Committee was formed at the end of the summer in 2016 and is tasked with identifying and prioritizing what the aging infrastructure at both plants need in the way of repair, upgrades, and replacement, as well as the most cost effective manner of getting that objective accomplished for the Town's residents.

Finally, and unfortunately, the first half of FY 2017 has meant much higher costs to dispose of the sludge generated by our treatment processes. The sludge generated was formerly trucked to the Montague treatment plant to be used in an experimental process that uses our sludge as food for the microbes in their process. When the Montague plant experienced a major upset in their process last spring, it prevented them from being able to take our sludge. Keeping it local by sending it over to Montague saved the Town a significant amount of money. Since then, our sludge has been trucked to Cranston Rhode Island at least twice per week at nearly three times the former cost. Luckily, we've just learned that Montague will be able to take our sludge again beginning the second week in January 2017 and the remainder of this fiscal year should mean a return to the former cost savings we formerly enjoyed.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Keith C. Milne  
Chief Operator, Wastewater Treatment Facilities

# EDUCATION

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

### **DEERFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

#### **OPENING STATEMENT**

I am proud to be the new superintendent of the Frontier Regional and Union #38 School Districts, working with the students, families and staff of such a well-respected and accomplished school district. Our district schools are dedicated to our mission to educate and guide students in developing skills that will enable them to participate actively and successfully in our globally connected world. We focus on teaching students to think critically, communicate effectively, work collaboratively, and to become creative innovators so that they may engage productively with the challenges and opportunities they will experience in their lives.

Deerfield Elementary School is an exemplary learning organization. Our school leaders set high standards and our teachers and staff work to continually strengthen their own knowledge and skills. We are able to offer our students an outstanding education thanks to the support of our community members. We are grateful for the ongoing support that the Town of Deerfield provides us in our work. We thank our parents, taxpayers, and community members for being active partners in our public school.

#### **ENROLLMENT AND SCHOOL CHOICE**

The October 1, 2016 enrollment for Deerfield Elementary School totaled 404 (PreK-6) students. This is a decrease of 12 students from the October 1, 2015 (PreK-6) enrollment figures of 416. Of those 404 (PreK-6) students, 81 were School Choice students, which is a decrease of 16 students from the October 1, 2015 (PreK-6) School Choice enrollment figure of 97.

#### **CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT**

**Deerfield Elementary School** teachers collaborated over the summer with teachers from the other district elementary schools and with environmental educators from the Hitchcock Center to update our district science curriculum to align with new national and state science standards. The revised curriculum focuses on deepening students' understanding of scientific principles and concepts in earth, life and physical sciences with increased attention to engineering design. Students practice active observation of objects in their environment, document their observations and thinking through drawing and writing, and design solutions to real life problems. They learn to use the engineering design cycle to ask questions, imagine, plan, create solutions to a problem, and then analyze the results and redesign their solutions. Students engage in projects such as designing and building water filtration devices, bird feeders, catapults, bridges that can bear weight, magnetic devices, and structures that can withstand an earthquake.

Teachers have developed new strategies for differentiating instruction through providing students with carefully designed choices for their learning. As part of this approach, students reflect on and evaluate their choices to help them to better understand both the content and themselves as learners.

Our forward thinking administrative team identified the need for, and the value in, early childhood education in meeting the needs of our youngest students. Our Union #38 schools have planned and will soon provide full day preschool classrooms with optional after school programming for working families in all four of our elementary schools.

Teachers are working to review and revise the standards that will be displayed on student report cards to align with Power School - a digital information system adopted by the district. The end goal is to create an improved standardized system of recording and clearly reporting student growth and learning across all schools and grade levels.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

The early release schedule continued to provide opportunities for teachers to participate in a variety of professional development activities. The main areas of focus for professional development in the elementary schools this year have been to further develop strategies for differentiating instruction, developing instructional strategies for science and engineering design, and building teachers' skills in use of instructional technology.

Deerfield teachers have participated in ongoing professional development in meeting the needs of all learners through a process called "differentiating instruction". The concept of student choice and teacher to teacher coaching was introduced and practiced on a regular basis throughout the year. Nationally known author and presenter Mike Anderson has worked closely with Deerfield teachers to develop and offer students meaningful choices for their learning. Teachers have reviewed Anderson's published research, participated in workshops he has led, redesigned their classroom environments to enhance student choice, and collaborated with Anderson and one another in classroom observation and peer coaching. Through this work, teachers have empowered students to make choices and to reflect on those choices to build students' independence and responsibility for their own learning

Environmental educators from the Hitchcock Center for the Environment continue to work with teachers to develop classroom approaches to engineering design. In addition, teachers participate in workshops in innovative educational technology applications for student use. Workshops in Google Classroom, Smart Notebook, and other tools and applications have been provided by district technology teachers. As technology tools for education continue to develop at a rapid pace, our work to learn new ways to use digital tools to enhance learning is ongoing.

## **STAFF**

Superintendent Martha Barrett retired in June 2016. Taking over as the Frontier Regional and Union #38 superintendent is Dr. Lynn Carey.

As of September 6, 2016, newly hired faculty members at the Deerfield Elementary School are: Elizabeth Libbey, Grade 6; Kathryn Smith, School Nurse; Renee Fernandez, Special Education Teacher; Marijo Sherrill, Strings Teacher; Jessica Rigollaud, Librarian and Colleen Smith, School Adjustment Counselor.

Retired faculty are: Julie Webster, Grade 6; Lisbeth Laurent, School Nurse and Bette Schmitt, Librarian.

Resigning faculty are: Jennifer Bennett, SPED Teacher; Megan Desmarais, Grade 4; Andrea Luther, Strings Teacher; Beth Davis, School Adjustment Counselor and Mark Nolan, Computer Teacher.

## **SPECIAL THANKS**

I am pleased to acknowledge the dedication of Deerfield School Committee members **Chair G. David Sharp, Vice Chair Kenneth Cuddeback, Secretary Jan Flaska, and Members Mary Ramon and Trevor McDaniel**. 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.

I would like to recognize and thank all of the dedicated faculty and staff of the Deerfield Elementary School. It is because of their efforts every single day that we have achieved the success that we have.

As we continue to prepare our students for success in the 21<sup>st</sup> century it is important to acknowledge that it takes the collective support of everyone in the community to make this happen. This includes the parents and other community members as well as all town officials and employees.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn M. Carey, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

### **DEERFIELD SCHOOL REPORT**

G. David Sharp, Chair  
Deerfield School Committee  
Deerfield, MA 01373

Dear Mr. Sharp:

I respectfully submit the 2016 Annual Report for the Deerfield Elementary School:

### **DEERFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
G. David Sharp, Chair	2019
Kenneth Cuddeback, Vice Chair	2017
Jan Flaska, Secretary	2019
*Mary Ramon, Member	2018
Trevor McDaniel, Secretary	2018

\*Representative to Frontier Regional School Committee

### **ADMINISTRATION**

Superintendent	Lynn M. Carey, Ed.D.
Director of Business Services	Patricia Cavanaugh
Director of Elementary Education	Louise Law
Director of Special Education	Karen Ferrandino
Executive Assistant	Donna Hathaway
Administrative Assistant (SPED)	Diana Capuano
Administrative Assistant	Mary Jane Whitcomb
Receptionist	Rhonda Lutenegger
Bookkeeper, Union #38	Brenda Antes
Bookkeeper, Union #38	Donna Lloyd
Bookkeeper, Grants	Stephan Shepherd
Principal	Jeanine Heil
Assistant Principal	Tina Gemme
Secretary to Principal	Catherine Eckert
School Secretary	Jennifer LaBonte

**DEERFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
ENROLLMENT - OCTOBER 1, 2016**

Grade	Boys	Girls	School	Tuitioned	Total
			Choice	In	
Pre-K	17	14	8	0	39
K	23	22	7	0	52
1	13	22	4	0	39
2	20	21	10	1	52
3	19	20	13	0	52
4	18	16	17	0	51
5	23	21	14	1	59
6	22	29	8	1	60
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>404</b>

**UNION #38 TEACHERS' SALARY SCHEDULE  
CONWAY, DEERFIELD, SUNDERLAND, WHATELY**

July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

<b>STEP</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>B+15</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M+15</b>	<b>M+30</b>
3	41,226	42,511	43,840	45,211	46,624
4	42,511	43,840	45,211	46,624	48,083
5	43,840	45,211	46,624	48,083	49,585
6	45,211	46,624	48,083	49,585	51,130
7	46,624	48,083	49,585	51,130	52,728
8	48,083	49,585	51,130	52,728	54,377
9	49,585	51,130	52,728	54,377	56,077
10	51,130	52,728	54,377	56,077	57,827
11	52,728	54,377	56,077	57,827	59,634
12	54,377	56,077	57,827	59,634	61,500
13	56,077	57,827	59,634	61,500	63,425
14	60,782	62,618	64,874	66,826	69,472
20	62,669	64,540	66,843	68,833	71,533

Nature's Classroom Teacher: \$100 per day of attendance by a teacher.

Workshop Presenters: \$30 per hour of presentation and reimbursement for reasonable expenses.

Head Teachers: \$400

Placement on 20 occurs when a teacher has completed 19 years of service as a teacher in the District.

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.

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

**July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016**

<b>2015-2016</b>	
Step 1	12.63
Step 2	13.10
Step 3	13.58
Step 4	14.05
Step 5	14.51
Step 6	14.99
Step 7	15.46
Step 8	15.93
Step 9	16.41
Step 10	16.65
Step 11	16.91

Salary increase of 2% and steps for those who are eligible.

**FINANCIAL REPORT  
TOWN OF DEERFIELD  
SCHOOL DEPARTMENT  
SUMMARY OF  
BUDGET RELATED EXPENDITURES  
JULY 1, 2015 - JUNE 30, 2016**

<b>CATEGORY</b>	
School Committee	\$8,550
Central Office	254,524
Principal's Office	244,747
General Instruction	1,416,942
Kindergarten	248,061
Pre-School	69,333
Art	36,634
Music	63,766
Physical Education	62,241
Special Education	951,768
Library/Media	50,162
Guidance	55,878
Psychologist	71,272
Student Services	8,131
Health	74,745
Cafeteria	-
Technology	118,959
Building & Grounds	360,527
Fixed Costs	67,022
Transportation	198,277
Fixed Assets	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,361,539</b>

# FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL

## SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

I am proud to be the new superintendent of the Frontier Regional and Union #38 School Districts, working with the students, families and staff of such a well-respected and accomplished school district. Our district schools are dedicated to our mission to educate and guide students in developing skills that will enable them to participate actively and successfully in our globally connected world. We focus on teaching students to think critically, communicate effectively, work collaboratively, and to become creative innovators so that they may engage productively with the challenges and opportunities they will experience in their lives.

Frontier Regional School is an exemplary learning organization. Our school leaders set high standards and our teachers and staff work to continually strengthen their own knowledge and skills. We are able to offer our students an outstanding education thanks to the support of our community members. We are grateful for the ongoing support that each of our towns provide us in our work. We thank our parents, taxpayers, and community members for being active partners in our public schools.

## ENROLLMENT AND SCHOOL CHOICE

The October 1, 2016 enrollment for Frontier Regional School District totaled 610 students. This is a decrease of 1 student from the October 1, 2015 enrollment figures of 611 students. Of the 610 students, 147 were School Choice, which is an increase of 26 students from the School Choice enrollment of October 2015 of 121 School Choice students.

The Frontier Regional School graduated 98 students in the Class of 2016.

## STAFF

Superintendent Martha Barrett retired in June 2016. Taking over as the Frontier Regional and Union #38 superintendent is Dr. Lynn Carey.

As of September 6, 2016, newly hired faculty members at the Frontier Regional School are: Sarah Winston, Life Skills (MS); Martha Pomputius, School Psychologist; Amy Gallanter, Guidance Counselor; Matthew Venditti, Social Studies; Zoe Keenan, Library Media Specialist; Sarah Lyon, Science (HS) and Karen Johnston, Physical Therapist.

Retired faculty are: Claudia Beldengreen, School Psychologist; Cynthia Mandile, Guidance Counselor; Thomas Prew, Social Studies; Niki Russell, Technology/Health/PE; Robert Smith, English and Margaret Doyle, Special Education.

Resigned faculty are: William Girardi, Science Teacher; Nancy Stenberg, Library/Media Specialist and Elizabeth Walton, Physical Therapist.

## CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT

New science standards were adopted by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education this year. Faculty have started working with the new standards and planning for their implementation following the state's guidelines. Overall, students who participated in the new science and technology course that was introduced last year received high marks on the MCAS science examination.

A new resource was adopted in middle school mathematics. Faculty have introduced students to concepts in pre-algebra and algebra using the Engage NY series. The resource is being supplemented with other materials and resources in order to provide students with a comprehensive mathematics instructional program.

An assessment group has started to examine grading and assessment practices at Frontier. The committee is studying a variety of software programs that may assist with assessment as well as studying research on past practices. The committee will present findings to the full faculty with a plan for increased professional development in this area.

The scheduling committee has begun looking at the current high school schedule configuration and options for expanding choices for students. The current middle school schedule, that was modified two years ago, is working well and will be relatively unaffected if the high school schedule is modified.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

The early release schedule continued this year for faculty and staff at Frontier. One main focus of professional development this year is differentiating instruction to meet the needs of all learners. Mike Anderson, a national level presenter and consultant, worked with PK-12 faculty to teach and facilitate our growth as educators. The concepts of student choice and teacher to teacher coaching were introduced and practiced on a regular basis. Department specific professional development was also provided during the fall and will continue into next spring:

Middle school faculty from the math and special education departments participated in focused workshops in mathematics. Marcie Abramson provided faculty with coaching and ongoing support in order to strengthen math instruction.

The Social Studies and English departments worked throughout the fall to coordinate writing instruction in the 7-12 classroom. Writing has been a focus at Frontier for the last 7 years. Faculty promote student writing in all disciplines with a heavy emphasis on argument writing in social studies and the three different writing types required by the Common Core emphasized in English.

In addition, all faculty participated in workshops in innovative educational technology applications for student use. Cross course collaboration and coordination continues to be discussed during early release days.

## **SPECIAL THANKS**

I am pleased to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of Frontier Regional School Committee Members: **Chair Cyndie Ouimette, Vice Chair William Marrapese, Secretary Robert Halla, Members Robert Decker, III, Mary Ramon, William Smith, Lyn Roberts, Judy Pierce, Philip Kantor, Keith McFarland and Damien Fosnot.** I look forward with pleasure to continuing our work together.

The members of the Committee work tirelessly on behalf of the children in Conway, Deerfield, Sunderland and Whately. I would like to acknowledge the support given to the central office staff, especially by the Central Office Relocation subcommittee, as we made the move to the Frontier Regional School building. The move over the holiday break was very successful due to the advanced planning and hard work of everyone involved.

I would also like to recognize and thank all of the dedicated faculty and staff of the Frontier Regional School. It is because of their efforts every single day that we have achieved the success that we have. Thank you for allowing all of us the opportunity to serve the children of this district.

As we continue to prepare our students for success in the 21<sup>st</sup> century it is important to acknowledge that it takes the collective support of everyone in the community to make this happen. This includes the parents and other community members as well as all town officials and employees.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn M. Carey, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

### FRONTIER SCHOOL REPORT

Cyndie Ouimette, Chair  
Frontier Regional School District Committee  
South Deerfield, MA 01373

Dear Ms. Ouimette:

I respectfully submit the 2016 Frontier Regional School Annual Report.

### FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
Cyndie Ouimette, Chair, Conway	2019
William Marrapese, Vice Chair, Deerfield	2018
* Robert Halla, Secretary, Whately	2017
* Mary Ramon, Member, Deerfield	2017
William Smith, Member, Whately	2018
Robert Decker, Member, Deerfield	2017
Lyn Roberts, Member, Sunderland	2017
Judy Pierce, Member, Sunderland	2019
* Philip Kantor, Member, Conway	2017
* Keith McFarland, Member, Sunderland	2017
Damien Fosnot, Member, Deerfield	2019

\*Representing the local Elementary School Committees for 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**

Lynn M. Carey, Ed.D.	Superintendent of Schools
Patricia Cavanaugh	Director of Business Services
Sarah Mitchell	Director of Secondary Education
Karen Ferrandino	Director of Special Education
Scott Paul	Director of Technology
Paula Light	Frontier Regional Bookkeeper/Treasurer
Donna Lloyd	Frontier Regional Bookkeeper
Stephan Shepherd	Grants Bookkeeper
Deborah Coons	Student Information Systems Data Specialist
Stuart Dusenberry	Network Administrator
Donna Hathaway	Executive Assistant
Diana Capuano	Administrative Assistant (SPED)
Mary Jane Whitcomb	Administrative Assistant

**FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL**

Darius Modestow	Principal
Scott Dredge	Assistant Principal
Roberta Reiter	Principal's Secretary
Kelly Blanchette	Special Education Secretary
Michelle Russell	Attendance Secretary
Mary Lapinski	Guidance Secretary

**FRONTIER REGIONAL SCHOOL  
ENROLLMENT - OCTOBER 1, 2016**

Grade	Conway	Deerfield	Sunderland	Whately	School Choice	Tuitioned In	Total
7	17	33	21	8	27	0	106
8	17	46	28	7	27	2	127
9	15	41	14	10	22	1	103
10	11	32	19	9	24	1	96
11	12	29	12	6	27	0	86
12	6	41	14	9	19	1	93
<b>Total</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>611</b>

**FRONTIER REGIONAL  
SALARY SCHEDULE  
JULY 1, 2015 – JUNE 30, 2016**

<b>STEP</b>	<b>BACHELORS</b>	<b>MASTERS</b>	<b>M+30</b>	<b>CAGS/DOCTORATE</b>
0	40,659	42,619	45,020	47,271
1	42,755	44,471	46,724	49,059
2	44,529	46,371	48,486	50,911
3	45,626	48,337	50,311	52,826
4	47,223	49,884	52,158	54,766
5	48,460	51,520	54,117	56,822
6	50,546	53,163	55,904	58,697
7	51,879	54,851	57,704	60,588
8	53,253	56,233	60,309	63,324
9	55,903	59,429	62,990	66,139
10	58,833	62,872	65,753	69,042
11	59,809	65,190	68,789	72,229
12	62,134	67,599	71,255	74,817
13	63,065	68,612	72,324	75,939
*20L	63,565	69,112	72,824	76,439
**25L	64,065	69,612	73,324	76,939

\* 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.

**2013-2016 SALARY SCHEDULES  
Unit C Instructional Assistants**

Step	HOURLY RATES		
	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
1	\$12.27	\$12.52	\$12.77
2	\$12.74	\$12.99	\$13.25
3	\$13.20	\$13.46	\$13.73
4	\$13.67	\$13.94	\$14.22
5	\$14.11	\$14.39	\$14.68
6	\$14.58	\$14.87	\$15.17
7	\$15.03	\$15.33	\$15.64
8	\$15.52	\$15.83	\$16.15
9	\$15.95	\$16.27	\$16.60
10	\$16.43	\$16.76	\$17.10

### Unit C Educational Support Nurses

Step	HOURLY RATES		
	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
1	\$21.05	\$21.47	\$21.90
2	\$21.95	\$22.39	\$22.84
3	\$22.85	\$23.31	\$23.78
4	\$23.75	\$24.23	\$24.71
5	\$24.65	\$25.14	\$25.64
6	\$25.55	\$26.06	\$26.58
7	\$26.45	\$26.98	\$27.52
8	\$27.35	\$27.90	\$28.46
9	\$28.25	\$28.82	\$29.40
10	\$29.15	\$29.73	\$30.32

*NOTE:* Schedule reflects following agreement:

FY 2014: Step movement for eligible employees and a 1.75% increase to Schedule.

FY 2015: Step movement for eligible employees and a 2% increase to Schedule.

FY 2016: Step movement for eligible employees and a 2% increase to Schedule.

# FRANKLIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL

82 Industrial Boulevard  
Turners Falls, Massachusetts 01376  
TEL: 413-863-9561 FAX: 413-863-2816

Richard J. Martin  
Superintendent

## 2016 Annual Report to Towns

We submit this annual report for 2016 on behalf of the Franklin County Technical School District and its administration, faculty, staff and students.

Total enrollment as of October 1, 2016 was 437 students with town breakouts as follows:

Bernardston	21	Erving	33	Montague	59	Sunderland	6
Buckland	9	Gill	10	New Salem	3	Warwick	9
Colrain	21	Greenfield	109	Northfield	35	Wendell	7
Conway	7	Heath	12	Orange	61	Whately	9
Deerfield	16	Leyden	7	Shelburne	3		

Franklin County Technical School awarded 117 diplomas to our seniors in June of 2016. 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. FCTS has maintained Level 2 Accountability status for the last four years. Our overall Progress and Performance Index (PPI) moved from 17% in 2012 (Level III) to 31% in 2014 (Level II) and have maintained Level II status ever since, with nearly 30% growth each year. Additionally, the district met the goals set by the Department of Education for passing rates of students of high risk with disabilities.

98.3% of FCTS students receive a high school diploma and vocational certificate with 69% planning to join the regional workforce, while others plan to join the military or attend post-secondary or trade/technical schools. FCTS dropout rate is also significantly below the state and regional average. We are proud of the accomplishments of the Class of 2016.

On June 23, 2015 Franklin County Technical School District was fortunate to have received approval from all nineteen member towns to participate in a bond authorization which allowed FCTS to fund the MSBA 73.89% reimbursed Window and Door Replacement Project, as well as afford FCTS the opportunity to repair its twenty year-old roof and ensure paving upgrades of its forty year old driveway, track, parking lot and associated areas, which were original to the school in 1976. Payment for the bond will not impact member towns until FY19. FCTS now has state-of-the-art exterior energy efficient doors and windows, new parking lot paving and lights, track, basketball courts and a new silicone roof coating. In addition, FCTS will be adding new interior doors and handles to bring us into ADA compliance. FCTS students were instrumental with landscaping associated with the projects, digging conduits to lay wire for lighting, and supporting installation of parking lot lights to save the district tens of thousands of dollars.

Franklin County Technical School's technical programs have been busy with community-based projects that are used as learning opportunities. This year, as in the past, students embrace the authentic work that is done in the communities and truly engage in building their skills while out on work sites. Project work is treated as an immersive activity, with guidance and professional direction by instructors. Due to the instructional nature of the work, duration of a project may increase, but costs associated with a project to our cities and towns are significantly decreased. Within the walls of FCTS, students from Electrical, Plumbing, Carpentry, Landscaping/Horticulture, Auto Technology, Welding and Collision Repair are involved in repair and upgrading activities that save FCTS money as compared to associated costs with hiring contractors. What follows are

some examples of the ways in which we serve our communities: FCTS faculty, staff and students donate to food drives for needy families and organizations throughout Franklin County. Our Culinary Arts program donates to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office Regional Dog Shelter and FCTS instructors and students within specific shop areas visit veterans at the Veterans Hospital on Veterans Day. Our Pre-Employment or (PEP) program provides specialized instruction and training for students with disabilities, donates to the Dakin Animal Shelter and Ronald McDonald House. In Bernardston, Electrical instructors and students provided electrical maintenance work at the Bernardston Library, while Carpentry instructors and students completed the roof over a handicap ramp at the Bernardston Veterans Clubhouse. Electrical instructors and students wired/retrofitted the Colrain Fire Station for a network; as well as having provided work on the Colrain Fire Station's emergency generator. In Conway, Programming & Web Design instructors and students planned to create a website on Field Memorial Library; and in Deerfield, Carpentry and Electrical instructors and students worked on a new electric service enclosure on Deerfield's Town Common. Culinary Arts instructors and students help with the Schuetzen Verein Senior Expo and Senior Center functions in Gill/Montague.

In Greenfield, our Health Technology instructors and students are involved in community service learning sites at: Community Action Parent/Child Development Center; Poet's Seat Healthcare Facility; GVNA Adult Day Health; Arbors Assisted Living Facility; NELCWIT/GVNA; Recovery Project; Buckley Nursing Facility. Electrical instructors and students retrofitted LED lighting at Greenfield Community College. Cosmetology instructors and students have been involved with the Girl's Day Out at the YMCA; and have provided beautician services at local nursing homes. Culinary Arts instructors and students have also been involved in Girl's Day Out at the YMCA; provide cookie donation to the GCC's golf tournament; and the Soups & Game Night at Hope & Olive. Machine Technology students help set up for the Relay for Life at the Greenfield Fair Grounds. Carpentry students installed 50 new window boxes at Greenfield Housing Authority's Elm Terrace; and frame enclosed a new athletic storage building at Greenfield High School. In Montague, Health Technology instructors and students are involved in community service learning at Community Action Parent/Child Development Center. FCTS Automotive Technology and Collision and Repair programs painted brackets for Judd Wire, repaired a trailer for the Turners Falls Police Department, and completed pin and bushing repair for the Turners Falls Police Department.

Electrical students worked on the Shelburne Trolley Museum's car barn and also have work pending on the Sunderland Library. Additionally, they have been involved with an LED lighting retrofit for the Warwick DPW; and have worked on the Warwick Police & Fire Department's emergency generator. Plumbing and Heating students installed a multi-head heat pump Mini-Split system for the Warwick Police Department, and Electrical students completed work on that system, as well. The Town of Whately invited our Collision shop and Repair and Refinishing shop to restore a Chevy Silverado for the Whately Fire Department; and our Electrical students have finished wiring the Wendell town kitchen.

Our partnerships with our communities are important for our programs, and we thank those who 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

**Franklin County Technical School District Committee 2016**

Bernardston-Lloyd J. Szulborski; Buckland-Laura J. Earl; Colrain-Nicole Slowinski;  
Conway-Brian Kuzmeskus; Deerfield-Katherine James; Erving-Robert F. Bitzer; Gill-Clifford C. Hatch;  
Greenfield-Paul R. Doran, Christopher L. Joseph, Mark Leonard, Mark M. Maloney;  
Heath-Arthur A. Schwenger; Leyden-Gerald N. Levine; Montague-Richard J. Kuklewicz, Chairperson; Dennis  
L. Grader; New Salem-Angela Fournier; Northfield-Scott Milton; Orange-Clifford J. Fournier, Secretary; Linda  
R. Chapman; Shelburne-Angus Dun, Vice-Chairperson; Sunderland-James Bernotas; Warwick-A. George Day,  
Jr.; Wendell-Richard E. Drohen; Whately-Donald C. Sluter

# RESIDENT SERVICES

## SOUTH COUNTY SENIOR CENTER

67 North Main Street, South Deerfield, MA 01373  
413-665-2141, 413-665-9508,  
[scsc@town.deerfield.ma.us](mailto:scsc@town.deerfield.ma.us), [www.deerfieldma.us](http://www.deerfieldma.us)

Marlene Johnson, Director  
Sue Corey, Program Coordinator  
Jonathan Edwards, Board of Oversight Chair (Whately)  
Tom Fydenkevez Board of Oversight (Sunderland)  
Trevor McDaniel (Deerfield)

The South County Senior Center serves the Towns of Deerfield, Whately, and Sunderland in addition to welcoming seniors from all over the area. We are currently open three days/ fifteen hours per week with many programs and services including a congregate meal site offered during this time.

Membership and participation level continue to grow as the number of seniors have increased within the 3 towns. During this past year we have felt positive effects of this growth as we fit more people and events into the first floor of our 125 year old school building. The year 2016 brought many positive changes; first and foremost we have welcomed 47 new participants; 10 from Sunderland, 3 from Whately, 33 from S. Deerfield, 3 from Greenfield, and 1 from Turners Falls.

We continue to be proud recipients of a Service Incentive Grant from MA Executive Office of Elder Affairs for the Outreach Coordinator Position which will be filled by Annette Fortier McNamara starting on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017. She will work closely with the South County TRIAD program and the senior center.

During this past year many events and programs took place including: 52 Community Education programs, 112 cultural events, 92 fitness programs, 20 Health Screenings, 9 information sharing from local pharmacies and Franklin County DA services, and 191 recreation and social events.

This fiscal year the senior center has had some upgrades; the main area floor was replaced, energy efficient thermostats were added, along with new lighting fixtures in both bathrooms and a newly designed raised garden area built by Home Depot in Greenfield. Three new programs were also added in 2016, which include a Water Color Class, Sewing Class and Balance in Motion Exercise Class, all which were funded by cultural council grants from the Towns of Whately, Sunderland, and Deerfield, and by donations.

### **Our goals for next year include:**

- 1) Increase or maintain senior center Grant funding.
- 2) Expand services to our senior population with assistance from the Outreach Coordinator.
- 3) Increase number of activities with the assistance from Sue Corey (Program Coordinator).

*Respectfully submitted by Marlene Johnson 1/4/17*

## **TILTON LIBRARY**

Mission Statement: *Tilton Library seeks to inform, enrich and entertain in a spirit of community, for lifelong learning.*

2016 was a banner year for the library. We began celebrating the library's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and completed the planning and design grant feasibility study.

We started our birthday celebration with a rededication ceremony on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Guest speakers included dignitaries from across the Commonwealth and here in Deerfield, including library patrons Samantha Baker, Oscar Potter and Haven Vincent Warner. Citations were sent by Governor Baker, the Board of Library Commissioners, the House of Representatives, the State Senate and U.S. Congressman Jim McGovern.

Results of the needs assessment portion of the planning and design study showed that the current building size, layout and conditions make it extremely difficult to provide 2016 library services in a building designed for 1916 services to a population whose size and demographics has evolved considerably. The resulting schematic design to expand the existing facility to include a large meeting room, quiet study rooms, dedicated teen and story time space and room for more books was approved and accepted by the town on June 6. The study produced documents which will be used in an application for construction funds from the Massachusetts Public Library Construction Program.

During the year, the library director attended a workshop on community use of schools and municipal property at the John Olver Transit Center, C/W MARS User's council meetings and participated in preliminary capital campaign meetings and planning and design committee meetings. The children's librarian attended a mini-conference on innovative library programming and services at Shrewsbury Library. Staff attended the annual C/W MARS resource sharing meeting and began participation in a Sunderland Library customer service grant.

New programs included *Grief through Story* a children's program undertaken with Sunderland Library, knitting instruction, Friday morning *Baby Time* and a talk by local artist Adrienne Cremins. Programs inspired by our Deerfield Reads title, *Garbology* by Edward Humes, sponsored in part by a grant from Deerfield Cultural Council and Friends of Tilton, included a trip to local landfill recycling centers, mobile art made from trash, Barry Dietz's Highway 91 talk, a cooking with what's on hand challenge, a workshop by Lou's Upcycles, Frugal Fun Day and related school vacation programs.

Ongoing programs included our weekly preschool story time, English conversation practice, book discussion groups, summer reading and Monday music program, and art displays by local artists. We continue to collaborate with Frontier Regional Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Program as space allows.

New Saturday hours and a fourth day on which items from other libraries are delivered to Deerfield were added in July.

Generous donations were made to Tilton Fund's annual appeal, contributions to the library were made in honor of Nancy Maynard and in memory of Dorothy Nagel, Michael Juda, David Karkut, Patricia Back, Betti Swasey, and in honor of family members of South Deerfield Women's Club. Grants for books and unrestricted use were given by Barker Family Charitable Fund, Oakes Family Charitable Fund, Elizabeth and Frank Odell Family Fund and Anonymous. Proceeds from fundraising events sponsored by Tilton Fund, Inc. and Friends of Tilton Library paid for library programs, museum passes for free or reduced admission for use by library patrons, equipment and furniture purchases, travel, conference and membership fees for library staff.

The library continues to depend on loyal volunteers to help with shelving children's books, book delivery to homebound residents, installing art for our monthly art displays, setting up for programs, weeding the front garden, recycling magazines, repairing books, stuffing envelopes and other tasks as needed.

The Board of Trustees continued to work closely with the library space needs ad hoc committee to bring the planning and design grant to a successful conclusion. A preliminary capital fundraising committee was formed at the beginning of the year. Trustees reviewed and updated policy, monitored the library budget and goal attainment as outlined in the yearly action plan and advocated for the mission of the library in community settings.

Tilton Library is open Monday 1-8; Tuesday 1-5; Wednesday 10-5; Thursday 1-8; Friday 10-1 and Saturday 10-5. Visit us on our website [www.tiltonlibrary.org](http://www.tiltonlibrary.org) anytime to reserve books, DVDs, audiobooks and to borrow from our shared digital collections through Overdrive, Axis 360, Biblioboard and EBL.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Woodbury

Library Director

## RECREATION COMMITTEE AND PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Committee Members (Current): Rob Ackermann, Chairman  
Eileen Skribiski-Banack  
Beth Brown  
Jeff Galli  
Chuck Knight  
Rod Warnick  
Becky Zoly

Recreation Department:  
Director Sue Antonellis

The 2016-2017 year has shown a continued pursuit of program developments and offerings for residents by the Deerfield Recreation Committee and Department. The department provides comprehensive programs and facilities for adults & children of the community. These programs are a vital part of the community promoting physical activities, recreation, entertainment, art, family and certification programs as well as provide a social network and major health and wellness outlets for all who are involved.

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 Programming**—Our Start Smart Soccer program, for ages 3 & 4, continues to grow with the help of soccer players from Deerfield Academy. We had 110 players in the entire program.
- **Field Hockey Programming**— Grades 3-6. Deerfield runs the program for girls from the Union 38 towns. Volunteers from the Frontier Field Hockey team also volunteer their time. We had 25 players.
- **Volleyball**— Grades 3-6. Sunderland runs program for girls from Union 38 towns, but Deerfield has a highly active set of girl participants.
- **Basketball Programming**— Grades 1-9 play teams from Conway, Hadley, Hatfield, Sunderland, Whately. Grade 7-9 combine kids from Frontier to form teams- 5 additional teams were added at this level this year. We had 135 players.
- **Baseball Programming**-Grades K-4— This program involving team play and organizations for teams to play Conway, Hadley, Hatfield, Sunderland, Whately. We had 81 players.
- **Softball Programming**— Grades 2-6. This program combined girls from Union 38 towns. The Recreation Directors from Deerfield and Sunderland organized and implemented this program. This year we also started a team for grades 7 & 8 because many girls wanted to continue to play on a recreational team. We had 79 players.

- **Summer Programming**– Grades K-6. This program was very well attended. We increased our enrollment and added another counselor for 2 weeks. We were full 3 of the 4 weeks in the morning sessions. In the afternoon we had Mad Science, Incrediflix Lego Movie Making, Let’s Gogh Art and a soccer camp. These new programs were well attended. Our morning program is only \$50 offering a very low cost alternative to parents. We had 103 participants.
- **Dodgeball**- We offered 2 -4 week sessions of dodgeball in the fall and spring. Both sessions were full.
- **Mini Golf Tournament**- a free event for children and their parents

The Deerfield Recreation programs are part of a regionalized effort with surrounding towns, collaborating and meeting with the Chairperson or Directors 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.

- **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. The students who have helped in the department during their high school years as referees, umpires, scorekeepers, counselors, help at clinics, assessments and special programs are encouraged to apply. We have supported 32 students through our scholarship program.

### 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 mid 20’s to mid 60’s or 70’s.

- **Ladies Golf at Crumpin Fox**
- **Pilates** We offered beginner and intermediate classes this year.
- **ZUMBA**

### Family Programs

- **Family Fun Night**- Four nights during the summer for parents vs kids games of kickball, wiffleball and dodgeball.
- **Ice Skating at Eaglebrook**- Between 50-80 people attend each week.
- **Discount Tickets**- Six Flags New England, UMass Hockey & Basketball
- **Parents Night Out**- Parents were able to drop off their children for 3 hours. We provided dinner, a movie, crafts and games in the gym.
- **Movie Nights**- A fun night with kids bringing sleeping bags and watching a movie in Town Hall.
- **Spooktacular**- Mad Science presented a program highlighting scientific experiments with an innovative program including melting witches heads and bubbling potions.

### Community Events

- **Summer Concerts**- Three Fridays in July, various bands- a free event

- **Santa's Workshop**-Around 60 kids and over 130 people in attendance. A large variety of crafts were available for the children to make and take home, the Deerfield Cultural Council gave us a partial grant for a magician , Deerfield Academy, Coca Cola and the Recreation Department provided food for the snack bar, each child was given a free drink and cookie, over 40 cards to veterans were brought to the Soldier's Home in Holyoke, over 60 lbs. of food donations were brought to the Western Mass Food Bank, seniors made 22 phone calls as Santa Claus, 27 letters to Santa were brought to Macy's who made a \$1.00 donation to Make A Wish for each letter. Donations were also received from the Polish American Citizens Club and the Sunset Hoopsters to help defray the cost.
- **Wine & Canvas**

## Seniors

- **Summer Concerts**
- **Indoor Walking at Frontier**
- **Phone calls from Mr. & Mrs. Claus**

All of our adult exercise programs include those aged 55 and over

Overall the department had a successful year with over 850 residents participating in our programs. Our new programs were also well attended.

Information regarding registration and upcoming events can be found on the town website:

[www.deerfieldma.us](http://www.deerfieldma.us), like Deerfield Recreation Department on Facebook, newsletters are distributed through Deerfield Elementary and on the sign on the Town Common.

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 Board of Selectmen, the Deerfield Town officials/staff, the Deerfield Highway Department, the Deerfield Police Department, the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, Sokoloski's Landscaping, the Sunset Hoopsters, The Polish American Citizen's Club, the Deerfield Cultural Council, Bement School, 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 a special thanks to 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 also 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.

The Deerfield Recreation Committee continues to investigate avenues for providing strong recreation programs for residents of Deerfield. While we continue to progress, we will continue to pursue the future vision of satisfying the health, well-being and recreational needs of our youth, adults and senior citizens. As we do, we welcome the residents to continue their contribution to the recreational development by providing comments, suggestions, assistance and most of all, participation. Deerfield’s recreational activities are contingent on volunteer help from the community, regardless of age, and all are welcome. Our goal is to provide a well-rounded program for Deerfield’s residents to utilize. It is one of the tangible ways we enjoy the high quality of life in our community and the preservation of our parks, fields and open space for the enjoyment of both the current and future generations. Recreation provides both opportunities to participate and to give back to our community. We thank the Town of Deerfield for their continued support in this worthy endeavor.

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**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT COORDINATOR**

Kevin H. Scarborough..... 2017

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that "entities" of state and local government designate ADA Coordinators to oversee efforts to comply with the law and to handle disability based discrimination complaints. The Massachusetts Office on Disability (MOD) is the ADA Coordinating Agency for the Executive Branch of State Government.

# REGIONAL PARTNERS

## COOPERATIVE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

### Activities in Deerfield – 2016

The Town shares a Public Health Nurse with other members of the CPHS, a health district based at the Franklin Regional Council of Governments. CPHS activities in Deerfield during 2016 included:

- The Public Health Nurse held 50 weekly walk-in wellness clinics at the Deerfield Town Offices where 133 Deerfield residents made 769 visits with the nurse for health screening services and assistance with management of chronic illnesses.
- The Nurse made 27 home visits to 5 home-bound Deerfield residents.
- The Public Health Nurse coordinated vaccine and supplies for 12 flu clinics at which 868 area residents, including 327 served at Deerfield sites, were vaccinated with the support of community volunteers, staff and GCC nursing program staff and students.
- The Public Health Nurse assisted the Town to access a Hampshire Insurance Trust employee wellness grant that is being implemented to support health and well-being of Town staff.
- At regularly scheduled clinics and wellness events, The Public Health Nurse provided town residents with reference materials and health self-management supplies such as medication schedules, pill sorters, personal health records and Files of Life provided by grants from Baystate Franklin Medical Center and LifePath, Inc.
- The Public Health Nurse provided medication and chronic disease self-management services throughout the year, holding regular hours for all district residents in five community sites. The nurse is also available for home visits for those who need them.
- The Public Health Nurse offered mercury thermometer collection and exchange and sharps disposal and container exchange in collaboration with the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District: 100 sharps containers and 8 thermometers were exchanged.
- Through a district Food Safety grant, staff of the school district's after school programs received low cost ServeSafe, Choke Saver and Allergen Trainings.
- The Public Health Nurse offered mercury thermometer collection and exchange and sharps disposal and container exchange in collaboration with the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District: 100 sharps containers and 8 thermometers were exchanged.
- The Public Health Nurse completed all state-mandated infectious disease investigation, reporting and case monitoring. Follow-up was provided as needed for 36 Deerfield and 112 regional reported incidents of communicable illness.

*Deerfield's representatives to the CPHS Oversight Board are Kip Komosa, Board of Health Member, and Richard Calisewski, Health Agent. For more information: [www.frcog.org](http://www.frcog.org)*



## **FRANKLIN COUNTY REGIONAL RETIREMENT**

Annual Report for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2015

To the reader:

The Franklin Regional Retirement System is a government agency that serves the 503 retirees, 51 beneficiaries, 951 active employees, and 557 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), which audits our operations and financial records every three years. We are also audited by independent auditors in the two intervening years, as well as a complete actuarial valuation every two 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 2015, we are 78.2% funded at 27 years (67.5%) 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](http://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 2015	CY 2014	CY 2013
<b>Balances</b>			
Cash	1,027,504	1,370,581	2,107,878
Investments	115,356,788	118,166,255	112,129,229
Receivables	448,896	523,687	272,477
Payables	1,376,958	81,595	100,714
Annuity Savings (members)	28,029,622	26,866,304	27,949,619
Retirement Reserves	90,180,524	93,275,814	86,459,252
<b>Revenues</b>			
Member's contributions	3,513,770	3,270,926	3,187,508
Towns, Schools, Agencies	5,645,116	5,418,158	5,605,588
Retirement Cost Sharing	472,213	466,031	439,735
Miscellaneous Revenue	20,122	19,414	20,752
Investment Income (net)	1,259,131	9,063,675	18,879,116
<b>Expenses</b>			
Retirement Benefits	8,432,951	7,980,270	7,437,506
Operating Expenses	469,365	403,803	373,095
Investment Expenses	687,629	720,626	657,782
Retirement Cost Sharing	2,884,282	3,028,026	960,334
Refunds to Members	368,098	372,232	396,387
<b>Investment Performance</b>			
Target	7.75%	7.75%	7.88%
Since 1984	8.34%	8.59%	8.59%
10 years	6.57%	7.25%	7.28%
5 years	8.49%	11.39%	13.33%
Current Year	1.11%	8.42%	19.80%
<b>Demographics</b>			
	01/01/2014	01/01/2012	01/01/2010
Members' Average Age	48.30	49.00	48.10
Members' Average Service	10.50	10.90	10.10
Members' Average Salary	33,249.00	32,333.00	30,400.00
Retirees' Average Age	72.10	72.10	71.90
Retirees' Average Pension	14,164.00	12,931.00	12,109.00
Disabled Members' Average Age	56.40	n/a	n/a
Disabled Members' Average Pension	26,052.00	n/a	n/a

Dale Kowacki  
Executive Director  
Franklin Regional Retirement System

## **FRONTIER COMMUNITY ACCESS TELEVISION**

Fiscal year 2017 was one of both change and growth for Frontier Community Access Television. In mid-summer, we lost two key staff members, Lacey Arnold and Jon Prospero, which forced a bit of a re-shuffling of the deck in terms of certain duties and responsibilities. Our main focus continues to be chronicling government and cultural activities in Conway, Deerfield, Sunderland and Whately, and we are having great success in that area.

The two biggest developments of the year were the signing of new ten-year cable contracts in the towns of Deerfield, Sunderland and Whately, and the purchase of a new, state-of-the-art Castus broadcast server. The town of Deerfield executed an upgrade of their DCTV facility, which included a complete conversion to high definition quality, and we greatly expanded our coverage of activities at Frontier Regional School, mainly in the realm of sports and the performing arts, and are in the process of finalizing negotiations to move from our current location to approximately 1,400 square feet of available space at Sunderland Town Hall.

On behalf of our organization, I would like to personally thank FCAT's member towns for their continued support of our efforts, and we look forward to making more great television in the year ahead.

Christopher S. Collins

General Manager-Executive Producer  
Frontier Community Access Television

## **FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

The Franklin Regional Council of Governments provides a variety of services and programming to the municipalities of Franklin County and to the greater Franklin County region. The FRCOG's 2016 Annual Report, which will be available in April of 2017 and on [www.frcog.org](http://www.frcog.org) shortly thereafter, will highlight our work over the past year. Specific services to the Town of Deerfield in 2016 included the following.

### **Administration and Special Projects**

- Deerfield participated in the regional sign-making program, sharing equipment with ten other towns in Franklin County.
- Staff continued to work with the Town Administrator, Collector/Treasurer and Accountant to develop wide-ranging Town financial policies and internal procedures as part of the Baker-Polito Community Compact Program.
- Individual members of several Town energy committees met together informally on a bi-monthly basis to share news from their respective towns and to learn from each other and from invited guests about energy-related topics of mutual interest. FRCOG staff provided assistance in facilitating meetings, presented information, and conducted follow-up communication.
- Town staff participated in on-going discussions for a new multi-town project to share professional human resource services. Grant funds will be used in 2017 for consulting help to move the project toward completion.

### **Collective Bidding & Purchasing Program**

- Deerfield contracted with the FRCOG to receive cooperative bid pricing for up to 24 different Highway Products and Services. Total estimated highway needs for FY17 is \$296,359.
- Deerfield participated in the #2 Fuel, Gasoline, and Diesel Fuel bids.
- Deerfield participated in the Dog Tags and Licenses collective bid program.
- The Chief Procurement Officer issued a bid for Old Albany Road Cemetery restoration services.

### **Cooperative Public Health Service Health District**

Deerfield is a shared services member of the CPHS health district for the Public Health Nursing Program. *Please find the services provided by this FRCOG program as a separate entry to the Deerfield Town Report.*

### **Partnership for Youth**

- Staff conducted a Teen Health Survey to assess teen attitudes and behavior among middle and high school students. Staff reported to Frontier Regional School administrators on results from 258 Frontier students, representing 83% 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.
- Staff presented to CPHS Annual Meeting on the Healthy Community Design Toolkit, Volume 2: Municipal Strategies to Increase Food Access.

### **Planning and Development Department**

- Staff completed a data request for the Deerfield Academy Library.
- At the 2016 Western Mass Developers Conference, staff promoted a site that is located in the town and is available for development.

- Staff conducted an inventory of street trees on primary streets in South Deerfield and Old Deerfield, and produced maps, infographics and a report of findings.
- Staff assisted the Deerfield Planning Board with multiple project reviews, including a proposed Cumberland Farms on Routes 5/10 and proposed a 70-unit residential condominium subdivision on Sugarloaf Street.
- Staff met with the Deerfield Energy Resources Committee to begin work under a META grant from DOER on meeting Green Communities' annual reporting requirements and applying for additional grant funds.
- Staff revised the schedules, brochures, and maps of the FRTA's Fixed Routes.
- Staff updated the Community Development Strategy for the Town's CDBG application.
- Staff completed a Pavement Management Report for all paved roadways in Deerfield.
- Staff updated the Walk Franklin County Map for Deerfield.
- Staff continued to work with MassDOT to advance the resurfacing of Routes 5/10, and the installation of sidewalks along Routes 5/10, through the Franklin County Transportation Improvement Program.
- Staff continued to plan and advocate for increased passenger rail service along the Knowledge Corridor.
- Staff provided technical assistance on the FERC permitting process for the proposed KM-TGP NED pipeline project.
- Staff conducted traffic counts as requested on Lower Road, Upper Road, and River Road.

#### **Regional Preparedness Program**

- Staff consulted with the Selectboard and the DPW Superintendent on the FEMA requirements for adoption of a Disaster Debris Management Plan based on the County Plan approved by FEMA in 2015.
- Staff assisted members of the South Deerfield and the Deerfield Area Fire Protection Districts in conducting initial discussions about the suitability of regionalizing fire departments.
- Staff conducted quarterly contact drills and a site notification drill to test the *Frontier Emergency Dispensing Site Plan*.
- Staff provided the Town with information about vector-borne disease and mosquito surveillance services.
- Deerfield entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the FRCOG to recognize the Multi-Agency Coordination Center as the official organization to assist them with emergency management needs.

#### **Workshops & Training**

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

##### **Municipal Official Continuing Education Series**

Public Water & Wastewater System Basics — 1  
 The Shifting Marijuana Landscape — 1  
 Municipal Law — 2  
 Selectboard 101 — 1  
 Public Records Law — 1

##### **Partnership for Youth**

Advanced LifeSkills — 2 representatives of the Frontier Regional School District

##### **Planning, Conservation, and Development**

Historic House Care — 1

**Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council**

Active Shooter Symposium — 14

Pediatric Psychological First Aid — 4

**Regional Emergency Preparedness**

Multiple Casualty Incident Exercise — 20

Emergency Preparedness for People with Access and Functional Needs — 3

Sudden Unaffiliated Volunteers — 1

Intro to Public Health Emergency Preparedness Capabilities — 1

# OLIVER SMITH WILL

## To the Residents of the Town of Deerfield

RE: SMITH CHARITIES' FISCAL YEAR DISTRIBUTIONS

During Smith Charities fiscal year, February 1, 2016 – January 31, 2017, the following Applicants from Deerfield were paid as beneficiaries under the Oliver Smith Will:

<u>Beneficiary Type &amp; Total</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Widows - 3	Received a gift totaling \$1,000.00
	<b>\$1,000.00 Total</b>

**Leonard Grybko, Jr., Elector  
Under the Oliver Smith Will**

### BENEFICIARY TOTALS

During the past year, four (4) tradespersons were enrolled. Loans of \$600 each were made to four (4) apprentices; the notes of four (4) tradespersons have been surrendered and the benefit of \$600 granted to each. One (1) new student nurse enrolled under the Nurses' Program, and one (1) nurse who earned their degrees both received a gift of \$600 each. Twenty-nine (29) widows have been paid a total of \$10,799 and five (5) brides have received the marriage gift of \$100 each. The total sum disbursed as gifts to beneficiaries was \$20,812, which includes \$6,513 that was paid to the City of Northampton for the account of Smith's Agricultural School, being the net income from the permanent fund established for the school.

Since the provision of the Will went into effect, the beneficiaries of the nine communities have been paid: 1/31/17

*	Tradespersons	\$2,921,100
**	Nurses	812,333
	Widows	1,798,312
***	Brides	1,496,500
	Smith's Agricultural School	1,533,264
	Annuities	35,374
	Taxes	613,717
	Total Payments	\$9,210,600

- \* Originally designated in the Will as Indigent Boys
  - \*\* Originally designated in the Will as Indigent Female Children
  - \*\*\* Originally designated in the Will as Indigent Young Women
- Mortgage payments have been made promptly and outstanding loans are up-to-date.

Trustees  
Lydia Szych  
John Coull  
David Murphy

## **UPPER PIONEER VALLEY VETERANS' SERVICES DISTRICT**

FY17 was the second year our district has been in existence. We continue to be the largest district by community count and square miles covered in the state. The State of Massachusetts awarded Laura Thorne Veterans Services Assistant of the Year at our annual training. In addition, the state continues to use our district model and our efficiencies in paperwork as examples during training.

We have continued to work hard helping veterans and dependents file for VA benefits due them. Our awarded claims have kept pace with FY16, bringing in close to \$300,000.00 in new claim money for our clients. Overall, the district has over \$1,500,000.00 in VA awards flowing into our towns on a monthly basis.

After seeing a large reduction in M.G.L. Ch 115 payouts in FY16, we leveled off this past year. We forecast this caseload to remain relatively flat for the foreseeable future for our towns. Although reimbursed back to the towns at 75%, this takes over a year to get back from the state, so reducing payouts up front has freed up funds for the member towns.

Our major outreach this spring will be the Agent Orange Town Hall, expected to be the largest event of its kind in Western New England, and has done a lot to bring recognition to the District.

The District purchased 90 gross of Memorial Day cemetery flags this year at the same cost as last year. Our primary flag holder vendor has closed shop so we will be switching to all aluminum as the inventory is depleted. For the coming year, we will continue to assist veterans, conduct outreach events, and will emphasize programs for the dependents of veterans, particularly the elderly population.

Timothy Niejadlik, Director  
Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans' Services District

# DEERFIELD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION (DEDIC)

Paul R. Olszewski ..... Chairman  
John P. Paciorek, Sr ..... Vice Chairman  
Richard C. Andriole ..... Treasurer  
Ralph E. Healy ..... Secretary  
Robert J. Decker, III ..... Member  
Franklin C. Sherburne..... Member  
Jonathan Prosperi..... Member

The following is a summary of the activities for DEDIC during 2016:

The culmination of work by the DEDIC Board and Franklin Regional Council of Governments commencing in January 2015, was realized just beyond 2016 when Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker signed House Bill #4596 legally granting DEDIC additional rights for commercial development within the Deerfield Industrial Park on January 13, 2017. These new rights are in addition to those originally established for a Massachusetts Economic Development Industrial Corporation (EDIC). DEDIC has the distinction and honor of being the 1st EDIC organized in Massachusetts during mid-1970 for creation of the Deerfield Industrial Park. The DEDIC Board thanks State Representative Steven Kulik and State Senator Stanley Rosenberg for all their efforts and assistance before and during the legislative approval process when the bill was filed under House Docket #4973 on August 10, 2016.

Contracted and completed projects within the Deerfield Industrial Park were:

- Construction and installation of a sign board at the entrance to Industrial Drive West listing the companies located along the drive utilizing the services of Deerfield contractors.
- Installation of physical boundary markers both along the Deerfield / Whately town line of the Park, and utility easement / swale within the Park that will assist with future maintenance of it. SVE Associates was contracted by DEDIC to complete this project including surveying work and installation of the boundary markers.

Working with the Deerfield Department of Public Works, several maintenance projects for the Park are currently in process and planned for completion in 2017 based on scheduling and proper weather conditions to complete the work.

Administratively, DEDIC contracted King Information Systems to install a new documentation filing and archival system that provides efficiency and organization for administrative and financial reporting. Also, Jonathan Prosperi was appointed to a three year term by the Select Board to fill the one open seat on the Board. On behalf of the DEDIC Board, we thank the Select Board and town departments who provided their assistance to us in 2016, and most importantly, the property / business owners operating within the Deerfield Industrial Park.

Sincerely Yours,  
**Paul R. Olszewski**  
DEDIC Chairman



*The 2016 Annual Town Report*

**Editorial Staff:**

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**Special Thanks to:**

*Bruce St. Peters*

*John H. Futter*

*Bob Decker, III*

