

# ANNUAL REPORTS

For the year  
2008



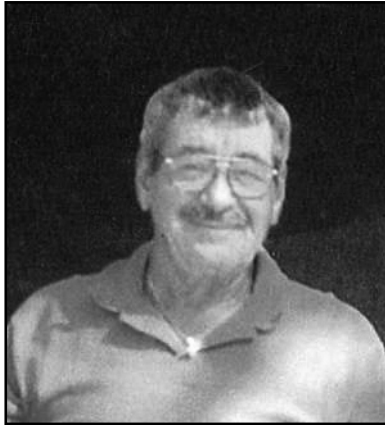
TOWN OF ASHBY  
MASSACHUSETTS



## IN MEMORIAM

The 2008 Town Report is dedicated to the memory of George Wright who was a longtime resident of Ashby and served this community in many capacities for over 20 years.

George E. Wright  
July 19, 1933 - March 6, 2008



Ashby Fireman	1965-1983
Asst. Fire Chief	1983-1986
Zoning Board of Appeals	1969-1980
Selectman	1980-1986
Bicentennial Committee	1974-1976
Historical Commission	1976



Accountant	9-28
Animal Enforcement Agent/Dog Officer	50
Assessors	3
Boards of Health	
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The Town of Ashby web site:  
[www.ci.ashby.ma.us](http://www.ci.ashby.ma.us)

AVAILABLE FUNDS	Free cash, reserves, and unexpected balances available for appropriation.
CHAPTER 90	General Law which provides for contributions by the State for construction and maintenance of certain town road; usually roads leading from one town to another.
CHERRY SHEET	Details of State and County charges and reimbursements used in determining the tax rate; known as “Cherry Sheet” due to color of the paper originally used.
ESTIMATED RECEIPTS	Estimate of miscellaneous receipts based on previous year’s receipts deducted by the Assessors from gross amount to be raised by taxation.
FREE CASH	Amount certified by the Department of Revenue determined by any excess revenue and unexpected appropriations of the prior year.
MATCHING FUNDS	Amount made available by special State and Federal acts to supplement local appropriations for specific types of projects.
PROVISION FOR ABATEMENTS & EXEMPTIONS	Amount raised by Assessors for purpose of creating a fund to cover abatements granted.
PROVISION FOR ABATEMENTS & EXEMPTIONS SURPLUS (FORMERLY OVERLAY SURPLUS)	Excess determined by the Assessors (exceeding tax balance for that year) which may be voted for extraordinary or unforeseen purposes.
RESERVE FUND	Amount appropriated for unforeseen or emergency purposes, controlled exclusively by the Finance Committee.





## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Calendar Year 2008 (CY08) saw Gerry Houle step down from the Board of Selectman after six years of service to the community. We had a huge void to fill when Dennis Moore resigned from the North Middlesex School Committee after sixteen years of tireless and selfless service to the Community. Dan Meunier came onto the Board after years serving the community on the Finance Committee. Pertinent tasks accomplished this year include the following:

- Succeeding in lobbying FEMA to correct their flood insurance rate maps.
- Receiving an Assistance to Firefighters Grant of \$71,440 used to purchase and install a Self Contained Breathing Apparatus Compressor and Fill Station and a Standby Emergency Generator and an electrical upgrade to the Fire Station.
- Receiving a Mass Historic Grant to repair the foundation of the Old Engine House in the custody of the Historical Commission.
- Implementing new financial software and controls throughout the treasurer, collector and accounting functions.
- Addressing the Emergency Dispatcher wages and appointing Tom Moylan as Director to resurrect the Communications Commission.
- Working with the Treasurer to facilitate auctioning tax title properties that helped with one time revenues for the year.
- Appointing an Advisory Committee to engage an architect and monitor public sentiment regarding a new public safety facility.

No discussion of CY08 can take place without mentioning the ice storm that hammered the town for several weeks just before Christmas. In many ways it illustrates the great strengths and weaknesses of this community.

The selfless acts of community volunteerism could fill volumes. People simply got up and got going. They hopped in trucks and cleared roads with their chain saws. They checked on neighbors. They drove around in pick up trucks with generators helping fire up furnaces for people. They delivered meals. They worked tirelessly in the school cafeteria preparing meals for those without power and for those repairmen working hard to restore power to our community. They stayed glued to the Fire Station monitoring, directing and guiding those repairmen to the people in greatest need.

The community did not sit on its heels waiting for others to come to help them. The community took care of itself, and, in so doing, reminded even the most cynical among us of why we choose to live in a small town in the first place. It was heart warming.

But the storm also highlighted the alarming decay in our town's infrastructure. The police spent most of their time the first day handling an electrical fire in the portable classroom that has been their location for too long. It blew out our 911 system, kicking calls over to Ashburnham. The emergency management volunteers made do working in the fire station break room when more privacy and seclusion could have made that function easier to conduct. Deferred road maintenance exacerbated the problems associated with repairing the wiring.

The community should quite rightly applaud itself for the way in which it handled itself in this natural weather disaster and should hope another situation like this does not come around in its lifetime. The community should also think long and hard about investing in its infrastructure to make the job easier for the next people who have to endure a comparable natural disaster.

There are times when people need to "pay it forward," and we are in just such a time.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Geoffrey Woollacott, *Chairman*  
*Board of Selectmen*

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee met bi-monthly throughout the year, and scheduled additional meetings as needed. Public notice of all meetings was posted on the Town of Ashby Web Page ([www.ci.ashby.ma.us](http://www.ci.ashby.ma.us)) and on two bulletin boards at Town Hall. All meetings were open to the public. The Finance Committee continues to encourage all townspeople to attend.

The Accountant, Treasurer, Regional Assessor, and Tax Collector, known as the Financial Group meets with the Town Administrator to develop revenue projections. Each Department Head presented a budget for their department to the Town Administrator. The Financial Group with the Town Administrator makes the necessary expense adjustments to balance with the Revenue Projections.

Discussion of the cuts in each department is made aware at the next department head meeting. The Town Administrator then in turn presents a Draft Budget to the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee submitted its recommendations for a final budget; then met with the Board of Selectmen to draft a final budget, which was submitted for the Town Meeting vote.

The Financial Committee finds that the economic outlook for Town's fiscal conditions is forcing the townspeople to make very difficult choices at this point in time. However, when people work in concert, difficult issues can be resolved in the best interest of all.

It is the Finance Committee's hope that more townspeople will get involved in the preparation of the budget for Fiscal Year 2010 and continue to be involved.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Walsh, Chairman

Lisa Granquist-Doward

Suzanne Caron

Charles D. Hayes (*resigned*)

Kevin Meehan (*resigned*)

John Rice, (*resigned*)

Joseph Casey

Thomas Doward

John Steffian

## BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Board of Assessors is responsible for the valuation of real estate and personal property subject to taxation. The Registry of Motor Vehicles is responsible for motor vehicle valuations and supplies the data for excise bills. Assessed values for all three are based on "full and fair cash value" as of the January 1st preceding each fiscal year.

Office hours are from 8:30 AM to 11:30 and by appointment, Monday through Friday. The board meets at 7:00 PM on the second Wednesday of the month. The phone number is 978-386-2427 extension 15. E-mail is [assess@ci.ashby.ma.us](mailto:assess@ci.ashby.ma.us). Data on real property is available at [www.csc-ma.us/Ashby](http://www.csc-ma.us/Ashby).

Respectfully,  
Harald Scheid, *Regional Tax Assessor*  
Oliver Mutch, *Chairman*  
Dondi LaRue, *Administrative Assessor, Member*  
Jodi L Szczescuil, *Member*

Fiscal 2008 Assessments and Revenues by Major Property Class

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Property Class	Levy Percent	Valuation by Class	Tax Rate	Tax Levy
Residential	94.9905	332,834,200	11.53	3,837,578.33
Open Space	0.0000	-0-	11.53	-0-
Commercial	3.5096	12,297,300	11.53	141,787.87
Industrial	.3146	1,102,300	11.53	12,709.52
Personal Prop	1.1853	3,4,152,964	11.53	47,883.67
TOTALS	100.0000	350,386,764	11.53	4,039,959.39

Valuation and Tax History

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Fiscal Year	Tax Rate	Total Valuation	Accounts	Tax Levy
2008	11.53	350,386,764	1,831	4,039,959.39
2007	11.70	350,003,100	1,813	4,095,036.27
2006	10.64	338,987,900	1,769	3,606,831.25
2005	11.81	294,241,300	1,757	3,474,989.76
2004	13.49	253,655,200	1,759	3,419,272.10
2003	13.39	228,753,800	1,716	3,063,013.38

## Fiscal Year 2008 Abstract of Assessments

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Prop Class Code/Description	Accts	Class Valuation	Average Value
012 - 043 Mixed Use Properties	25	24,203,400	968,100
101 Residential Single Family	1,061	279,889,500	263,800
102 Residential Condominiums	0	-0-	
104 Residential Two Family	14	3,761,000	268,600
105 Residential Three Family	2	839,000	419,500
Miscellaneous Residential	4	2,568,200	183,400
111 - 125 Apartments	1	347,500	347,500
130 - 132, 106 Vacant Land	376	25,232,800	67,100
200 - 231 Open Space	0	-0-	
300 - 393 Commercial	22	7,555,800	343,400
400 - 442 Industrial	4	1,102,300	275,600
501 - 506 Personal Property	208	4,152,964	19,900
600-821 Chapter 61, 61A, 61B	104	734,300	7,100
TOTALS	1831	350,386,764	

## Assessors' Account for Exemptions and Abatements

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Description	FY2008	FY2007	FY2006	FY2005
Assessors' Overlay	56,359.69	58,828.06	37,847.61	42,809.81
Charges to 6/30/07	36,441.84	50,840.43	31,519.43	28,254.68
Potential Liability	36,441.84	50,840.43	26,584.00	26,281.86
Amount Released	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Balance	19,917.85	7,987.63	6,328.18	14,555.13

## New Growth Revenue

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Fiscal Year	New Revenues
2008	39,192

## TREASURER

As of December 31, 2008 available cash was equal to \$220,125.03, and a total of \$11,693.32 was earned in interest from the general fund accounts.

The sum of \$80,274.20 was collected in tax title receipts and foreclosure redemptions.

The following trust fund balances as of December 31, 2008 are:

John Forbes Memorial Clock Fund	\$ 1,223.36
School Funds	
Jesse Foster	\$ 1,016.47
Samuel P. Gates	\$ 20,293.07
Sumner Taylor	\$ 2,683.39
Cemetery Funds	
Sale of Lots	\$ 17,621.45
Perpetual Care	\$ 7,619.85
Rosanna Robbins	\$ 7,262.52
Open Space Acquisition Fund	\$ 8,182.08
Stabilization Fund	\$428,128.21
Police-Law Enforcement Trust	\$ 356.78
Library Trust Funds	\$291,889.55
Memorial Trusts	\$ 15,767.20

On July 24, 2008 an internal borrowing from the Stabilization Account was made for \$283,000.00 in anticipation of a State Chapter 90 Grant Fund reimbursement. The funds were repaid on November 5, 2008. The Town currently has no long-term borrowing.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kate E. Stacy, *Treasurer*

## REPORT OF THE COLLECTOR

As my first term draws to a close, my sense is it has been a good three years. Year one was my vertical learning curve. My second year saw improvements with automated escrow postings and online bill payments. This third year is all about my software conversion to Vadar Systems. Because our Treasurer and Accountant already use Vadar Systems, my conversion brought the added efficiency of having our processes linked electronically. The conversion also reached into the Assessor's Office, imposing changes to their processing of excise abatement applications. The conversion itself was flawless with all accounts and tax balances tied to the penny. Your patience and flexibility as we learned new ways of doing business, and deciphered new billing formats, was greatly appreciated. As we are settling into a new normal, I look forward to my (hopeful) re-election and a second term with a new set of challenges!

### EXPANDED WEBSITE INFORMATION

I am currently expanding the scope of the collection and billing information available to taxpayers at our town website: [www.ci.ashby.ma.us](http://www.ci.ashby.ma.us) . This online resource will provide 24/7 access to answers to questions and online payments. Please take a moment to visit these updated offerings. I also look forward to hearing your suggestions for additional improvements.

### TAX BILLING

Tax bills are mailed to addresses provided by the Assessors and the Registry of Motor Vehicles. By law, a taxpayer is responsible for payment even if the bill is not received. Valuable information regarding abatement filing and other important deadlines is printed on each tax bill. If you require further assistance, my office is open 9:00-12:00, Monday - Friday, and on Wednesday evenings, and I can be reached at 978-386-2427 ext. 13. If I am gone, the Town Clerk is now bonded and can accept your tax payment on my behalf.

### ABATEMENT APPLICATIONS

My charge to collect a tax continues until the tax is either paid or abated by the Assessor's Office. The deadline for filing real estate abatement applications is February 1st each year. If you transfer or sell your vehicle, or receive a bill for a vehicle you no longer own, you should contact the Assessor's Office at 978-386-2424 ext.15 to request an abatement application. Ignoring an Excise bill eventually prohibits vehicle registration and/or license renewal at the registry.

Respectfully submitted,  
Beth Ann Scheid

Unpaid real estate taxes are certified and recorded as TAX TITLE and all of the outstanding balances transfer to the Treasurer's books.

Year	Existing (#parcels)	New (#parcels)	Total Transfer	Rate
2004	25,401 (41)	9,828 ( 10)	35,230	1.04%
2005	11,921 ( 16)	18,892 ( 12)	30,813	.89%
2005		20,689 ( 4)	20,689	n/a
2006	18,026 (17)	4,055 ( 2)	22,081	.62%
2007	5,905 ( 9)	17,322 ( 13)	23,227	.57%
2008-taxes	6,416 ( 7)	22,620 ( 10)	29,035	.72%
2008-liens	86,615 ( 1)		86,615	n/a

OUTSTANDING RECEIVABLES as of December 31, 2008

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Year	PERSONAL PROP	MOTOR VEHICLE
1986-2003	13	3,319
2004	40	1,938
2005	65	1,690
2006	59	1,637
2007	158	6,014
2008	420	17,067

COMMITMENT COMPARISONS as of December 31st 2008

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Year	REAL ESTATE	PERS PROP	MOTOR VEHICLE
FY2000	2,542,831	47,107	260,608
FY2001	2,721,055 +178,224	50,780 +3,673	285,920 +25,312
FY2002	2,872,843 +151,788	48,919 - 1,861	319,262 +33,342
FY2003	3,019,179 +146,336	44,006 - 4,913	342,219 +22,957
FY2004	3,391,473 +372,294	48,518 +4,512	352,905 +10,686
FY2005	3,432,802 + 41,329	46,260 - 2,258	371,114 +18,436
FY2006	3,568,252 +135,450	43,613 - 2,647	364,434 - 6,680
FY2007	4,048,330 +480,078	46,699 +3,086	363,112 -1,322
FY2008	3,992,068 - 56,262	47,876 +1,177	354,422 -8,690
FY2009	4,138,011 +145,943	69,639 +21,763	Report at Year-End



Town of Ashby  
 FY2008 Expense Report (All Entries)- General Fund  
 July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

EXPENSE CATEGORY	ORIGINAL BUDGET	BUDGET REVISIONS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDED	BALANCE
<b>ENCUMBERED</b>					
Audit of Records Encumbered	-	500.00	500.00	500.00	-
Collector Expense Encumbered	-	1,273.50	1,273.50	1,243.50	30.00
A13 Tech & System Encumbered	-	1,375.00	1,375.00	169.57	1,205.43
T. Clerk Expense Encumbered	-	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	-
Records Preservation Encumbered	-	2,604.20	2,604.20	2,604.20	-
Election & Registrar Exp Encumbered	-	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	-
Planning Board Encumbered	-	179.99	179.99	179.99	-
Municipal Buildings Repair Encumb.	-	13,323.26	13,323.26	13,323.26	-
A13 Highway Bridge Encumbered	-	15,000.00	15,000.00	-	15,000.00
Board of Health Exp Encumbered	-	2,086.38	2,086.38	2,086.38	-
Council on Aging Exp Encumbered	-	514.97	514.97	514.97	-
A13 Town Common Encumbered	-	1,014.66	1,014.66	-	1,014.66
Insurance	-	471.12	471.12	471.12	-
<b>TOTAL ENCUMBERED</b>	-	40,943.08	40,943.08	23,692.99	17,250.09
Town Clerical Staff Wages	31,884.80	-	31,884.80	30,352.33	1,532.47
Admin & Operations Expense	6,600.00	1,000.00	7,600.00	7,506.63	93.37
Town Administrator Salary	52,195.25	-	52,195.25	52,195.20	0.05
Unpaid Bills	-	1,572.39	1,572.39	1,572.39	-
Finance Committee Expense	300.00	-	300.00	149.00	151.00
Reserve Fund	45,000.00	(30,686.69)	14,313.31	-	14,313.31
Town Accountant Salary	27,554.71	-	27,554.71	27,554.71	-
Town Accountant Expense	1,827.50	-	1,827.50	322.93	1,504.57
Audit of Records	17,500.00	(1,000.00)	16,500.00	16,500.00	-
Professional Assessor	15,444.18	-	15,444.18	15,444.18	-
Assessor Clerical Wages	16,308.63	-	16,308.63	15,847.32	461.31
Assessor Expense	2,400.00	-	2,400.00	2,133.47	266.53

Town of Ashby  
 FY2008 Expense Report (All Entries)- General Fund  
 July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

EXPENSE CATEGORY	ORIGINAL BUDGET	BUDGET REVISIONS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDED	BALANCE
Assessors Map Maintenance	1,900.00	-	1,900.00	1,900.00	-
Senior Work Off Program	100.00	-	100.00	-	100.00
Camera Expense	1,600.00	-	1,600.00	1,600.00	-
Treasurer Salary	22,768.58	-	22,768.58	22,768.58	-
Treasurer Expense	3,671.25	131.54	3,802.79	3,783.49	19.30
Tax Title Expense	20,000.00	(5,877.51)	14,122.49	9,138.97	4,983.52
Collector Salary	29,044.25	-	29,044.25	29,044.25	-
Assist. Collector Wages	750.00	-	750.00	750.00	-
Collector Expense	8,088.00	-	8,088.00	8,065.36	22.64
Collector Software	4,800.00	1,860.00	6,660.00	5,300.00	1,360.00
Legal Counsel Services	27,000.00	27,051.49	54,051.49	54,051.49	-
Technology & Systems	2,000.00	-	2,000.00	1,537.38	462.62
Town Clerk Salary	27,295.89	-	27,295.89	27,295.89	-
Asst. Town Clerk Wages	6,644.15	-	6,644.15	3,565.02	3,079.13
Town Clerk Expense	3,705.00	-	3,705.00	2,584.30	1,120.70
Elect Off. & Regist. Stipend	5,811.00	924.05	6,735.05	5,453.51	1,281.54
Election & Regist. Expense	5,800.00	226.66	6,026.66	6,025.93	0.73
Town Clerk Dog Lic. Expense	332.00	-	332.00	332.00	-
Public Records Preservation	3,000.00	-	3,000.00	1,094.80	1,905.20
Town Reports	3,700.00	-	3,700.00	3,700.00	-
Conservation Commission	2,000.00	-	2,000.00	1,646.99	353.01
Planning Board Expense	850.00	-	850.00	835.36	14.64
Zoning Board Expense	550.00	-	550.00	321.36	228.64
Mont Plan Comm Assessment	760.24	-	760.24	760.24	-
Land Use Agent	15,500.00	-	15,500.00	15,500.00	-
T. Office Fuel and Electric	33,000.00	(3,932.39)	29,067.61	27,994.67	1,072.94
T. Office Custodian	2,500.00	-	2,500.00	1,980.00	520.00
T. Office Maintenance Exp	15,000.00	-	15,000.00	14,999.86	0.14
Care of Town Clock	500.00	-	500.00	500.00	-

Town of Ashby  
 FY2008 Expense Report (All Entries)- General Fund  
 July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

EXPENSE CATEGORY	ORIGINAL BUDGET	BUDGET REVISIONS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDED	BALANCE
Municipal Building Repair	2,000.00	-	2,000.00	2,000.00	-
<b>TOTAL GENERAL GOV</b>	<b>470,887.06</b>	<b>(8,730.46)</b>	<b>462,156.60</b>	<b>426,512.11</b>	<b>35,644.49</b>
<b>PROTECT PERSONS &amp; PROP</b>					
Police Chief Salary	67,440.00	-	67,440.00	67,440.00	-
Police Wages	329,078.16	27,969.88	357,048.04	332,859.58	24,188.46
Police Expense	45,300.00	2,689.58	47,989.58	47,812.60	176.98
Police Station Fuel/Electric	8,000.00	1,787.07	9,787.07	9,787.07	-
Police Station Bldg Maint	1,500.00	-	1,500.00	739.51	760.49
Police - Art 11 Police Cruiser	31,185.00	-	31,185.00	31,185.00	-
Fire Chief Salary	42,425.08	489.51	42,914.59	42,914.59	-
Firefighters' Wages	15,955.99	(2,200.00)	13,755.99	13,525.00	230.99
Firefighters' Stipend	5,673.24	-	5,673.24	5,673.24	-
Fire Dept. Expenses	22,000.00	7,056.85	29,056.85	24,309.78	4,747.07
Fire Station Fuel	2,350.00	-	2,350.00	2,243.21	106.79
Fire Equipment Replacement	8,170.04	-	8,170.04	7,161.00	1,009.04
Art 12 Fire Communication Tower	9,800.00	-	9,800.00	9,800.00	-
Waste Oil Coordinator Stip	2,206.26	-	2,206.26	2,206.26	-
Waste Oil Expense	455.00	348.35	803.35	786.14	17.21
EMS Director Salary	3,440.72	-	3,440.72	3,440.72	-
EMT Wages	16,490.22	(5,800.00)	10,690.22	10,560.50	129.72
EMT Stipend	3,151.80	-	3,151.80	3,151.80	-
EMT Expense	9,900.00	4,000.00	13,900.00	13,896.68	3.32
EMS ALS Charges & Fees	30,000.00	(10,330.04)	19,669.96	19,669.96	-
Emergency Management Exp	600.00	-	600.00	600.00	-
E-911 Expenses	125.00	-	125.00	124.60	0.40
Hazardous Waste Coord. Stipend	531.87	-	531.87	531.87	-
Bldg/Zoning Insp Salary	8,585.94	-	8,585.94	8,585.94	-

Town of Ashby						
FY2008 Expense Report (All Entries)- General Fund						
July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008						
EXPENSE CATEGORY	ORIGINAL BUDGET	BUDGET REVISIONS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDED	BALANCE	
Bldg/Zoning Insp Expense	500.00	-	500.00	500.00	-	
Bldg/Zoning Insp Travel	1,235.00	-	1,235.00	717.80	517.20	
Plumbing/Gas Inspect Salary	5,258.06	-	5,258.06	5,258.06	-	
Plumbing/Gas Inspect Expense	115.00	-	115.00	-	115.00	
Plumbing/Gas Inspect Travel	550.00	-	550.00	-	550.00	
Electrical Insp Salary	5,258.06	-	5,258.06	3,930.00	1,328.06	
Electrical Insp Expense	1,120.00	-	1,120.00	627.41	492.59	
Electrical Insp Travel	550.00	-	550.00	-	550.00	
Insp of Animals Salary	600.00	-	600.00	600.00	-	
Insp of Animals Expense	240.00	-	240.00	-	240.00	
Dog Off/Animal Erf Salary	16,000.00	-	16,000.00	16,000.00	-	
Dog Off/Animal Erf Expense	3,000.00	-	3,000.00	2,054.25	945.75	
Tree Warden Expense	2,000.00	-	2,000.00	200.00	1,800.00	
Dispatcher Wages	117,547.39	5,000.00	122,547.39	122,547.39	-	
Dispatcher Expenses	1,955.00	-	1,955.00	1,931.67	23.33	
<b>TTL PROTECT PERS &amp; PROP</b>	<b>820,292.83</b>	<b>31,011.20</b>	<b>851,304.03</b>	<b>813,371.63</b>	<b>37,932.40</b>	
<b>EDUCATION</b>						
Reg Voc Tech School Expense	272,809.00	(2,285.00)	270,524.00	270,524.00	-	
NMRSD Reg School Assessment	2,324,740.00	-	2,324,740.00	2,324,740.00	-	
NMRSD Reg. School Transportation	215,328.00	-	215,328.00	215,328.00	-	
NMRSD Debt Service	42,898.70	-	42,898.70	42,898.58	0.12	
	2,855,775.70	(2,285.00)	2,853,490.70	2,853,490.58	0.12	
Highway Super. Wages	42,407.28	-	42,407.28	42,407.28	-	
Highway Department Wages	133,799.04	(13,000.00)	120,799.04	117,388.38	3,410.66	
Highway Regular Overtime	500.00	1,312.41	1,812.41	1,812.41	-	
Highway Department Expense	5,855.20	1,942.71	7,797.91	7,753.54	44.37	

Town of Ashby  
 FY2008 Expense Report (All Entries)- General Fund  
 July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

EXPENSE CATEGORY	ORIGINAL BUDGET	BUDGET REVISIONS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDED	BALANCE
Highway Barn Fuel	9,500.00	5,252.22	14,752.22	14,752.22	-
Highway Road Maintenance	40,000.00	-	40,000.00	39,988.35	11.65
Highway Machinery Expense	40,000.00	-	40,000.00	39,996.08	3.92
Highway Gas & Diesel	10,000.00	13,564.50	23,564.50	23,564.50	-
A14 Highway Sander	15,865.00	-	15,865.00	15,865.00	-
Hwy Winter Operation Overtime	17,078.12	5,850.15	22,928.27	22,928.27	-
Highway Winter Expense	70,948.51	84,547.32	155,495.83	153,883.33	1,612.50
Street Lights	700.00	-	700.00	699.41	0.59
Cemetery Wages	9,152.50	(620.45)	8,532.05	8,532.05	-
Cemetery Maintenance	4,047.50	620.45	4,667.95	4,576.32	91.63
<b>TTL PUB WORKS AND FAC.</b>	<b>399,853.15</b>	<b>99,469.31</b>	<b>499,322.46</b>	<b>494,147.14</b>	<b>5,175.32</b>
<b>HUMAN SERVICES</b>					
Board of Health Expense	1,500.00	-	1,500.00	283.62	1,216.38
Nashoba Board of Health Assess	5,636.00	-	5,636.00	5,636.00	-
Landfill Operations	14,000.00	(500.00)	13,500.00	6,259.81	7,240.19
Town Nurse Assessment	4,381.00	-	4,381.00	4,381.00	-
Council on Aging Expense	1,300.00	-	1,300.00	1,300.00	-
Veterans Agent Salary	1,615.54	-	1,615.54	1,615.54	-
Veterans Agent Expense	50.00	-	50.00	-	50.00
Memorial Day	2,800.00	-	2,800.00	1,806.95	993.05
Veterans Benefit Expense	150.00	-	150.00	-	150.00
<b>TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES</b>	<b>31,432.54</b>	<b>(500.00)</b>	<b>30,932.54</b>	<b>21,282.92</b>	<b>9,649.62</b>
<b>CULTURE AND RECREATION</b>					
Librarian Salary	14,633.82	-	14,633.82	14,633.82	-
Library Assist. Wages	11,232.00	-	11,232.00	11,232.00	-
Library Expenses	1,200.00	-	1,200.00	1,200.00	-

Town of Ashby					
FY2008 Expense Report (All Entries)- General Fund					
July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008					
EXPENSE CATEGORY	ORIGINAL BUDGET	BUDGET REVISIONS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDED	BALANCE
Library Custodial Services	3,000.00	-	3,000.00	2,445.00	555.00
Library Heating Fuel	8,000.00	1,296.93	9,296.93	9,296.93	-
Library Building Maintenance	14,000.00	-	14,000.00	12,470.55	1,529.45
Library Books	8,000.00	-	8,000.00	7,986.68	13.32
Band Concerts	7,000.00	-	7,000.00	7,000.00	-
July 3rd Band Expense	1,200.00	-	1,200.00	1,200.00	-
Allen Field Expense	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Town Common Expense	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	948.38	51.62
Agricultural Commission Exp	300.00	-	300.00	-	300.00
Historical Comm. Expense	110.00	128.51	238.51	233.03	5.48
A8 Old Engine House Renovation	10,000.00	-	10,000.00	416.50	9,583.50
<b>TOTAL CULTURE AND REC</b>	<b>80,675.82</b>	<b>1,425.44</b>	<b>82,101.26</b>	<b>70,062.89</b>	<b>12,038.37</b>
<b>DEBT SERVICE</b>					
Temporary Loan Interest	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	-	1,000.00
<b>TOTAL DEBT SERVICE</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>
<b>INTERGOVERNMENTAL Expense</b>					
RMV Non Renewal Surcharge	-	-	-	2,080.00	(2,080.00)
Air Pollution Assessment	-	-	-	739.00	(739.00)
Mont RTA Assessment	-	-	-	2,527.00	(2,527.00)
MBTA Trans Assessment	-	-	-	15,038.00	(15,038.00)
<b>TOTAL INTERGOV EXP</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,384.00</b>	<b>(20,384.00)</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS Expense</b>					
Middlesex Retirement System	114,360.00	-	114,360.00	114,360.00	-
Retirement Contrib. To State	248.97	-	248.97	248.97	-

Town of Ashby  
 FY2008 Expense Report (All Entries)- General Fund  
 July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

EXPENSE CATEGORY	ORIGINAL BUDGET	BUDGET REVISIONS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDED	BALANCE
Unemployment Compensation	6,800.00	-	6,800.00	1,222.52	5,577.48
Group Health Life & Disability	221,257.41	(9,862.63)	211,394.78	210,781.49	613.29
Workers Comp. Insurance	7,676.55	1,451.40	9,127.95	9,127.95	-
Insurance-Liab, Prop &Caus-Fire Pol	64,763.73	-	64,763.73	64,763.73	-
FICA	20,129.38	-	20,129.38	17,540.70	2,588.68
Transfer to Stabilization	35,346.17	-	35,346.17	35,346.17	-
<b>TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS EXP</b>	<b>470,582.21</b>	<b>(8,411.23)</b>	<b>462,170.98</b>	<b>453,391.53</b>	<b>8,779.45</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 5,130,499.31</b>	<b>\$ 152,922.34</b>	<b>\$ 5,283,421.65</b>	<b>\$ 5,176,335.79</b>	<b>\$ 107,085.86</b>

**Town of Ashby**  
**Statement of Revenue, Budget vs Actual**  
**July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008**

	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>BALANCE</b> <i>Over/(Under) Budget</i>
<b>TAXES</b>			
Personal Property Taxes	47,883.67	47,469.66	(414.01)
Real Estate Taxes	3,992,075.72	3,927,276.26	(64,799.46)
Tax Liens Redeemed	-	24,624.86	24,624.86
Tax Foreclosure Revenue	-	3,677.60	3,677.60
Motor Vehicle Excise	360,000.00	344,669.71	(15,330.29)
Chap. 61 Class Forest	-	-	-
Forest Products/Stump Tax	-	800.00	800.00
In Lieu of Taxes	3,500.00	3,782.00	282.00
Supplemental Real Estate Tax	6,773.61	747.46	(6,026.15)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 4,410,233.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,353,047.55</b>	<b>\$ (51,159.30)</b>
<b>INTEREST</b>			
Interest on Property Tax	9,500.00	12,711.31	3,211.31
Interest on Tax Liens	5,500.00	4,667.04	(832.96)
Interest on Motor Vehicle	1,600.00	2,415.46	815.46
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 16,600.00</b>	<b>\$ 19,793.81</b>	<b>\$ 3,193.81</b>
<b>LICENSES &amp; PERMITS</b>			
Alcoholic Licenses	2,505.00	2,490.00	(15.00)
Common Victualler	180.00	270.00	90.00
Used Car License (II)	350.00	200.00	(150.00)
Junk Licenses (III)	120.00	220.00	100.00
Cable TV Fees	4,000.00	354.50	(3,645.50)
Street Listings	125.00	191.00	66.00
Zoning By-Laws	100.00	375.00	275.00
Dog License Fees	2,000.00	2,825.00	825.00



Business Certificates	280.00	310.00	30.00
Pole Petition Fee	-	-	-
Building Permits	15,000.00	18,352.00	3,352.00
Plumbing Permits	4,100.00	4,375.00	275.00
Electrical Permits	3,500.00	3,005.00	(495.00)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 32,260.00</b>	<b>\$ 32,967.50</b>	<b>\$ 707.50</b>

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

<i>Selectmen</i>			
Misc. Receipts Selectman	50.00	51.00	1.00
Contract Fee - Comm Tower	13,000.00	13,440.56	440.56
Occupancy Fee/ Ins Reimburse	-	1,478.00	1,478.00
<i>Assessors</i>			
Assessors Misc. Other Receipt	300.00	183.75	(116.25)
<i>Town Clerk</i>			
Town Clerk Misc. Receipts	330.00	1,039.65	709.65
<i>Dog License Fines</i>			
Dog License Fines	-	-	-
<i>Planning Board</i>			
Planning Board A.N.R Fees	175.00	500.00	325.00
Planning Board Site Plan Review	75.00	-	(75.00)
<i>Board of Appeals</i>			
Hearings	200.00	-	(200.00)
Zoning Variances	-	-	-
<i>Treasurer</i>			
Treasurer Misc.	200.00	168.54	(31.46)
<i>Tax Collector</i>			
Tax Collector Misc.	500.00	1,155.76	655.76
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 14,830.00</b>	<b>\$ 18,017.26</b>	<b>\$ 3,187.26</b>

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

<i>Police Department</i>			
Police F I D Cards	2,000.00	2,050.00	50.00

**Town of Ashby**  
**Statement of Revenue, Budget vs Actual**  
**July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008**

Police Accident Reports	250.00	334.50	84.50
Court Fines	1,500.00	1,261.00	(239.00)
Police Admin. Surcharge	100.00	473.00	373.00
Police Misc. Receipts	200.00	128.29	(71.71)
<i>Fire Department</i>			
Smoke Detectors	800.00	1,000.00	200.00
Fire Reports	-	-	-
Fuel Storage	25.00	50.00	25.00
Tank Removal Permits	-	75.00	75.00
Oil & Wood Burner Permits	400.00	500.00	100.00
LPG - Propane Permits	500.00	475.00	(25.00)
Blasting Permits	-	25.00	25.00
Tank Truck Cargo/Transit	300.00	75.00	(225.00)
Tank Installation	-	125.00	125.00
Open Air Fires	3,000.00	3,900.00	900.00
Fire Misc. Receipts	25.00	-	(25.00)
<i>EMS</i>			
Ambulance Rec. Abatements	46,000.00	75,230.79	29,230.79
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 55,100.00</b>	<b>\$ 85,702.58</b>	<b>\$ 30,602.58</b>
<b>OTHER DEPARTMENTAL</b>			
Nashoba Board of Health	4,000.00	3,010.00	(990.00)
Compost Bin Sales	-	190.48	190.48
Agricultural Commission Fees	100.00	111.57	11.57
Library Fines	-	636.10	636.10
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 4,100.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,948.15</b>	<b>\$ (151.85)</b>
<b>STATE &amp; FEDERAL RECEIPTS</b>			
CMVI Fines	18,000.00	12,595.00	(5,405.00)
Reg. Motor Veh. Fees	2,500.00	3,605.00	1,105.00

St. Rec. State Owned Land	78,554.00	78,554.00	-
St. Rec Abate for Surviving Spouse	10,150.00	20,438.00	10,288.00
St. Rec Abate for Elderly	7,028.00	7,530.00	502.00
St. Rec State Lottery	474,742.00	474,742.00	-
St. Rec Forest Products Trust	-	139.32	139.32
St. Rec Other	-	1,532.13	1,532.13
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 590,974.00</b>	<b>\$ 599,135.45</b>	<b>\$ 8,161.45</b>

**REFUNDS & MISC. RECEIPTS**

Earnings of Investments	12,500.00	17,107.54	4,607.54
Miscellaneous Refunds	-	339.08	339.08
Insurance Recoveries	-	181.25	181.25
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 12,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 17,627.87</b>	<b>\$ 5,127.87</b>

**OTHER FINANCING SOURCES**

Transfer from Special Revenue	-	16.25	16.25
Transfer from Agency	-	4.94	4.94
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>21.19</b>	<b>21.19</b>

<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 5,136,597.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,130,261.36</b>	<b>\$ (6,335.64)</b>
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Town of Ashby  
**CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE FOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**  
 July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

REVENUE CATEGORY	BEGINNING BALANCE	RECEIPTS	EXPENDED	TRANSFER IN/OUT	ENDING BALANCE
<b>STATE GRANTS</b>					
Extended Polling Hours	-	505.00	-	-	505.00
Police Community Policing FY06	16.25	-	-	(16.25)	-
Police Community Policing FY07	10,664.54	-	1,345.75	-	9,318.79
Police Community Policing FY08	-	11,299.00	7,819.14	-	3,479.86
Police GHSB - Traffic Safety Grant	-	1,765.02	1,765.02	-	-
SETB EOPS - Training Grant	850.72	4,732.40	4,458.00	-	1,125.12
State Aid to Libraries	5,394.18	2,798.02	4,332.77	-	3,859.43
Arts Lottery Council	3,758.95	4,505.65	4,063.94	-	4,200.66
Council on Aging Grant	1,464.00	3,300.00	4,764.00	-	-
Conservation Wetland Act	16,254.40	405.00	205.91	-	16,453.49
Septic Title V Grant	41,675.40	32,889.81	26,450.00	-	48,115.21
Mass Historic Preservation - Fire House	-	20,000.00	-	-	20,000.00
<b>TOTAL STATE GRANTS</b>	<b>80,078.44</b>	<b>82,199.90</b>	<b>55,204.53</b>	<b>(16.25)</b>	<b>107,057.56</b>
<b>FEDERAL GRANTS</b>					
Fire - Assist to Firefighters Grant	1.50	65,186.00	65,187.50	-	-
<b>TOTAL FEDERAL GRANTS</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>65,186.00</b>	<b>65,187.50</b>		
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE</b>					
Police Dept Donation	76.61	-	-	-	76.61
Fire Dept Donations	25.00	-	-	-	25.00
Fire - Donations Electronic Equipment	-	2,000.00	-	-	2,000.00
Allen Field Donations	584.69	-	-	-	584.69
Allen Field Playground Donations	646.28	670.00	800.94	-	515.34
Dog/Kennel Donations	168.85	206.62	-	-	375.47
Landfill Operations/Monitor	13,805.50	-	-	-	13,805.50
Land Acquisition Donations	55.90	-	-	-	55.90
Town Common Tree Donations	125.00	-	-	-	125.00

Town of Ashby  
**CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE FOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**  
 July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

REVENUE CATEGORY	BEGINNING BALANCE	RECEIPTS	EXPENDED	TRANSFER IN/OUT	ENDING BALANCE
Garden Club Donations	572.13	-	-	-	572.13
Hist Commission - Old Fire House Donations	1,641.84	5,305.99	-	-	6,947.83
Insurance Receipts Payable	-	4,498.50	114.75	-	4,383.75
PEG Access Fund - Capital	23,134.27	-	788.44	-	22,345.83
PEG Access Fund - Operating	-	17,513.87	-	-	17,513.87
Cemetery Revolving Burial Fund	-	11,150.00	7,106.84	-	4,043.16
<b>TOTAL OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE</b>	<b>40,836.07</b>	<b>41,344.98</b>	<b>8,810.97</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>73,370.08</b>
<b>TOTAL ALL SPECIAL REVENUE</b>	<b>120,916.01</b>	<b>188,730.88</b>	<b>129,203.00</b>	<b>(16.25)</b>	<b>180,427.64</b>

**CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS**

Library Expansion	198,048.44	4,303.10	184,035.93	-	18,315.61
Landfill Closure	30,275.50	-	-	-	30,275.50
Public Safety Arch/Engineer	38,000.00	-	14,903.29	-	23,096.71
Chapter 90 Highway Project	0.26	509,307.00	502,542.00	-	6,765.26
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL PROJECTS</b>	<b>266,324.20</b>	<b>513,610.10</b>	<b>701,481.22</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>78,453.08</b>

Town of Ashby  
 Ashby Recycling and Transfer Station Enterprise Fund  
 FY2008 Statement of Revenue & Expenses  
 July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

<i>Expense Category</i>	ORIGINAL BUDGET	BUDGET REVISIONS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDED	BALANCE
Salary and Wages	3,672.00	-	3,672.00	3,600.00	72.00
General Operating Exp	2,495.00	-	2,495.00	334.40	2,160.60
Trash Disposal Exp	6,160.00	-	6,160.00	5,768.40	391.60
Trucking Services	8,400.00	(2,000.00)	6,400.00	2,100.00	4,300.00
Recycling Exp	2,400.00	2,000.00	4,400.00	3,067.00	1,333.00
Emergency Reserve Fund	23,309.00	-	23,309.00	-	23,309.00
<b>Total Expenses RCTS</b>	<b>\$ 46,436.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 46,436.00</b>	<b>\$ 14,869.80</b>	<b>\$ 31,566.20</b>
<i>Revenue Category</i>					
<i>User Fees</i>					
Recyclable Fees	1,249.00	-	1,249.00	3,846.00	2,597.00
Hauler Fees	3,000.00	-	3,000.00	-	(3,000.00)
Trash Disposal Fees	10,317.50	-	10,317.50	8,340.00	(1,977.50)
Recyclable Sales	1,220.50	-	1,220.50	4,036.45	2,815.95
Interest Earned	1,060.00	-	1,060.00	965.81	(94.19)
<b>Total RCTS Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 16,847.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 16,847.00</b>	<b>\$ 17,188.26</b>	<b>\$ 341.26</b>

Town of Ashby  
Trust Funds in Custody of Library Trustees  
July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

	7/1/07 BALANCE	RECEIPTS	EXPENDED	INTEREST	TRANSFER	6/30/08 BALANCE
<b>Non - Expendable Library Trust Funds</b>						
Library Group Trust	2,709.45	-	-	-	31.86	2,741.31
Alonzo Carr Trust	5,432.07	-	-	-	30.92	5,462.99
Dr. Haskell Trust Fund	2,731.26	-	-	-	16.18	2,747.44
Freida Lyman Library	5,432.07	-	-	-	30.28	5,462.35
Freida Lyman Scholarship	32,108.98	-	-	-	336.66	32,445.64
Ruth Brooks Trust Fund	187,471.68	-	-	-	798.09	188,269.77
Ashby Alumni Trust	8,418.30	-	-	-	43.57	8,461.87
AAW Locke Trust	5,452.06	-	-	-	23.77	5,475.83
Edward & Barbara Lyman Trust	5,265.91	-	-	-	27.57	5,293.48
Todd Wright Memorial Fund	10,508.17	750.00	-	-	1,826.53	13,084.70
<b>Total Non-Exp. Trust Funds</b>	<b>\$ 265,529.95</b>	<b>\$ 750.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 3,165.43</b>	<b>\$ 269,445.38</b>

**Library Expendable Trust Funds**

Library Group Trust	6,760.67	-	-	318.57	(1,806.32)	5,272.92
Alonzo Carr Trust	2,038.31	-	-	309.24	(30.92)	2,316.63
Dr. Haskell Trust Fund	1,177.39	-	-	161.80	(16.18)	1,323.01
Freida Lyman Library	1,882.25	-	-	302.78	(30.28)	2,154.75
Freida Lyman Scholarship	904.82	200.00	1,464.06	1,366.63	(336.66)	670.73
Ruth Brooks Trust Fund	5,322.79	800.00	8,549.82	7,980.88	(798.09)	4,755.76
Ashby Alumni Trust	2,105.97	-	466.72	435.66	(43.57)	2,031.34
AAW Locke Trust	289.59	-	254.62	237.68	(23.77)	248.88
Edward & Barbara Lyman Trust	1,394.75	-	-	275.72	(27.57)	1,642.90
Todd Wright Memorial Fund	296.12	-	557.83	520.71	(52.08)	206.92
Francis Marston Scholarship	2,411.70	826.23	106.95	99.83	-	3,230.81
Francis Marston General	1,489.46	412.91	-	61.66	-	1,964.03
<b>Total Expendable Trust Funds</b>	<b>\$ 26,073.82</b>	<b>\$ 2,239.14</b>	<b>\$ 11,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 12,071.16</b>	<b>\$ (3,165.44)</b>	<b>\$ 25,818.68</b>

Town of Ashby						
Trust Funds in Custody of Library Trustees						
July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008						
	7/1/07	RECEIPTS	EXPENDED	INTEREST	TRANSFER	6/30/08
	BALANCE					BALANCE
<b>Expendable Memorial Funds</b>						
Barbara Lyman Memorial	3,924.62	-	-	162.46	-	4,087.08
Edward Connor Memorial	1,574.24	-	-	65.17	-	1,639.41
General Library Memorial	8,624.68	350.85	4,630.97	357.03	-	4,701.59
<b>Total Memorial Funds</b>	<b>\$ 14,123.54</b>	<b>\$ 350.85</b>	<b>\$ 4,630.97</b>	<b>\$ 584.66</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 10,428.08</b>
<b>Total Expendable Trust Funds</b>	<b>\$ 40,197.36</b>	<b>\$ 2,589.99</b>	<b>\$ 16,030.97</b>	<b>\$ 12,655.82</b>	<b>\$ (3,165.44)</b>	<b>\$ 36,246.76</b>
<b>Total Trust Funds in Custody of Library Trustees</b>	<b>\$ 305,727.31</b>	<b>\$ 3,339.99</b>	<b>\$ 16,030.97</b>	<b>\$ 12,655.82</b>	<b>\$ (0.01)</b>	<b>\$ 305,692.14</b>
<b>Funds Held in Custody by Banknorth</b>						
Bank North Marston Francis School	31,122.98	-	-	(1,357.10)	-	29,765.88
Bank North Marston Francis Gen	15,561.53	-	-	(678.55)	-	14,882.98
<b>Total Funds Held Banknorth</b>	<b>\$ 46,684.51</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (2,035.65)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 44,648.86</b>



Town of Ashby  
Trust Funds in Custody of Treasurer  
July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

Account	7/1/07 BALANCE	RECEIPT	INTEREST	EXPENDED/ TRANSFERRED	6/30/08 BALANCE
<b>Expendable Trust Funds in Custody of Treasurer</b>					
Summer Taylor School Fund	1,004.44	-	143.67	(1,111.03)	37.08
Jesse Foster School Fund	358.85	-	49.62	(395.91)	12.56
Samuel P Gates School Fund	2,173.82	-	819.63	(2,778.41)	215.04
Roxanna Robbins Chapel Fund	83,556.41	-	3,370.55	-	86,926.96
Stabilization Fund	232,014.57	35,346.17	16,084.23	-	283,444.97
Stabilization - FB Res for Exp Strap Grnt	142,025.40	-	-	-	142,025.40
Cemetery Perpetual Care Interest	6,646.42	-	3,395.05	(2,774.01)	7,267.46
Cemetery Sale of Lots Fund	8,481.30	7,500.00	372.57	-	16,353.87
Open Space Land Aquis Trust Fund	17,353.94	-	702.29	-	18,056.23
John Forbes Memorial Clock Fund	171.42	-	47.24	-	218.66
Law Enforcement Trust Fund	355.50	-	-	-	355.50
<b>Total Expendable Trust Funds</b>	<b>\$ 494,142.07</b>	<b>\$ 42,846.17</b>	<b>\$ 24,937.61</b>	<b>\$ (5,948.33)</b>	<b>\$ 554,913.73</b>
<b>Non-Expendable Trust funds in Custody of Treasurer</b>					
Cemetery Perpetual Care Principal	76,554.50	5,000.00	-	-	81,554.50
Summer Taylor School Fund Principal	2,636.00	-	-	-	2,636.00
Jesse Foster School Fund	1,000.00	-	-	-	1,000.00
Samuel P Gates School Fund	20,000.00	-	-	-	20,000.00
John Forbes Memorial Clock Fund	1,000.00	-	-	-	1,000.00
<b>Total Non-Expendable Trust Funds</b>	<b>\$ 101,190.50</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 106,190.50</b>
<b>Total Trust Funds in Custody of Treasurer</b>	<b>\$ 595,332.57</b>	<b>\$ 47,846.17</b>	<b>\$ 24,937.61</b>	<b>\$ (5,948.33)</b>	<b>\$ 661,104.23</b>

Town of Ashby  
Agency Funds  
July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

	7/1/07 BALANCE	RECEIPTS	INTEREST	EXPENDED TRANSFERRED	6/30/08 BALANCE
<b>BID DEPOSIT</b>					
ZBA Escrow SBA II	4,077.85	-	-	-	4,077.85
ZBA Tower Ventures II	4.94	-	-	4.94	-
PLANNING BRD - Bayberry II	308.76	-	1.67	-	310.43
	<b>\$ 4,391.55</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1.67</b>	<b>\$ 4.94</b>	<b>\$ 4,388.28</b>
<b>OTHER AGENCY</b>					
Due to Commonwealth - Firearms	300.00	5,900.00	-	5,887.50	312.50
Due to Commonwealth - Fish & Game	0.50	2,128.75	-	2,129.25	-
Due to Commonwealth - Sales Tax	0.90	9.52	-	0.90	9.52
Due to Assist Town Clerk	-	351.65	-	351.65	-
Due to Town Clerk	-	375.55	-	375.55	-
Due to Tax Collector	2,135.00	11,340.00	-	7,920.00	5,555.00
Due to Deputy Collector	828.00	8,658.50	-	9,972.50	(486.00)
Police Special Detail	(2,884.68)	11,724.00	-	11,664.00	(2,824.68)
Fire/EMS Special Detail	-	550.00	-	550.00	-
Due to Vendor	-	2.40	-	2.40	-
Abandoned Property (tailings)	2,855.28	13.54	-	13.54	2,855.28
	<b>\$ 3,235.00</b>	<b>\$ 41,053.91</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 38,867.29</b>	<b>\$ 5,421.62</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 7,626.55</b>	<b>\$ 41,053.91</b>	<b>\$ 1.67</b>	<b>\$ 38,872.23</b>	<b>\$ 9,809.90</b>

Town of Ashby - Combined Balance Sheet All fund Types FY2008

Assets	Genl Fund	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise Fund RCTS	Trst/Agent Fund	Group Total
Cash & Investments	446,861	188,286	71,688	27,326	1,025,003	1,759,164
Cash Variance	454	-	-	-	-	454
Petty Cash	200	-	-	-	-	200
Receivables:						
Personal Property Prior	335	-	-	-	-	335
Personal Property Current	1,134	-	-	-	-	1,134
Real Estate Prior	3,503	-	-	-	-	3,503
Real Estate Current	100,033	-	-	-	-	100,033
Provisions for Abatements	(163,377)	-	-	-	-	(163,377)
Tax Liens Receivable	21,826	-	-	-	-	21,826
Tax Foreclosures	235,636	-	-	-	-	235,636
Motor Vehicle Excise Prior	19,840	-	-	-	-	19,840
Motor Vehicle Excise Current	18,015	-	-	-	-	18,015
Dept Receivable Ambulance	23,811	-	-	-	-	23,811
Betterments Receivable Title V	-	33,784	-	-	-	33,784
Other Receivable	1,820	-	-	-	-	1,820
Deferred Revenue Property Tax	56,551	-	-	-	-	56,551
Deferred Revenue Tax Foreclosure	(235,636)	-	-	-	-	(235,636)
Deferred Rev. Ambulance	(23,811)	-	-	-	-	(23,811)
Deferred Rev. Motor Vehicle Excise	(37,855)	-	-	-	-	(37,855)
Deferred Revenue Tax Liens	(21,826)	-	-	-	-	(21,826)
Deferred Revenue Loans Rec	(33,784)	(33,784)	-	-	-	(67,568)
Due from Commonwealth	511,045	(93,294)	-	-	-	417,751
Deferred Rev. Intergov	(93,294)	(93,294)	-	-	-	(186,588)
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 447,515</b>	<b>\$ 606,037</b>	<b>\$ 71,688</b>	<b>\$ 27,326</b>	<b>\$ 1,025,003</b>	<b>\$ 2,177,569</b>

Town of Ashby - Combined Balance Sheet All fund Types FY2008

Assets	Genl Fund	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise Fund RCTS	Trst/Agent Fund	Group Total
<b>Liabilities</b>						
Warrants & Payroll Payable	87,540	418,843	-	1,163	3,748	511,294
Withholdings	5,183	-	-	-	-	5,183
Agency Due to						
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	92,723	418,843	-	1,163	13,558	526,287
<b>Fund Equity</b>						
Reserve for Encumbrances	36,914	-	-	-	-	36,914
Reserve for Expenditures	26,663	-	-	23,845	142,025	192,533
Reserve for Special Purposes	-	187,193	71,688	-	869,420	1,128,301
Reserve for Appropriation Deficit						
Unreserved Fund Balance	291,215	-	-	2,319	-	293,534
<b>Total Fund Equity</b>	354,792	187,193	71,688	26,164	1,011,445	1,651,282
<b>Total Liab. &amp; Fund Equity</b>	\$ 447,515	\$ 606,037	\$ 71,688	\$ 27,326	\$ 1,025,003	\$ 2,177,569

## TOWN CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT

## 2008 DOG LICENSES ISSUED

		EACH	TOTAL
54	MALES/ FEMALES	\$10.00	\$ 540.00
356	SPAYED/ NEUTERED	6.00	2136.00
4	KENNEL \$25.00	25.00	100.00
5	KENNEL \$50.00	50.00	250.00
4	KENNEL \$75.00	75.00	300.00
	TOTAL		\$3326.00

## 2008 FISHING &amp; HUNTING LICENSES ISSUED

1	RESIDENT FISHING MINOR	\$ 11.50	\$ 11.50
19	RESIDENT FISHING	27.50	522.50
4	RESIDENT FISHING (65-69)	16.25	65.00
5	RESIDENT CITIZEN HUNTING	27.50	137.50
1	RESIDENT HUNTING (65-69)	16.25	16.25
1	NON-RESIDENT HUNTING, LG	99.50	99.50
2	RESIDENT HUNTING MINOR	11.50	23.00
17	RESIDENT SPORTING	45.00	765.00
4	RESIDENT SPORTING (65-69)	25.00	100.00
11	ARCHERY STAMP	5.10	56.10
21	PRIMITIVE FIREARMS STAMP	5.10	107.10
2	WATERFOWL STAMP	5.00	10.00
	TOTAL		\$1913.45

MISCELLANEOUS \$1272.85

## PAYMENTS TO:

TOWN TREASURER \$6512.30  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS \$1882.75

## REGISTRARS REPORT

The Town Clerk's office was open Wednesday, January 16th from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM to register new voters or change party for the Presidential Primary held February 5, 2008.

A registration session was held on Tuesday, April 8th from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM to register new voters for the Annual Town Election held April 28, 2008.

Wednesday, April 23, a voter registration was held in the Town Clerk's office from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM to register new voters for the Annual Town Meeting held May 3, 2008.

The Town Clerk's office was open Wednesday, May 28, 2008 from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM to register new voters for the Special Town Election held June 17th.

The Board of Registrars held a meeting at 6:30 PM to examine a complaint challenging the residency requirement of a voter.

The Town Clerk's office was open Wednesday, August 27, 2008 from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM to register new voters and change party for the State Primary held September 16th.

A voter registration session was held in the Town Clerk's office on Wednesday, October 15, 2008 from 9AM to 8PM to register new voters for the State Election held November 4th.

Wednesday, November 12, 2008, a voter registration was held in The Town Clerk's office from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM to register new voters for the Special Town meeting held November 22, 2008.

The Board of Registrars held a meeting on Friday, November 14th at 6 PM in the Town Clerk's office to count absentee ballots voted outside the United States on or before election day (November 4).

Lorraine Pease, *Town Clerk*

**RECORD OF MARRIAGES  
2008**

		RESIDENCE	PLACE OF MARRIAGE
Apr 4	Francis J. LeBlanc Diane Marie Grierson	Ashby, MA Ashby, MA	Westford, MA
Apr 27	James F. McGonagle, Jr Jennifer Rita Cooney	New Ipswich, NH Fitchburg, MA	Brewster, MA
Sept 7	Reynaldo Moises Valdez Heather Marie Ayotte	Ashby, MA Ashby, MA	Ashby, MA
Sept 27	Richard P. Moisan, Jr. Patricia A. Gass	Ashby, MA Ashby, MA	Tyngsboro, MA
Oct 4	Douglas James Furbush Debbie Ann Sherockman	Ashby, MA Ashby, MA	Ashby, MA
Oct 12	George Robert Dancause Deborah Lee Watson	Ashby, MA Richmond, NH	Ashby, MA
Oct 10	Michael Jacob Ellis Alicia May LaCoss	Ashby, MA Ashby, MA	Leominster, MA
Nov 15	Luke Aaron Amick Schuyler Elizabeth Collins	Ashby, MA Ashby, MA	Fitchburg, MA

ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS  
2008

	TERM
MODERATOR	
Peter S. Rourke	2010
TOWN CLERK	
Lorraine D. Pease	2010
SELECTMEN	
Peter McMurray	2010
Daniel Meunier	2011
Geoffrey Woollacott	2009
ASSESSORS	
Jodi Szczesuil	2010
Dona Sue LaRue	2011
Oliver H. Mutch	2009
TREASURER	
Kate Stacy	2010
COLLECTOR	
Beth Ann Scheid	2009
NORTH MIDDLESEX SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE	
Dennis M. Moore, res	2010
Kenneth Brown	2010
NORTH MIDDLESEX SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE AT-LARGE	
Michael Morgan	2011
Tamara Leclerc	2011
Anne Buchholz	2011
LIBRARY TRUSTEES	
Maureen Davi	2010
Dwight F. Horan	2011
Martha Morgan	2011



Prudence Brennan	2011
Sally Bauman	2009
John Mickola	2009
Anne Reggio	2009
Mark Lapham, res	2010
David Jordan	2010
Diane Lundin	2009
CONSTABLE	
William A. Davis	2010
TREE WARDEN	
William A. Davis	2009
BOARD OF HEALTH	
Cedwyn Morgan	2010
Mary A. Krapf	2011
Nicholas A. Murray	2009
PARK COMMISSIONERS	
Peter McMurray	2011
Stephanie B. Lammi	2010
William Seymour	2009
CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS	
Daniel Harju	2009
Alan Murray	2010
John Mark Tiilikkala	2011
PLANNING BOARD	
Alan W. Pease	2012
Jean Lindquist	2013
James H. Hargraves	2009
Wayne A. Stacy	2010
Andrew Leonard	2011

APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS  
2008

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR	Linda Sanders
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S ASST.	Jennifer Collins
ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK	Barbara Faulkenham
TAX COLLECTOR'S CLERK	Lee Mikkola, res
TOWN HALL CLERICAL	Gail Farley
TOWN ACCOUNTANT	Nancy Haines
REGIONAL ASSESSOR	Harald Scheid
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSESSOR	Dona Sue LaRue
ADA COORDINATOR	Anthony Ammendolia
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION	John Mickola Tom Cason William Duffy, Jr. Paula Bogue Paula Packard Kyrie Martin Heather Leonard Sue Chapman, alt. Charles Perna, alt. Nadine Callahan, alt.
ASHBY CULTURAL COUNCIL	Denise Foresman Joanne Boudreau Tamara Leclerc Francis Steffian Virginia Bixler Michelle Blake Dorothea Rourke Ann Marie LaBollita

	Sandra Schippers Amy Meunier
CEMETERY CHAPEL COMMITTEE	Linda Sanders Paul Lieneck Michael Reggio
CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR PROCUREMENT	Richard Catalini Amy Redder John Vogt Matt Peeler Ken Brown Alan Ewald Nancy Chew
COMMUNICATION COMMISSION	Thomas Moylan, citizen
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Tim Bauman, chair Robert Leary Roberta Flashman Cathy Kristofferson
CONSTABLE-SPECIAL MUNICIPAL APPOINTED	Paul Lundin, Police Chief
COUNCIL ON AGING	Ann Seymour Gary Leonard Oliver Mutch Patricia Wayrynen, alt. Rosemary Wayrynen Lee Mikkola Linda Stacy Angie Godin, alt Nancy Catalini Kathryn Becker, outreach coor.
CMEMSC-FIRST RESPONDER REP	Paul Rekos
CMEMSC-GOVERNMENT REP	Mary Krapf

DISPATCH MANAGER

Joyce Hopkins, res  
Marilyn Cronin

DISPATCHERS

Joyce Hopkins  
Priscilla Carter  
Kathy Bezanson  
Marilyn Cronin  
Chrystal Murray  
David Myer

DOG OFFICER /  
ANIMAL ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Mary Letourneau

E-911 COORDINATORS

Elmer S. Fitzgerald, Jr.  
Alan Pease

EARTH REMOVAL BOARD

Daniel Meunier  
Cedwyn Morgan  
Wayne Stacy  
Tim Bauman  
Frederick Stacy

ELECTION OFFICERS

Betty Ann Tiilikkala  
Dona Sue LaRue  
Bertha Tiilikkala  
Rachel Patnaude  
Waldemar Tiilikkala  
Rosemary Wayrynen  
Wendy Baird  
Leona Sanford  
Heather Lasorsa  
Amy Meunier  
Marja LePoer  
Chris Ewald

EMS DIRECTOR

William Seymour, Jr.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
DIRECTOR

Michael Bussell

DEPUTY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR	David Rainville
FIELD DRIVER	Mary Letourneau
FINANCE COMMITTEE	Rebecca Walsh, chair Suzanne Caron Joseph Casey Lillian Whitney Tom Dorward Lisa Granquist Dorward John Steffian Charles Hayes, res. Kevin Meehan, res. John Rice, res.
FIRE CHIEF	William Seymour, Jr.
FULL TIME FIREFIGHTER/EMT	Scott Florio
FOREST FIRE WARDEN	William Seymour, Jr.
HAZARDOUS WASTE COORDINATOR	Elmer S. Fitzgerald, Jr.
HEALTH AGENT, Nashoba Board of Health	Rick Metcalf
HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT	William A. Davis
HISTORICAL COMMISSION	Claire Hutchinson-Lavin Florence Bryan Sally Bauman David Boutwell
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Claire Lavin Michael Reggio Paul Lieneck, chair Mark Haines Florence Bryan

INSPECTORS:	
ANIMAL	Mary Letourneau
BUILDING/ZONING OFFICER	Anthony Ammendolia
BUILDING INSP. ALTERNATE	Richard Hanks
ELECTRICAL	Paul Lessard Harry Parviainen
ASS'T ELECTRICAL	Stephen Dubois
PLUMBING & GAS	Richard Kapenas
PLUMBING & GAS ALTERNATES	Gary Williams
KEEPER OF THE TOWN CLOCK	Richard Foresman
LAND USE AGENT	Andrew Leonard
LEGAL COUNSELS	
TOWN COUNSEL	Kopelman & Paige
LAND USE COUNSEL	Kopelman & Paige
LABOR COUNSEL	Kopelman & Paige
LIBRARY DIRECTOR	Mary Murtland
MART ADVISORY BOARD	Mary Krapf
MATERIALS MANAGEMENT ADVISOR	William Stanwood
MBTA DESIGNEE	Mary Krapf
MONTACHUSETT JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE	Mary Krapf
MONTACHUSETT METRO PLANNING ORG. (MRO)	Mary Krapf

MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION	Alan Pease Wayne Stacy
MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL TECH SCHOOL COMMITTEE	Warren Landry
MOTH SUPERINTENDENT	Charles E. Perna
MUNICIPAL GROUNDSKEEPER	George Beauregard Stephanie Lammi William Seymour William Davis
MUNICIPAL HEARINGS OFFICER	Geoffrey Woollacott
POLICE CHIEF	Paul Lundin
PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Michael Reggio Matthew Alford James Mullins Fred Stacy James Stacy
REGISTRARS OF VOTERS	Lorraine Pease Carlton Mountain Donna Leonard Gail Farley, alt. Sarah Leonard
RIGHT-TO-KNOW-LAW COORDINATOR	William Seymour, Jr.
SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT	William Stanwood Frank McCarter
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS	Dr. Maureen Marshall
TELLERS	
Nancy Peeler Elaine KIELTY	Deborah Pillsbury Shaun KIELTY

Sally Tracy  
Mariana Furtney-Fyfe  
Dennis Moore  
Deborah Vogt  
Jean Lindquist  
Cathy Foster  
Michael Reggio  
Scott Sweeney  
Kevin Stetson  
Elizabeth Woollacott  
Sally Bauman  
Patricia Wayrynen  
Linda Stacy  
Glen Carkin  
Krisnaibai

Pamela Peeler  
Janet Flinkstrom  
Greg Tacconi-Moore  
Robertta Flashman  
Nancy Catalini  
James Lippincott  
Deborah Moylan  
James Hargraves  
Michael McCallum  
Deborah O'Hanlon  
Peter Fischman  
Cathy Kristofferson  
Stephanie Lammi  
Francis Despres  
Andrea Pierce

VETERANS' AGENT

Theryn Blauser, Sr.

VETERANS' GRAVES AGENT

Robert Gummerus, dec.  
William Seymour, Sr.

BACKUP VETERANS' GRAVES AGENT

Lorraine Pease

WASTE OIL COORDINATOR

Elmer S. Fitzgerald, Jr.

WIITA CONSERVATION LAND  
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
(BLOOD HILL MANAGEMENT  
COMMITTEE)

Cedwyn Morgan  
Matthew Leonard  
Robertta Flashman  
Oliver Mutch  
Kenneth Brown  
Judith Judge

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Frederick Stacy, Chair  
David Martin  
James Stacy  
Michael Reggio, Temp

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

ASHBY'S JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Carleton J. Mountain



## ASHBY POLICE DEPARTMENT

In 2008, The Ashby Police Department responded to 2567 incidents (including directed patrols). The officers made 54 arrests, filed 47 additional criminal complaints, and issued 1280 traffic citations. We conducted 24-hour patrol service, investigations, licensing, and crime prevention presentations.

We cooperated with other police departments and regional task forces to combat common problems such as drug trafficking, burglaries, scrap metal theft, juvenile crime, and domestic violence. We are proud of our role in helping to establish the new Ayer District High Risk Domestic Violence Team, which takes a multidisciplinary approach to address domestic violence in our area. This task force is the first of its kind in the region. To learn more about the department, we encourage you to visit our website at [www.AshbyPolice.org](http://www.AshbyPolice.org).

We continued to work to maintain effective police services despite severe budgetary constraints. An override to fund a much needed new police cruiser was voted down at the spring special election. However, we were successful in obtaining grant money to fund increased patrols and traffic enforcement and new radar and photographic equipment.

At the fall Special Town Meeting, the Public Safety Facility Advisory Committee presented a proposal for a new police station to replace the failing trailer currently housing the police and dispatch departments. The proposal passed by a majority but fell short of achieving the 2/3 vote necessary to place the override on the ballot. We appreciate the Committee's continuing efforts to provide a safe and efficient facility for the police and dispatch departments. We thank the Committee and residents who support this important project. The officers' dedication to the Town was evident during the devastating December ice storm. In the initial hours, officers risked their own safety as limbs and wires fell around them. In the weeks that followed, officers worked tirelessly to help utility crews restore power and to ensure the safety and welfare of residents. In addition to dealing with the disaster, the members of the department fought to keep the police station and its outmoded and underpowered systems running.

I would like to personally thank all the officers for their service during the ice storm disaster, as well as all the town employees and volunteers who pulled together and gave their all.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paul H. Lundin  
*Chief of Police*

## POLICE FIRE SIGNAL OPERATORS

The Dispatch (PFSO) Department experienced significant changes in 2008. Joyce Hopkins resigned as the Dispatch Manager in early July, but remains as a Full-Time Dispatcher. Marilyn Cronin was appointed as the Dispatch Manager in August. The Department is now staffed with three Full-Time and four Part-Time Dispatchers.

Two new Part-Time Dispatchers, Heidi Delorme and Anthony Montesion, began training in late August and were up and running in October, after attending a two-day E911 training certification program in Westboro and several weeks of on-the-job training. Heidi is a lifelong Ashby resident and Anthony lives and works in Fitchburg. Glenn Casey is from Leominster and he joined the team earlier in the year. We are fortunate and thankful to have them.

In early June, the Board of Selectmen began working on a wage increase for the Dispatchers and the increase was approved at the Town Meeting. On behalf of the Dispatchers, I would like to thank the Board, Town Administrator, Chief Lundin and the voters of Ashby for their efforts and approval in supporting this wage increase. It is greatly appreciated.

No one will forget the infamous "\$900 chair". After watching the Selectmen's meeting and hearing the need for a new chair, Resident Larry Awtry called his son in Chicago and Mr. Mason Awtry donated a very expensive "Aeron" 24/7 task chair to Dispatch. We cannot thank him enough for his generosity.

In December, the ice storm of all storms slammed through Ashby and surrounding towns like a tornado. It was a crippling storm, like no other seen in many years, if ever. No one wants to be reminded of the hardship it caused. I would like to take this opportunity to commend the Residents of Ashby for their unrelenting determination to take care of others during this extremely difficult time. Working in Dispatch, we had the opportunity to see first hand how the community united during that storm and the never ending days after. There were so many incidents of people helping people, and neighbor helping neighbor. Some showed up with their chain saws in hand, others delivered food to the elderly or took them to the shelter, others helped set up generators, and others interrupted out of state utility workers, literally working outside on the lines, to the Townsend House Restaurant for a Christmas Dinner that the Dickhaut family of Ashby, cooked for them for free. It was amazing to see and experience.

It cannot be stated enough, what a tremendous job the Public Safety Departments in town did, including Police, Fire, EMS, Highway, Emergency Management, Dispatch, and the Selectmen. An "Operations" center was manned at the Fire station and 24/7 at the Police station and Dispatch. The Operations center handled every type of call imagineable, from pumping water

from basements, wires on fire, Ambulance calls, a house fire, and literally hundreds of calls for service, emergency and non-emergency. Our 911 system went down and all 911 calls automatically transferred to the Town of Ashburnham. They are to be commended as well, for handling their own emergencies and some of our calls too. Thank you Ashburnham.

Some Resident's saw National Guard Troops on their doorsteps checking to see if they were okay or needed something in particular. If it wasn't one of the Troops, it was a Firefighter, Police Officer or a volunteer, literally trying to check on every home in town. Truly commendable.

Thank you to all.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Marilyn Cronin  
*PFSO Dispatch Manager*

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

Ashby Firefighters responded to 234 calls for assistance during the 2008 calendar year. Motor Vehicle Accidents continue to be the highest number of incident responded to. There were 12 regular monthly scheduled training sessions. Topics included fire attack and motor vehicle fires, which were taught by an instructor from the Dept. of Fire Services (DFS) and conducted at our station, thermal imaging camera use, rural water pumping from ponds, air pack drills, brush fire control, warm and cold water rescue, auto extrication and chimney fire procedures. Several members also attended training out of town. Currently we have two students, Christopher Borneman and Timothy Seymour, attending the Call/Volunteer Firefighter Training Class #025. The class began the first week of September and is scheduled to end in February. This is a structured class taught by DFS instructors. They both must perform up to current NFPA standards and also pass several written exams plus the final exam. Good luck to them both.

The newly created full time Firefighter/EMT position has been filled after considering several applicants from surrounding fire departments. Fortunately the best candidate came from within our own department. Firefighter/EMT Scott Florio was chosen to fill the position and works the week day shift when most firefighters are out of town at their places of employment. Scott has lived in town for several years so he already knows the roads and water sources helping us to maintain quick responses to fire and medical emergencies.

This past year marked 5 year anniversaries to several members. Christopher Haas, 5yrs; James Joseph, 15yrs; Peter McMurray, 25yrs; and Assistant Chief's David Joseph and David Pillsbury with 30yrs each. Congratulations to all! After 38 years of dedicated service to the Ashby Fire Dept. Al Irish decided it was time to retire. Al also served as the departments mechanic for most of those years.

We are about to close out our 2007 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG). The funds (\$71,440) were used to purchase and install a new Emergency Stand-by Facility Generator, along with an electrical up-grade to a 200 AMP service and a complete SCBA compressor and fill station. Fortunately the generator project was completed a week before the "Ice Storm" allowing us to use the fire station for the Emergency Operations Center. Once again much to our surprise we were notified that we were awarded a 2008 AFG in the amount of \$70,680. This funding will allow us to replace fire hose that dates back to the 1950's and 1970's. All of our supply hose will be increased to 5" to allow us to pump more water to a fire scene than we can with smaller hose. This is the third year in a row we have been awarded a grant in the "Safety and Operations" category. We also applied for a vehicle, fire truck, but were denied.

I wish there was something good to report on the fire truck situation. As of right now there is still hope of a positive outcome. In the mean time the Ashby Fire Association has provided the Town of Ashby with \$8000 to purchase a used truck from the Town of Lincoln, Ma. This truck was put into service as Eng. 4 and required no improvements or repairs before being placed into service. This is just a "Band-Aid" but hopefully it will last until a new truck is finally acquired.

I would like to thank the Firefighters and EMT's for their continued support and for the many hours they continue to donate to the town each year. I would also like to thank the Emergency Dispatchers, Police, Highway Dept. and the entire town hall staff.

Respectfully submitted,  
William T. Seymour Jr.

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Ashby EMT's responded to 255 calls for assistance during the 2008 calendar year. There are currently 21 EMT's on the roster with 11 that are cross trained as Firefighters. During this year we have gained 4 new EMT's. Christopher Haas, Ashton Bosch, Michelle Martens and Kimberly Cochlin. Welcome aboard! Each one are first time EMT's which means they just completed basic training of about

120 hours and successfully passed the State requirements by passing practical and written exams. This is quite a commitment to the town.

The combining of the Fire and Ambulance departments still continues to be a great success. The addition of a full time Firefighter/EMT now provides a crew for the ambulance, along with the fire dept, even during the week day hours when most call members are out of town at their full time employment. Emergency apparatus is now usually on the road in just a few minutes.

Since the beginning of July we have used Townsend Fire/EMS as our primary ALS provider. To date they have almost always been available to us when needed and the cost of their service is less than previous arrangements. This also works well for both towns involved because we also provide mutual aid for fire calls to one another.

I would like to thank the EMT's and Firefighters for their continued support and for the many hours they continue to donate to the town each year. Also thank you to the Emergency Dispatchers, Police, Highway Dept, and the entire town hall staff.

Respectfully submitted,  
William T. Seymour Jr.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT AND EMT ROSTER

1. Chief/EMT	William Seymour Jr	
2. Asst Chief	David Joseph	
3. Asst Chief/EMT	Paul Lasorsa	Auxiliary Firefighters:
4. Asst Chief	David Pillsbury	Shawn Borneman
5. Captain	Michael Bussell	Ashton Bosch
6. Captain	William Davis	Maureen Cauvel
7. Captain	Craig Irish	Walter Hansen
8. Captain	James Joseph	Katie Kiluk
9. Captain	Peter McMurray	Michelle Martens
10. Captain	David Rainville	Kevin McMurray
11. Captain/EMT	Kari Rantala	Joseph Phelan
12. Chaplain/F.F.	Wayne Stacy	Bryant Shepard
13. Mechanic/EMT	Ashton Bosch	
14. Firefighter	Steven Beauregard	
15. EMT	Lesley Bergquist	
16. Firefighter	Daniel Bigwood	
17. Firefighter	Christopher Borneman	

18. EMT	Linda Brooke
19. Firefighter	John Cauvel
20. EMT	Kimberly Cochlin
21. EMT	Susan Cudmore
22. Firefighter	Elmer Fitzgerald
23. EMT	Lisa Florio
24. Firefighter/EMT	Scott Florio
25. EMT	Eileen Fredrickson
26. Firefighter/EMT	Paul Fredrickson
27. Firefighter/EMT	Christopher Haas
28. Firefighter	David Lammi
29. Firefighter/EMT	Donald Lane
30. Firefighter/EMT	Melinda Lemay
31. EMT	Mathieu Leonard
32. EMT	Michelle Martens
33. Firefighter	James Martin
34. Firefighter	Jeffrey Montuori
35. EMT	Jean Nichols
36. Firefighter	Wayne Patnaude
37. Firefighter	Gerald Phelan
38. Firefighter/EMTP	Paul Rekos
39. Firefighter	Adam Rivard
40. EMT	Travis Rixford
41. Firefighter/EMT	Timothy Seymour
42. Firefighter	Randy Stacy
43. Firefighter	Joshua Swenor
44. Firefighter	Shawn Walker

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Emergency Management continues to support the planning and preparedness functions for the Town of Ashby in the event of a large scale incident, natural or man made. A substantial effort is required to analyze and develop these plans. Our plans were put to the test on the day of December 11, 2008 when the town experienced an ice storm of significant magnitude. It left the entire town devastated and a State of Emergency was declared. Downed trees and branches blocked roads making 100% of our roads impassable to emergency equipment. The entire town was without power for two days before any attempt was made to rebuild the electric grid. It took 14 days for utility companies from near and

far to repair all electrical service to the Town. Our first priority was to make the roads passable for emergency vehicles. This involved clearing enormous amount of debris from the roadways with chainsaws and heavy equipment. The spirit of the community was overwhelming. We enlisted many local contractors to assist in the task of clearing the roads. We had neighbors checking on the well being of their neighbors. A shelter, managed by townspeople was opened daily at Ashby Elementary School, providing food and a warm refuge for townspeople and emergency/utility workers. Food was prepared and donated by the Red Cross and local individuals. The Emergency Management Department feels this community spirit is what helped the town through this event and express our sincerest gratitude to all who helped. MEMA provided assistance in procuring bucket trucks, front end loaders, supplies and manpower needed to mitigate the event. This assistance from MEMA is part of the preparedness planning that the Emergency Management Department conducts yearly. We are currently working with FEMA to prepare a plan and budget for debris removal from town roads and town property.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Bussell  
*Emergency Management Director*  
Dave Rainville  
*Deputy Emergency Management Director*

## HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

This report covers work performed by the Ashby Highway Department between January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2008.

### **Road Mileage Breakdown for the Town of Ashby:**

Unaccepted .84, State 11.62, Local 53.21, Total 65.67.

### **Road Maintenance and Construction:**

General cold patching was done on all town roads this year as many times as potholes made it necessary. Spring, midsummer and fall gravel road grading was done on most gravel roads.

### **Guard Rail Replacement:**

Location: Mason road – 175 linear feet replaced.

Location: Valley road – 125 linear feet installed.

Location: West road – 137.5 linear feet replaced.

Total cost of project paid for by state chapter 90 funds \$14,371.88.

**General Brush Cutting:**

General brush cutting was performed in various locations throughout town. No roadside mowing was preformed this year.

**Equipment:**

The highway department took delivery of a new 4x6 one ton dump truck purchased with state chapter 90 funds at a cost of \$38,119. Note: we will have to purchase a snow plow for the vehicle at a later date. This vehicle replaces a 1995 3/4 ton pickup with a rotted frame.

**Personnel:**

We currently have five full time employees down from six which is considered fully staffed.

Note: We need to restore one position and look into adding another. With new housing and developments adding roads and vehicles to the town's infrastructure we need to expand road services not cut them back.

**Winter Operations**

All town snow removal equipment was repaired and prepared for service during the summer months. The town expended \$39,752.50 on plow contractors this year. We have also stockpiled 4145.79 tons of winter sand in anticipation of storms this year.

Note: The types and numbers of storms may make it necessary to bring in more materials. Winter sand pile breaks down as follows:

Materials	Quantity	Costs
Sand	3120.53 tons	\$40,566.89
Salt	1025.26 tons	\$66,129.27
Total Stockpile	4145.79 tons	\$106,696.16

**Cross Culverts Replaced, Installed:**

Wares road one replaced. (12" diameter)

**Bridge Repairs:**

None



The bridge on Bernhardt road is still unsafe and it should be removed as soon as possible. In its current condition it is hazardous and a tremendous liability to the town. The town has appropriated \$20,000.00 for this task, but has not been able to move forward due to the risk of losing state funds for replacement once the bridge is down.

Note: The town has removed (\$5,000) from this amount due to budget cuts.

**Catch Basin and Dropped Inlet Structure Repairs, Replacements, New Installations:**

Structure	Quantity	Location	Action
Dropped Inlet	1	Erickson Road	Replaced

**New Side Drain Installations:**

Location	Length
Turnpike road	120 feet

**Drainage Maintenance:**

All town drainage structures were cleaned. Total number of drainage structures, 369. Total cost for cleaning \$6,240.

**Road Shimming:**

- A section of Laurelwood Drive was shimmed using 11 tons of hot top at a cost of \$484.
- A section of Mason Road was shimmed using 100 tons of hot top at a cost of \$4,400.

**Road Sealing:**

No town funds were spent on pavement preservation this year.

**State Funded Chapter 90 Projects:**

- Locations: Wares and Turnpike roads. Project (surface reclamation) cost \$43,940.20.
- Locations: Wares and Turnpike roads. Project (repaving) cost \$361,006.42.
- Locations: Wares and Turnpike roads. Project (shouldering) cost \$12,839.16.
- Locations: Wares and Turnpike roads. Project (driveway transitions) cost \$8,219.56.
- Locations: Crocker Hill and Russell Hill roads. Project (stone seal) cost \$27,753.

- Locations: Crocker Hill, Russell Hill and New Ipswich roads. Project (crack filler) cost \$4,451.54.

**Town Resurfacing Projects:**

None

**General Information:**

Ashby Highway Department is now operating with fewer personnel and with less town funding than was expended in 1987 (21 years ago).

At this time, I extend my thanks to all local contractors who have assisted the town this year by loaning the Highway Department equipment which it does not possess. I thank all Town "Boards and Departments" for their cooperation throughout the year. I also thank the Highway Personnel, themselves for their year of service.

Respectfully,

William A. Davis

*Highway Superintendent*

**DOG OFFICER/ANIMAL ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

This year was busy as usual with loose mis-behaving dogs and the occasional loose horse. Wildlife remains a concern with the ever increasing coyote population. Along with the coyotes comes diseases like mange which can quickly spread to domestic dogs and cats. They also spread parasites such as Whip worm and Hoof worm. Please keep your pests up to date on their vaccinations. A Reminder-Rabies Vaccinations are required by Law in the State of Massachusetts. If you are traveling across the border into New Hampshire, it is a good idea to have a copy of your pets Rabies Certificate with you or in your vehicle.

Adoption rates were 100% this year, Re-homing a significant number of dogs, cats and even a chicken.

As the economy gets tighter, more pets will be left without families and/or homes. If I can be of any assistance, or if you know someone who might need help with their animals, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary L. Letourneau

## LAWS GOVERNING DOGS

The owner or keeper of a dog which is six months old or over shall annually, on or before the thirty-first day of December, cause it to be registered, numbered, described, and licensed for one year from the first of January following. If kept in any town, in the office of the Clerk thereof. The owner or keeper of a licensed dog shall cause it to wear around its neck a collar distinctly marked with the town's name and its registered number.

The owner or keeper of a dog may at any time have it licensed until the first day of January following; and a person who becomes the owner or keeper of a dog after January first which is not duly licensed, and the owner or keeper of a dog which becomes six months old after December thirty-first in any year shall, when it is six months old, cause it to be registered, numbered, described, licensed, and collared as required in the preceding section.

Whoever is the owner or keeper of a dog six months of age or older shall cause such dog to be vaccinated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian using a vaccine approved by the Board of Health.

Unvaccinated dogs acquired or brought into the Commonwealth shall be vaccinated within thirty days after acquisition or entry into the Commonwealth or upon reaching the age of six months, whichever comes later.

Vaccinated dogs shall be revaccinated periodically in accordance with rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the Department of Health.

Whoever violates the provisions of this section shall be punished by a fine of not more than fifty dollars.

## PLANNING BOARD

During 2008 the Planning Board signed 2 plans showing 2 lots. This is down from 4 plans showing 3 new lots in 2007 and 18 plans showing 27 lots in 2006.

The Board brought the Utility-Scale Wind Energy Facilities bylaw before the November Special Town Meeting. The bylaw was approved. After studying the history of Sheldon Hill Road, the Board presented an article requesting the Board of Selectmen investigate changing its status to a statutory private way. This article also passed.

The Board joined with the Board of Assessors and the Town Clerk to initiate a web based land use data information system. The system combines the Assessors parcel information with aerial photography and topography. It can be seen at [www.ci.ashby.ma.us](http://www.ci.ashby.ma.us)

The Board also adopted regulations regarding reduced frontage lots.

A priority this year for the Board has been to study ways to expand commercial opportunities in town. During 2008 we have been working on an Agricultural Recreation zoning bylaw. This would expand allowable commercial activities in parts of the Residential Agricultural District. We are also looking at ways to improve the commercial viability of the center of town.

Respectfully submitted:

James Hargraves, *Chairman*

Alan W. Pease, *Clerk*

Jean Lindquist

Wayne A. Stacy

Andrew Leonard

## LAND USE AGENT

During 2008, the Land Use Agent role covered a wide variety of tasks including assisting the boards, bylaw writing, grant coordination, reporting to the State, review of tax title properties, mapping, and planning. In July 2008, I was given the following tasks by the Land Use Department in order of priority. The goal is to achieve these tasks by the end of the contract period, June 2008.

1. Advise and assist the Land Use Boards as appropriate or when requested by the Boards
2. Assist Boards with by-law writing and research
3. Update the Open Space Plan
4. Master Planning
5. Develop the Digital Database of Mapping and Resources for the Land Use Boards and the Citizens

I have advised and assisted the Boards on a variety of tasks including research for citizens on particular Land Use issues, preparing the subsidized housing inventory to submit to the Commonwealth Department of Housing, preparing a report on the status of Ashby's subsidized housing including recommended techniques to improve Ashby's inventory, reviewing grant opportunities, and attending a seminar at MRPC regarding the Community Development Strategy and CDBG funding, and on-going communications with Boards and groups focused on protecting the future of Ashby. I have been editing and contributing to proposed bylaws including the Utility Scale Wind Energy bylaw which passed at the Special Town Meeting, Low Impact Development, and Resource

Protection. The bylaws are focused on preserving Ashby's natural and cultural resources as well as creating opportunities for green technology.

I have edited and commented on the Community Development Strategy, a document important to planning Ashby's future and receiving funding from the Commonwealth. A public hearing was held to gain input on the desired goals of citizens for the community. I also prepared reports and updates on land under tax title to assist Ashby in the decision making process regarding resale or conservation of the parcels.

Progress has been made on the Open Space Plan and Agricultural and Recreational Zoning. A preliminary meeting regarding input on the Open Space Plan was held to review efforts on the past ten years and discuss future goals and objectives. Edits to the Open Space Plan are under way and public hearings will be held this spring. Current planning efforts include discussions improving zoning to greater support agricultural and recreation land uses as well as mapping of agricultural and recreational lands.

Work will continue in 2009 on master planning, agricultural and commercial recreational zoning, updating the Open Space Plan, finalizing a proposed bylaws, and communicating with the Commonwealth on preservation opportunities.

Respectfully submitted:  
Andrew T. Leonard, ASLA  
*Land Use Agent*

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Ashby Conservation Commission is a town board serving by the appointment of the Board of Selectmen through the enabling statutes of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (G.L. Ch.40 P8C). The mission of the Conservation Commission is to protect the natural resources of the community. The duties and responsibilities of the Commission are delineated under the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Conservation Commission Act (HB chapter 18.9) which grants authority for the planning, acquiring, and managing of open space, and monitoring agricultural and conservation restrictions.

The Wetlands Protection Act (Mass General Law Chapter 131, section 40) enacted in 1972, assigned the responsibility for administering this statute to the local conservation commission as described in HB Chapter 12 and the text

printed in HB 18.34. This information is available to you on line at: <http://www.state.ma.us/legis/laws/mgl/gl-131-toc.htm>

Historically, wetlands have often been viewed as a swampy area waiting to be drained or filled for “more important” purposes. We now understand that wetlands are an increasingly important part in our ecosystem in and of themselves. Ashby’s wetlands are an important community resource and their protection has a positive impact on the health, finances and aesthetics of the town. Wetlands are complex ecosystems that provide valuable services to humans and animals alike.

- Wetlands protect our water supplies by recharging ground and surface waters and filtering contaminants.
- Wetlands help control flooding by storing water during storm events and slowly releasing it into surface and ground waters.
- Wetlands protect us from storm damage by serving as natural buffers.
- Wetlands improve the quality of our rivers, streams and lakes by filtering and reducing pollutants before reaching these water bodies.
- Wetlands provide a place for fish and shellfish to spawn and grow, preserving our key fisheries and supporting ecosystems.
- Wetlands are important wildlife habitat that provides food, shelter, breeding areas, and migration corridors for both wetlands and uplands wildlife.
- Wetlands are beautiful areas of open space that provide enjoyment and increase property values.

The Conservation Commission has endeavored over the past year to fulfill its responsibilities in protecting the community’s natural resources and administering the Wetlands Protection Act and the Rivers Protection Act (HB P18.25). Toward this goal, the Commission held 23 regular public meetings (1st and 3rd Wednesdays monthly).

The Commission worked effectively to assist current and prospective Ashby property owners with the identification of existing wetlands on their lands that are protected by the Wetlands Protection Act (WPA), and in so doing, prevented the destruction of those resources which are essential to our treasured, more rural way of life.

During the year 2008, over 40 site visits were conducted by the Commission with most including at least two members and often the full Commission. This represents over 100 “person-visits.” These walks provided informational opportunities for the landowner with suggestions as to how best they protect important aspects of their property. Also, preconstruction visits were arranged with builders and project managers, while other visits involved following up on complaints received from the citizenry.

Throughout the year, formal Determinations were issued in response to Requests for Determination of Applicability, as well as sign-offs on plans proposed to the Board of Health for septic systems or construction. Notices of Intent that were filed resulted in 14 public hearings and continuations resulting in the issuance of 7 Orders of Conditions. These Orders, which are then recorded on the property deeds by the owner, are valid for 3 years. Certificates of Compliance are issued by the Commission upon request following satisfactory completion of a project and the orders may then be removed from the property deed. Five such certificates were issued during the past year.

The Commission also issued two Emergency Certificates, allowing work to proceed for a limited time under limited, special conditions, and two Enforcement Orders (Cease and Desist). Working in conjunction with the State Forester, the Commission reviewed cutting plans that involved sites in or near wetlands. The identification and certification of vernal pools is also in the purview of the Commission

The Commission reminds those filing applications for Ashby Building Permits that the question: "Is proposed work, including grading, within 100feet of a wetland or 200 feet of a Perennial stream? \_\_Yes \_\_No" must be completed to receive a valid permit. If the applicant is uncertain as to how to answer this, please contact the Commission for assistance.

The Commission is proud to maintain a cooperative working relationship with the following boards, agencies, and officers: The Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator, the Ashby Police and Fire Departments, The Town and State Highway Departments, The Board of Health, the Planning Board, the Board of Assessors, and the Building Inspector.

Other Agencies that we collaborate with or participate in include: Ashby State Park, Fitchburg Water Department, Nashoba Associated Boards of Health, Squannassit Area of Critical Environmental Concern, the Nashua River Watershed Conservation Alliance, The Nashua River Watershed Land Trust Alliance, the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission, Mass. Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Mass. Department of Environmental Management, and the Ashburnham Conservation Trust. Commission members are also active in the Nashua River Watershed Conservation Commission Alliance, the Ashby Land Trust, the Open Space Committee, the Blood Hill Management Committee and the Watatic Management Committee.

We are participating members of the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions, and the Nashua River Watershed Association.

For over 20 years, the Commission has maintained membership in the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions and all members have either completed the eight-unit Fundamentals for Conservation Commissions

certification program or are working towards it. Furthermore, some commissioners have acquired the Advanced Certification status awarded by the Association.

Members of the Commission have been active throughout the year with finalization of the Watatic Mountain Management Plan. The Snowmobile sub-committee is working on the last item of this project. The Ashby Open Space Plan is another work in progress.

The Commission has also sponsored clean-up days and family hikes at the Wiita Conservation Lands located at Blood Hill.

Ashby's five Commission members serve three-year terms and are as follows:

- Robert Leary - Vice Chair
- Roberta Flashman – Secretary
- Cathy Kristofferson - Treasurer
- Tim Bauman - Chair
- Presently there is one vacant seat

Respectfully submitted,  
George A. "Tim" Bauman



## CEMETERY COMMISSION

The Cemetery Commission is responsible for the care and management of all public burial grounds in the town. The commission meets periodically throughout the year to discuss and plan cemetery operations. When the need arises for a meeting, time and date are posted at town hall.

This past year the Cemetery Commission approved and arranged the resurfacing of the road into Glenwood cemetery. It was in desperate need of attention. The aim was to get the road repaired for the Memorial Day services and parade and we just made it. The Commission chose to use re-ground asphalt for the roadway for its durability, ease of repair, and relatively low cost. The whole road and parking area near the fire-pond were resurfaced for under \$3500.00 with funds derived from perpetual care interest. Thanks to E. Pernna Construction for getting it done on time. It was great to see the parade moving smoothly down the road on Memorial Day.



Last May the commission purchased some trees for the new section of Glenwood Cemetery using funds from the cemetery's revolving account. We hope to add more this year but rather than new plantings we may be looking at replacing damaged or dying trees as a result of the winter weather.

The Commission would like to thank the following people who have made donations to the cemetery over the past year; Susan Dillberg, of Fitchburg, for the donation of a small utility trailer and Ken Murray for the donation of a heavy-duty shelf system.

This coming year we seem to have our work cut out for us; the ice storm earlier this year left a huge mess to clean up on top of the regular spring maintenance. Many trees were damaged in the storm and some fence rails but, headstones and other markers fared remarkably well. As this report is being written the days are getting longer and we have already begun going into the cemeteries to start the clean-up.

There is a part time position available this year in the cemeteries 15-20 hrs. per week interested parties should contact the commission for details.

Again, thanks to all the people of Ashby and everyone who visits the cemeteries for your interest and involvement. It is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,  
Daniel Harju  
Mark Tiilikkala  
Alan Murray

## TREE WARDEN

This report covers the work overseen by the Ashby Tree warden between January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2008.

### **Hazardous trees removed:**

Fourteen trees posing potential hazards to motor vehicle traffic and private property damage have been removed to date from various locations around town. The trees were taken down by a private contractor properly equipped to do so and were disposed of by the highway department. This allowed tree funds to be used exclusively for taking down the trees and not for disposal.

This year's quote for tree work was \$750 per day which only allows us to perform four days worth of work. Total cost \$3000.

Note: The quote for tree work was based on one aerial bucket truck, one brush chipper and two personnel.

**Equipment:**

None purchased this year.

Respectively submitted,  
William A. Davis, *Tree Warden*

## NASHOBA ASSOCIATED BOARDS OF HEALTH

Nashoba Associated Boards of Health continues to serve the local Board of Health in meeting the challenges of environmental and public health needs in Ashby. In 2008 particular efforts were made to respond to continued demands in the Environmental Division while adjusting to changes in the Nursing Division created by national trends in health care. In addition to the day to day public health work Nashoba provides Ashby with the following services.

- Maintaining Nashoba's internet web site to provide information for the public. (See [nashoba.org](http://nashoba.org))
- Through our involvement in the Bioterrorism Regional Coalition we are keeping the Ashby Board of Health up-to date on matters of emergency preparedness planning. We are currently working on the Town's Emergency Dispensing Site Plan.
- Response to the possible West Nile Encephalitis(WNV) surveillance effort through coordination with MDPH, through the collection of suspected bird samples, submittal to the MDPH lab, and follow-up when the lab results were obtained.
- Response to health related impacts of beavers through coordination with the local Board of Health in the issuance of the necessary permits.
- Response to state mandated changes in regulations requiring more frequent beach sampling through sample collection, submittal for analysis, and follow-up when results were obtained.

- Providing stepped-up enforcement of public health laws through the use of the Housing Court system.

We look forward to continuing our work with Ashby's Board of Health. Included in highlights of 2008 are the following:

- Through membership in the Association, Ashby benefited from the services of the Nashoba staff including: Registered Sanitarians, Certified Health Officers, Registered Nurses, Registered Physical & Occupational Therapists, Licensed Social Workers, Nutritionists, Certified Home Health Aides, and Registered Dental Hygienists.
- Reviewed 23 Title 5 state mandated private Septic System Inspections for Ashby Board of Health. Received, reviewed, and filed these state mandated (but unfunded) Title 5 inspections. Corresponded with inspectors regarding deficiencies; referred deficient inspections to Ashby Board of Health for enforcement action.

By the Ashby Board of Health's continued participation in the Association you can shape your future local public health programs and share in the benefits of quality service at a reason-able cost!

## Environmental Health Department

### Environmental Information Responses Ashby Office (days) 121

The Nashoba sanitarian is available for the public twice a week at the Ashby Board of Health Office. (*This does not reflect the daily calls handled by the secretarial Staff at the Nashoba office in Ayer.*)

### Food Service Licenses & Inspections 6

Nashoba annually mails out and receives application from both restaurants and retail food businesses. Licenses are renewed for existing facilities. Plans are submitted and reviewed prior to initial licensing. All licensees are inspected at a minimum twice a year. Where deficiencies are found, a re-inspection is scheduled to insure compliance. When a complaint from the public is received an inspection is also conducted. During this inspection health factors of food handlers is also investigated, and where appropriate medical consultation and laboratory testing may be required.

<b>Beach/Camp Inspections</b>	13
Camps are inspected at least annually at opening for compliance with State Sanitary Code, Chapter IV, 105CMR430.00. Public swimming beaches are sampled for water quality every week during the summer and more often if a problem is suspected.	
<b>Housing &amp; Nuisance Investigations</b>	15
Nashoba, as agent for the Ashby Board of Health, inspects dwellings for conformance with State Sanitary Code, 105 CMR 410.00, issues orders for correction, and re-inspect for compliance. Similarly, complaints from residents concerning unsanitary conditions or pollution events are investigated.	
<b>Septic System Test Applications</b>	26
Applications from residents proposing to build or upgrade a septic system are accepted, a file created, and testing dates are coordinated with the applicants engineer.	
<b>Septic System Lot Tests</b>	147
Nashoba sanitarian witnesses soil evaluations, deep hole tests, and, usually on a separate date, percolation tests conducted by the applicant's engineer which serve as the basis of the design of the septic system.	
<b>Septic System Plan Applications</b>	14
Detailed plans created by engineers hired by residents proposing to build or upgrade a septic system are received, filed, and routed to the Nashoba sanitarian for review.	
<b>Septic System Plan Reviews</b>	49
Engineered plans are reviewed according to state code, Title 5, and local Board of Health regulations and review forms are created and sent to engineer for revision. Subsequent re-submittals by the engineer are also reviewed.	
<b>Septic System Permit Applications (new lots)</b>	14
<b>Septic System Permit Applications (upgrades)</b>	9
Applicants' approved plan submittals and Board of Health requirements are incorporated into a permit to construct the septic system.	
<b>Septic System Inspections</b>	43
Nashoba Sanitarian is called to construction sites at various phases of construction to witness & verify that system is built according to plans.	

**Septic System Consultations** 13  
 During all phases of application, design, and construction the Nashoba Sanitarian is called upon for legal details and interpretation.

**Well Permits** 7

**Water Quality/Well Consultations** 31  
 Private wells are regulated solely by local Board of Health regulations. The Nashoba Sanitarian assist the BOH by reviewing well plans, securing well water samples, and interpreting water quality test results.

**Rabies Clinics - Animals Immunized** 18  
 Nashoba arranges for local clinics with cooperating veterinarians, arranging for dates and location, placing ads in local newspapers, and sending home flyers through local schools. In addition, since the recent raccoon rabies epizootic Nashoba has arranged for delivery of over 500 animal specimens to the State lab in Boston for analysis and has counseled possible exposure victims to seek medical assistance.

## **Nashoba Nursing Service & Hospice**

### *Home Health*

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**Nursing Visits** 233  
 Nashoba's Certified Home Health Registered Nurses visits provide skilled services to patients in their home under physician's orders. These services include assessment of physical, psychological, and nutritional needs. Skills include teaching/supervision of medications, wound care, ostomy care, IV therapy on a 24 hour basis, catheter care, case management and referral to other services as needed.

**Home Health Aide Visits** 79  
 Nashoba's Certified Home Care Aides provide assistance with daily activities of daily living including bathing dressing, exercises and meal preparation.

**Rehabilitative Therapy Visit** 266  
 Nashoba Therapists provide skilled physical, occupational, speech, and dietary therapeutic interventions through assessment, treatment and education. Their integration of client, caregiver, and medical outcomes aims at attaining maximum functional dependence.

**Medical Social Service Visits 10**

Nashoba Social Workers provide short-term assistance to patients at home for counseling and referral to community resources.

*Clinics*

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**Local Well Adult, Support Groups, & Other Clinic**

**Visits 148**

Visits include well adult clinics, and immunization, cholesterol exercise, mental health and bereavement clinics.

Number of patients that attended Flu Clinics held in Ashby	99
Number of patients whom received Flu Shots that live in Ashby	93
Number of patients whom received Pneumovax Vaccine	3
Number of patients whom attended Well Adult Clinics from Ashby	50

**Communicable Disease**

*Communicable Disease Reporting & Control*

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Nashoba’s Nursing Service & Environmental Health Department work together to meet the local Board of Health’s responsibilities under the law to do the following:

- Investigate and control the spread of communicable diseases within Ashby (MGL Chap111, Sec 6, 7, and 92-116). Nashoba works with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) in this area.
- Receive and process reports from physicians concerning cases of diseases “dangerous to the public health” as defined by MDPH (MGL Chap111, Sec6)
- Notify MDPH Division of Epidemiology and Immunization within 24 hours of receiving notice of any case “dangerous to the public health”.
- Receive reports and undertake follow-up as necessary regarding certain food borne and waterborne diseases and diseases being monitored by the MDPH.
- Receives reports, investigates and conducts follow-up on all incidences involving positive rabies results.

Number of Communicable Disease cases Investigated 10

Communicable Disease Number of Cases

- Borellia Burgdorferi 9
- Meningitis 1

*Health Promotion*

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Nursing visits	2
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**Dental Health Department***Examination, Cleaning & Fluoride - Grades K, 2 & 4*

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Nashoba's Registered Dental Hygienists, operating out of the school nurse's office and records, provide these services to those children whose parents have given written consent.

Students Eligible	118
Students Participating	73
Referred to Dentist	23

*Instruction - Grades K, 1 & 5*

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Nashoba's Registered Dental Hygienists also provide classroom instruction of cleaning and maintaining health teeth to all children in these grades.

Number of Programs	6
Students Participating	90

**ASHBY BOARD OF HEALTH**

The Board of Health consisted of Mary Krapf (chair), Nick Murray and Cedwyn Morgan until February 1, 2009, when Mary Krapf resigned. Bruce Adams was appointed by the Board of Selectmen to replace Mary, effective February 1, 2009. The Board of Health meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 8:00 pm on the first floor of the Town Hall. Our agent from the Nashoba Associated Boards of Health is Rick Metcalf.

The Board thanks Mary Krapf for her many years of dedicated service to the Board and Town.

The decline in real estate activity resulted in a reduced permitting work load for the Board during the last year.

## BUILDING INSPECTOR

The Building Department has seen a slowdown in new home construction and an increase in wood and pellet stoves due to the economy. I also would like to thank the other departments for their cooperation and support, especially the Town Clerk for the assistance with administrative tasks. The following is a summary of the Building Departments 2008 activities.

### PERMITS

New homes	1
Garages	3
Barns	1
Remodel, repair & additions	34
Wood & Pellet stoves	32
Pools	4
Total Permits	75
Total Permit Fee Revenue	\$9,897.00

Respectively Submitted,  
Anthony Ammendolia  
*Building Inspector*

## ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT

The Electrical Department noticed a decrease in permits for 2008. The majority of permits are in the areas of remodeling and additions.

Number of permits for 2008 were	67
Revenue generated	\$2605.00
Number of inspections	87
Inspections for Town	2
Inspections for Power Company	16
Inspections for Fire Department	2

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the department heads and town officials for their help and assistance during this year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Harry D. Parviainen  
*Interim Inspector of Wires*



## PLUMBING AND GAS INSPECTOR

Number of permits for the year 2008	65
Plumbing permits	31
Gas permits	34
Number of inspections- approximately	96
 Total revenue generated	 \$3230.00

Respectfully submitted,  
 Richard Kapenas  
*Plumbing and Gas Inspector*

## COUNCIL ON AGING

### **Our Mission Statement:**

The purpose of the Ashby Council on Aging is to assist in the health and general welfare of the town's senior citizens through various services. The Ashby COA provides meals, health screening, respite care, recreational and fitness programs, telephone assurance, friendly visits, inter-age activities, plus information and referral for Ashby seniors.

### The COA Supports:

- Nashoba Nursing Services (800) 698-3307 provides Health Clinics at the American Legion Hall
- Montachusett Home Care Corporation (800) 734-7312 provides plans of care that enable elders to live at home
- SHINE (Serving the Health Information Needs of Elders) (800) 410-5288 provides free health insurance information, assistance and counseling to Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers
- Senior Lunches are available at the Ashby Elementary School for \$1.25 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Contact Rosemary Wayrynen at (978) 386-7732 before 9 a.m.
- Volunteers deliver Meals on Wheels Monday through Friday during the school year. Contact Angie Godin at (978) 386-6800 before 9 a.m.
- MART Shuttle Service is available Mon., Wed., Thurs. for medical appointments and shopping. Call Jennifer Collins (978) 386-2501 ext. 11 by 2:30 p.m. the day before travel.

- File of Life magnets are free for all seniors in town and available at the COA office.

The Town of Ashby hired Kathryn Becker in April 2008 in the part-time position of Outreach/Volunteer Coordinator for the Council on Aging. Kathryn's duties include visiting and assessing the needs and interests of elders, making appropriate referrals to meet those needs, providing advocacy for elders and developing volunteer programs to provide elder support. Information is available on housing, legal issues, health, safety and financial matters.

During the Dec. 2008 ice storm, the Council on Aging worked with the Ashby Police and Fire Departments to check on the welfare of elders. We want to thank all the personnel and volunteers for all of their hard work during that difficult time.

The Council offers it's sincere thanks to the American Legion Post #361 for the generous use of their hall.

The Council on Aging meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 3 p.m. at the town building. Meetings are open to the public.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Seymour, *Chairperson*

Gary Leonard, *Vice Chairperson*

Rosemary Wayrynen, *Secretary*

Oliver Mutch, *Treasurer*

Kathryn Becker, *Outreach Coordinator*

Nancy Catalini

Linda Stacy

Lee Mikkola

Angie Godin, *alternate*

Patricia Wayrynen, *alternate*

## ASHBY CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Ashby Cultural Council is a committee of at least 5 members appointed by the Board of Selectman to serve three-year terms. The primary responsibility of the Council is to disburse funds received from the Massachusetts Cultural Council for the Arts whose purpose is, "to support public programs that promote access, education, diversity and excellence in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences in communities across the Commonwealth."

The members met on November 13, 2008 for preliminary discussions on grant applications and December 3, 2008 to vote on grant applications. The members of the Ashby Cultural Council include Chairperson, Denise Foresman; Secretary, Ann-Marie Labollita; Treasurer, Sandra Schippers; Publicist, Francine Stefian, Education Liaison, Michelle Blake; Member at Large, Dorothea Rourke. Two members, Tamara LeClerc and Joanne Boudreau completed the maximum of six years (two consecutive terms) in 2008 and have left the Council per Massachusetts

Cultural Council's membership requirements. Joanne Boudreau continues to remain active with the Council as an ex officio. The Council welcomed a new member, Amy Meunier on 11/12/08. Amy is in the process of the MCC training program as she starts her three-year term. This leaves the Council with one vacant three-year term at this time.

The Massachusetts Cultural Council has informed this Council of the uncertainty of their current budget due to the economic state of Massachusetts. This has caused the delay of formerly announcing grant awards until the first of February, 2009. The Ashby Cultural Council is projected to receive the allotment of \$4,300 for the year 2009. The Council had \$680 of unencumbered MCC monies available. The Council members agreed on allocating a total of \$4,980 toward the approved applicants. Twenty-six grant applications were received and requested funding of \$17,090. Eleven were approved and voted to receive full or partial funding.

The approved requests and projected amounts to be disbursed for 2009 based on the assumption of receiving the above funds are:

1. Joanne Boudreau	Art Forum II	\$ 400
2. Buck Expeditions	Explorer, Ship Builder	\$ 500
3. Ashby Historical Society	Calendar of Local Artists' Work	\$ 530
4. Ann-marie Labollita	Paste Paper/Bookmaking Workshop	\$ 350
5. Nashua Watershed	Bald Eagle Presentation	\$ 825
6. Morningstar Medaye	Local Plants, Identity, History	\$ 320
7. Ashby Grange	Made in Ashby Cultural Council	\$ 530
8. Ruth Harcovitz	Performance Singer for Seniors	\$ 575
9. Guy Morin	French & Indian war Provincial Soldier	\$ 250
10. Friends of Ashby Library	Roger Tincknell/Pumpkin Fest	\$ 300
11. Paul Luria	Retelling American History Through Song	\$ 400

TOTAL = \$4,980

An addendum report will be submitted to the Town of Ashby upon receiving notification from the Massachusetts Cultural Council of the actual amount of grant monies awarded.

Individuals and organizations who would like to apply for year 2010 grants, due by October 15, 2009, may contact Chairperson Denise Foresman at #978-630-6822/email for.d@heywood.org or the Ashby Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Denise Foresman, *Chairperson*

## ASHBY FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

It is the mission of The Ashby Free Public Library to provide free and equal access to meet the informational, education, and cultural needs of the community in order to support lifelong learning.

This year brought continued growth in the use of the library, as reflected in the increase in the circulation of books, CDs and DVDs from the library, and from the increased use of the Central/Western Massachusetts Automated Resource Sharing (C/WMARS) system. This program allows patrons to order books, CDs or DVDs from libraries in the central/western MA region on-line from home with an Ashby library card. Between December 2007 and December 2008, the total number of materials checked out has increased nearly 40%.

The Trustees distributed \$12,000 in library-sponsored scholarships, to students attending accredited educational institutions. The Ashby Masons contributed \$800 to this fund. In all, 32 scholarships were given. Awards are made in January after receipt of proof of attendance is received. The Library volunteer computer program continues with enthusiastic support from the town. Volunteers have logged many hours in exchange for receiving a laptop computer. BAE Systems continues to provide support for this valued program.

The AFPL Five Year Plan was submitted to and accepted by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC). The AFPL Board of Trustees is most grateful to the Five Year Plan Committee: Library Director Mary Murtland, Sally Bauman, Mary O’Friel, Anne Reggio, Doug Leab, Jan Grutchfield, Diane Lundin, and Michelle Thomas. Acceptance of the Five Year Plan will enable the Board of Trustees to focus on identified tasks and continue the library’s ability to receive special funding through MBLC.

The Arts and Cultural Committee was created by the Trustees. The purpose of this committee is to provide a space in the Library for exhibiting local artists. Artists working in any media, including painting, drawing, printmaking, photography, sculpture, jewelry, pottery and textiles are invited to submit work to the Committee for review. The library has provided space throughout the year for wonderful displays of local artists’ works, which also included a teen artist’s exhibit.

The goal of the AFPL Trustees is to continue to provide the most up-to-date and inclusive cultural center for the residents of Ashby. Central to this plan is the continued certification of the library. With state certification, the Library is eligible for state grants that support programs like C/WMARS, and allow reciprocal arrangements with surrounding libraries. The Trustees are working hard to maintain certification while also recognizing the difficult financial times that necessitate budgetary constraints throughout the town.

The Trustees would like to thank the many volunteers who help make this facility function. One special donor, Tom Dorward, has generously offered to repair the old Ashby High School clock to working order for display in the Library. Volunteering of time and skills continue to represent the heart of patron participation which enables staff to concentrate on professional tasks. The Friends of the Library have been an invaluable group that contributes to the life of the library in the community, and are always looking for new members to help with their mission. Please contact the Library to offer volunteer time and skills.

Finally and most importantly, our Library Director, Mary Murtland, and her capable assistants Jeanie Lindquist and Angela Lopez deserve a round of applause for their professionalism and diligence. Under their care the AFPL continues to flourish. Thank you to these three tireless professionals. An initiative to create a green plan for landscaping, a safe and welcoming Library environment, and maximum open hours remain high on the Trustees' priority list. Your input is vital to achieve these goals. Do you have a suggestion or concern? Please contact any Board member or Library staff to express your ideas.

Paul McGrail and Lisa Gordon rotated off the board in April; Prudence Brennan and Martha Morgan were elected as new members. Mark Lapham resigned as treasurer effective in September; Diane Lundin was appointed to the Board and elected treasurer in September. We thank the former board members for their service.

Martha Morgan  
*Secretary*

*Board of Trustees Members: John Mickola, chair; Sally Bauman vice chair; Martha Morgan Secretary; Diane Lundin, Treasurer; Dwight Horan, Scholarships; Maureen Davi; Anne Reggio; Dave Jordan; Prudence Brennan.*

## LIBRARY DIRECTOR

The Library has completed its first full year as a circulating member of the C/WMARS (Central and Western Massachusetts Automated Resource Sharing) consortium. Because we are a circulating member, our patrons have enjoyed many more resources and services this year. Patrons are now able to renew books, use reference databases, and request books and other library materials online both at home and at the library. Total circulation has increased by 39% this year. Continued membership is contingent on the AFPL remaining certified by meeting established hours and budget requirements.

We continue to maintain three deliveries a week of Inter Library Loans from CMRLS (Central Massachusetts Regional Library System). The number of materials being requested from and sent out to other libraries was four times greater than it was in 2007.

The library recently upgraded its computers and connected them to a printer. We also now provide wireless internet at the library.

During the power and internet outages of the December ice storm, our public use computers and internet capability were in high demand. The library provided a warm, welcome haven to many during the clean-up after the storm.

The volunteer laptop computer program continued in 2008 with 15 more young adults working to receive re-conditioned laptop computers in exchange for each volunteering a total of 70 hours at the Library. When all of the laptops have been earned a total of 1050 work hours will have been completed. The Senior Tax Work-off program continued this year as well. Our senior volunteers contributed over 177 hours.

The Adult Reading Group meets monthly. The Adult Reading Group chooses to read many different genres of books and is always open to new members. Also during 2008 we established the Dropped Stitch Club, a weekly knitting group for both beginners and experts.

Community groups are beginning to make use of the library for their meetings. During 2008 the library was used regularly by the Ashby Writers Group, two Girl Scout troops, a Cub Scout pack, the Ashby Land Trust, Ashby Elementary Playground Committee, and the Ashby Cultural Council. In addition, the library hosted many programs that were well received by the public.

During the summer of 2008, 103 young people signed up for the Summer Reading Program, 'Wild Reads'. The Friends of the Library sponsored several children's programs during the summer which were all well attended.

Library staff and a committee of community members worked to create the Library's 5-Year Plan, an accomplishment that enables the Library to apply for grants from the Mass. Board of Library Commissioners.

We would like to thank the Friends of the Library, the AFPL Board of Trustees, the AFPL Five Year Plan Committee members, the AFPL Fund and the numerous individuals who have contributed time, energy and knowledge to the Library this year.

#### **Circulation statistics for 2008:**

Adult and Young Adult Books – 4848, Juvenile Books 4206, Audio books – 724, DVDs and Videos – 4911, Magazines 115, Museum Passes 106, Interlibrary Loans sent to other libraries – 2119, Interlibrary Loans received from other libraries – 2352

Total circulation 14,910 items

Mary E. Murtland  
*Library Director*

## PARKS DEPARTMENT

The Parks Department wants to report even with very little funds things continue to get done and a lot of people continue to use the parks.

Many, many Thanks to all those that help keep the parks clean. Parks Department doesn't have any full time or part time workers on the payroll to do the odd jobs. Most of the work is done by volunteers. Any major projects have been put off because of lack of funds to support them.

To the Playground crew and Little League for their help and hard work at Allen Field to help keep the playground and fields looking good.

To Alan Murray and Son many thanks for supplying rubbish removal for Allen field for all the events.

The Town Common continues to be a stop for many visiting Ashby. The Band concerts on Wednesday night during the summer are attended by many and enjoyed by all. Many Thanks for those who decorate for the Holidays and light up the common.

Once again the common's ground crew kept the common mowed and trimmed to perfection. Bill Seymour Sr. and Stephanie Lammi once again keep things looking beautiful.

The Parks Department would like to thank all of those who donate time to keep the parks clean and to the Highway Department help when it's needed.

Submitted by  
Peter McMurray  
Stephanie Lammi  
William Seymour Sr.

## NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

The past year provided school personnel with the opportunity to continue to provide students within the school district with educational programs designed to meet both their current and future educational needs. One impressive change in curriculum and instruction occurred at the high school where a new academic schedule and program of studies was successfully implemented. The change in the high school schedule took students out of study halls and enabled them to participate in more academic classes designed to prepare them for both the 21st century world of work and the rigor of university study. The new secondary program of studies included innovative courses in all academic areas and allowed students greater access to both advanced placement and college and university sponsored on-line courses. In addition to traditional and on-line courses offered at the high school, seniors and juniors were able to participate in internships outside of school where individual students had the opportunity to experience work within a variety of occupations.

Unfortunately, while innovations in the high school program of studies provided students with many more opportunities, these innovations also illuminated the educational limitations presented by the age and condition of the high school building. As a result, in 2008, the school district submitted an application to the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) seeking financial assistance with upgrading/renovating the North Middlesex Regional High School. According to an engineering study completed earlier in 2007, the high school's nearly 50 year old mechanical, electrical, communications, plumbing, and lighting systems have out lived their functional usefulness and are in need of replacement and/or significant repair. Sadly, the state's current financial situation did not allow the MSBA to authorize and fund many school building projects across the state. Thus, the North Middlesex application sits in limbo with many others submitted across the state.

Elementary and middle schools within the school district continued their fine work and added new programs designed to improve student performance on MCAS. The school district pursued a number of state and federal grants in hopes of expanding further educational opportunities available to students within the school district. Grants allowed the school district to maintain full-time kindergarten programs across the school district. The district also received competitive grant funds to investigate both the possibility of implementing school schedules designed to extend the school day and the implementation of K-5 gifted and talented programs.

Finally, the district, like the member towns, faces an uncertain financial future. Resources available to schools from all governmental levels continue to



shrink. It will be difficult to maintain the current level of educational services without eliminating some programs and/or employing innovative staffing patterns. The district's children have always benefitted from strong community support. We will continue to work closely with town officials to provide educational opportunities equal to the potential of the children we strive to serve.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maureen M. Marshall  
*Superintendent of Schools*

### ASHBY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

I am pleased to be submitting my fourth annual town report to the citizens of Ashby.

The school has a total of 253 students in Pre-K to 5th grade. We have 126 boys and 127 girls. Enrollment has dipped 1.03% over the past year. As you will notice below due to a low enrollment for our grade one class, we only have one section of first grade this year. This will continue into grade two for the 2009-2010 school year.

The number of students enrolled at each AES grade level on October 1, 2008 is as follows:

- Preschool AM = 10 students (1 teacher)
- Preschool PM = 10 students (1 teacher)
- Full Day Kindergarten = 38 students (two teachers)
- Grade 1 = 22 students (one teacher)
- Grade 2 = 33 students (two teachers)
- Grade 3 = 46 students (two teachers)
- Grade 4 = 44 students (two teachers)
- Grade 5 = 50 students (two teachers)

The mission of Ashby Elementary School is to provide students with the highest quality educational opportunities in a safe and secure environment. We strive to foster individual academic success and social growth through a partnership with students, staff, families and the community. The vision of our school is to promote a safe learning environment where all students can learn and succeed, each in their own way. Our school fosters a love of learning by promoting high expectations for each student. We provide a standards-based curriculum that supports

all learning styles, which evolve through ongoing assessments. Our school believes that respect and communication are the building blocks of a well-balanced community. A respect for diversity and self will help us achieve academic excellence. Our core values include: respect, responsibility, integrity, caring, citizenship, and communication. This past year we took our core values to the next level and have instituted a code of conduct, which is good discipline based on respect. Respect for authority, peers, self and for rules.

Ashby Elementary School Council members (Mrs. Jessica Johnson, Mrs. Dondi LaRue, Mrs. Annica Scott, Mrs. Tiffany Call, Mrs. Kimberly Clark, Mrs. Kerrin Tammik, Ms. Karen Peredina, Mrs. Christine Grimshaw, Mrs. Paula Roberts and myself) meet monthly to develop the school's Improvement Plan which continually looks at the following ten areas- Curriculum and Instruction, Professional Development, Accountability, Technology, Human Resources, Communication/Partnerships, Resource Acquisition and Management, Plant and Facilities, Image, District and School Climate, and Student Services.

Ashby Elementary School has an active Parent Teacher Cooperative (PTC) group, which provides the students with a variety of cultural and curriculum based assembly programs. We have also formed a Playground Committee which is raising funds through various ways to replace our wooden playground of 19 years. There are numerous opportunities for parent and community involvement at the school. We especially enjoy having senior volunteers work off their tax dollars by assisting in the schools. The Ashby Senior Citizen Tax Write-Off Program allows seniors who meet financial requirements, to work within various departments around the town to lower their taxes. We thank the town for this opportunity to bring the old and young together. The district Parent Outreach Coordinator, Mrs. Nancy Amante, continues to provide resources to the parents and community.

A Student Council, which is made-up of fourth and fifth graders, provides opportunities to visit and share experiences with other schools within the district. In addition, we continue traditions such as the fifth grade yearbook, the fifth grade wall of fame, Dr. Seuss' Book Give Away, a food drive, a holiday sing-along, Alex's Lemonade Stand/ Car Wash, Community Reading Day, Field Day, and Fitness Day.

We provide many activity choices after the regular school day ends. Mrs. Barnhart directs the After-School Enrichment Program offering classes for the students to partake in on a five week rotational bases, Mrs. Johnson provides

beginner and advanced group guitar lessons, and Mrs. Hencke continues to offer band to fourth and fifth graders, which perform at holiday and spring concerts. The Parents of Music also offers AES students private lessons after school hours. During the winter, we provide extra assistance in reading/English Language Arts and math to those students who failed MCAS. Mr. Wolfendale and his staff offers a summer intramural sports camp and Mrs. Casson, along with Mrs. Barnhart, provide students with the opportunity of an art/craft camp. This year, after two years of planning, we have finally opened a before and after school child care for students of AES. Our BACK (Before and After Care for Kids) Program is run by Mrs. Tiffany Call and is open from 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

The results from 2008 MCAS are as follows: Grade 3 Reading (Advanced 11%, Proficient 41%, Needs Improvement 43% and Warning 5%), Grade 3 Math (Advanced 18%, Proficient 34%, Needs Improvement 32% and Warning 16%) Grade 4 English Language Arts (Advanced 4%, Proficient 49%, Needs Improvement 35% and Warning 12%) and Grade 4 Mathematics (Advanced 16%, Proficient 31%, Needs Improvement 37% and Warning 16%), Grade 5 English Language Arts (Advanced 20%, Proficient 50%, Needs Improvement 27% and Warning 3%), Grade 5 Math (Advanced 50%, Proficient 23%, Needs Improvement 13% and Warning 13%), Grade 5 Science (Advanced 20%, Proficient 57%, Needs Improvement 17% and Warning 7%).

Grade two students participated in fall and spring testing (GRADE), which allows the staff build upon our strengths and well as to close the gap on our weaknesses. We utilize Test Wiz, Success Maker and QRI to build upon each child's strengths and helps diminish weaknesses. We are fortunate to have one and a half Title I Teachers who lay the necessary foundation for students to become fluent readers in grade K, 1, 2 and 3 and then to offer assistance to those in math and reading in grades 4 and 5.

The student body and faculty appreciate the support of the town that continues to provide the necessary resources that allow us to develop educationally sound programs for all students that attend Ashby Elementary School.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mrs. Anne Cromwell-Gapp, M.Ed.  
*AES Principal*

## HAWTHORNE BROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL

The 2008/2009 school year marks the 30th anniversary of Hawthorne Brook Middle School. Although the color schemes and style may reflect the 1970's, our school community today is vibrant and committed to providing the best educational experience possible for our students in the 21st century.

Student success is our first priority and is evident in our commitment to teaming. This year we reconfigured our resources and divided our students and faculty into smaller learning communities, or teams. Each team of teachers shares the same group of students and follows a common schedule. This shared schedule provides the teachers with the flexibility to modify and adjust student schedules to best meet the needs of each group.

Another key component of the team model is the common meeting time for teachers to share information about the performance and progress of their students. These meetings often include discussions of students who are doing well academically and those who need additional support. It is also a time for sharing information about learning styles and issues that may be affecting a child's ability to work to their potential. Parental involvement in these discussions is also strongly encouraged.

Teachers work closely to coordinate team building, interdisciplinary activities, assignments, and tests. The curriculum is aligned with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks, but the staff reviews and revises it to meet the wide range of needs and styles within the classroom. Ultimately, the team model allows us to create a strong web of support to enhance student success.

The primary focus of Hawthorne Brook Middle School is academics and we strive to provide a vigorous academic program for all students. In addition to the core classes of math, English, science, social studies and foreign language (grades 7 and 8), all students receive instruction in art, music, health and physical education. Our 6th grade students also have computer and library skills classes. Students have the opportunity to receive instruction and participate in band or chorus.

There is also a wide range of extra curricular activities in which students can participate. Extra curricular activities afford students additional opportunities to develop many of the essential skills necessary to grow and mature in our society. Students can be involved in interscholastic sports, intramurals and a variety of other clubs and activities throughout the year.

This year we have emphasized developing a positive, supportive climate within our Hawthorne Brook community. This initiative encompasses many components and a commitment from the staff, students and parents. The effort from all has been very impressive and fruitful. Our students are a constant source of pride for the entire community.

We are grateful to the PTO for their support and for providing funding for items and programs that otherwise would not be possible. In addition to the fundraising efforts and donations, parents have stepped forward and offered their time and talents whenever needed.

Communication with parents and the community is an essential component of our successful middle school. We can be reached via email at HBadm@nmiddlesex.mec.edu or through our website that can be accessed through the district page at <http://nmiddlesex.mec.edu>

Sincerely,  
Stephen Coughlan, *Principal*

## NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

It is with great pride that I provide this update about North Middlesex Regional High School, a learning community that is committed to excellence.

NMRHS offers an academic program that prepares students for life beyond high school. Our program of studies offers a comprehensive curriculum that provides students the opportunity to achieve to their full potential. In addition to traditional courses, we are able to offer diverse courses including: Pre-Engineering / Robotics, Mandarin Chinese, American Studies, American Sign Language, as well as eleven advanced placement courses. We strive to support all of our students and acknowledge their accomplishments. Students at North Middlesex continue to be recognized outside of our school community. We are pleased to honor our thirty-two advanced placement scholars, as well as our seventy-six John and Abigail Adams Scholarship recipients for outstanding MCAS achievement.

Our primary goal is to provide curriculum and instruction that is student centered and aligned to the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. The staff at North Middlesex Regional High School is second to none. They work tirelessly developing curriculum, improving instruction, and participating in professional development course work that expands their own knowledge

base. Their professionalism in embracing changes to the school has been vital to improving our high school climate. We are committed to knowing our students and putting their needs first in every decision.

Beyond the classroom, NM students excel. We are extremely proud of our marching band and choral group for earning awards and recognition at state competitions. Our athletic program continues to compete at a high level in the Midland-Wachusett League, with several athletes and teams qualifying for tournament play. The number of after school clubs and organizations continues to expand each year, and we currently offer over thirty. These programs provide students with different interests and abilities the opportunity to become involved in our school community.

NM students are socially responsible and are committed to improving the community beyond the school. Our students organize major events to raise money and awareness for specific causes. From the Relay for Life event that raised money for cancer research, to our Adopt a Family coin drive to support local families around the holidays, to our New Orleans community service group who will again travel to help those still affected by Hurricane Katrina, NM students know the importance of building a strong community both in and out of school. We are extremely proud of our students for both organizing and sponsoring these causes.

We are pleased to work closely with our school council to help build partnerships with families and community organizations. We encourage open communication with parents and invite you to visit our website at <http://nmiddlesex.mec.edu> and click on the link to NMRHS.

Sincerely,  
Michael Flanagan, *Principal*

## MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL

The Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District committee presents this report to the Citizens of the District. The Committee consists of twenty-two members – four from Fitchburg, represented by LeRoy Clark, Mark Louney, Robert Campbell and Brian Walker, two from Gardner, represented by Helen Lepkowski and Alice Anderson and one from each of the communities of

Ashburnham – represented by Diane Swenson, Ashby – represented by Warren Landry, Athol – represented by Toni L. Phillips, Barre – represented by John Scott, Harvard – Vacancy, Holden – represented by Nancy Anderson, Hubbardston – represented by Jacqueline B. Kaminski, Lunenburg – represented by Barbara Reynolds, Princeton – represented by John Mollica, Royalston – represented by Mary C. Barclay, Sterling – represented by Dr. Kenneth I.H. Williams, Templeton – represented by James M. Gilbert, Westminster – represented by Jeff Schutt and Winchendon – represented by Burton E. Gould, Jr.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Numerous challenges were faced during the development of the fiscal year 2008-2009 budget, including the rising costs of energy, healthcare and an aging infrastructure and the need to update and modernize our technology and vocational technical offerings.

Considerable effort was put forth by the School Committee, administration and staff to develop a cost-effective budget. The final fiscal year 2008-2009 Educational Plan totaled \$22,388,670.

The District was audited in August 2008 as part of the yearly financial audit by the accounting firm of Melanson, Heath and Company from Greenfield, MA and an “excellent” report is anticipated.

## STUDENT BODY

Monty Tech’s October 1, 2008 enrollment included 1,341 students in grades nine through twelve. Students are represented from every community in the district, as follows: Ashburnham (44), Ashby (38), Athol (124), Barre (36), Fitchburg (391), Gardner (163), Harvard (2), Holden (56), Hubbardston (47), Lunenburg (64), Petersham (5), Phillipston (18), Princeton (17), Royalston (16), Sterling (46), Templeton (70), Westminster (54), and Winchendon (135).

The Guidance Department/Admissions Department received 714 applications for admission in September 2008. Of these, 660 were for the available ninth grade openings. Due to the retention rate of our upper classes, we were only able to admit 25 students to the tenth and eleventh grades.

Monty Tech continued to offer a variety of opportunities for students, parents and community members to learn about and visit the school. In October, over seventeen hundred district eighth graders participated in tour Days. Students toured many of our twenty vocational/technical areas and learned about the challenging academic offerings and exciting athletic and extracurricular programs. This Open House, as well as last spring’s Open House, was attended by

an estimated one thousand individuals per event, comprised of students, parents and community members from throughout the district.

The Vocational Interest Program (V.I.P.) continued to attract large numbers of seventh and eighth grade students during the 2007-2008 school year. Due to the high enrollment, a third five-week session was implemented. Participants had opportunities to attend hands-on after school sessions in a variety of vocational/technical areas. A satisfaction survey rated this program 4.8 out of 5. The 2007-2008 enrollment is the highest ever at 598 seventh and eighth graders. The survey also indicates that 487/510 students surveyed intended to or have applied to Monty Tech.

In June 2008, the class of 2008 graduated 303 seniors. These graduates received diplomas and technical certificates. Approximately 95% of the graduates planned to continue their education at the post-secondary level or employment, while another 5% planned to enter military service.

The Scholarship Committee awarded approximately \$21,000 in scholarships to members of the Class of 2008. In addition, they awarded \$6,000 to the practical nursing graduates. Once again, local (Business Education Enrichment Fund) and state organizations, as well as generous individuals, continue to recognize the ability and potential of Monty Tech graduates in the form of generous donations. The School Committee, administration, faculty, and graduates themselves are grateful for this support.

The Tech Prep Articulation Agreements with local colleges continued to play an important role in helping our graduates enter college through credits earned at Monty Tech. Approximately 62% of our graduates entered a two or four year college. This number continues to grow over the years.

## ACHIEVEMENT

Based on tenth grade MCAS scores, Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School continued to see an improvement during the 2007-2008 school year in student achievement in both English/Language Arts and Mathematics. In the spring of 2007, Monty Tech's passing rate on the mathematics portion of the test climbed from 95% to 98%, while the percentage of students scoring in the proficient and advanced categories in math jumped from 62% to 79%. The school's passing rate on the English portion of the test also climbed from 98% to 100%, while the students scoring in proficient and advance categories in English went from 65% to 73%. Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School was cited as a top ten state performer for increases in proficient and advanced categories.



Hard work by a competent staff and the student body continues to result in improved student achievement.

## SKILLS USA

Skills USA is a national organization, in partnership with business and industry, that prepares students for the world through opportunities that develop jobs, teamwork, leadership and professional skills through education, training and competition.

Highlights of the year included:

- A total of 37 medals were captured at the District Level
- A total of 35 medals were won at the State Level
- Based on our performance at the State Event, 18 Monty Tech students qualified to participate at the National Event
- Monty Tech's performance at nationals included a Silver Medal in Total Quality Management (TQM), Cosmetology (over 500 hours- 4th place, Nail Care – 4th place, Computer Maintenance – 5th place, Cosmetology (under 500 hours) – 6th place and Cabinetmaking – 16th place.

## WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY

During the 2007-2008 school year students from Drafting Technology and Information Technology completed the sixth year of the Women in Technology Program, locally known as Project WATCH) Women Achieving Technical Career Heights. A Projects Presentation is held at the end of the year to showcase the students' work for company executives, school personnel and families and friends.

## CURRICULUM

In addition to the house building projects, the vocational-technical programs continue to provide communities in the Monty tech District with a range of services as a component of the curricula. The projects listed below are a sampling of services accepted during the 2007-2008 school year.

### *Auto Body/Collision Repair*

Templeton Police Department – Refinish rear bumper on cruiser and replace tail lamp, painted a cruiser.

Sterling – repaired push bar on cruiser

Phillipston – refinished bottom of cruiser

***Automotive Technology***

Ashby Highway Department – 4 wheel brake job

***Cabinetmaking***

Handicap kitchen cabinets for Leominster CTE's Habitat for Humanity house building project (a partnership because Leominster does not have a Cabinetmaking Program)

***Cosmetology***

Gardner Elderly Housing – free hair services and manicures

***Cabinetmaking, House Carpentry, Electrical, Masonry and Plumbing***

Gardner – in partnership with the Greater Gardner CDC, built a single-family home to be sold to first-time homebuyers

Gardner CDC – renovated the first floor of 246 Central Street, to be the new offices and home of the Greater Gardner CDC

Fitchburg – in partnership with the Montachusett Enterprise Center, built a single-family home to be sold to first-time homebuyers

Winchendon Housing Authority – built an addition to the maintenance building. Built eight sheds

***Dental Assisting***

Fitchburg Community Health Center – students assisted the dental hygienists in placing dental sealants on children

***Drafting Technology***

Fitchburg – Made K-9 Unit Letters for the cruiser

***Graphic Communications***

Fitchburg – made brochure and letterhead for Habitat for Humanity

***Health Occupations***

Monty Tech – held two blood drives

***Industrial Technology***

Phillipston – build a covered staircase for the rear entrance of the police station

North Central Mass. Chamber of Commerce –built shed for storage of mower and snow blowers

***Masonry***

Westminster –renovated the Crocker Pond Bath House

Gardner – installed new granite posts and sign for the Helen Mae Sauter and Waterford Street Schools

Winchendon Housing Authority – repaired concrete walkways

## SPECIAL SERVICES

During the 2007-2008 school year, the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District provided special education services to over two hundred students. In September 2008, the Student Support Services Department is working with approximately two hundred thirteen students.

The federal special education law, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), was reauthorized in December of 2004 and came fully into effect on July 1, 2005. In August 2006, the U.S. Department of Education released new Regulations for Part B of IDEA, which went into effect October 13, 2006. The 2004 Amendments to IDEA expand upon the 1997 reauthorization and include new requirements. The reauthorized act continues to emphasize the role of parents and expands opportunities for parents, general educators and special educators to work together in partnerships that support student learning and the success of students in adult life.

The Student Support Services Department at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School provides support to all students. We have two full-time nurses, who administer medications, perform state mandated health screening exams and provide, when necessary, health information to the TEAM for a student's IEP meeting. We employ a full time school social worker that is able to participate on TEAM's and assist students who have needs concerning finances, family issues homelessness, maternity, health issues, and proper food and clothing. Our students have access to the services of a full time adjustment counselor and part time school psychologist. Both of these individuals are available for scheduling counseling sessions and mental health emergency treatment as well as crisis intervention. We do have on staff a full time psychologist whose role it is to evaluate all students referred to an initial evaluation or who require a three-year re-evaluation. IN addition, we have a full time speech pathologist that is available to service students with disabilities, assess these students and consult the teachers within the building.

The Special Education Department at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District is reviewed annually in May, in accordance with regulator requirements. The results of this evaluation are used to improve the special education procedures and programs at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District. The Parent Advisory Council participates in this review and evaluation.

The Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District adheres to federal and state laws regarding confidentiality of personally identifiable student information.

## STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ATHLETICS

The Monty Tech Athletic Program was again very successful in the 2007-2008 school year. Our numbers keep increasing every day. We had 15 teams compete in the fall of 2007, 12 in the winter of 07-08 and 8 last spring.

Last fall, the Varsity Football team finished at 2 – 9. The JV Football team was 6 – 4 and Freshman Football team 2 – 6. The Varsity Boys Soccer team finished 10 – 3 – 5 and qualified for the Central Mass Tournament, where they were beat by Nipmuc Regional 5 – 3. The JV Boys Soccer team was 8 – 4 – 3. The Golf Team's record was 0 – 12. We had four JV Golf Tournaments at the Red Farm Golf Course in Upton in an attempt to improve our program. The Field Hockey team was 4 – 12 – 2, under first year coach, Nancy LeBlanc, who filled in for Dee Gevrekakis, who had her first child, Christopher, in October. The Monty Tech Faculty held the annual Teachers vs. Student Field Hockey game to raise money for a scholarship, which was very successful. The Boys Cross Country team was 2 – 12, and the Girls Cross Country team was 4 – 5. The Girls Volleyball team had a 7 – 13 record. The JV Girls Volleyball team was 2 – 16, and the Freshmen Girls team was 2 – 4, as they continue to improve. The JV Girls Soccer team finished at 14 – 1 – 2, with most of the girls moving up this fall, our girls program looks very promising. The Varsity Cheerleaders participated in the CAL Championships, held at Blackstone Valley Tech in October.

The winter season was very exciting. The Girls Varsity Basketball team qualified for the District tournament with a 19 – 1 record and won the Colonial Athletic League Championship again. In the State Vocational Tournament, they beat Tri-County 50 – 37 and lost to Lynn Tech 56 – 45 in the championship game. They beat Blackstone Valley Tech in the District Tournament 52 – 33 before losing to Whitinsville Christian 60 – 52. They finished the entire season at 21 – 3. The Varsity Boys Basketball team finished at 14 – 6 in the regular season to qualify for the District Tournament. They also qualified for the State Vocational Tournament, where they lost to Shawsheen Valley Tech 43 – 41 in a very exciting game. In the District Tournament, they beat St. Mary's 67 – 48, before losing to South Lancaster Academy 76 – 53. They tied for the Colonial Athletic League title, with a 12 – 2 league record, the first title since 1994. The JV Boys Basketball team was 6 – 14 and played with a lot of desire and pride. The Freshmen Boys were 7 – 6 and showed vast improvement over the year. The JV Girls were 10 – 7. The Freshmen Girls were 2 – 11, as they prepared to move up to the JV Program this year. The Wrestling team was 2 – 9 in dual meets and participated in many tournaments. We ran a Co-op Ice Hockey team, which did very well again, as they participated in the District Tournament, losing in the semi-finals. The JV Ice Hockey team played very well, as the younger players

look to improve their skills. We participated in a Co-op Swim team with Leominster and had 6 girls and 2 boys complete the season. We look forward to this venture again this year.

In the spring, the Varsity Softball team again gave Monty Tech a lot to be proud of, as they won the State Vocational Tournament for the third time, beating Whittier Tech 10 – 23 and Shawsheen Tech 7 – 7, scoring four runs in the bottom of the 7th for the win. They finished 21 – 3 and won the Colonial Athletic League Championship for the fourth year in a row and the nineteenth time in 23 years. They beat Nashoba Tech 15 – 3 in the Central Mass. Tournament, before falling to Narragansett 10 – 4. Coach Reid is only eight wins away from 500 in his coaching career at Monty Tech. The JV Softball team was 6 – 12. The Boys Volleyball team was 7 – 13. The Varsity Baseball team finished at 2 – 18. The JV Baseball team was 5 – 7 – 1, and the Freshmen Baseball team was 1 – 7. The Boys Track & Field team was 7 – 3, while the Girls Track & Field team was 9 – 1, and won the Colonial Athletic League championship.

The Outstanding Male and Female athletes for 2007 - 2008 were:

Male – Eric Gallotto

Female – Madeline Merchant

David Reid, Athletic Director, was selected as the District E – Athletic Director of the Year for 2008-2009. This is the second time he has won this award. He will be honored at the annual conference in March at the Cape. He has been with Monty Tech since 1973 as a teacher, retiring at the end of the 2006-2007 school year. He began his Athletic Director's job in 1978 and continues to serve Monty Tech in this position.

## TECHNOLOGY

The demand for technology support continues to grow as technology changes and as teachers and staff become aware of the resources available to them. The Technology Office supports computer labs in both the trade and academic areas in addition to individual computers in classrooms and administrative offices.

The demand for information has also increased, both at the state level and school level. The Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education Student Information Management System (SIMS) reporting has been in place for many years. For the first time, in October 2007, schools were required to transmit staff data to the state as part of the Education Personnel Information Management System (EPIMS) reporting. At the school level, data drive decisions are reflected in improved student achievement.

In the spring of 2008, the school converted to the x2 Aspen student information system. The x2 system has excellent querying and exporting capabilities, which has improved the Technology Office's ability to provide timely information. The x2 system includes a "family portal" which allows guardian access to student attendance, conduct, and grade information.

Network performance continues to be a challenge. The replacement of "cat 3" wiring in some areas of the building is still a need. The continued support of the School Committee and administration is appreciated as the Technology Office strives to provide vital support to students and staff.

## GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

Monty Tech continues to pursue grant funding on an annual basis. For fiscal year 2008, state and federal grant sources provided the school with \$840,112. Programs funded by these grants include Improving Teacher Quality, Enhanced Education through Technology, Special Education Allocation, Special Education Assistance and Mentoring, Special Education Program Improvement, Title V, Title I, Drug Free Schools, Occupational Education – Vocational Skills, Safe Schools and Summer Academic Support. With a \$40,000 state competitive grant, Monty Tech provided students in the Health Occupations Program with current EMT training.

## CONCLUDING STATEMENT

The School Committee and administration is justly proud of the staff and students of the Monty tech District and their accomplishments. Monty Tech will continue to work with the business community, local educational institutions, higher education and its vocational technical counterparts across the Commonwealth to develop common sense plans and responses to the educational challenges we face.

Monty Tech's School Committee, administration and staff look forward to continued growth, and we are committed to providing the best possible educational opportunities for workforce development within the District, and to that end, respectfully invites and encourages the continued support of town officials, parents and citizens in each of its member communities.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY  
FEBRUARY 5, 2008

Middlesex, ss:

To: Constable of the Town of Ashby:

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Ashby who are qualified to vote in Primaries to vote at the Ashby Elementary School Auditorium on TUESDAY, THE FIFTH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2008, from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the Presidential Primary for the candidates of political parties for the following offices:

PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE	FOR THE COMMONWEALTH
STATE COMMITTEE MAN	WORCESTER & MIDDLESEX
	SENATORIAL DISTRICT
STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN	WORCESTER & MIDDLESEX
	SENATORIAL DISTRICT
TOWN COMMITTEE	ASHBY

Hereof, fail not, and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this 9th day of January, 2008.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter McMurray  
*Chairman*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gerard Houle

\_\_\_\_\_  
Geoffrey Woollacott

ASHBY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

By virtue of this precept, I have posted three (3) attested copies in three (3) public places at least seven days prior to the foregoing warrant.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
William A. Davis  
CONSTABLE OF ASHBY

**RESULTS OF PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY  
FEBRUARY 5, 2008**

The warrant was returned to the Town Clerk by Constable William Davis at 6:45 AM.

Election Officers on duty and duly sworn were as follows: Bertha Tiilikkala, Wendy Baird, Betty Tiilikkala, Leona Sanford, Waldemar Tiilikkala, Dona Sue LaRue, Rachel Patnaude, Rosemary Wayrynen, Chris Ewald and Amy Meunier.

The polls opened at 7:00 AM.

The following is a list of candidates as they appeared on the official ballot, and also the votes each received, and the total blanks:

**DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRIMARY BALLOT**

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PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE	VOTES
John R. Edwards	16
Hillary Clinton	297
Joseph R. Biden, Jr.	0
Christopher J. Dodd	0
Mike Gravel	0
Barack Obama	249
Dennis J. Kucinich	3
Bill Richardson	0
No Preference	0
All others	4
Blanks	6
Total Ballots Cast	<hr/> 575
STATE COMMITTEE MAN	
All others	2
Blanks	573
Total Ballots Cast	<hr/> 575
STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN	
Mary H. Whitney	331



All others	0
Blanks	244
Total Ballots Cast	<u>575</u>

TOWN COMMITTEE

Deborah O'Hanlon	1
Gardner LePoer	1
Marja LePoer	1
John Steffian	1
Robert Higgins-Steele	1
Roberta Flashman	1
George Bauman	1
Sally Bauman	1
Terrence Myles	1
Michael Reggio	1
Denise Batchelder	1
Blanks	5139
Total Votes Cast	<u>5750</u>

REPUBLICAN PARTY PRIMARY BALLOT

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PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE	VOTES
John McCain	197
Fred Thompson	0
Tom Tancredo	0
Duncan Hunter	0
Mike Huckabee	32
Mitt Romney	231
Ron Paul	28
Rudy Guiliani	3
No Preference	0
All others	1
Blanks	0
Total Ballots Cast	<u>492</u>

STATE COMMITTEE MAN

Lance D. May	309
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All others	0
Blanks	183
Total Ballots Cast	<u>492</u>

STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN

Nancy Gerlach	278
All others	0
Blanks	214
Total Ballots Cast	<u>492</u>

TOWN COMMITTEE

Kevin Stetson	1
Bruce Adams	1
Philip Fors	1
Tamara Leclerc	1
Elaine Kielty	1
Peter McMurray	1
Rich Foresman	1
Michael Reggio	1
Lillian Whitney	1
Sally Tracy	1
Charles Morley	1
Leona Sanford	1
Blanks	17208
Total Votes Cast	<u>17220</u>

GREEN- RAINBOW PARTY PRIMARY BALLOT

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PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE	VOTES
Jarad Ball	0
Ralph Nader	0
Elaine Brown	0
Kat Swift	0
Cynthia McKinney	0
Kent Mesplay	1
No Preference	0
All others	1

Blanks	0
Total Ballots Cast	<u>2</u>

STATE COMMITTEE MAN

All others	0
Blanks	2
Total Ballots Cast	<u>2</u>

STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN

All others	0
Blanks	2
Total Ballots Cast	<u>2</u>

TOWN COMMITTEE

All others	0
Blanks	2
Total Ballots Cast	<u>2</u>

WORKING FAMILIES PARTY PRIMARY BALLOT

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PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE	VOTES
No Preference	0
All others	2
Blanks	0
Total Ballots Cast	<u>2</u>

STATE COMMITTEE MAN

All others	2
Blanks	0
Total Ballots Cast	<u>2</u>

STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN

All others	0
Blanks	2
Total Ballots Cast	<hr/> 2

TOWN COMMITTEE

All others	0
Blanks	2
Total Ballots Cast	<hr/> 2

The polls closed at 8:00 p.m.

The following tellers on duty and duly sworn were as follows: Nancy Peeler, Elaine Kielty, Shaun Kielty, Pamela Peeler, Deborah Pillsbury, Deborah Vogt, Roberta Flashman, Dennis Moore, Gregory Tacconi-Moore, Janet Flinkstrom, Jean Lindquist and Mariana Furtney-Fyfe.

At the close of the polls, the ballot box read 1071, the checkers' tally sheets read 575 Democratic voters and 492 Republican voters, 2 Green Rainbow voters and 2 Working Families voters had cast a ballot, for a total of 1071.

44 – ABSENTEE BALLOTS  
1027 – OFFICIAL BALLOTS

Lorraine Pease, *Town Clerk*

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
TOWN WARRANT  
APRIL 28, 2008**

Middlesex, ss:

TO: Constable of the Town of Ashby:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Ashby, qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, to meet at the Ashby Elementary School Auditorium in said Ashby,

Monday, the twenty-eighth day of April, next at 7:00 AM, to give their votes on one ballot for the following officers:

- SELECTMAN, Three Years
- ASSESSOR, Three Years
- BOARD OF HEALTH, Three Years
- PLANNING BOARD, Five Years
- CEMETERY COMMISSIONER, Three Years
- PARK COMMISSIONER, Three Years
- 3 LIBRARY TRUSTEES, Three Years
- TREE WARDEN, Three Years
- 3 REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE NORTH MIDDLESEX, Three Years

The polls will be open at 7:00 AM and shall close at 8:00 PM.

And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting an attested copy in three (3) public places in said Ashby at least seven days before holding of said election.

Hereof, fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time and place of election aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 2nd day of April 2008.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter McMurray  
*Chairman*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gerard Houle

\_\_\_\_\_  
Geoffrey Woollacott

ASHBY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

By virtue of this precept, I have posted three (3) attested copies of the foregoing warrant in Three (3) public places in said Ashby seven days at least before time of said Annual Town Election.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
William A. Davis  
CONSTABLE OF ASHBY

**RESULTS OF ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION  
APRIL 28, 2008**

The warrant was returned to the Town Clerk at 6:30 AM on Monday, April 28, 2008 by Constable William Davis.

Election officers on duty and duly sworn in were as follows: Bertha Tiilikkala, Betty Tiilikkala, Wendy Baird, Rachel Patnaude, Rosemary Wayrynen, Marja LePoer, Heather Lasorsa and Waldemar Tiilikkala.

The polls opened at 7:00 AM.

The following is a list of candidates and the votes and blanks each received as they appeared on the official ballot.

	VOTES
SELECTMAN, Three years	
Daniel A. Meunier	235
John A. Steffian, Jr.	216
G. Lillian Whitney	112
Blanks	5
Total ballots cast	<hr/> 568
ASSESSOR, Three years	
Dona Sue (Dondi) LaRue	438
All others	1
Blanks	129
Total ballots cast	<hr/> 568
BOARD OF HEALTH, Three years	
Mary A. Krapf	384
All others	12
Blanks	172
Total ballots cast	<hr/> 568
PLANNING BOARD, Five years	
Jean L. Lindquist	383
All others	6

Blanks	179
Total ballots cast	<u>568</u>
CEMETERY COMMISSIONER, Three years	
John Mark Tiilikkala	16
All others	29
Blanks	523
Total ballots cast	<u>568</u>
PARK COMMISSIONER, Three years	
Peter McMurray	12
All others	32
Blanks	524
Total ballots cast	<u>568</u>
LIBRARY TRUSTEES, Three years	
Dwight F. Horan	325
Prudence A. Brennan	293
Martha S. Morgan	311
All others	4
Blanks	771
Total votes cast	<u>1704</u>
Total ballots cast	568
TREE WARDEN, Three years	
Charles Perna	11
All others	32
Blanks	525
Total ballots cast	<u>568</u>
REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE NORTH MIDDLESEX, Three years	
Anne E. Buchholz	246
Tamara A. Leclerc	406
Michael Morgan	229
All others	2

Blanks	821
Total Votes cast	1704
Total ballots cast	568

The polls closed at 8:00 PM.

Tellers on duty and duly sworn in were as follows: Nancy Peeler, Deborah Pillsbury, Elaine Kielty, Pamela Peeler, Shaun Kielty, Janet Flinkstrom, Nancy Catalini and Gregory Tacconi-Moore.

At the close of the polls the ballot box read 568 voters had cast a ballot: the checkers' tally sheet read 568 voters had cast a ballot.

Lorraine Pease, *Town Clerk*

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Special Town Meeting**

Middlesex, ss:

To: Constable of the Town of Ashby in said County:

Greeting:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Ashby, qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, to meet at the Elementary School Auditorium in said Ashby, Saturday, May 3, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. to act on the following articles:

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES**

**Article 1.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$211.11 from the Lyman Building Fuel/Electricity account to the Prior Year Bills account for the purpose of paying for a prior year Lunenburg Police lockup bill, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 2.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$861.28 from the Lyman Building Fuel/Electricity account to the Prior Year Bills



account for the purpose of paying for a prior year Library utility bill, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 3.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$500.00 from the Landfill Operations account to the Prior Year Bills account for the purpose of paying for a prior year landfill groundwater monitoring bill, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 4.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$1,860.00 from the Lyman Building Fuel/Electricity account to the Tax Collector Billing Software account for the purpose of paying for Tax Collector billing software update, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 5.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$1,000.00 from the Lyman Building Fuel/Electricity account to the Administration and Operations account for the purpose of paying for an easement for the Old Engine House, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 6.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$9,862.63 from the Group Insurance account, \$2,285.00 from the Regional Vocational Tech School Assessment account, \$1,000 from the Audit of Records account, \$3,773.71 from the Tax Title account and \$11,048.54 from the EMS ALS Charges and Fees account to the Police Wages account and the sum of \$2,103.80 from Tax Title account to the Police Expenses account for the purpose of funding the Police Union Contract for FY08, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 7.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$2,000 from the RCTS Trucking Expenses account to the RCTS Recycling Expenses account for the purpose of paying for recycling, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 8.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$13,000 from the Highway Wages account and to appropriate from Available Funds the sum of \$71,547.32 to the Highway Winter Expenses account and the sum of \$5,850.15 to the Highway Winter Operations Overtime account for the purpose of paying for the winter operations deficit, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 9.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$34,581.79 to the Reserve Fund for the purpose of replenishing the reserve fund, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting an attested copy in at least three (3) public places in said Ashby fourteen (14) days at least before holding of said meeting. Hereof, fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 16th day of April, 2008.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter McMurray  
*Chairman*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gerard Houle

\_\_\_\_\_  
Geoffrey Woollacott

ASHBY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

By virtue of this precept, I have posted three (3) attested copies of the foregoing warrant in three (3) public places in said Ashby at least fourteen days before the time of said Special Town Meeting.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
William A. Davis  
CONSTABLE OF ASHBY

**RESULTS OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
May 3, 2008**

The warrant was returned to the Town Clerk by Constable William Davis at 9:00 AM.

With a quorum present, the Moderator Peter Rourke called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM. The warrant showed it had been properly served.

The motion was made and seconded to waive the reading of the warrant, and so voted.

The rules of the meeting were read.

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES**

**Article 1.** The motion was made and seconded to transfer the sum of \$211.11 from the Lyman Building Fuel/Electricity account to the Prior Year Bills account for the purpose of paying for a prior year Lunenburg Police lockup bill.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 2.** The motion was made and seconded to transfer the sum of \$861.28 from the Lyman Building Fuel/Electricity account to the Prior Year Bills account for the purpose of paying for a prior year Library utility bill.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 3.** The motion was made and seconded to transfer the sum of \$500.00 from the Landfill Operations account to the Prior Year Bills account for the purpose of paying for a prior year landfill ground-water monitoring bill.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 4.** The motion was made and seconded to transfer the sum of \$1,860.00 from the Lyman Building Fuel/Electricity account to the Tax Collector Billing Software account for the purpose of paying for Tax Collector billing software update.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 5.** The motion was made and seconded to transfer the sum of \$1,000.00 from the Lyman Building Fuel/Electricity account to the Administration and Operations account for the purpose of paying for an easement for the Old Engine House.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 6.** The motion was made and seconded transfer the sum of \$9,862.63 from the Group Insurance account, \$2,285.00 from the Regional Vocational Tech School Assessment account, \$1,000 from the Audit of Records account, \$3,773.71 from the Tax Title account and \$11,048.54 from the EMS ALS Charges and Fees account to the Police Wages account and the sum of \$2,103.80 from Tax Title account to the Police Expenses account for the purpose of funding the Police Union Contract for FY08.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 7.** The motion was made and seconded to transfer the sum of \$2,000 from the RCTS Trucking Expenses account to the RCTS Recycling Expenses account for the purpose of paying for recycling.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 8.** The motion was made and seconded to transfer the sum of \$13,000 from the Highway Wages account and to appropriate from Available Funds the sum of \$71,547.32 to the Highway Winter Expenses account and the sum of \$5,850.15 to the Highway Winter Operations Overtime account for the purpose of paying for the winter operations deficit.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 9.** The motion was made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$34,581.79 to the Reserve Fund for the purpose of replenishing the reserve fund.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

The motion was made and seconded to dissolve the Special Town Meeting at 9:48 AM, and so voted.

Lorraine Pease, *Town Clerk*

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Annual Town Meeting**

Middlesex, ss:

To: Constable of the Town of Ashby in said County:

Greeting:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Ashby, qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, to meet at the Elementary School Auditorium in said Ashby, Saturday, May 3, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. to act on the following articles:

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES**

**Article 1.** To see if the Town will vote to elect all other town officers not required to be on the official ballot.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 2.** To see if the Town will vote to hear the reports of the various town officials and committees.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 3.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to borrow funds as necessary in anticipation of revenue, in accordance with Chapter 44, Sections 23 to 27 of the Massachusetts General Laws, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 4.** To see if the Town will vote to accept the following sums in trust; the income therefrom to be expended for the perpetual care of lots as follows:

Glenwood Cemetery

---

Amount	Name	Ave.	Lot	Section
\$ 1,600.00	Richard Catalini	C	30	Lyman
\$ 400.00	Patricia Delph	B Rear	28	Lyman
\$ 200.00	Donald Nickerson	B Rear	27	Lyman

, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 5.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds a sum of \$174,450 known as Chapter 90 to be used by the Highway Department in accordance with the Massachusetts General Laws, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 6.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,196.20 under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(g), or any other enabling authority, which appropriation shall be contingent upon the passage of a Proposition two and one-half override vote, for the purpose paying the increase over 2% in the North Middlesex Regional School District assessment, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 7.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,000.00 under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(g), or any other enabling authority, which appropriation shall be contingent upon the passage of a Proposition two and one-half override vote, for the purpose of paying \$8,200 for Band Concerts and \$2,800 for Memorial Day expenses, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 8.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sums of money necessary to defray charges and expenses of the Town for the ensuing fiscal year, FY2009, beginning July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2009, with each item considered to be a separate appropriation as set forth below, and to fix the salaries of all elected officials, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 9.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$41,345 to be expended by the Solid Waste Department to defray the operational expenses and other necessary charges of the Recycling Center and

Transfer Station for the ensuing fiscal year, FY2009, beginning July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2009, or take any action thereon.

<b>Description</b>	<b>FY09 Amount</b>
<i>Revenues:</i>	
Loan Balance/Retained Earnings	\$ 23,845.00
Interest Income	\$ 1,000.00
Trash Disposal Fees Collected	\$ 8,718.00
Recyclable Fees Collected	\$ 3,782.00
Recyclable Sales	\$ 4,000.00
Hauler Permit Fees	\$ 0.00
<i>Total Revenues:</i>	<i>\$ 41,345.00</i>
<i>Expenses:</i>	
Salaries and Wages	\$ 3,800.00
General Operating Expenses	\$ 1,500.00
Trash Trucking Services	\$ 3,000.00
Trash Disposal Expenses	\$ 6,000.00
Recycling Expenses	\$ 3,200.00
Emergency Reserve	\$ 23,845.00
<i>Total Expenses:</i>	<i>\$ 41,345.00</i>

Finance Committee action:  Approved \_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_ No Action

**Article 10.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$3,760.00 to the Fire Department Expenses account for the purpose of matching an Assistance to Firefighters grant, or to take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved \_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_ No Action

**Article 11.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$22,902.74 to a General Stipends account for the purpose of paying a one-time stipend to non-contract employees in FY09 only, or to take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved \_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_ No Action

**Article 12.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the renewal of the Cemetery Burial and Foundations Revolving Fund in accordance

with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2, to receive monies collected for burials, said funds to be expended to pay for said burials to be performed, for grave foundations and for general cemetery maintenance and improvements; with expenditures not to exceed \$10,000, or to take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 13.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize a Library Books Revolving Fund in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2, to receive monies collected for book late fees and replacement fees, said funds to be expended to pay for book and media repairs and replacements; with expenditures not to exceed \$2,400, or to take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 14.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$28,957 from Stabilization or to raise and appropriate the sum of \$28,957 under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(i1/2), or any other enabling authority, which appropriation shall be contingent upon the passage of a so-called Proposition two and one-half override vote for a capital expenditure for one year, for the purpose of purchasing a police cruiser, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 15.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift or purchase a perpetual easement on a parcel of land located at 840 Main Street, Ashby, Massachusetts as described in the "Grant of Easements" dated February 14, 2008 and recorded at the Middlesex South Registry of Deeds in Book 50730, Page 220 and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments on behalf of the Town, and to take all related actions necessary or appropriate to effect the interest of the foregoing, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 16.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of the sum of \$4,285.35 to the Ashby Elementary School, which are interest amounts from the following Trust Fund accounts to be used for the Ashby students as follows:



Sumner Taylor School Fund	\$1,111.03
Samuel P. Gates School Fund	\$2,778.41
Jesse Foster School Fund	\$ 395.91

, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 17.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,100.00 under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(g), or any other enabling authority, which appropriation shall be contingent upon the passage of a Proposition two and one-half override vote, for the purpose of reinstating annual stipends to the Board of Health, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 18.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,992.00 under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(g), or any other enabling authority, which appropriation shall be contingent upon the passage of a Proposition two and one-half override vote, for the purpose of paying for the wages of a part-time Library Page, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 19.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$54,753.59 to fund wages and benefits for a new Firefighter/EMT position, which appropriation shall be contingent upon the passage of a so-called Proposition two and one-half override vote, under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(g), or any other enabling authority, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

**Article 20.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$38,696.44 which appropriation shall be contingent upon the passage of a so-called Proposition two and one-half override vote, under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(g), or any other enabling authority, and, if said ballot vote passes, to amend the FY2009 operating budget under Article 8

of the May 3, 2008 Annual Town Meeting by increasing the Highway Department wages account in the amount of \$25,575, and by increasing the Employee Benefit Expenses account by \$12,600 and FICA account by \$522 for the purpose of reinstating and paying for the wages of a Highway Department Truck Driver/Laborer and general employee benefits, or take any action thereon.

By petition.

Finance Committee action: \_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_ Disapproved  No Action

**Article 21.** To see if the Town will vote to hear the report of the Public Safety Facilities Advisory Committee and to consider the Committee's proposals, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved \_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_ No Action

**Article 22.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from available funds to the Stabilization Fund, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved \_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_ No Action

And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting an attested copy in at least three (3) public places in said Ashby seven (7) days at least before holding of said meeting. Hereof, fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 16th day of April, 2008.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter McMurray  
*Chairman*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gerard Houle

\_\_\_\_\_  
Geoffrey Woollacott

ASHBY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

By virtue of this precept, I have posted three (3) attested copies of the foregoing warrant in three (3) public places in said Ashby at least seven days before the time of said Annual Town Meeting.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
William A. Davis  
CONSTABLE OF ASHBY

## RESULTS OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

May 3, 2008

The warrant was returned to the Town Clerk by Constable William Davis at 9:00 AM.

With a quorum present, the Moderator Peter Rourke called the meeting to order at 9:49 AM.

The motion was made and seconded to allow the moderator to declare a two-thirds vote, and so voted.

### ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES

**Article 1.** The motion was made and seconded to elect all other town officers not required to be on the official ballot.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 2.** The motion was made and seconded to hear the reports of the various town officials and committees.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 3.** The motion was made and seconded to authorize the Treasurer to borrow funds as necessary in anticipation of revenue, in accordance with Chapter 44, Sections 23 to 27 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 4.** The motion was made and seconded to accept the following sums in trust; the income therefrom to be expended for the perpetual care of lots as follows:

#### Glenwood Cemetery

---

Amount	Name	Ave.	Lot	Section
\$ 1,600.00	Richard Catalini	C	30	Lyman
\$ 400.00	Patricia Delph	B Rear	28	Lyman
\$ 200.00	Donald Nickerson	B Rear	27	Lyman

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 5.** The motion was made and seconded to appropriate from available funds a sum of \$174,450 known as Chapter 90 to be used by the Highway Department in accordance with the Massachusetts General Laws.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 6.** The motion was made and seconded to postpone Article 6 indefinitely.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 7.** The motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,000.00 under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(g), or any other enabling authority, which appropriation shall be contingent upon the passage of a Proposition two and one-half override vote, for the purpose of paying \$8,200 for Band Concerts and \$2,800 for Memorial Day expenses.

VOTE: DEFEATED

**Article 8.** The motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate the sums of money necessary to defray charges and expenses of the Town for the ensuing fiscal year, FY2009, beginning July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2009, with each item considered to be a separate appropriation as set forth in the warrant, and to fix the salaries of all elected officials.

- \$ 546,894.62 for General Government
- \$ 802,056.18 for Protection of Persons and Property
- \$2,913,054.65 for Education
- \$ 394,071.51 for Public Works & Facilities
- \$ 26,082.71 for Human Services
- \$ 67,146.00 for Culture & Recreation
- \$ 419,407.02 for General Government Expenses

For a total sum of \$5,168,712.69 for the FY 2009 operating budget.

The motion was made and seconded to amend Article 8 of the 2009 budget, line 3, Town Administrator Salary be reduced from \$52,195.25 to \$25,000 and that \$7000 of the savings be added to line 130, Band Concerts, and the remainder of the saved balance of \$20,195.25, along with any other associated cost savings , be added to line 144, the Stabilization Account.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT: DEFEATED

The motion was made and seconded to amend line 121, Memorial Day, to \$2800, to amend line 130, Band Concerts, to \$7000, to amend line 131, July 3rd Band Expense to \$1200, and to amend line 144, Stabilization to \$20,746.20.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT: YES 91 NO 53 PASSED

The motion was made and seconded to amend line 44, Lyman Bldg. Fuel from \$30,000 to \$35,000 and amend the Stabilization Fund downward accordingly.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT: DEFEATED

The motion was made and seconded to amend the 2009 budget, line 124, Library Assistant Wages be reduced from \$11,232.00 to \$5000 and that \$1200 of the savings be added to line 131, July 3rd Band Expense, and the remainder of the saved balance of \$5032.00, along with any other associated cost savings, be added to line 144, the Stabilization Account.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT: DEFEATED

VOTE ON AMENDED BUDGET: UNANIMOUS

**Article 9.** The motion was made and seconded vote to appropriate the sum of \$41,345 to be expended by the Solid Waste Department to defray the operational expenses and other necessary charges of the Recycling Center and Transfer Station for the ensuing fiscal year, FY2009, beginning July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2009.

Description	FY09 Amount
<i>Revenues:</i>	
Loan Balance/Retained Earnings	\$ 23,845.00
Interest Income	\$ 1,000.00
Trash Disposal Fees Collected	\$ 8,718.00
Recyclable Fees Collected	\$ 3,782.00
Recyclable Sales	\$ 4,000.00
Hauler Permit Fees	\$ 0.00
<i>Total Revenues:</i>	<i>\$ 41,345.00</i>
<i>Expenses:</i>	
Salaries and Wages	\$ 3,800.00
General Operating Expenses	\$ 1,500.00
Trash Trucking Services	\$ 3,000.00
Trash Disposal Expenses	\$ 6,000.00
Recycling Expenses	\$ 3,200.00
Emergency Reserve	\$ 23,845.00
<i>Total Expenses:</i>	<i>\$ 41,345.00</i>

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 10.** The motion was made and seconded to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$3,760.00 to the Fire Department Expenses account for the purpose of matching an Assistance to Firefighters grant.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 11.** The motion was made and seconded to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$22,902.74 to a General Stipends account for the purpose of paying a one-time stipend to non-contract employees in FY09 only.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 12.** The motion was made and seconded to authorize the renewal of the Cemetery Burial and Foundations Revolving Fund in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2, to receive monies collected for burials, said funds to be expended to pay for said burials to be performed, for grave foun-

datations and for general cemetery maintenance and improvements; with expenditures not to exceed \$10,000.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 13.** The motion was made and seconded to authorize a Library Books Revolving Fund in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2, to receive monies collected for book late fees and replacement fees, said funds to be expended to pay for book and media repairs and replacements; with expenditures not to exceed \$2,400.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 14.** The motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of \$28,957 under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(i1/2), or any other enabling authority, which appropriation shall be contingent upon the passage of a so-called Proposition two and one-half override vote for a capital expenditure for one year, for the purpose of purchasing a police cruiser.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 15.** The motion was made and seconded to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift or purchase a perpetual easement on a parcel of land located at 840 Main Street, Ashby, Massachusetts as described in the "Grant of Easements" dated February 14, 2008 and recorded at the Middlesex South Registry of Deeds in Book 50730, Page 220 and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments on behalf of the Town, and to take all related actions necessary or appropriate to effect the interest of the foregoing.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 16.** The motion was made and seconded to authorize the transfer of the sum of \$4,285.35 to the Ashby Elementary School, which are interest amounts from the following Trust Fund accounts to be used for the Ashby students as follows:

Sumner Taylor School Fund \$1,111.03  
Samuel P. Gates School Fund \$2,778.41

Jesse Foster School Fund      \$ 395.91

VOTE:            UNANIMOUS

**Article 17.** The motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,100.00 under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(g), or any other enabling authority, which appropriation shall be contingent upon the passage of a Proposition two and one-half override vote, for the purpose of reinstating annual stipends to the Board of Health.

VOTE:            DEFEATED

**Article 18.** The motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,992.00 under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(g), or any other enabling authority, which appropriation shall be contingent upon the passage of a Proposition two and one-half override vote, for the purpose of paying for the wages of a part-time Library Page.

VOTE:            DEFEATED

**Article 19.** The motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of \$54,753.59 to fund wages and benefits for a new Firefighter/EMT position, which appropriation shall be contingent upon the passage of a so-called Proposition two and one-half override vote, under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(g), or any other enabling authority.

VOTE:            PASSED

**Article 20.** The motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of \$38,696.00 which appropriation shall be contingent upon the passage of a so-called Proposition two and one-half override vote, under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(g), or any other enabling authority, and, if said ballot vote passes, to amend the FY2009 operating budget under Article 8 of the May 3, 2008 Annual Town Meeting by increasing the Highway Department wages account in the amount of \$25,575, and by increasing the Employee Benefit Expenses account by \$12,600 and FICA account by \$521 for the purpose of reinstating and paying for the wages of a Highway Department Truck Driver/Laborer and general employee benefits.



VOTE: PASSED

**Article 21.** The motion was made and seconded to hear the report of the Public Safety Facilities Advisory Committee and to consider the Committee's proposals.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 22.** The motion was made and seconded to postpone Article 22 indefinitely.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

The motion was made and seconded to dissolve the Annual Town Meeting at 1:43 PM, and so voted.

Lorraine Pease  
*Ashby Town Clerk*

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
SPECIAL ELECTION  
June 17, 2008**

Middlesex, ss:

To: Constable of the Town of Ashby in said County:

Greeting:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Ashby, qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, to meet at the Ashby Elementary School Auditorium in said Ashby, Tuesday, the 17th day of June next, at 12:00 noon, to give in their votes on one ballot for the following questions:

**CAPITAL EXPENDITURE EXCLUSION  
QUESTION 1.**

“Shall the Town of Ashby be allowed to assess an additional \$ 28,957 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of paying for a new police cruiser for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008?”

YES \_\_\_\_\_

NO \_\_\_\_\_

LEVY LIMIT OVERRIDE

QUESTION 2.

“Shall the Town of Ashby be allowed to assess an additional \$ 54,753.59 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of paying for wages and benefits for a new Firefighter/EMT position for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008?”

YES \_\_\_\_\_

NO \_\_\_\_\_

LEVY LIMIT OVERRIDE

QUESTION 3.

“Shall the Town of Ashby be allowed to assess an additional \$ 38,696 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of reinstating and paying for wages and benefits for a Highway Department Truck Driver/Laborer for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008?”

YES \_\_\_\_\_

NO \_\_\_\_\_

The polls will be open at 12:00 noon and shall close at 7:30 PM

And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting an attested copy in three (3) public places in said Ashby at least seven days before holding of said election.

Hereof, fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time and place of election aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 7th day of May, 2008.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter McMurray

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Meunier

\_\_\_\_\_  
Geoffrey Woollacott  
*Chairman*

ASHBY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

By virtue of this precept, I have posted three (3) copies of the foregoing warrant in three (3) public places in said Ashby seven days at least before time of said Special Town Election.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
William A. Davis  
CONSTABLE OF ASHBY

**RESULTS OF SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION  
JUNE 17, 2008**

The warrant was returned to the Town Clerk at by Constable William Davis on Tuesday, June 17, 2008 at 7:30 AM.

Election officers on duty and duly sworn in were as follows: Bertha Tiilikkala, Betty Tiilikkala, , Rachel Patnaude, Wendy Baird, Rosemary Wayrynen, Amy Meunier and Waldemar Tiilikkala.

The polls opened at 12:00 noon.

The following are the questions and the votes and blanks each received as it appeared on the official ballot.

**CAPITAL EXPENDITURE EXCLUSION  
QUESTION 1.**

“Shall the Town of Ashby be allowed to assess an additional \$ 28,957 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of paying for a new police cruiser for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008?”

YES	192
NO	268
BLANK	2
TOTAL BALLOTS CAST	<u>462</u>

**LEVY LIMIT OVERRIDE  
QUESTION 2.**

“Shall the Town of Ashby be allowed to assess an additional \$ 54,753.59 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of paying for wages and benefits for a new Firefighter/EMT position for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008?”

YES	249
NO	212
BLANK	1
TOTAL BALLOTS CAST	<u>462</u>

**LEVY LIMIT OVERRIDE  
QUESTION 3.**

“Shall the Town of Ashby be allowed to assess an additional \$ 38,696 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of reinstating and paying for wages and benefits for a Highway Department Truck Driver/Laborer for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008?”

YES	157
NO	303
BLANK	<u>2</u>
TOTAL BALLOTS CAST	462

The polls closed at 7:30 PM.

Tellers on duty and duly sworn in were as follows: Deborah Pillsbury, Elaine Kielty, Pamela Peeler, Janet Flinkstrom, Catherine Foster and Shaun Kielty.

At the close of the polls the ballot box read 462 voters had cast a ballot; the checkers' tally sheets read 462 voters had cast a ballot.

Lorraine Pease, *Town Clerk*

**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**

MIDDLESEX, SS:

To: Constable of the Town of Ashby

**GREETING:**

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town who are qualified to vote in Primaries to vote at the Ashby Elementary School Auditorium on TUESDAY, THE SIXTEENTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2008 from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the State Primary for the candidates of political parties for the following offices:

U.S. SENATOR  
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS  
COUNCILLOR  
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT  
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT  
REGISTER OF PROBATE

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH  
First Congressional District  
Seventh District  
Worcester & Middlesex District  
Second Worcester District  
Middlesex County

Hereof, fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this 6th day of August, 2008.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Geoffrey Woollacott  
*Chairman*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter McMurray

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel Meunier

ASHBY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

By virtue of this precept, I have posted three (3) attested copies of the foregoing warrant in three (3) public places in said Ashby at least seven days before the time of the State Primary.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
William A. Davis  
CONSTABLE OF ASHBY

**RESULTS OF STATE PRIMARY**

September 16, 2008

The warrant was returned to the Town Clerk by Constable William Davis at 6:50 A.M.

Election Officers on duty and duly sworn were as follows: Betty Tiilikkala, Dona Sue Larue, Wendy Baird, Rosemary Wayrynen, Rachel Patnaude, Marja LePoer, Waldemar Tiilikkala, and Bertha Tiilikkala, clerk.

The polls opened at 7:00 a.m.

The following is a list of candidates as they appeared on the official ballots and also the votes each received, and the total blanks:

DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRIMARY BALLOT

SENATOR IN CONGRESS	VOTES
John F. Kerry	244
Edward J. O'Reilly	117
All others	0
Blanks	6
Total ballots cast	<hr/> 367

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS

John W. Olver	245
Robert A. Feuer	84
All others	0
Blanks	38
Total ballots cast	<hr/> 367

COUNCILLOR

Thomas J. Foley	250
All others	0
Blanks	117
Total ballots cast	<hr/> 367

SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT

Jennifer L. Flanagan	180
Brian Knuuttila	180
All others	0
Blanks	7
Total ballots cast	<hr/> 367

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT

Robert L. Rice	268
All others	0
Blanks	99
Total ballots cast	<hr/> 367

## REGISTER OF PROBATE

John R. Buonomo	225
All others	3
Blanks	139
Total ballots cast	367

## REPUBLICAN PARTY PRIMARY BALLOT

## SENATOR IN CONGRESS VOTES

Jeffrey K. Beatty	46
All others	0
Blanks	6
Total ballots cast	<hr/> 52

## REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS

Nathan A. Bech	42
All others	2
Blanks	8
Total ballots cast	<hr/> 52

## COUNCILLOR

All others	0
Blanks	52
Total ballots cast	<hr/> 52

## SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT

All others	2
Blanks	50
Total ballots cast	<hr/> 52

## REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT

All others	1
Blanks	51
Total ballots cast	<hr/> 52

REGISTER OF PROBATE

All others	2
Blanks	50
Total ballots cast	<hr/> 52

GREEN-RAINBOW PARTY PRIMARY BALLOT

NO BALLOTS CAST

WORKING FAMILIES PARTY PRIMARY BALLOT

NO BALLOTS CAST

The polls closed at 8:00 p.m.

Tellers on duty and duly sworn were as follows: Nancy Peeler, Deborah Pillsbury, Janet Flinkstrom, Pamela Peeler, Nancy Catalini and Susan Suokko.

At the close of the polls the ballot box read 419 voters had cast a ballot; the checkers' lists tallied 367 Democrats and 52 Republicans had cast ballots, for a total of 419 voters.

Lorraine Pease, *Town Clerk*

**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**

Middlesex, ss:

To: Constable of the Town of Ashby

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town who are qualified to vote in Elections to vote at the Ashby Elementary School Auditorium on TUESDAY, THE FOURTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2008 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the following purpose:



To cast their votes in the State Election for the candidates of political parties for the following offices:

ELECTORS OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT	STATEWIDE
US SENATOR	FOR THE COMMONWEALTH
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS	First Congressional District
COUNCILLOR	Seventh District
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT	Worcester & Middlesex District
REPRESENTATIVE IN THE GENERAL COURT	Second Worcester District
REGISTER OF PROBATE	Middlesex County

**QUESTION 1: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION**

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2008?

**SUMMARY**

This proposed law would reduce the state personal income tax rate to 2.65% for all categories of taxable income for the tax year beginning on or after January 1, 2009, and would eliminate the tax for all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2010.

The personal income tax applies to income received or gain realized by individuals and married couples, by estates of deceased persons, by certain trustees and other fiduciaries, by persons who are partners in and receive income from partnerships, by corporate trusts, and by persons who receive income as shareholders of “S corporations” as defined under federal tax law. The proposed law would not affect the tax due on income or gain realized in a tax year beginning before January 1, 2009.

The proposed law states that if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.

A **YES VOTE** would reduce the state personal income tax rate to 2.65% for the tax year beginning on January 1, 2009, and would eliminate the tax for all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2010.

A **NO VOTE** would make no change in state income tax laws.

**QUESTION 2: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION**

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2008?

## SUMMARY

This proposed law would replace the criminal penalties for possession of one ounce or less of marijuana with a new system of civil penalties, to be enforced by issuing citations, and would exclude information regarding this civil offense from the state's criminal record information system. Offenders age 18 or older would be subject to forfeiture of the marijuana plus a civil penalty of \$100. Offenders under the age of 18 would be subject to the same forfeiture and, if they complete a drug awareness program within one year of the offense, the same \$100 penalty.

Offenders under 18 and their parents or legal guardian would be notified of the offense and the option for the offender to complete a drug awareness program developed by the state Department of Youth Services. Such programs would include ten hours of community service and at least four hours of instruction or group discussion concerning the use and abuse of marijuana and other drugs and emphasizing early detection and prevention of substance abuse.

The penalty for offenders under 18 who fail to complete such a program within one year could be increased to as much as \$1,000, unless the offender showed an inability to pay, an inability to participate in such a program, or the unavailability of such a program. Such an offender's parents could also be held liable for the increased penalty. Failure by an offender under 17 to complete such a program could also be a basis for a delinquency proceeding.

The proposed law would define possession of one ounce or less of marijuana as including possession of one ounce or less of tetrahydrocannabinol ("THC"), or having metabolized products of marijuana or THC in one's body.

Under the proposed law, possessing an ounce or less of marijuana could not be grounds for state or local government entities imposing any other penalty, sanction, or disqualification, such as denying student financial aid, public housing, public financial assistance including unemployment benefits, the right to operate a motor vehicle, or the opportunity to serve as a foster or adoptive parent. The proposed law would allow local ordinances or bylaws that prohibit the public use of marijuana, and would not affect existing laws, practices, or policies concerning operating a motor vehicle or taking other actions while under the influence of marijuana, unlawful possession of prescription forms of marijuana, or selling, manufacturing, or trafficking in marijuana.

The money received from the new civil penalties would go to the city or town where the offense occurred.

A *YES VOTE* would replace the criminal penalties for possession of one ounce or less of marijuana with a new system of civil penalties.

A *NO VOTE* would make no change in state criminal laws concerning possession of marijuana.

**QUESTION 3: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION**

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2008?

**SUMMARY**

This proposed law would prohibit any dog racing or racing meeting in Massachusetts where any form of betting or wagering on the speed or ability of dogs occurs.

The State Racing Commission would be prohibited from accepting or approving any application or request for racing dates for dog racing.

Any person violating the proposed law could be required to pay a civil penalty of not less than \$20,000 to the Commission. The penalty would be used for the Commission's administrative purposes, subject to appropriation by the state Legislature. All existing parts of the chapter of the state's General Laws concerning dog and horse racing meetings would be interpreted as if they did not refer to dogs.

These changes would take effect January 1, 2010. The proposed law states that if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.

A **YES VOTE** would prohibit dog races on which betting or wagering occurs, effective January 1, 2010.

A **NO VOTE** would make no change in the laws governing dog racing.

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 15th day of October, 2008.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Geoffrey Woollacott  
*Chairman*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter McMurray

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel Meunier

ASHBY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

By virtue of this precept, I have posted three (3) attested copies of the foregoing warrant in three (3) public places in said Ashby seven days at least before time of said State Election.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
William A. Davis  
CONSTABLE OF ASHBY

**RESULTS OF STATE ELECTION  
November 4, 2008**

The warrant was returned to the Town Clerk by Constable William A. Davis at 6:55 AM.

Election officers on duty and duly sworn in were as follows: Bertha Tiilikkala, Rachel Patnaude, Betty Tiilikkala, , Wendy Baird, Amy Meunier, Dona Sue LaRue, Rosemary Wayrynen, Christine Ewald and Waldemar Tiilikkala.

The polls opened at 7:00 AM.

The following is a list of candidates and the votes and blanks each received as they appeared on the official ballot.

ELECTORS OF PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT	VOTES
Baldwin & Castle	4
Barr & Root	11
McCain & Palin	932
McKinney & Clemente	9
Nader & Gonzalez	22
Obama & Biden	885
All others	8
Blanks	10
Total ballots cast	<hr/> 1881

SENATOR IN CONGRESS

John F. Kerry	947
Jeffrey K. Beatty	796
Robert J. Underwood	81
All others	3
Blanks	54
Total ballots cast	<hr/> 1881

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS

John W. Olver	1084
Nathan A. Bech	688
All others	0

Blanks	109
Total ballots cast	<u>1881</u>
COUNCILLOR	
Thomas J. Foley	1270
All others	6
Blanks	<u>605</u>
Total ballots cast	1881
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT	
Jennifer L. Flanagan	1323
All others	40
Blanks	<u>518</u>
Total ballots cast	1881
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT	
Robert L. Rice	1114
Carolyn A. Kamuda	449
All others	0
Blanks	<u>318</u>
Total ballots cast	1881
REGISTER OF PROBATE	
Tara E. DeCristofaro	1258
All others	3
Blanks	<u>620</u>
Total ballots cast	1881
QUESTION 1	
Yes	647
No	1212
Blanks	<u>22</u>
Total ballots cast	1881

QUESTION 2

Yes	1227
No	621
Blanks	33
Total ballots cast	1881

QUESTION 3

Yes	960
No	879
Blanks	42
Total ballots cast	1881

The polls closed at 8:00 PM.

Tellers on duty and duly sworn in were as follows: Nancy Peeler, Pamela Peeler, Deborah Pillsbury, Elaine Kielty, Shaun Kielty, Dennis Moore, Jean Lindquist, Stephanie Lammi, Roberta Flashman, Deborah Moylan, Marianna Fourtney-Fyfe, Linda Stacy, James Hargraves, Michael Reggio, Scott Sweeney, Kevin Stetson, Michael McCallum, Elizabeth Woollacott, Deborah O’Hanlon, Sally Bauman, Peter Fischman, Patricia Wayrynen, Susan Suokko, Cathy Kristofferson, Glen Carkin, Francis Despres, Krisnaibai, Andrea Pierce and James Lippincott.

At the close of the polls the ballot box read 1881 voters had cast a ballot; the checkers’ lists tallied 1881 voters had received a ballot.

Lorraine Pease, *Town Clerk*

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Special Town Meeting**

Middlesex, ss:

To: Constable of the Town of Ashby in said County:

Greeting:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Ashby, qualified to vote in elections and town

affairs, to meet at the Elementary School Auditorium in said Ashby, Saturday, November 22, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. to act on the following articles:

### SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES

**Article 1.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$144.20 from the Stipend account to the Prior Year Bills account for the purpose of paying for a prior year Legal Notice for Road Materials Bids bill, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

Brief Explanation: A newspaper legal notice invoice was not paid in FY08 because it was received at the end of June and was thought to be a duplicate bill at that time.

**Article 2.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$7,493.66 from the Stipend account and to transfer the sum of \$219.17 from the Town Office Fuel and Electric account to the Prior Year Bills account for the purpose of paying for two prior year Legal Services bills, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

Brief Explanation: The legal services account was depleted and not able to cover the May and June invoices.

**Article 3.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,032.85 to the Workers Compensation account for the purpose of paying a Workers Compensation Insurance increase, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

Brief Explanation: Because of a marked increase in workers compensation claims, the annual premium increased more than anticipated.

**Article 4.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$5,978.11 from Free Cash to the PEG Access Funds account for the purpose of adjusting the Cables Fees from the General Fund, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

Brief Explanation: During the last few months of FY08 cable fees received were inadvertently credited to the General Fund instead of the PEG Access Fund.

**Article 5.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$889 from the Collector Software account to the Collector Expenses account for the purpose of paying Collector expenses, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

Brief Explanation: The Collector has reduced the software costs and requires these funds for office expenses instead, due to the increase in tax titles to be processed and the cost of training a replacement assistant collector.

**Article 6.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$325 from Free Cash to the Allen Field Expenses account for the purpose of paying for Allen Field expenses, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

Brief Explanation: The increase in the cost of utilities and gas to mow the fields requires additional funds.

**Article 7.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$300 from Free Cash to the Town Common Expenses account for the purpose of paying for Town Common expenses, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

Brief Explanation: The increase in the cost of utilities and lawn mower repairs requires additional funds.

**Article 8.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$958 from Free Cash to the Collector Expenses account for the purpose of paying for Collector expenses, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

Brief Explanation: The Collector was required to order new tax forms after transitioning to the new collector software.

**Article 9.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$300 from Free Cash to the Highway Expenses account for the purpose of paying highway expenses, or take any action thereon.



Finance Committee action: ✓ Approved \_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_ No Action

Brief Explanation: The increase in the cost of utilities requires additional funds.

**Article 10.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$3,557 from Free Cash to the Police Fuel and Electric account and the sum \$7,140 from Free Cash to the Police Expenses account for the purpose of paying police expenses, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action: ✓ Approved \_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_ No Action

Brief Explanation: The increase in the cost of fuel, electric and gasoline requires additional funds. Also included is the estimated cost of prisoner lockup fees that was not included in the FY09 budget.

**Article 11.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$6,250 from Free Cash to the Highway Gas and Diesel account for the purpose of paying for vehicle and equipment fuel, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action: ✓ Approved \_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_ No Action

Brief Explanation: The increase in the cost of fuel and gasoline requires additional funds.

**Article 12.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,013.97 to the Highway Department Wages and \$15 to the Highway Regular Overtime account for the purpose of funding a Highway Union contract, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action: ✓ Approved \_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_ No Action

Brief Explanation: This money is required to fund the FY09 Highway Union contract.

**Article 13.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$14,000 from the Police Wages account, to appropriate the sum of \$4,692.53 from Free Cash and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,602.63 to the Dispatcher Wages account for the purpose of paying for a remedial wage increase and shortfall for the Dispatchers, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action: ✓ Approved \_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_ No Action

Brief Explanation: After determining that Ashby Dispatchers are extremely underpaid, this wage adjustment is needed to hire and retain staff in order to continue to provide 24 hours by 7 days per week emergency call services.

**Article 14.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$4,200 from the Firefighters Wages account to the Fire Chief Salary account for the purpose of paying a salary increase for the Fire Chief, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

Brief Explanation: The Fire Chief salary needs remediation to be commensurate with the Town's public safety positions wages.

**Article 15.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,280 from Free Cash to the Library Building Maintenance Expenses account for the purpose of paying library building expenses, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

Brief Explanation: The cost for maintaining and inspecting the elevator was not included in the FY09 budget.

**Article 16.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$20,500 from Free Cash to a Police Radio System account for the purpose of paying for repeater equipment and portable radios, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

Brief Explanation: There are many areas in town where police officers have no portable radio communications. Infrastructure improvements are needed to correct this situation.

**Article 17.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$5,835 from Free Cash to the Town Hall Expenses account for the purpose of paying town hall expenses, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

Brief Explanation: This article is to purchase a new copier. Heavy usage of the copy machines has burdened both machines and cost approximately \$2,000 annually in repairs to keep them functioning.

**Article 18.** To see if the Town will vote to modify the purpose of Article 13 of the May 3, 2008 Annual Town Meeting to include supplies and expenses, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

Brief Explanation: The purpose that the Library Books Revolving Fund was that the funds were to be used to pay for book and media repairs and replacements only. The language modification would allow for the purchase of supplies needed to prepare books for lending and stamps for mailing overdue notices.

**Article 19.** To see if the Town will vote to designate the Building Inspector as the Town's officer to issue permits and establish reasonable fees pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 82A §2 for the purpose of regulating trenches as that term is defined by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 82A, §4 and 520 CMR 14.00, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

Brief Explanation: The Town is required to comply with this new law that takes effect on January 1, 2009 and requires permit and inspections of trenches.

**Article 20.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,200 to a Trench Inspection Expenses account for the purpose of complying with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 82A, §4 and 520 CMR 14.00, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

Brief Explanation: This new law was enacted as an unfunded mandate. The \$1,200 is an estimate for one-half of FY09.

**Article 21.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$6,800 from Free Cash to the Finance Committee Expenses account for the purpose of developing a community-wide Fiscal Priority Survey, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

Brief Explanation: The Finance Committee has brought this matter forward to ask that the citizens of Ashby be provided the opportunity to establish fiscal priorities through a comprehensive opinion

survey to be used by the Finance Committee as a frame of reference in responding to its statutory responsibility to prepare the annual Town budget in a way that the allocation of financial resources available to the Town reflects the priorities of the townspeople.

**Article 22.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to lay out a statutory private way on the lines of the way known as Sheldon Hill Road, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

Brief Explanation: A statutory private way is open to the public by easement while being maintained by the residents. This article would ask the Selectmen to arrange for a survey to be done when the necessary funds are obtained.

**Article 23.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Laws by inserting the following:

Section 4.11, Utility-Scale Wind Energy Facilities

4.11.1 Purpose: The purpose of this by-law is to provide by special permit for the construction and operation of wind energy facilities (WEF) and to provide standards for the placement, design, construction, monitoring, modification and removal of wind energy facilities that address public safety, minimize impacts on scenic, natural and historic resources of the town and provide adequate financial assurance for decommissioning. The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) is hereby designated as the special permit granting authority for wind energy facilities as provided for in this bylaw.

4.11.1.1 Applicability: This section applies to all wind energy facilities with a rated nameplate capacity of 60 kilowatts or greater. Any physical modifications to existing wind facilities that materially alters the type or increases the size of such facilities or other equipment shall require a special permit.

4.11.2 Definitions

Utility-Scale Wind Energy Facility: A commercial wind energy facility, where the primary use of the facility is electrical generation to be sold to the wholesale electricity markets.

On-Site Wind Energy Facility: A wind project, which is located at a commercial, industrial, agricultural, institutional, or public facility

that will consume more than 50% of the electricity generated by the project on-site.

**Height:** The height of a wind turbine measured from natural grade to the tip of the rotor blade at its highest point, or blade-tip height.

**Rated Nameplate Capacity:** The maximum rated output of electric power production equipment. This output is typically specified by the manufacturer with a “nameplate” on the equipment.

**Substantial Evidence:** Such evidence as a reasonable mind might accept as adequate to support a conclusion.

**Wind Energy Facility:** All equipment, machinery and structures utilized in connection with the conversion of wind to electricity. This includes, but is not limited to, transmission, storage, collection and supply equipment, substations, transformers, service and access roads, and one or more wind turbines.

**Wind Monitoring or Meteorological Tower:** A temporary tower equipped with devices to measure wind speeds and direction, used to determine how much wind power a site can be expected to generate.

**Wind Turbine:** A device that converts kinetic wind energy into rotational energy that drives an electrical generator. A wind turbine typically consists of a tower, nacelle body, and a rotor with two or more blades.

#### 4.11.3. General Requirements

4.11.3.1 Special Permit Granting Authority: No wind facility 60 kilowatts or greater of rated nameplate capacity shall be erected, constructed, installed or modified as provided in this section without first obtaining a permit from the ZBA. The construction of a WEF shall be permitted in the Wind Energy Facility Zoning Overlay District subject to the issuance of a Special Permit, and provided that the use complies with all requirements set forth in sections 4.11.3, 4, 5 and 6. All such WEF shall be constructed and operated in a manner that minimizes any adverse visual, safety, and environmental impacts. No special permit shall be granted unless the ZBA finds in writing that:

- (1) the specific site is an appropriate location for such use;
- (2) the use is not expected to adversely affect the neighborhood;
- (3) there is not expected to be any serious hazard to pedestrians or vehicles from the use;

- (4) no nuisance is expected to be created by the use; and
- (5) adequate and appropriate facilities will be provided for the proper operation of the use.

Such permits may also impose reasonable conditions, safeguards and limitations on time and use and may require the applicant to implement all reasonable measures to mitigate unforeseen adverse impacts of the WEF, should they occur.

Wind monitoring or meteorological towers shall be permitted in all zoning districts subject to issuance of a building permit for a temporary structure and subject to reasonable regulations concerning the bulk and height of structures and determining yard-size, lot area, setbacks, open space, parking, and building coverage requirements.

4.11.3.2 Compliance with Laws, Bylaws and Regulations: The construction and operation of all such proposed WEF shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable safety, construction, environmental, electrical, communications and aviation requirements.

4.11.3.3 Proof of Liability Insurance: The applicant shall be required to provide evidence of liability insurance in an amount and a duration sufficient to cover loss or damage to persons and structures caused by the failure of the WEF.

4.11.3.4 Site Control: At the time of its application for a special permit, the applicant shall submit documentation of actual or prospective control of the project site sufficient to allow for installation and use of the proposed WEF. Documentation shall also include proof of control over setback areas and access roads, if required. Control shall mean the legal authority to prevent the use or construction of any structure for human habitation within the setback areas.

#### 4.11.4 General Siting Standards

4.11.4.1 Height: Wind energy facilities shall be no higher than 400 feet above the current grade of the land.

4.11.4.2 Setbacks: Wind turbines shall be set back a distance equal to 1.5 times the overall blade tip height of the wind turbine from the nearest existing residential, agricultural or commercial building and 100 feet from the nearest property line and private or public way.

4.11.4.3 Setback Waiver: The ZBA may reduce the minimum setback distance as appropriate based on site-specific considerations, if the project satisfies all other criteria for the granting of a special permit under the provisions of this section.

#### 4.11.5 Design Standards

4.11.5.1 Color and Finish: The ZBA shall have discretion to select the turbine color, although a neutral, non-reflective exterior color designed to blend with the surrounding environment is encouraged.

4.11.5.2 Lighting and Signage: WEFs shall be lighted only if required by the Federal Aviation Administration. Lighting of other parts of the WEF, such as appurtenant structures, shall be limited to that required for safety and operational purposes, and shall be reasonably shielded from abutting properties. Signs on the WEF shall comply with the requirements of the town's sign regulations, and shall be limited to those necessary to identify the owner, provide a 24-hour emergency contact phone number, and warn of any danger.

4.11.5.3 Utility Connections: Reasonable efforts shall be made to locate utility connections from the wind facility underground, depending on appropriate soil conditions, shape, and topography of the site and any requirements of the utility provider. Electrical transformers for utility interconnections may be above ground if required by the utility provider.

4.11.5.4 Appurtenant Structures: Structures and buildings shall only be used for housing of equipment for this particular site. Whenever reasonable, structures should be shaded from view by vegetation and/or located in an underground vault and joined or clustered to avoid adverse visual impacts. All such appurtenant structures, including but not limited to, equipment shelters, storage facilities, transformers, and substations, shall be architecturally compatible with each other and shall be contained within the turbine tower whenever technically and economically feasible.

4.11.5.5 Support Towers: Monopole towers are required for WEFs.

#### 4.11.6 Safety, Aesthetic and Environmental Standards

4.11.6.1 Emergency Services: The applicant shall provide a copy of the project summary and site plan to the local emergency services entity, as designated by the ZBA. Upon request, of the ZBA, the

applicant shall cooperate with local emergency services in developing an emergency response plan.

4.11.6.2 Unauthorized Access: Wind turbines or other structures part of a WEF shall be designed to prevent unauthorized access.

4.11.6.3 Shadow/Flicker: WEF's shall be sited in a manner that minimizes shadowing or flicker impacts. The applicant has the burden of proving that this effect does not have significant adverse impact on neighboring or adjacent uses through either siting or mitigation.

4.11.6.4 Noise: The WEF and associated equipment shall conform with the provisions of the Department of Environmental Protection's, (DEP) Division of Air Quality Noise Regulations (310 CMR 7.10), unless the Department and the ZBA agree that those provisions shall not be applicable. A source of sound will be considered to be violating these regulations if the source:

(a) increases the broadband sound level by more than 10 dB(A) above ambient, or

(b) Produces a "pure tone" condition – when an octave band center frequency sound pressure level exceeds the two adjacent center frequency sound pressure levels by 3 decibels or more. These criteria are measured both at the property line and at the nearest inhabited residence. Ambient is defined as the background A-weighted sound level that is exceeded 90% of the time measured during equipment hours. The ambient may also be established by other means with consent from DEP. An analysis prepared by a qualified engineer shall be presented to demonstrate compliance with these noise standards.

The ZBA, in consultation with the DEP, shall determine whether such violations shall be measured at the property line or at the nearest inhabited residence.

4.11.6.5 Land Clearing, Soil Erosion and Habitat Impacts: Clearing of natural vegetation shall be limited to that which is necessary for the construction, operation and maintenance of the WEF and is otherwise prescribed by applicable laws, regulations, and bylaws.

4.11.7 Monitoring and Maintenance

4.11.7(A) Facility Conditions: The applicant shall maintain the WEF in good condition. Maintenance shall include, but not be lim-



ited to, painting, structural repairs, and integrity of security measures. Site access shall be maintained to a level acceptable to the local Fire Chief and Emergency Medical Services. The project owner shall be responsible for the cost of maintaining the wind facility and any access road, unless accepted as a public way, and the cost of repairing any damage occurring as a result of operation and construction of the WEF.

4.11.7(B) Modifications: All material modifications to a WEF made after issuance of the special permit shall require prior approval by the ZBA as provided in this section.

4.11.7(C) Change in Ownership: Notice shall be provided to the ZBA of any change in the ownership of the WEF and the lot on which it is located.

#### 4.11.8 Abandonment or Decommissioning

4.11.8.1 Removal Requirements: Any WEF which has reached the end of its useful life or has been abandoned shall be removed. When the WEF is scheduled to be decommissioned, the owner shall notify the Board of Selectmen and the ZBA by certified mail of the proposed date of discontinued operations and plans for removal. The owner/operator shall physically remove the WEF no more than 90 days after the date of discontinued operations. This period may be extended at the request of the operator and at the discretion of the ZBA. "Physically Remove" shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Removal of all wind turbines, structures, shelters, machinery, equipment, security barriers and transmission lines from the site;
- (2) Disposal of all solid and hazardous waste in accordance with local and state waste disposal regulations; and
- (3) Restoration of the location of the WEF to its natural condition, except the ZBA may allow the owner to leave landscaping or designated below-grade foundations in order to minimize erosion and disruption to vegetation.

4.11.8.2 Abandonment: Absent notice of a proposed date of decommissioning, the WEF shall be considered abandoned when the facility fails to operate for more than 180 days without the written consent of the ZBA. The ZBA shall determine in its Special Permit decision what proportion of the facility operations would have to be suspended for the facility to be considered abandoned.

4.11.8.3 Financial Surety: The ZBA may require the applicant for WEF to provide a form of surety, either through escrow account, bond or other form of security satisfactory to the ZBA, prior to the commencement of construction of the facility, to cover the cost of removal in the event the ZBA must order removal of the facility. The amount of such surety shall be equal to one hundred twenty five (125) percent of the cost of removal and compliance with Section 4.11.8.1. Such surety will not be required for municipally or state-owned facilities. The applicant shall submit a fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal, prepared by a qualified engineer calculated to include Cost of Living Adjustments after ten (10) and fifteen (15) years.

4.11.9 Term of Special Permit: A special permit issued for any WEF shall be valid for 25 years, unless the Special Permit is extended or renewed upon a finding of satisfactory operation of the facility. Request for renewal must be submitted at least 180 days prior to expiration of the Special Permit. Upon the expiration of the Special Permit or any renewal thereof, the WEF shall be removed by the operator in accordance with Section 4.11.8.1.

The applicant or facility owner shall maintain a phone number and identify a responsible person for the public to contact with inquiries and complaints throughout the life of the project.

4.11.10. Application Process

The ZBA shall adopt rules and regulations relative to application procedures and requirements for WEF Special Permits.

, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved  Disapproved  No Action

Brief Explanation: This article would allow 60kw and larger wind turbines by special permit in designated overlay districts.

**Article 24.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$3,065,000 to pay costs of designing, constructing, originally equipping and furnishing a new Police Station, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto; to determine whether this amount should be raised by taxation for capital outlay expenditures which appropriation shall be contingent upon the passage of a so-called Proposition two and one-half override vote under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(i 1/2), transfer

from available funds, borrowing which appropriation shall be contingent upon the passage of a so-called Proposition two and one-half override vote, under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(j), or any other enabling authority, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action: \_\_\_ Approved  Disapproved \_\_\_ No Action

Brief Explanation: Ashby’s current police station is inadequate being housed in temporary classrooms not designed for the purpose, not enough space, expensive to maintain and in a poor state of repair.

**Article 25.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$38,696.44 which appropriation shall be contingent upon the passage of a so-called Proposition two and one-half override vote, under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(g), or any other enabling authority, and, if said ballot vote passes, to amend the FY2009 operating budget under Article 8 of the May 3, 2008 Annual Town Meeting by increasing the Highway Department wages account in the amount by \$25,575.44, and by increasing the Employee Benefit Expenses account by \$12,600 and FICA account by \$521 for the purpose of reinstating and paying for the wages of a Highway Department Truck Driver/Laborer and general employee benefits, or take any action thereon.

Finance Committee action:  Approved \_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_ No Action

Brief Explanation: The Highway Department continues to operate with one less worker than required.

And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting an attested copy in at least three (3) public places in said Ashby fourteen (14) days at least before holding of said meeting. Hereof, fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 5th day of November, 2008.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Geoffrey Woollacott  
*Chairman*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter McMurray  
*Procurement*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel Meunier  
*Clerk*

ASHBY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

By virtue of this precept, I have posted three (3) attested copies of the foregoing warrant in three (3) public places in said Ashby at least fourteen days before the time of said Special Town Meeting.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
William A. Davis  
CONSTABLE OF ASHBY

**RESULTS OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
November 22, 2008**

The warrant was returned to the Town Clerk by Constable William Davis at 9:15 AM.

With a quorum present, the Moderator Peter Rourke called the meeting to order at 9:36 AM.

The warrant showed it had been properly served.

The motion was made and seconded to waive the reading of the warrant, and so voted.

The motion was made and seconded to allow the moderator to declare a two-thirds vote, and so voted.

The rules of the meeting were read.

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES**

**Article 1.** The motion was made and seconded to transfer the sum of \$144.20 from the Stipend account to the Prior Year Bills account for the purpose of paying for a prior year Legal Notice for Road Materials Bids bill.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 2.** The motion was made and seconded to transfer the sum of \$7,493.66 from the Stipend account and to transfer the sum of \$219.17 from the Town Office Fuel and Electric account to the

Prior Year Bills account for the purpose of paying for two prior year Legal Services bills.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 3.** The motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,032.85 to the Workers Compensation account for the purpose of paying a Workers Compensation Insurance increase.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 4.** The motion was made and seconded to appropriate the sum of \$5,978.11 from Free Cash to the PEG Access Funds account for the purpose of adjusting the Cables Fees from the General Fund.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 5.** The motion was made and seconded to transfer the sum of \$889 from the Collector Software account to the Collector Expenses account for the purpose of paying Collector expenses.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 6.** The motion was made and seconded to appropriate the sum of \$325 from Free Cash to the Allen Field Expenses account for the purpose of paying for Allen Field expenses.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 7.** The motion was made and seconded to appropriate the sum of \$300 from Free Cash to the Town Common Expenses account for the purpose of paying for Town Common expenses.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 8.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$958 from Free Cash to the Collector Expenses account for the purpose of paying for Collector expenses.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 9.** The motion was made and seconded to appropriate the sum of \$300 from Free Cash to the Highway Expenses account for the purpose of paying highway expenses.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 10.** The motion was made and seconded to appropriate the sum of \$3,557 from Free Cash to the Police Fuel and Electric account and the sum \$7,140 from Free Cash to the Police Expenses account for the purpose of paying police expenses.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 11.** The motion was made and seconded to appropriate the sum of \$6,250 from Free Cash to the Highway Gas and Diesel account for the purpose of paying for vehicle and equipment fuel.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 12.** The motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,013.97 to the Highway Department Wages and \$15 to the Highway Regular Overtime account for the purpose of funding a Highway Union contract.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 13.** The motion was made and seconded to transfer the sum of \$14,000 from the Police Wages account, to appropriate the sum of \$4,692.53 from Free Cash and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,602.63 to the Dispatcher Wages account for the purpose of paying for a remedial wage increase and shortfall for the Dispatchers.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 14.** The motion was made and seconded to transfer the sum of \$4,200 from the Firefighters Wages account to the Fire Chief Salary account for the purpose of paying a salary increase for the Fire Chief.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 15.** The motion was made and seconded to appropriate the sum of \$2,280 from Free Cash to the Library Building Maintenance Expenses account for the purpose of paying library building expenses.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 16.** The motion was made and seconded to appropriate the sum of \$20,500 from Free Cash to a Police Radio System account for the purpose of paying for repeater equipment and portable radios.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 17.** The motion was made and seconded to appropriate the sum of \$5,835 from Free Cash to the Town Hall Expenses account for the purpose of paying town hall expenses.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 18.** The motion was made and seconded to modify the purpose of Article 13 of the May 3, 2008 Annual Town Meeting to include supplies and expenses.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 19.** The motion was made and seconded to designate the Building Inspector as the Town's officer to issue permits and establish reasonable fees pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 82A §2 for the purpose of regulating trenches as that term is defined by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 82A, §4 and 520 CMR 14.00.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 20.** The motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,200 to a Trench Inspection Expenses account for the purpose of complying with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 82A, §4 and 520 CMR 14.00.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 21.** The motion was made and seconded to appropriate the sum of \$6,800 from Free Cash to the Finance Committee Expenses account for the purpose of developing a community-wide Fiscal Priority Survey.

VOTE: DEFEATED

**Article 22.** The motion was made and seconded to authorize the Board of Selectmen to lay out a statutory private way on the lines of the way known as Sheldon Hill Road.

VOTE: PASSED

**Article 23.** The motion was made and seconded to amend the Zoning By-Laws as printed in the warrant.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**Article 24.** The motion was made and seconded to appropriate the sum of \$3,065,000 to pay costs of designing, constructing, originally equipping and furnishing a new Police Station, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto; to determine whether this amount should be raised by taxation for capital outlay expenditures which appropriation shall be contingent upon the passage of a so-called Proposition two and one-half override vote under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(i1/2), transfer from available funds, borrowing which appropriation shall be contingent upon the passage of a so-called Proposition two and one-half override vote, under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(j), or any other enabling authority.

Passage of this article requires a 2/3 vote.

VOTE: YES- 56 NO- 52 DEFEATED

**Article 25.** The motion was made and seconded to postpone indefinitely Article 25.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

The motion was made and seconded to dissolve the Special Town Meeting at 12:26 PM , and so voted.

Lorraine Pease  
*Ashby Town Clerk*



**BALLOT FOR ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION APRIL 27, 2009**

SELECTMAN, Three Years Joseph W. Casey 699 Main St.	VOTE FOR ONE
ASSESSOR, Three Years Oliver H. Mutch 732 Pillsbury Rd.	VOTE FOR ONE Candidate for Re-Election
COLLECTOR, Three years Beth Ann Scheid 114 New Ipswich Rd.	VOTE FOR ONE Candidate for Re-Election
BOARD OF HEALTH, Three Years Nicholas A. Murray 420 South Rd.	VOTE FOR ONE Candidate for Re-Election
BOARD OF HEALTH, Two Years Bruce Adams 1223 Richardson Rd.	VOTE FOR ONE
PLANNING BOARD, Five Years James Hargraves 50 Wood Drive	VOTE FOR ONE Candidate for Re-Election
CEMETERY COMMISSIONER, Three Years Daniel Harju 456 Wheeler Rd.	VOTE FOR ONE Candidate for Re-Election
PARK COMMISSIONER, Three Years April R. Tammone 126 Jones Hill Rd.	VOTE FOR ONE
PARK COMMISSIONER, Two Years	VOTE FOR ONE

LIBRARY TRUSTEES, Three Years

John P. Mickola  
590 Jones Hill Rd.

Mary O’Friel  
699 Main St.

Michelle Thomas  
66 Nash Rd.

VOTE FOR THREE  
Candidate for Re-Election

LIBRARY TRUSTEE, One year

Diane Lundin  
134 Piper Rd.

VOTE FOR ONE

TREE WARDEN, Two Years

VOTE FOR ONE



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