

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
OFFICERS, BOARDS
and
COMMITTEES
of the
TOWN OF MERRIMAC
MASSACHUSETTS

For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2017



**IN MEMORY OF THOSE
WHO HAVE HELD PUBLIC OFFICE**

**In the
TOWN OF MERRIMAC**



Geraldine Raper
Council on Aging

Eileen Hurley
Board of Health/Appeals Board

Constance Hoyt
Council on Aging/Board of Health

Debra Champagne
Town Accountant/Town Building Committee/Finance Committee/Recycling Committee

Robert Nevins
Playground Committee/Cable Committee

Nancy Deminie
Donaghue School

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DIRECTORY OF ELECTED OFFICERS

Moderator – One Year

Robert Bender Term Expires 2017

Board of Selectmen – Three Years

Hal Lloyd, Chairman (thru 4/12/17) Term Expires 2019

W. Earl Baumgardner Term Expires 2017

Andrew D. Connor Term Expires 2018

Board of Assessors – Three Years

Louise Lingerman Term Expires 2019

William Pollman Term Expires 2017

Edward R. Davis, Chairman Term Expires 2018

Planning Board – Five Years

Dennis Brodie Term Expires 2021

John Thomas Term Expires 2017

Ronald Barnes Term Expires 2018

Sandy Venner, Chairperson Term Expires 2019

Karol Flannery Term Expires 2020

Patricia True, Secretary

Constables – Three Years

Arthur Evans Term Expires 2019

Keith Pollman Term Expires 2019

Town Clerk – Three Years

Gwendolyn Lay Sabbagh Term Expires 2019

Board of Health – Three Years

Jason D. Sargent, Chairperson Term Expires 2019

Karen Gray Term Expires 2017

Harold Lloyd Term Expires 2018

School Committee – Three Years

Joanna Blanchard Term Expires 2019

Brian Page Term Expires 2017

Wayne Adams Term Expires 2018

Library Trustees – Three Years

Jeffrey W. Hoyt	Term Expires 2019
Susan Kern	Term Expires 2019
Yvonne Cosgrove	Term Expires 2017
Linda Getz	Term Expires 2017
Susan M. Coburn	Term Expires 2018
Jennifer Brown	Term Expires 2018

Municipal Light Commissioners – Three Years

Larry Fisher	Term Expires 2019
Norman R. Denault	Term Expires 2017
Paula Hamel (appointed 7/2016)	Term Expires 2018

Cemetery Trustees – Three Years

Tom Barry	Term Expires 2019
Sandra Brown	Term Expires 2017
Patricia Casey	Term Expires 2018

Merrimac Housing Authority – Five Years

C. Shirley Jones	Term Expires 2021
Candie Benjamin	Term Expires 2017
Stephen P. True, Vice Treasurer	Term Expires 2018
Henry A. Beadoin	Term Expires 2019
Richard Emery, State Appointee	Term Expires 2021

DIRECTORY OF APPOINTED OFFICERS

Finance Committee

Richard LeSavoy, Co-Chairman
Christine Berube
Ann Crowell
Stuart Egenberg

Paula Hamel
Lana Scully (deceased)
James Archibald
Mike Marden

Board of Appeals

Arthur Amirault
Gordon Broz, Alternate
Ronald Danduran
Kathleen Marshall, Secretary

Edward Mills
Joshua Jackson, Vice Chair
Ellen Janelli

Conservation Commission

Robert Prokop, Chairman
Jon Pearson
Arthur Yarranton
Mary Hess

Dennis Hogan
Janet Terry
Jay Smith, Agent
Gregory Hochmuth

Building Inspector

Robert Sinibaldi

Local Inspector

Denis Nadeau

Plumbing & Gas Inspector

Ronald Caruso

Wiring Inspector

William Nutter

Department of Public Works

Robert Sinibaldi

Highway Department

Tom Barry, Foreman

Fire Department

Ralph Spencer, Chief

Board of Registrars

Betty Eliot Gwendolyn Lay Rebekah Reynolds

Town Counsel

Ashod N. Amirian

Town Accountant

Anne O. Jim

Finance Director & Treasurer

Carol A. McLeod

Tax Collector

Geraldine A. Gozycki

Selectmen's Executive Assistant

Jennifer Penney

Cable Access Director

Carol Traynor

Rent Control Board

Arthur Evans Harold Lloyd (thru 4/12/17) Joel Breen elected 06/26/17 Sandy Venner

Animal Care & Control Officer

Lisa Young

Cultural Council

Gillian Hosman

Carole Sokolowski

Laura Champion

Aysim Dalmau

Eleanor Hope McCarthy

Julia Bethmann

Christian Corkery

Richard Olsen

Veteran's Agent

Kevin Hunt

Historical Commission

Jeffrey W. Hoyt, Chairman Carl Walden Yvonne D. Cosgrove

Council on Aging

Laura Dillingham-Mailman, Director

Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello, Chairperson

Candie Benjamin

Nancy Bachelder, Food Pantry Coordinator

David Dutton

Natalie Christie, Emeritus

Dorothy Lumsden

James Murphy

David Vance

Betty Elliot

Lucy St. Pierre

Maryann Mikson

Emergency Management Director

Ralph W. Spencer, Chief

Open Space Committee

Carrie Rennie, Chair Mal Briggles Sandra Venner

Parks and Recreation

Harold Lloyd
Raymond Marquis

Robert Smith
Todd Durocher

Town Nurse

Charlotte Eileen Stepanian

Capital Planning Committee

Ricky J. Pinciario, Chairman
Sandra Venner
W. Earl Baumgardner, Selectmen's Rep.

Richard LeSavoy, Finance Committee Rep.
Janet Bruno

Affordable Housing Board of Trustees

Sandra Venner, Chairperson
Hal Lloyd, Selectman (thru 4/12/17)
Phillip Parry
Josh Jackson

Martha Crook
Laura Dillingham-Mailman
Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello

Playground Committee

Laura Costigan
Rachel Judkins
Katie Moskal
Erica Tirrell

Kathleen Philp
Danielle Grimes
Tara Murphy
Andrea Zimmern

The Board of Selectmen would like to thank all those who have served the town this past year,
especially the ones who have retired or moved on.

2017
TOWN OF MERRIMAC RETIREES

Martina Follansbee
Library Director

Geraldine Morenski
Outreach Coordinator

Ashod Amirian
Town Counsel

Best wishes on your retirement!

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MERRIMAC BOARD OF SELECTMEN

**For the year ending 2017
Dear Residents of Merrimac,**

The fiscal year 2017 proved to be an interesting one for the Board. Multiple projects are underway or in the planning process.

We receive several grants to demolish the building and investigate further cleanup of the former Coastal Metals site. The town has entered into a purchase and sale agreement on this site along with the old fire station to North Shore Development Coalition. The demolition should be complete in the spring of 2018 followed by a proposed 30-unit friendly 40B project.

We have faced an ever-increasing school budget and talks are underway regarding a future school building project. Options discussed for the high school and middle school include rebuild or improvements-a new high school and middle school building, a new high school with repair to the middle school or simply a repair to both schools. It's the Board's understanding that all three proposals must be submitted to the MSBA for their approval of one of them.

We also have an anticipated construction project of our own. That being a much-needed police station. The site of the proposed station is land donated by the developer of Regency Village, a new 98 unit, over 55 apartment complex on West Main Street. In the spring of 2017, the town voted against a special article to appropriate \$15,000,000 to pay costs of designing, constructing, equipping and furnishing a new police station, a new DPW facility and the renovation, equipping and furnishing of the existing Public Safety Building. Subsequently, in the fall of 2017, the Town voted to appropriate \$500,000 to pay costs of engineering and design of a new police station. We cannot forget that the Fire Department and the Department of Public Works will need new buildings in the future, and it will be important to plan as the current building is past physical and economic life and continues to fall apart around those that put their lives on the line to keep us all safe.

We have an increasing senior population and this growth will need to be monitored so that we may continue to meet the needs of our elders. The Town of Merrimac will also need to look for ways to bring in new revenue if we are going to survive the future, as many people already know we function with a very tight budget every year. Tax revenues from new growth should increase but the town faces mounting costs as the sewer and water infrastructure is in need of upgrading which will be addressed in the coming years.

After much controversy surrounding marijuana sales, the town held a special election, which passed an article banning all retail marijuana sales. The implementation of proposed medical marijuana dispensary will continue into 2018. Residents also voted for Carol Traynor to fill a 2 year unexpired term for Selectman, left vacant by Harold Lloyd who resigned in April. Earl Baumgardner left his term with the hopes of re-election, but victorious in the spring election was Joel Breen, a newcomer to Town politics, who has proven to be a welcomed edition. We wish to thank both Hal and Earl for their time and dedication to the Town.

The Board would like to acknowledge and thank the playground committee for their dedication to the project to build a playground at the Donaghue School. Limited funding has created some challenges and work continues on this project as well.

It is important for our community to focus on the needs of its residents. Merrimac still holds small town values and cares deeply for our friends and neighbors. You can see 2017 was a busy year for the Board. However, with the guidance from all of you and the hard work and diligence of the town employees, we will continue to make Merrimac a place we can all be proud of to call home. I feel that to continue in a progressive direction, we need to encourage volunteerism for town boards and committees. Please consider the opportunity to serve the town and its residents. Lastly, It is with a heavy heart that I chose not to run for re-election as It has been my pleasure to serve the residents of Merrimac.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew D. Connor, Chairman

Joel Breen, Clerk

Carol Traynor, Member

2016 REPORT OF THE MERRIMAC FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department had its busiest year in the history of the department with 1081 calls for the year. That averages over 100 calls a month.

The Department was awarded a Grant in the amount of \$18,000 for new air packs from the Assistance Firefighters Grant. Thanks to all involved in getting this grant.

We had 2 Firefighters finish and pass the Firefighter I II class to become certified Firefighters. Congratulations to Nicole Richard and Zack Brickett for all your efforts.

The Fire Department received a six wheel John Deere Gator from the Department of Recreation and Conservation at no cost to the Town. We made a few minor repairs and painted it to match the rest of the apparatus in the station. Thanks to all who helped in this effort.

The Town voted to replace the 1983 Ladder Tower with a newer one and it will arrive February 2018 after repairs and testing is done.

I wish to thank Deputy Fisher for all his time with training and Fire Investigations this past year, and to Deputy Habgood for his continued efforts in bringing the best Ambulance Service and ALS service to town.

To the residents of the town We all want to thank you for your support that you give us year after year, you don't know how much this is appreciated.

To the members of the Merrimac Fire Department I know we had a very taxing year with all the calls but once again you came through this with a smile and knowing you have done a great job.

Respectfully Submitted
Chief Ralph W Spencer



Eric M. Shears
Chief of Police

MERRIMAC POLICE DEPARTMENT



16 East Main Street
Merrimac, Massachusetts 01860

Tel: 978-346-8321
Fax: 978-346-0592

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE 2017

To: The Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of the Town of Merrimac, Massachusetts;

I continue to be honored serving as Merrimac's Chief of Police. The Merrimac Police Department is committed to providing quality police services to this community. I am very proud of my staff. They are well-trained, hard-working and dedicated to the citizens of Merrimac.

As our community continues to grow, we are facing many new challenges.

Our call volume and the seriousness of the calls we are responding to has increased year after year. The men and women of this department are putting forth tremendous efforts to keep up with our increased workloads, many times, as the sole officer responding. This presents a risk to both the officer and our community. When looking at comparably sized communities, even those without a major highway running through, we are understaffed and will need to begin addressing this issue in future budget years. I am happy to report that we have added a patrolman's position in 2017.

We are all made aware, every time we pick up a newspaper or turn on the news, that our country is continuing to face an opiate epidemic. Where perhaps in the past, we only heard of drug issues in larger cities, our officers respond on a regular basis to drug related incidents and other crimes involving men and women suffering from drug addiction. To put this in perspective, here are some interesting statistics regarding opiate overdoses in Merrimac.

- In 2016, we responded to seven (7) opiate overdoses.
- In 2017, we responded to eighteen (18) opiate overdoses.

Notice the 157% increase from 2016 to 2017. Unfortunately, I believe we will continue to see an increase in 2018. Please know that we are available to assist folks who are battling a substance use disorder.

As most of you now know, we have outgrown our facility and it is in disrepair. In late 2014, the Board of Selectmen appointed a public safety building committee to deal with this issue. The Committee has recommended that we build a new police station on a donated piece of land off West Main Street. In the fall of 2017, the Town voted to approve \$500,000 to fund the design and engineering of the new building. In early 2018, the committee will have hired an Owner's Project Manager and then will go out to bid for design services for this facility. We may be looking for approval for construction costs at the 2018 Fall Town Meeting.

We would like to thank our residents, the Board of Selectmen, the finance committee, capital planning and the entire staff at town hall for their continued support. We are also thankful for the public safety partnerships we enjoy with our Fire Department, Emergency Management, Department of Public Works, Light Department and the Pentucket Regional School District. Working together, we continue to provide for the safety and security of our "little" town.

It is truly a pleasure to serve as the Chief of Police in Merrimac. The men and women of the Merrimac Police Department remain dedicated to our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric M. Shears

Chief of Police

Merrimac Police Department

2017

Eric M. Shears
Chief of Police

Richard P. Holcroft
Operations /
Investigations Sergeant

Jennifer Sforza
Administrative
Assistant

David J. Vance
Operations /
Investigations Sergeant

Patrolmen

Stephen A. Ringuette
Patrolman

Jeffrey D. Boisvert
Patrolman

Robert F. Coppola
Patrolman

Stephen E. Beaulieu
Patrolman

Gina A. Bertelli
Patrolman

Reserve Officers

Michael R. McGrath
Reserve Officer

Mark E. Sayers
Reserve Officer

Stephen E. Beaulieu
Reserve Officer

Michael A. D'Angelo
Reserve Officer

Adam E. White
Reserve Officer

Michael Arahovites
Reserve Officer

Chris Maguire
Reserve Officer

David Rosquete
Reserve Officer

Scott LaValley
Reserve Officer

Anthony Harris
Reserve Officer

Police & Fire Signal Operators

Mark E. Sayers
Dispatch Supervisor

Kathy A. Spencer
Dispatcher

Jacob R. Wallace
Dispatcher

James R. Stoner
Dispatcher

Part-Time Police & Fire Signal Operators

Tenley Goodwin
Reserve Dispatcher

Al Pesci
Reserve Dispatcher

Michael Arahovites
Reserve Dispatcher

David J. Rosquete
Reserve Dispatcher

Matthew McGoldrick
Reserve Dispatcher

Katelyn E. Drago
Reserve Dispatcher

Tara Bernard
Reserve Dispatcher

Joelle Mather
Reserve Dispatcher

John DePippo
Reserve Dispatcher

Jonathan Hewey
Reserve Dispatcher

Police Matrons

Kathy A. Spencer
Matron

Jennifer D. Marden
Matron

Katelyn E. Drago
Matron

Tenley Goodwin
Matron

Tara Bernard
Matron

2017 Calls by Dispatch Reason			
Intelligence	75	General Services	952
Rape / Sexual Assault	1	Welfare Check	94
Robbery (Unarmed)	2	Officer Wanted	363
Assault & Battery	3	Provide Escort	0
B & E (Attempted)	2	Prisoner Transport	15
B&E Building	6	Assist Citizen	402
B&E Motor Vehicle	11	Building Check	4010
Larceny / Personal Property	19	Message Delivery	14
Larceny by Check	4	Animal Incident (ACO)	201
Larceny of Motor Vehicle	4	Assist Municipal Agencies	220
Arson / Bombing	0	Utility Alarm / Emergency	104
Kidnapping (Parental)	0	Medical Emergency	588
Assault (Threats / No Battery)	0	Mental Health Emergency	32
Forgery & Counterfeiting	0	Intoxicated Person	2
Stalking	1	FIRE ALARM - Street Box	28
Vandalism Complaint	8	FIRE ALARM - Brush Fire	4
Weapons Violation	0	FIRE ALARM - Car Fire	9
Sex Offenses	2	FIRE ALARM - Structure Fire	5
Drug Law Violations	3	FIRE ALARM - Investigation	159
Gaming Law Violation	1	FIRE ALARM - Mutual Aid	52
Intoxicated Driver Complaint	1	Burglar Alarm	109
Disorderly Conduct	9	Confer with other PD	1
209A Violation	2	Assist Other Police Department	216
209A Order Received	7	Motor Vehicle Stop	1974
Officer Investigation	157	Motor Vehicle Listing	32
Warrant Arrest	23	Parking Violation	65
Larceny of a Bicycle	2	RADAR Assignment	636
General Offenses	17	Motor Vehicle Complaint (Speed)	51
Trespass Complaint	11	Motor Vehicle Accidents	121
Civil Complaint	35	Traffic Control	51
Juvenile Offense	3	Abandoned MV Complaint	6
Town Bylaw Violation	0	Disabled MV Complaint	144
Missing Person	9	Inter - Department Services	6
Lost / Found Property	60	Court (On Duty)	34
Disturbance (General)	10	911 Calls	82
Domestic Disturbance	33	Servicing Cruiser	679
Disturbance (School)	1	Community Service	2
Disturbance (Group)	5	Radio Communications Maint.	0
Hazard / Youths in Street	79	Pursuit (MV or Foot)	3
Disturbance (Noise)	58	Service of Legal Process	42
Annoying Harassing Phone Calls	25		
Suspicious Activity	179	TOTAL	12,384
Boating Complaint	0		
ATV / Dirt bike Complaint	8		

ADULT ARRESTS

Male Arrests	40
Female Arrests	22

JUVENILE ARRESTS

Male Juvenile Arrests.....	0
Female Juvenile Arrests	0

PROTECTIVE CUSTODY

Male PC	2
Female PC	1

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT APPLICATIONS

Various Criminal Offenses	69
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TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

Total Motor Vehicle Stops.....	1974
Verbal Warnings	1675
Written Warnings	184
Civil Citations	45
Criminal Complaints	70



MERRIMAC DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES

Kevin Hunt
Director

Telephone: 978 388-8136

TOWN OF MERRIMAC
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MERRIMAC, MA 01860

What follows is the annual report from The Department of Veterans' Services.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER 115 BENEFITS:

This department was able to assist veterans or family members this past year under M.G.L. Chapter 115. This is emergency financial assistance provided to financially qualified veterans or their surviving spouses. Any money expended to these veterans under Chapter 115 is returned to the Town by the State at the rate of \$.75 to the dollar expended. In 2017, approximately \$86,400 was expended to eligible veterans and their families, of which \$64,800 is returned to the Town..

VETERANS DAY:

Thanks to the efforts of Commander Roger Clark, the members of Post 134 of the American Legion, and The Council On Aging, Veterans Day was commemorated on November 11, 2017 with sit-down meal and the spirit of patriotism.

MEMORIAL DAY FLAGS:

Again, thanks to the efforts of Commander Clark and the members of Post 134 of the American Legion, veterans' graves and memorials were appropriately decorated with American Flags before Memorial Day in 2017.

VA COMPENSATION AND PENSIONS:

This department continues to assist and secure various VA benefits -- service connected and non-service connected -- disability compensations and pensions. Last year, the Federal Department of Veterans' Affairs distributed nearly \$745,000 to Merrimac veterans and/or their surviving spouses as compensation or pension. The Veterans' Office assists veterans in applying for these benefits. The Town of Merrimac does not have to pay anything to receive these funds, much of which is spent within the Town.

VA HEALTH CARE:

This department assisted and secured various VA medical benefits for service and non-service connected veterans. These medical benefits included short and long-term medical treatments at the VA satellite Clinic in Haverhill and VA Hospitals in the surrounding area.

SOCIAL SECURITY :

This department continues to assist and refer veterans seeking benefits from Social Security.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Hunt
Director of Veterans' Services
Town of Merrimac

Robert Stanwood
Associate Director
Town of Merrimac

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
22 Main Street
West Newbury, MA 01985
Telephone (978) 363-2280
Fax (978) 363-1165

Dr. Jeffrey J. Mulqueen
Superintendent of Schools

Greg Labrecque
Business Manager

The Merrimac Annual Report of the School Department activities for FY17 has been developed by the Principal of the Frederick N. School, Helen R. Donaghue School, Pentucket Regional Middle School and Pentucket Regional High School on behalf of the Superintendent of Schools and the Pentucket Regional School Committee.

Lisa O'Connor, Chairwoman
Andy Murphy, Vice Chairman
Jack Willett, Assistant Treasurer
Brian Page, Secretary
Joanna Blanchard
Wayne Adams
Christine Reading
Doug Gelina
Dena Trotta

MERRIMAC SCHOOLS
Annual Report Fiscal Year 2016-2017

General Overview

It continues to be an exciting time to represent the Pentucket Regional School District and the Merrimac Schools as we endeavor to provide a World Class education to the students of Merrimac, MA. The Merrimac Schools, a philosophical consolidation of the two schools in Merrimac while maintaining a two campus structure, has committed to the implementation of the International Baccalaureate Primary Pentucket

Regional High School
Annual Report Fiscal Year 2016-17

The 2016-2017 school year was productive at Pentucket Regional High School. Student enrollment was 739 and comprised of 157 from West Newbury, 270 from Groveland, 276 from Merrimac, and 36 school choice students.

Below is a summary of activities that took place in the areas of curriculum, instruction, assessment and other areas of interest.

Teachers continued to develop their course curriculum and worked to incorporate District Determined Measures of progress in the areas of Technical Academic Knowledge, Personal Meaning and Adaptive leadership skills in all of their classes. These elements come together into high powered units of instruction where students are expected to apply what they have learned.

Pentucket's Innovation Academies in Safety/Public Service, Movement Science/Athletics, Arts Academy, Music Conservatory, STEM and Business Finance and Entrepreneurship saw more students than ever engage with classes and activities related to career and post high school study options. Students who accumulated at least 25 credits were recognized at Graduation. This year 11 students in the Music Conservatory, 14 students in the Safety and Public Service Academy, 14 students in the STEM Academy, 17 students in the Arts Academy and 26 students in the Movement Science Athletics Academy received special recognition.

Pentucket High School students continue to excel on state assessments with 98% of students scoring Advanced or Proficient in MCAS ELA, 87% of students scoring Advanced or Proficient in Biology and 88% of students scoring Advanced and Proficient in Math.

Expanded programming throughout the year resulted in learning opportunities at unique times including a series of Saturday workshops at Mass Art in Boston, Summer Semester classes where approximately 200 students were enrolled in Visual Art, Social Studies, English and Public Safety courses. The Movement Science and Athletics Academy has partnered with Merrimack College to allow students to earn college credits when they successfully complete Anatomy and Physiology I & II through concurrent enrollment.

Once again numerous students received awards for their sportsmanship, talent and hard work through musical and artistic competitions as well as athletics.

The school district continued to progress through the MSBA building project process. After completing the Eligibility Phase of the process the district was invited into the Feasibility Study phase. During this phase a Building Committee was formed. The building committee made much progress during this past year as they participated in the process to recommend and hire an Owner's Project Manager and a Designer. There are many more important steps ahead during the 2017-18 year.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan P. Seymour

**Pentucket Regional Middle School
Annual Report Fiscal Year 2016-2017**

Demographic Information

The Pentucket Regional Middle School is located in the town of West Newbury, Massachusetts, and serves the students in grades 7 (207 students) and 8 (215 students) from West Newbury (108), Merrimac (128), and Groveland (162). The Middle School is located on the regional secondary campus and is the first regional experience students have outside their home community.

School Highlights from 2016-2017

- Early High School credit classes offered in ELA, Mathematics, Science and Innovation Schools
- Academic Schedule designed around student choice and elective courses
- Students benefit from music ensembles built into the school day
- Professional Walkthroughs continue to guide instructional design
- Grade 8 holds entire grade level completion ceremony to celebrate as one group on the new track infield
- PRMS using Twitter and Instagram to communicate school information - @PentucketMS

Below is a summary of activities at PRMS that took place in the areas of curriculum, instruction, assessment, and community service.

Curriculum

- Teachers use Pentucket Curriculum of technical knowledge, adaptive leadership skills, and personal meaning to accelerated student learning
- Middle school teachers participate in phase 1 of the Pentucket Curriculum Renewal process.
- Accelerated Science, ELA, and Algebra offered to grade 8 students as elective classes for early high school credit
- Schedule designed with student elective and choice of courses as the priority
- All professional staff implement District Determined Measures (DDMs).
- Enriching extracurricular activities support student choice and ideas

Instruction

- Innovation School expansion includes the middle school with 6 academies scheduled for 2015-2016 school year
- High School Department Chairs meet with middle school departments to align a curriculum for a grade 7-12 system of instruction
- Business Seminar, Sports Medicine I and Healthy Athlete offered as Innovation School pathway courses
- Orchestra offered as a 7-12 large ensemble for the first time

Assessment

- Professional staff implement District Determined Measures (DDMs) using PRSD model of essential question, skills, and outcomes.
- Elective math assessment provided for all grade 6 and grade 7 students to help families with accelerated math elective decision.
- PRMS administered MCAS 2.0 state assessments for ELA and Math as a computer based test (CBT) for the first time. Science Technology and Engineering MCAS was administered to grade 8 as a paper based test.

Community Service

- Organized food and clothing drives for local community organizations
- Organized blanket and cleaning supplies drive for local animal shelters
- Supported after school seasonal activities at district elementary schools
- Organized toy drive for Holiday season
- Organized supply drive for U.S. soldiers serving overseas

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth Kelley

PENTUCKET REGIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL
Annual Report Fiscal Year 2016-2017
Demographic Information

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School Highlights from 2016-2017

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- Academic Schedule designed around student choice and elective courses
- Students benefit from music ensembles built into the school day
- Professional Walkthroughs continue to guide instructional design
- Grade 8 holds entire grade level completion ceremony to celebrate as one group on the new track infield
- PRMS using Twitter and Instagram to communicate school information - @PentucketMS

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- Middle school teachers participate in phase 1 of the Pentucket Curriculum Renewal process.
- Accelerated Science, ELA, and Algebra offered to grade 8 students as elective classes for early high school credit
- Schedule designed with student elective and choice of courses as the priority
- All professional staff implement District Determined Measures (DDMs).
- Enriching extracurricular activities support student choice and ideas

Instruction

- Innovation School expansion includes the middle school with 6 academies scheduled for 2015-2016 school year
- High School Department Chairs meet with middle school departments to align a curriculum for a grade 7-12 system of instruction
- Business Seminar, Sports Medicine I and Healthy Athlete offered as Innovation School pathway courses
- Orchestra offered as a 7-12 large ensemble for the first time

Assessment

- Professional staff implement District Determined Measures (DDMs) using PRSD model of essential question, skills, and outcomes.
- Elective math assessment provided for all grade 6 and grade 7 students to help families with accelerated math elective decision.
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Community Service

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- Organized blanket and cleaning supplies drive for local animal shelters
- Supported after school seasonal activities at district elementary schools
- Organized toy drive for Holiday season
- Organized supply drive for U.S. soldiers serving overseas

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth Kelley, Principal PRMS

PENTUCKET REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
ANNUAL REPORT
Fiscal Year 2016-17

The 2016-2017 school year was productive at Pentucket Regional High School. Student enrollment was 739 and comprised of 157 from West Newbury, 270 from Groveland, 276 from Merrimac, and 36 school choice students.

Below is a summary of activities that took place in the areas of curriculum, instruction, assessment and other areas of interest.

Teachers continued to develop their course curriculum and worked to incorporate District Determined Measures of progress in the areas of Technical Academic Knowledge, Personal Meaning and Adaptive leadership skills in all of their classes. These elements come together into high powered units of instruction where students are expected to apply what they have learned.

Pentucket's Innovation Academies in Safety/Public Service, Movement Science/Athletics, Arts Academy, Music Conservatory, STEM and Business Finance and Entrepreneurship saw more students than ever engage with classes and activities related to career and post high school study options. Students who accumulated at least 25 credits were recognized at Graduation. This year 11 students in the Music Conservatory, 14 students in the Safety and Public Service Academy, 14 students in the STEM Academy, 17 students in the Arts Academy and 26 students in the Movement Science Athletics Academy received special recognition.

Pentucket High School students continue to excel on state assessments with 98% of students scoring Advanced or Proficient in MCAS ELA, 87% of students scoring Advanced or Proficient in Biology and 88% of students scoring Advanced and Proficient in Math.

Expanded programming throughout the year resulted in learning opportunities at unique times including a series of Saturday workshops at Mass Art in Boston, Summer Semester classes where approximately 200 students were enrolled in Visual Art, Social Studies, English and Public Safety courses. The Movement Science and Athletics Academy has partnered with Merrimack College to allow students to earn college credits when they successfully complete Anatomy and Physiology I & II through concurrent enrollment.

Once again numerous students received awards for their sportsmanship, talent and hard work through musical and artistic competitions as well as athletics.

The school district continued to progress through the MSBA building project process. After completing the Eligibility Phase of the process the district was invited into the Feasibility Study phase. During this phase a Building Committee was formed. The building committee made much progress during this past year as they participated in the process to recommend and hire an Owner's Project Manager and a Designer. There are many more important steps ahead during the 2017-18 year.

Respectfully submitted,
Jonathan P. Seymour

The October 1, 2017 Day School Enrollment:

	Boys	Girls
Grade 9	11	6
Grade 10	10	8
Grade 11	12	7
Grade 12	13	2
Total-		69
2017 Graduates -		15

The cost to Merrimac for the school year 2016-2017 was \$916,605.00.

Respectfully Yours,

Paul Tucker
Merrimac Representative

Maureen Lynch
Superintendent



WHITTIER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Charles LaBella
Chairperson School Committee

Maureen Lynch
Superintendent

115 Amesbury Line Road
Haverhill, MA 01830-1898
978-373-4101
Fax: 978-521-0260
www.whittiertech.org

August 15, 2017

ANNUAL OPERATIONAL REPORT

TO: The Honorable Board of Selectmen

FROM: Paul Tucker, Whittier Representative
Maureen Lynch, Superintendent

Whittier offers 22 vocational technical career areas designed to provide the necessary training and skills for further education or work force success.

Whittier's academic program is designed to offer students the fundamental skills through its core curriculum in English, Math, Science and Technology, Social Studies, World Languages, Physical Education/Health, and Elective subjects. Courses are aligned with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks in order to achieve success on the MCAS.

Courses are offered in a sequential format and are integrated with the vocational technical areas, wherever practicable and mutually beneficial. All academic courses offer advanced sections for students who desire to further their education. We offer honors courses in English, science, and math to lead toward advanced placement courses. Moreover, a Tech Prep program is offered to eleventh and twelfth grade students which parallels the College Prep program and provides students with the opportunity to earn college credit and/or advanced college placement.

Since all programs are open to both females and males, we encourage our students to explore and to specialize in non-stereotyped, non-traditional vocational-technical areas and to strive for the maximum realization of their goals and potential.

Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School is entering its forty fourth year. To date we have graduated 11,267 students from the day school.

The enrollment for the Evening School from Merrimac: 20

Whittier Tech: Working on you, future

Honorable Board of Selectmen August 15, 2017

MERRIMAC GRADUATES

Angers, Victoria R.	Kolifrath, Jennifer B.
Beauregard, Morgan C.	Labadini, Marisa M.
Belyi, Leonid N.	Legault, Cameron D.
Bigham, Robert A.	Luke, Amelia I.
Boston, Kalon J.	Lusty, Jessica A.
Burton, Erica B.	Malonson, Seth R.
Cadet, Natasha N.	Marchant, Sam W.
Comeau, Makenna V.	Mikson, Erin R.
Cousins, Ashlee M.	Miles, Elijah R.
Couturier, Abigail J.	Miller, Julia V.
Croteau, Emily D.	Moore, Molly M.
Deforrest, Taylor M.	Nogueira, Peter A.
Demeule, Alyssa M.	O'Neil, Conor D.
Deziel, Jacob M.	O'Neil, Liam P.
Drescher, Molly S.	O'Neil, William C.
Duprey, Cole J.	Peterson, Andrew p.
Dwyer, Katryn M.	Picariello, Jake A.
Eichel, Ian B.	Provencal, Alianna N.
Eichel, Lisa I.	Quinn, Maureen A.
Eichel, Scott P.	Roche, Noah M.
Engelke, Dylan A.	Seymour, Sterling S.
Feeney, Jesse F.	Smith, Amanda M.
Ferrara, Elizabeth M.	Smith, Kelley E.
Fitzgerald, Courtney R.	Snook, Cori L.
Fitzpatrick, Justin R.	Sofia, Erica A.
Gallagher, Meghan A.	Stolarski, Nicole M.
Gannett, Nigholas H.	Sullivan, Kristin E.
Giusti, Kathleen M.	Tarr, Collin G.
Graves, Samantha E.	Vicedomine, Ella G.
Handy, John E.	Vicedomine, Sophie C.
Hoyt, Ali R.	Walsh, Joshua R.
Jackson, Maxfield G.	Weaver, Amanda C.
Jones, Samantha L.	Whitmyer, Maxwell R.
Kelly, McKenzie C.	Winslow, Joseph D.



TOWN OF MERRIMAC INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

2 School Street Merrimac, MA 01860

Ph. (978) 346-0525

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

		Calendar Year		+/-	
		2016	2017		
BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED					
New 1+2 Family Dwellings (R4)	22	8	-14		
Residential: Addition/Remodel (R4)	190	169	-21		
Accessory Building / Barn / Detached Garage	5	11	6		
Fireplace & Wood/Coal/Pellet Stove (independent)	0	4	4		
Swimming Pools: In-ground + Above-ground	7	11	4		
New/Replacement Manufactured Housing (M.H.)	1	6	5		
Permit for Temporary Housing Unit	0	0	0		
Trench Permits	11	5	-6		
Mechanical Permits	38	24	-14		
Commercial: New / Addition / Remodel	3	11	8		
Multi-family Dwelling: R3, R2, R1	0	2	2		
Municipal Projects	0	2	2		
Demolition Permits	4	9	5		
Pending Permits	0	0	0		
NUMBER OF BUILDING DEPT PERMITS ISSUED		281	262	-19	-7%
Amount collected from building permits issued	\$80,208.00	\$241,094.51			
Trench permits, fees collected	\$330.00	\$150.00			
Mechanical permit fees collected	\$2,280.00	\$1,560.00			
Sprinkler Permit fees collected	\$475.00	\$275.00			
Municipal Projects, fees collected	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Occupancy and Use certificate	\$1,500.00	\$1,600.00			
Inspections: 780CMR, §106 and MGL c.138, § 11E	\$40.00				
Total Building Dept Permit Fees	\$84,833.00	\$244,679.51	\$159,846.51	65%	
Total Wiring Permit Fees	\$22,496.00	\$20,211.11	-\$2,284.89	-11%	
Total Plumbing Permit Fees	\$13,045.00	\$9,590.00	-\$3,455.00	-36%	
Total Gas Permit Fees	\$8,230.00	\$7,510.00	-\$720.00	-10%	
Total Enforcement Action Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	
TOTAL DEPARTMENT FEES	\$128,604.00	\$281,990.62	\$153,386.62	54%	
Fees Waived by Selectmen	\$0.00	\$0.00			
TOTAL COLLECTED REVENUE	\$128,604.00	\$281,990.62	\$153,386.62	54%	

Submitted By: Robert S. Sinibaldi, Building Commissioner / Zoning Enforcement Officer (A.M.)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MERRIMAC WATER DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING June 30, 2017

NEW CONNECTIONS: During FY2017 there were 18 new homes connected to the town's water system, bringing the total number of connections to 1898

PRIVILEGE FEE: \$43,200 was collected during FY2017 from individuals and developers for new service connections and deposited to Water Department Privilege Fee account. MWD utilizes this funding for various improvements to our distribution system.

SURPLUS FUNDS: MWD ended FY17 with a surplus of 161,224.03. Those funds will be added to our Water Capital account which is used for capital improvements.

WELL CLEANING: Wells at both East Main and Bear Hill well fields were cleaned in November 2017. The well cleaning, completed by F.G. Sullivan Co. is performed to improve pumping capacity and water quality.

ANNUAL PUMPING STATISTICS:

Gallons pumped from Bear Hill and East Main	120,600,800	a decrease of 15,203,300 from FY16
Gallons sold to customers	103,860,706	an increase of 4,154,752 from FY16
Gallons plant backwash	1,928,900	
Gallons unaccounted for	14,811,194	12% of all water pumped could not be accounted for. This is a DECREASE from 25% last year. Causes: Fire protection, flushing, inaccurate meters, water theft and minor leaks not detectable and water main breaks.

NOTABLE HAPPENINGS:

The Two Booster stations have begun construction. The booster station project was reduced from three to two stations beThe Booster Station Project has been completed. It will improve the efficiency of water delivery throughout the new Water Mains on Union Street and Attitash Area. Therefore those locations with low water pressures under various flow conditions should notice a vast improvement.

We are continuing with our water meter replacement program to insure both accurate readings and safe water along with a method to reduce the man hours it takes to obtain quarterly readings. We replaced 236 meters in 2017. This brings our meters to replace number to 650. This will lead to a cost saving to the consumer. We replaced 3 large meters that were over ten years old. This will greatly capture accurate water consumed. Since replacement we have increased revenue for these accounts by over \$4,000.

The Bear Hill Water and Sewer Main Project has been completed. This project allowed water and sewer to be brought up the street to the new development Abbey Road. This brings us much closer to the 12" main on Bear Hill. Once this is completed, it will enhance water delivery and water quality; and greatly increase firefighting capabilities throughout.

IN THE FUTURE:

Attitash Water Main Replacement: connect existing homes to the high pressure district. Eleven homes are to be connected on Thorndike, Mountain and Whittier Ave.

We continue to perform leak detection and look for new water sources. This will lower our unaccounted for water, improve efficiency of existing supply, and examine current capacity of existing wells.

Without the support of the employees of the Water Department this would not be possible, and I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all employees for their efforts and commitment to water quality throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted



**TOWN OF MERRIMAC
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
SEWER DEPARTMENT
4 School St.
Merrimac, MA 01860
978-346-0525**

Mike Buzzell – Superintendent
978-346-0525

Robert Sinibaldi – DPW Director
978-346-0612

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MERRIMAC WASTE WATER DEPARTMENT
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30TH 2017**

NEW CONNECTIONS: During FY2016 there were 25 new homes connected to the town's sewer system. This brings the total number of connections to 1404.

PRIVILEGE FEE: \$61,250.00 was collected during FY2017 from individuals and developers for new service connections and deposited to Sewer Capital account. MWWD utilizes this funding for various improvements to our wastewater services system.

SURPLUS FUNDS: MWWD ended FY16 with a surplus of \$780,006.91. Those funds will be added to our Waste Water Capital account which is used for capital improvements.

NOTABLE PROJECTS: Our ongoing work for I & I (Inflow & Infiltration) fixes throughout the town continues. All generators were serviced; a new TSS oven was purchased for the lab; we de-watered 72 dry metric tons of sludge and sent it to Agresource in Ipswich to make compost; and completed Dig Safes throughout the year.

- The sewer pipes were cleared, lined and sealed at the manholes by Echo Clean.
- I & I repairs and inspections in the Birchmeadow Area & Carriage Town Park:
- Installed sewer lines up from 110 on Bear Hill Road to new development on Abbey Road
- Ongoing Installation of sewer lines at Poplar Hill Development also.
- Ongoing I & I repairs throughout the town working with Scherborn Co.
- Working on New EPA & DEP requirements for flows, I & I, capacity etc.
- Unclog Pumps (ongoing) at station

OPERATION AND MAPPING PLAN:

As required by our National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit, in 2016 the wastewater department began to prepare a Wastewater Collection system Operation and Maintenance Plan. The plan was to be completed and implemented by October 2017, however it was extended and now aims to complete by spring 2018. The O & M plan shall include a preventative maintenance and monitoring program, a description of staffing necessary to properly operate and maintain the collection system, a description of funding provisions to implement the plan, a description of programs for preventing I & I related effluent violations, and educational public outreach program for I & I control, and an Overflow Emergency Response Plan.

UPCOMING PROJECTS:

FY18 Replace Generator at Birchmeadow Estates with SBE
FY19 Replace Generator at Main Plant

MERRIMAC MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2017

The Board of Light Commissioners and General Manager are pleased to submit the Annual Report of the Merrimac Municipal Light Department (“MMLD” or “Department”) for the year 2017.

MMLD MISSION STATEMENT

“The Merrimac Municipal Light Department (“MMLD”) exists to provide its owner, the Town of Merrimac’s ratepayers, safe and reliable electricity at a reasonable and competitive rate that sustains the healthy operations of the department, and the maintenance, expansion and modernization of the electrical distribution system. This mission will be accomplished by a staff of responsible, dedicated and customer-oriented employees with superior work ethics, skills, and professionalism.”

NEW SERVICES

During 2017 there were a total of 20 new electrical services added to the MMLD’s electric distribution system. The total number of electric meters in service at year’s end was 2,942.

SYSTEM RELIABILITY

The MMLD is committed to providing the best electric service to the Town of Merrimac residents. The MMLD strives to provide safe and reliable power by continuing capital improvements of the system, in turn, reducing the major industry accepted indexes used to track the reliability of electric systems.

During 2017, the MMLD’s system experienced a total of 28 power outages, which affected a total of 4,615 customers. Quick response to these outages by the MMLD’s crews, resulted in 67% of the total number of customers interrupted being restored in less than 60 minutes, 30% restored between 61 and 120 minutes and only 3% restored in more than 2 hours. During 2017, there were a lot of weather events, including two major storms, one in March and another one in October which were big contributors to the time it took to restore power. Even with those challenges, the Department was able to restore power faster than surrounding communities. Weather and animal-related issues accounted for 87% of the total number of customers affected by a power interruption and 71% of the total number of outages. These two types of events are hard to prevent, but the Department continues to work on ways to reduce their impact.

The System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI) measures the number of minutes, on average, a Merrimac customer is without power. The System Average Frequency Index (SAIFI) measures the average frequency of interruptions for a Merrimac customer. The Customer Average Interruption Duration Index (CAIDI) identifies the average length of time, in minutes, that a customer who is interrupted can expect that interruption to last. All the indexes results, for both the combination of equipment and non-equipment related outages, are found in Table 1 below

SAIDI	SAIFI	CAIDI	TOTAL NUMBER OF OUTAGES
121.5	1.62	75	28

Table 1

CAPITAL PROJECTS

During 2017, the Municipal Light Department worked on a number of capital projects focusing on improving the distribution system reliability, incremental replacement of equipment near the end of its useful life and safety-related projects. In an electrical distribution system, targeting these projects will make a significant impact on the number of damages that could be sustained in major weather events such as those events we have experienced in past years. Storms can cause significant damages to the electrical distribution infrastructure, but systems that focus on on-going system improvements have less of an impact and are able to restore power much faster than other systems where this is not a priority.

The following are some of the capital projects the Department worked on during 2017:

Merrimac Street Area Conversion

The objective of this project was to upgrade and convert the electrical infrastructure on Merrimac Street. The electrical wire in that location was purchased used a lot of years ago and was not rated for higher voltage. There was a step up system of overhead transformers stepping up the voltage from 4.16kV to 13.8kV feeding the Little Pond area, which if damaged was going to take a long time to repair. As part of this conversion, that system was eliminated and that area, including Mythical Street and Valley Street, has all been converted to 13.8 kV. This conversion went from the corner of Merrimac Street and River Road all the way down to the border of Merrimac and Haverhill.

River Road Area Conversion

This project targeted the upgrade and conversion of the electrical infrastructure from the corner of Locust Street and River Road to the end of River Road at the border of Merrimac and Haverhill. Part of the electrical infrastructure was old, and as part of the future Burnside Street Substation upgrade, it needed to be converted to 13.8 kV. New poles, wire, capacitors, and transformers were installed in order to complete upgrade and conversion.

Attitash Avenue and Union Street Water Pumping Stations

As a result of a new water pumping station built on Attitash Avenue, the MMLD upgraded the electrical distribution from Single Phase (1 wire going down the road) to Three Phase (3 wires going down the road) since the new water station motors were going to need this type of power. The Department had to do some equipment relocations on East Main Street, and then run a new 3-phase circuit down on Attitash Avenue to provide power to the new water station. Additionally, the Water Department built a second pumping station at the end of Union Street and a Three Phase service had to be installed for this location as well.

Porcelain Cutout Replacement

The MMLD's distribution system still has a number of porcelain cutouts in service. These cutouts, over time, could crack and break and cause unnecessary outages to customers. The MMLD was able to continue replacing these cutouts as part of the Capital Work Plan during 2017.

Transformer Cutout Installation

In the MMLD's distribution system there are still transformers without a distribution cutout. This situation has proven to have a big impact on reliability. Entire areas and even feeders could go without power as a result of a problem involving a single distribution transformer. Additionally, distribution transformers could be significantly overloaded resulting in reduced lifespan for those units.

Individual equipment protection is normal in electrical distribution systems and in order to reduce unnecessary widespread outages, the MMLD continued to work on the installation of cutouts on transformers that are part of feeders 3 and 4. Since feeder 2 will be completely upgraded in future years, the upgrade will involve installing cutouts for each distribution transformer.

Vehicle Replacements:

Truck # 1 was a 2003 GMC C8500 truck with a Terex Telelect aerial device that was in service since 2003. The necessary maintenance and repair costs on this vehicle were understandably increasing and it was decided to replace this vehicle. The Department will look to get rid of the existing spare truck which continues to give trouble when used. Additionally, the Department replaced a 2005 GMC Sierra pickup which had a number of costly issues including engine problems. Both vehicles were replaced and the Department was able to properly dispose of the old vehicles and obtain a good offer on both of them

POWER SUPPLY

The MMLD continues to work with Energy New England, who manages the MMLD's energy portfolio, to ensure energy contracts are in place to cover the Town's energy needs for future years. This is a challenging task especially because of the congested energy load zone that the Town of Merrimac is part of. Power congestion in Northeast Massachusetts ("NEMA") and old power plants coming offline have been driving transmission and capacity costs up. This is a problem that is affecting both the municipal and Investor-Owned electric utilities in this region. The Department has been making this information known for the last few years and in June of 2017, the MMLD started seeing the very high prices for Transmission and Capacity. These high costs are expected to be high for 2018 and 2019 but a relief is expected for some of the future years. The goal of the Department is to maintain rates stable and affordable to all of our customers. Many surrounding cities and towns have been experiencing increased electric rates as a result of this problem but customers of the MMLD have been enjoying lower rates even through this period of high power costs. Power expenses constitute close to 80% of the Municipal Light Department's Operating Expenses.

The MMLD has also partnered with Tangent Generation Resources LLC, for the installation of 1.4 MW peak shaving generator next to our facility on Federal Way. This installation will help reduce the cost of power expenses for future years. The Department has not incurred into any expenses for the construction and installation of this generator as it will be owned by a third party until the unit is fully paid through the deferred power expenses the Department would pay to the third party instead of ISO-New England. The Department will get 1.4 MW of power at a lower rate than if it was buying it from ISO-New England.

The Department has been able to have a good portion of renewable energy in its energy portfolio, which includes the local 1.5 MW solar farm, hydropower from the Miller Hydro plant, and wind power from the Spruce Mountain, and Saddleback Ridge projects. Another wind resource, Canton Mountain Wind came online later in 2017.

CREDIT PROFILE

In order for the Municipal Light Department to secure good power contracts, it needs to have a good credit rating assigned by an independent institution. In 2017, Standard & Poor's Ratings Services performed an analysis of the Municipal Light Department and assigned an "A/Stable" credit rating based on business practices and outlook.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TOWN

Based on preliminary results of the year 2017, and as approved by the Municipal Light Board of Commissioners, the MMLD will be providing the Town with the following contributions for Payment in Lieu of Taxes:

Cash Payment:	\$10,000.00
Unbilled Streetlight Usage:	\$23,026.98*
Total PILOT Payment	\$33,026.98

* The MMLD has a reduced streetlight rate of \$0.103/kWh; however per the Department of Public Utilities, this rate could be more close to \$0.1742/kWh. This would make the Unbilled Streetlight Usage about \$38,944.66. The resulting PILOT based on DPU rate calculations for streetlights would be \$48,944.66.

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TOWN

The Municipal Light Department offers a reduced electric rate for all of the municipal buildings in Town. Those buildings include the schools, water and sewer plants, and all the other buildings used by the multiple Town departments. Annually, this is a saving close to \$59,183 compared to other commercial customers in town. In addition, the MMLD contributes \$3,000 annually for the Town's Code Red System. Total In Lieu of Tax contributions to the Town:

Cash Payment:	\$10,000.00
Reduced Electric Rate:	\$56,216.69
DPU-Based Unbilled Streetlight Usage:	\$48,944.66
Code Red System:	\$3,000.00
Recalculated Total PILOT Payment	\$118,161.35

COMMUNITY

The Merrimac Municipal Light Department is a Public Utility, which means it is owned by its ratepayers and not by a board of directors like the investor-owned utilities. This means that when people call or come into the office they get to talk to a person, someone who will help them with questions that they may have about billing or electric services. The Municipal Light Department is here to serve the community.

During 2017, the MMLD conducted an indoor electrical safety meeting and an outdoor session with an MMLD's bucket truck and safety equipment at the Helen R. Donaghue School. This program was conducted by the MMLD's Public Safety Coordinator consultant. The objective of this program is to teach the young population in our community about the possible electric hazards at home or outside, and how to stay safe and make others safe when dangerous electrical situations are encountered. The Municipal Light Department and its Board of Commissioners believe that investing in the safety of the children of the community is a priority.

The MMLD continues to work in collaboration with other Town departments especially during storms and major events to restore power to customers and maintain public safety.

In December of 2017, the MMLD assisted the Santa Committee hanging wreaths at the Town Hall building and strung the lights for the annual Christmas Tree Lighting event at Kimball Park, which has become a family tradition well enjoyed and attended by hundreds in the community. In 2017, some of the MMLD linemen decorated our vehicles and participated in the Santa Parade as well.

GENERAL MANAGER, STAFF AND COMMISSIONERS

Both the MMLD's staff and Commissioners continue to be dedicated to having a municipal light department that provides safe and reliable electricity to the Town while managing to maintain rates stable in an energy market where costs are continually changing.

During 2017, one of the Department's linemen took a position at another municipality after 20 years of full-time service. A new but experienced lineman, Matthew Shwom, was hired and successfully passed the 6-month probationary period. Matthew has been a great addition to the MMLD team, bringing a lot of enthusiasm, a positive attitude, and a lot of fresh ideas to the Department.

In 2017, the job of the part-time superintendent, which the Department filled in 2016, came to an end. This position was temporary, but what was accomplished by creating it exceeded all of the Department's expectations. Tom O'Connor was able to help the Department move to a higher level and change the team dynamic in a very positive way.

The MMLD's General Manager, Francisco A. Frias, together with the staff and under the direction of the Municipal Light Board, continues to work towards making the Department's Mission Statement a reality in every aspect of the day to day operations.

Respectfully submitted,

Francisco A. Frias
General Manager, Board of Light Commissioners

Norman Denault	Term Expires 2020
Larry Fisher	Term Expires 2019
Paula Hamel	Term Expires 2018

MERRIMAC MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT

STATEMENT OF INCOME FOR THE YEAR 2017

	Current Year	Increase or (Decrease) from Preceding Year
OPERATING INCOME		
400 Operating Revenue	4,885,789.30	13,165.30
OPERATING EXPENSES		
401 Operation Expense	4,195,200.17	448,945.39
402 Maintenance Expense	166,411.86	(34,552.16)
403 Depreciation Expense.....	375,968.47	75,233.83
Total Operating Expenses.....	4,737,580.50	489,627.06
Operating Income.....	148,208.80	(476,461.76)
OTHER INCOME		
415 Income from Merchandising, Jobbing and Contract Work.....		
419 Interest Income.....	191,656.47	92,438.28
421 Miscellaneous Nonoperating Income.....		
Total Income.....	339,865.27	(384,023.48)
INTEREST CHARGES		
427 Interest on Bonds and Notes.....	32,887.50	(3,375.00)
431 Other Interest Expense.....		
Total Interest Charges.....	<u>32,887.50</u>	<u>(3,375.00)</u>
NET INCOME.....	<u>306,977.77</u>	<u>(380,648.48)</u>

	Debits	Credits
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus (at beginning of period).....		4,906,528.38
433 Balance Transferred from Income.....		306,977.77
434 Miscellaneous Credits to Surplus.....		66,000.00
435 Miscellaneous Debits to Surplus.....	91,545.00	
436 Appropriations of Surplus.....	33,112.43	
437 Surplus Applied to Depreciation.....		
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus (at end of period).....	<u>5,154,848.72</u>	
	<u>5,279,506.15</u>	<u>5,279,506.15</u>

MERRIMAC MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT

COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET 2017

ASSETS	Balance Beginning of Year	Balance End of Year	Increase or (Decrease)
UTILITY PLANT			
101 Utility Plant - Electric	4,722,384.84	4,919,844.35	197,459.51
FUND ACCOUNTS			
125 Sinking Funds.....	719.17	719.17	-
126 Depreciation Fund.....	2,818,186.34	2,704,052.73	(114,133.61)
126 Rate Stabilization Fund.....	284,968.67	293,026.04	8,057.37
126 Bond Fund.....	-	-	-
127 OPEB Trust Fund.....	178,554.50	269,328.09	90,773.59
CURRENT AND ACCRUED ASSETS			
131 Cash.....	962,460.03	1,304,817.28	342,357.25
132 Special Deposits.....	80,652.07	85,527.07	4,875.00
132 Working Funds.....	200.00	200.00	-
142 Customer Accounts Receivable.....	210,775.23	188,504.96	(22,270.27)
143 Other Accounts Receivable.....			
146 Receivables from Municipality.....			
151 Materials and Supplies.....	15,001.94	15,001.94	-
165 Prepayments.....	32,187.31	32,187.31	-
165 Prepayments CTC charge.....	401,561.09	403,883.25	2,322.16
165 Employee Pension Prepayment.....	84,256.50	85,986.98	1,730.48
DEFERRED DEBITS			
183 Other Deferred Debits.....	560.39	266.96	(293.43)
Total Assets and Other Debits	<u>\$ 9,792,468.08</u>	<u>\$ 10,303,346.13</u>	<u>510,878.05</u>
LIABILITIES			
SURPLUS			
206 Loans Repayments.....	1,891,707.96	1,966,707.96	75,000.00
207 Appropriations for Construction Repayments.....	8,889.05	8,889.05	-
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus.....	4,906,528.38	5,154,848.72	248,320.34
LONG TERM DEBT			
221 Bonds.....	825,000.00	750,000.00	(75,000.00)
231 Notes Payable.....			-
CURRENT AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES			
232 Accounts Payable.....	233,020.32	341,629.89	108,609.57
235 Customer' Deposits.....	80,652.07	85,527.07	4,875.00
242 Miscellaneous Current and Accrued Liabilities.....	560.39	266.96	(293.43)
DEFERRED CREDITS			
252 Customer Advances for Construction.....	1,220.67	1,220.67	-
253 OPEB Liability.....	420,063.00	436,608.00	16,545.00
RESERVES			
260 Reserves for Uncollectable Accounts.....	13,586.20	13,586.20	-
CONTRIBUTIONS IN AID OF CONSTRUCTION			
271 Contributions in Aid of Construction.....	1,411,240.04	1,544,061.61	132,821.57
Total Liabilities and Other Credits	<u>\$ 9,792,468.08</u>	<u>\$ 10,303,346.13</u>	<u>510,878.05</u>

2017 MERRIMAC PLANNING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

In calendar year 2017 several developments in the town under the authority of the Planning Board were completed or withdrawn while others are still in process. The Board also continues to attend to other aspects of its role soliciting citizen input for perspective land use and development.

The end of year status of ongoing projects previously approved by the Board and subject to continued construction oversight is as follows:

Quail Ridge (off of Battis Road) – The last two homes are near completion in this 11 single family subdivision that was approved in the early 2000's. The Board has authorized use of the developer's reserve account to address remaining infrastructure issues after the developer was sent a letter of declaration of default in April due to failure to act.

Poplar Hill (off of Middle Road) – Work continues on the last homes to be constructed in this 15 single family home Open Space Residential Development with no outstanding issues. Estimated completion in 2018.

Freedom Way (106 E. Main) – Construction of the 36 over-55 units in nine buildings has been completed and all condo units have been sold. At the end of the year, the project was being reviewed by the Board's engineer to ensure all is satisfactory before sign-off on the project.

Abbey Road (22-32 Bear Hill Road) – The developer has completed improvement of water lines and extension of sewer up Bear Hill Road. On-site erosion continues to be of concern in this Open Space Residential Development of the 13 single family homes where to-date several homes have been completed or are under construction.

Regency Village (106 W. Main) – The new road and driveway for the two developments with a total of 96 apartments in two buildings for residents over-55 has been constructed. Pouring of the building foundations and other work will resume in the Spring.

Lily Village Plaza (118 E. Main St.) – A Special Permit for a 12,450 sq. ft. commercial building in front with two buildings consisting of a total of nine two-bedroom condo units in back was granted in May. As of the end of the year, construction site work had not yet begun.

Two projects seeking Special Permit under review by the Board were withdrawn:

128 W. Main - Applicant was seeking to modify a previous Special Permit granted for auto repair and sales to include a new large building for maintenance and repair of dump trucks. After numerous continuations of the public hearing waiting for a response from the developer's engineer, the Board informed the developer that it would not resume the public hearing until January, 2018, but suggested that in the meantime, the developer withdraw the application and refile when ready to proceed. The developer decided to follow this recommendation.

Alternative Therapies Groups (17 Board St.) – The Special Permit application for a commercial building to be used for distribution of medical marijuana was withdrawn on October 10, 2017.

In other activities related to land and project development, the Board conducted and approved Site Plan Review for the construction of a playground at Stevens Field. The Board also reviewed and commented on a conceptual plan for a six-home sub-division on High/School Street next to the I-495 exit ramp. The Board held an introductory meeting with another party interested in pursuing a medical marijuana dispensary at 17 Broad Street. The Board granted five Approval Not Required (ANRs) for single lots during the year. The Board collected \$8,950 in filing fees for its review activities in 2017.

In other business related to zoning and procedural matters, the Board discussed proposed zoning changes for the Rural Highway District with town departments and residents to determine if there should be more options for development in this district. After further consideration, it was decided to postpone action until the impact of recently approved projects in this district is known. In response to legal guidance from counsel for the Town, the Board held public hearings and placed an amendment to the zoning by-laws on the warrant for the fall Town Meeting to prohibit recreational marijuana establishments in all zoning districts as was voted at a Town election earlier in the year. The Board also adopted written Procedures

for Escrow Accounts and Continuation of Public Hearings to better inform developers and avoid issues that have arisen. Board memberships changed with the election of Richard LeSavoy in May, but he resigned shortly thereafter. Keith Pollman was appointed to fill the vacancy. John Thomas, who had chosen not to run for re-election, was appointed to serve as the Alternate. When the Board reorganized in May, Sandra Venner was voted to continue to serve as Chair and Ron Barnes as Vice Chair. After his appointment, Keith Pollman was voted to serve as MVPC Commissioner. Sandra Venner continues to serve as the representative to the Affordable Housing Board of Trustees. As always, the Board is grateful for the professionalism and dedication of its administrative assistant, Patricia True, whose expertise and historical knowledge is of great benefit to the Board.

Respectfully submitted by
Sandra Venner, Chairperson
Merrimac Planning Board

Ronald Barnes	Term expires 2018
Sandra Venner	Term expires 2019
Karol Flannery	Term expires 2020
Dennis Brodie	Term expires 2021
Keith Pollman (filling unexpired term until May 2018 Town election)	
John Thomas	Alternate for Special Permits



**TOWN OF MERRIMAC
FINANCE DIRECTOR**

4 School Street
Merrimac, MA 01860
Phone (978) 346-0524
E-Mail: cmcleod@townofmerrimac.com

**Honorable Board of Selectmen
Town of Merrimac
Massachusetts, 01860**

Honorable Selectmen,

In accordance with the requirements of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Annual Financial Report of the Town Accountant for the Town of Merrimac, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017 is herewith submitted.

The data represents a fair and accurate presentation in all material aspects of the Town's financial position and the results of its operations. Disclosures necessary to enable the reader to gain an understanding of the Town's financial affairs have been presented. Included are schedules on debt issue and servicing, a detailed listing of revenues and expenditures, a balance sheet for all fund types and account groups, and a combined statement of cash flows.

The reports are based on information recorded using the Uniform Municipal Accounting System (UMAS) of the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. The same information is used to prepare the Schedule A.

An audit of the Town's financial records by Bill Fraher, C.P.A., has been completed and the results of this audit are available in my office for public inspection. The books of the Town are also open for public inspection during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. McLeod
Finance Director

Town of Merrimac
General Long Term Debt Activity
Fiscal Year 2017

Issue	Issue Date	Interest Rate	Original Amount	Balance 7/1/16	Additions	Retired	Balance 6/30/17	Interest Paid 7/1/16-6/30/17
Title V	4/29/99	0%	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 11,100.40	\$ -	\$ 11,100.40	\$ -	\$ -
River Road MWPAT	10/6/99		\$ 149,856.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 325.06
Multi-Purpose Loan	11/15/03	2%-4.5%	\$ 4,231,000.00	\$ 710,000.00	\$ -	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 620,000.00	\$ 28,060.01
Multi-Purpose Loan	4/15/07	4.95%	\$ 378,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ 495.00
Multi-Purpose Loan	2/15/08	3.56%	\$ 2,380,000.00	\$ 1,210,000.00	\$ -	\$ 160,000.00	\$ 1,050,000.00	\$ 46,125.00
Sewer - Ridgefield Rd.	8/23/10	3.97%	\$ 132,080.00	\$ 55,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 2,018.75
Multi-Purpose Loan	12/3/13	1.92%	\$ 3,971,000.00	\$ 3,065,000.00	\$ -	\$ 440,000.00	\$ 2,625,000.00	\$ 72,625.00
MA Clean Water Trust	2/11/16	2.00%	\$ 860,000.00	<u>\$ 860,000.00</u>		<u>\$ 34,788.00</u>	<u>\$ 825,212.00</u>	<u>\$ 15,957.78</u>
Total All				\$ 5,961,100.40	\$ -	\$ 770,888.40	\$ 5,190,212.00	\$ 165,606.60
Less: Electric	2/15/08	3.60%	\$1,500,000.00	<u>\$900,000.00</u>		<u>\$75,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 825,000.00</u>	<u>\$34,575.00</u>
Total Excluding Electric				<u>\$ 5,061,100.40</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 695,888.40</u>	<u>\$ 4,365,212.00</u>	<u>\$ 131,031.60</u>

TOWN OF MERRIMAC
Combined Balance Sheet
June 30, 2017

	Governmental Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Types			Fiduciary Fund Type	Account Group	
	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Capital Projects Fund	Electric Enterprise Fund	Water Enterprise Fund	Sewer Enterprise Fund	Trust and Agency Funds	General Long-Term Obligations	Total (Memorandum only)
<u>Assets:</u>									
Cash and investments	1,545,185	624,239	176,674	4,314,080	617,667	1,529,648	3,167,062		11,974,555
Petty cash	1,325				50	50			1,425
Due from other funds									
Receivables:									
Property taxes	108,873								108,873
Supplemental property taxes	17,624								17,624
Allowance for abatements & exemptions	(324,705)								(324,705)
Motor vehicle excise	102,692								102,692
Farm animal excise	1,252								1,252
Tax liens receivable	143,896								143,896
Tax litigation receivable (bankruptcy)	162								162
Tax foreclosures	138,172								138,172
User charges-light, water, sewer				150,364	76,130	72,898			299,392
Utility liens-light, water, sewer					759	2,732			3,491
Utility liens deferred-light, water, sewer									0
Departmental A/R-ambulance	52,640								52,640
Unapportioned special assessment						213,774			213,774
Title V Repayments	114	13,964							14,078
Sewer apportionment									0
Due from Commonwealth of MA		175,385							175,385
Amount to be provided for pmt of bonds								5,190,212	5,190,212
Total assets	1,787,230	813,588	176,674	4,464,444	694,606	1,819,102	3,167,062	5,190,212	18,112,918
<u>Liabilities and Fund Equity:</u>									
<u>Liabilities:</u>									
Warrants payable	(3,756)								(3,756)
Due to other funds									0
Payroll withholdings payable	3,312								3,312
Accounts payable									0
Abandoned property-unclaimed checks									0
Other accrued liabilities									0
Bonds payable								5,190,212	5,190,212
Bond anticipation notes			1,298,242						1,298,242
Deferred revenue:									
Real & personal property	(198,207)								(198,207)
Motor vehicle excise	102,692								102,692
Farm animal excise	1,252								1,252
Tax liens & litigation	144,058								144,058
Tax foreclosures	138,172								138,172
User charges-light, water, sewer				150,364	76,130	72,898			299,392
Utility liens-light, water, sewer					759	2,732			3,491
Utility liens deferred-light, water, sewer									0
Departmental-ambulance	52,640								52,640
Special assessment & appt-sewer						213,774			213,774
Title V	114	13,964							14,078
Other liabilities									0
Total liabilities	240,277	13,964	1,298,242	150,364	76,889	289,404	0	5,190,212	7,259,352
<u>Fund Equity:</u>									
Fund balances:									
Reserved for petty cash	1,325				50	50			1,425
Reserved for encumbrances/continued appropri	681,477								681,477
Reserved for extraordinary & unforeseen expend									0
Reserved for expenditures/designated									0
Reserved for reducing excluded debt									0
Unreserved:									0
Designated fund balance			(1,121,568)	2,055,601	456,443	769,583			2,160,059
Undesignated fund balance	864,151	799,624		2,258,478	161,224	760,066	3,167,062		8,010,605
Undesignated fund balance-over/under assessments									0
Undesignated fund balance-unprovided abatements									0
Total fund equity	1,546,953	799,624	(1,121,568)	4,314,079	617,717	1,529,699	3,167,062	0	10,853,566
Total liabilities and fund equity	1,787,230	813,588	176,674	4,464,443	694,606	1,819,103	3,167,062	5,190,212	18,112,918

TOWN OF MERRIMAC
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2017

	Original Budget	Final	Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues:				
Property taxes	12,019,585	12,019,585	12,111,283	91,698
Excise taxes	868,500	868,500	937,513	69,013
Payments in lieu of tax			3,730	3,730
Departmental charges for services	489,000	489,000	510,584	21,584
Licenses and permits	70,000	70,000	145,125	75,125
Intergovernmental	915,163	915,163	898,997	(16,166)
Fines	52,000	52,000	53,064	1,064
Investment income	13,500	13,500	23,898	10,398
Other	45,500	45,500	67,999	(22,499)
Total Revenue	14,473,248	14,473,248	14,752,193	233,947
Expenditures:				
General government	805,483	879,981	786,239	93,742
Public safety	1,757,937	1,983,437	1,940,747	42,690
Education	8,627,797	8,627,797	8,614,924	12,873
Public works	1,079,224	1,162,563	1,110,669	51,894
Human services	407,030	421,251	415,776	5,475
Culture and recreation	292,628	312,628	308,852	3,776
Debt service	517,555	517,555	517,478	77
Intergovernmental	93,477	93,477	90,878	2,599
Employee benefits	816,967	1,020,967	961,970	58,997
Insurance	100,000	100,000	85,999	14,001
Total Expenditures	14,498,098	15,119,656	14,833,532	286,124
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(24,850)	(646,408)	(81,339)	520,071
Other financing sources (uses):				
Operating transfers in	22,600	22,600	22,685	85
Operating transfers out		(189,467)	(189,467)	(5,000)
Total other financing sources (uses)	22,600	(166,867)	(166,782)	(4,915)
Net changes in fund balances	(2,250)	(813,275)	(248,121)	515,156
Fund balance, beginning of year			1,112,272	



TOWN OF MERRIMAC
Board of Assessors
6 School St.
Merrimac, MA 01860
(978) 346-9022

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Board continues to be busy visiting homes in Merrimac. They are doing Cyclical inspections which are required by the Department of Revenue and dictates that we must inspect every home in town once every nine years for data quality. They are doing Permit inspections which are done for the previous years building permits. They are also doing Occupancy inspections for new homes that are occupied after July 1st. The Board would like to thank the citizens of Merrimac for their continued cooperation during these inspections.

The Board will be out this Spring taking new pictures of all the homes in town.

The tax rate for fiscal year 2018 is \$15.76 per thousand. Property cards may be obtained on line by property owners to view their data. <http://www.merrimac01860.info/171/Assessors>

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Edward R. Davis, Chairman

Term expires 2018

Louise T. Lingeran

Term expires 2019

William Pollman

Term expires 2020

Heather Roche, Clerk

FISCAL YEAR 2017 RECAPITULATION

1. Tax Rate Summary

A. Total Amount to be Raised		\$	18,624,235.28
B. Total Estimated Receipts/Revenue		\$	6,132,790.48
C. Net Amount to be Raised by Taxation (Levy)		\$	12,491,444.80
D. Classified Tax Levies			
1. Residential	95.47942%	\$	11,926,749.41
2. Open Space	0	\$	0
3. Commercial	2.6044%	\$	325,325.99
4. Industrial	0.9447%	\$	118,011.51
5. Personal	0.9715%	\$	121,357.89

2. Amounts to be Raised

A. Appropriation	\$	18,413,971.00
B. Total Cherry Sheets Offsets	\$	9,359.00
C. State and County Cherry Sheet Charges	\$	97,694.00
D. Allowance for Abatements/Exemptions	\$	103,211.28

Total Amount to be Raised	\$	18,624,235.28
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3. Estimated Receipts and other Revenue

A. State	\$	957,135.00
B. Local	\$	1,636,200.00
C. Enterprise Funds	\$	2,509,026.00
D. Free Cash	\$	798,737.00
E. Other Available Funds	\$	221,607.00
F. Municipal Light Source	\$	10,085.48

Total Estimated Receipts	\$	6,132,790.48
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Number of Taxable Accounts

1. Residential Single Family	1,637
2. Residential Two Family	98
3. Residential Three Family	9
4. Residential Apt. Bldg. / Misc.	17
5. Residential Land	155
6. Condominiums	275
7. Commercial	49
8. Industrial	19
9. Commercial Other	30
10. Personal Property	49
11. Chapter 61	16

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Roche, Clerk
On behalf of the Board of Assessors

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL OFFICER

To the Honorable Board of Selectman: Activities from January 2017 to December 2017

Dogs

Six hundred and sixty (660) dogs were licensed in 2017. As you know, under Mass. Gen. Laws Ch. 140 sec. 137 all dogs over six months of age are required have rabies vaccine and be licensed.

We hosted a rabies clinic in June 2017 for all dogs, cats, ferrets, and horses. The clinic was a successful. At this event, several felines and canines could be licensed.

Thirty-nine (39) dogs were picked up or dropped off at the police department. Twenty-seven (27) of those dogs were promptly returned. Twelve (12) of those dogs were released from the police department upon current rabies vaccination, current licensing and payment of fines. Twelve (12) of those dogs were kenneled at the Bed and Biscuit, eight (8) of those dogs were released upon current rabies vaccination, current licensing and payments of fines. Eleven (11) dogs were picked up roadside and returned promptly. Four (4) dogs were abandoned or surrendered to the Town of Merrimac's Animal Control Officer. These four (4) dogs were held for the required seven days and then were adopted to great homes.

Eleven dog bites were reported. These (11) dogs were quarantined for the required ten days per Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 129. All dogs were current on rabies vaccinations. Please remember that Rabies Vaccination is required under Mass Gen. Laws Ch. 140, sec. 145 for the protection of pets and people.

We also responded to multiple barking complaints, nuisance issues and dogs running at large.

The ACO purchased pet waste receptacles for the Donaghue School and the Town Forest Soccer Fields. These will be installed in the Spring of 2018. The ACO will be responsible to keep the bag dispensers filled with waste bags. The ACO and DPW are working on an agreement with to empty the pet waste receptacles with other garbage collections in these areas.

Cats

Of the Twenty- two (22) lost cats reported, only eight (8) were found. Six (6) were hit by cars and two (2) were brought to Merrimack River Feline Rescue and were never claimed. One (1) cat was found under a home on Emery Street. This feline was taken to Amesbury Animal Hospital where it was discovered she was too sick for treatment and had to be euthanized.

Welfare Checks

The ACO responded to four (4) welfare checks with the Board of Health. All four (4) were investigated and followed up on. The ACO worked with all parties to come up with solution for the pets and families.

Wildlife

We received many calls about raccoons, skunks, squirrels, and other small wildlife that were found to be a nuisance. To avoid these animals being problematic, we suggest that residents remove any food in your yard and keep garbage cans covered. The ACO had several wildlife rescues with positive outcomes. We responded to three (3) calls for bats in the house. All three (3) bats were sent out to the lab for rabies testing. We are happy to report they tested negative for the rabies virus. We caught several wildlife that appeared to be injured or sick and were euthanized in a humane way.

Farm Animals

We responded to several calls of horses, cows, chickens and sheep that had been loose in the road. We assisted owners in safely getting them back home.

Respectfully submitted

Lisa Young, ACCO

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

As in past years, town departments were requested to submit documentation supporting capital items for consideration for Fiscal Year 2018 and anticipated capital items through Fiscal Year 2022. Capital item requests must have an anticipated life duration of at least five years and an initial cost of \$10,000 or more. During the months of February and March, 2017 the committee met with department heads to review supporting documentation. Generally, the criteria applied in developing recommendations in order of priority are: a) necessary to respond to State or Federal mandates; b) public health and/or safety consideration; and c) operational necessity. Attached is a FY2018 Summary together with anticipated needs through FY2022.

Following discussion, The Capital Planning Committee voted to recommend the following items to the Town Meeting to be held on April 24, 2017 for capital expenditures in Fiscal Year 2018:

1. Fire Department: Purchase of a used Ladder Truck (\$205,000) and purchase of computer equipment (\$12,000) from Free Cash. Vote 5-0. Purchase of Air Packs (\$141,364) via lease/borrowing. Vote 4-0;
2. Highway Department: Purchase of 2 Wing Plows (\$30,000) from Free Cash. Vote 5-0
3. Water Department: To support transfer from Water Department Retained Earnings and Water Privilege to fund Water Infrastructure and Water Meter Replacement (\$255,000). Vote 5-0
4. Wastewater Department: To support transfer from Wastewater Department Retained Earnings for sewer meter replacement (\$30,000). Vote 5-0
5. Finance Department: Purchase of Accounting Software Package (\$40,000) from Free Cash. Vote: 5-0
6. Library: To support replacement of the roof (\$275,000) via a borrowing and HVAC Controls (\$20,000) from Free Cash. Vote 5-0
7. Playground Department: Request for Equipment and Fencing for new Playground from Free Cash (\$60,000). Vote 1-4
8. Public Safety: To support the construction of a Public Safety Complex (\$15,000,000.). Vote 5-0
9. Transfer from Free Cash: OPEB (\$150,000); Ambulance Stabilization (\$20,000); Capital Stabilization (\$82,024); Stabiization (\$60,000). Vote 4-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Bruno, Chairperson
Rick Pinciero
Sandy Venner
Earl Baumgartner, Representing the Board of Selectmen
James Archibald, Representing the Finance Committee
Carol McLeod, Finance Director (Ex-Officio)

CAPITAL PLANNING REQUESTS

FY2018 - Capital Planning Recommendations

Summary

Free Cash

Total Available - Certified	\$	798,737
Capital Requests	\$	(307,000)
Balance for Other Requests	\$	491,737

Borrowing	\$	15,416,364
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Water Retained Earnings

Total Available - Certified	\$	195,614
Capital Requests	\$	(155,000)
Balance for Other Requests	\$	40,614

Water Privilege

Total Available	\$	123,544
Capital Requests	\$	(100,000)
Balance for Other Requests	\$	23,544

Wastewater Retained Earnings

Total Available - Certified	\$	691,741
Less I&I Reserved	\$	(424,891)
Capital Requests	\$	(30,000)
Balance for Other Requests	\$	236,850

Stabilization Balance	\$	750,495.37
Ambulance Stabilization	\$	34,536.82
Capital Stabilization	\$	216,435.86
Total Stabilization as of 12/31/16	\$	1,001,468.05

MERRIMAC CONSERVATION COMMISSION 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

The primary function of the Conservation Commission is to protect and preserve wetland resource areas as defined in the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act (M.G.L Chapter 131, Section 40) and the Merrimac Wetland Protection Bylaw. Since Colonial times, Massachusetts has lost nearly one third of its wetlands to development. The loss of wetlands means the loss of the vital benefits they provide. These benefits include the protection of water quality for Merrimac's surface and ground waters, stormwater and flood damage protection, and the protection of wildlife and plant habitat.

The Commission works to protect the Town's natural resources in accordance with the Act and the Town Wetland Protection Bylaw. The Conservation Commission is composed of seven members, six currently, who serve as unpaid volunteers, who are assisted by a part-time Wetland Agent. The Commission generally meets once a month on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Public Library to conduct regular business and public hearings on proposed projects under the Commission's jurisdiction. When necessary, the Commission schedules special meetings and site visits to review projects. During the course of this year twelve regular meetings and no Special meeting were held and nine site visits were conducted. There were fifteen projects filed with the Commission, primarily involving construction of subdivision roads and utilities, new single-family homes, and additions to existing buildings throughout Merrimac. In addition to reviewing proposed projects submitted by property owners, the Commission addresses work that affects wetlands conducted without the required permits. In 2017 nine violation/enforcement orders were issued to property owners regarding work undertaken in violation of the Act and the Town Bylaw. A member of the Commission also participates in the Site Plan Review Committee under Merrimac's Zoning bylaw.

The Commission continues to implement the additional protection measures provided in the Merrimac Wetland Protection Bylaw and the Merrimac Wetland Protection Regulations when considering proposed projects in Town. The Bylaw was adopted at Town Meeting in the fall of 2003, and it became effective in late 2003. The regulations include a number of provisions to strengthen protection of Merrimac's wetlands beyond what is addressed in Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act including:

1. Provide added protection to wetlands with no or limited protection by state law such as isolated wetlands and vernal pools--wetlands that hold water in the spring long enough to provide critical breeding habitat for frogs, salamanders and other aquatic life and most dry up by mid-summer. Vernal pools are rare in the landscape. Many vernal pools are small, isolated wetlands that have little or no protection under the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act.
2. Establish a no-disturb zone surrounding wetlands to protect wetlands from new development and encroachment from existing development.
3. Allow the Commission to issue fines to irresponsible property owners who ignore Wetlands Protection regulations and orders issued by the Commission and damage wetland resources.
4. Allow the town to charge reasonable application fees to defray the cost of administering the Bylaw.

If you are contemplating any work within 100 feet of a wetland, intermittent stream or within 200 feet of any river or stream that flows year-round (such as the Merrimack River and Cobblers Brook), you need to consult with the Commission prior to undertaking any work.

Wetlands are an important resource to the Town of Merrimac. They protect, filter, and provide the high quality of water in our water supply wells. They protect and support fish and wildlife in Lake Attitash, the Merrimack River, and other water bodies in town. They provide habitat and food sources for the birds, reptiles, amphibians and other animals that make Merrimac a unique place to live. They provide large tracts of open and undeveloped land that make up the quality of life we all enjoy in Merrimac. The Commission is eager to assist landowners in their decisions about whether and how to proceed with a project near wetlands. We encourage all residents to contact us regarding any questions or concerns related to

the Towns wetland resources. The Commission is always looking for interested citizens that may want to become involved in working to protect the valuable wetland resources we all share in Merrimac, so if you have an interest or expertise in protecting wetlands please contact any of the Commission members, or just attend one of the meetings, to get involved.

Respectfully Submitted,

MERRIMAC CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Robert Prokop, Chairman

Dennis Hogan, Member

Gregory Hochmuth, Member

Jerome Mathieu, Member

Jon Pearson, Member

Janet Terry, Member

Arthur Yarranton, Member

Jay Smith, Agent

BOARD of HEALTH 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

The Board of Health meetings are held on the third Monday of the Month, or on an as-needed basis. We may be contacted at (978) 346-4066 or at boh@townofmerrimac.com. The office is staffed Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM.

During 2017, the Board of Health continued to participate in Homeland Security and the Emergency Preparedness Plan, and for these efforts we receive supplemental funding from the Regional Coalition. Deborah Ketchen, Health Agent, and Charlotte E. Stepanian, Public Health Nurse, are the primary representatives and contacts in this program.

Deborah Ketchen has been our Health Inspector since March 2006. In 2012 she received her Bachelor of Arts Degree, majoring in Homeland Security and Emergency Management. This accomplishment was achieved through Ashford University, Clinton, Iowa, by enlisting in their distance learning program for a period of 2-plus years.

Debbie regularly attends meetings of the NE Region 3A Coalition where training plans are formulated. She also acts as our representative during hearings that are litigated at the Housing Court. She is responsible for the ultimate enforcement of the Code of Massachusetts Regulations as they pertain to the minimum standards of health and safety. Attributed to the health agent's periodic monitoring, conditions in restaurants and rental units continually improve.

Karen Gray, Chairperson was elected in May of 2017. Her term with the Board of Health continues until May of 2020.

Matthew Kirk was appointed to fill the remainder of a vacant term expiring in May of 2018.

Jason Sargent was elected in May of 2016. His term with the Board of Health continues until May of 2019.

Alyssa Mades is the Administrative Assistant for the Board of Health. She handles inquiries from the general public and assists contractors and business owners with licenses and permits. Several responsibilities include updating records, maintaining BOH files and transcribing minutes of meetings.

Annual Licenses or Permits

Annual application forms and regulations may be obtained at the Board of Health office or on our web site at www.town-ofmerrimac.com. Applications and notification of expiration are no longer mailed. Annual license fees are payable by December 31 each year.

Respectfully submitted,

Merrimac Board of Health

Karen Gray Term expires 2020

Matthew Kirk Term expires 2018

Jason Sargent Term expires 2019

MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAM INFORMATION

PESTICIDE EXCLUSION INFORMATION: To request an exclusion from spraying, supply the Town Clerk with a certified letter providing the name, address and telephone number of the person requesting the exclusion, the address of the property to be excluded, and a description of the types of pesticide application programs for which exclusion is requested. The desires of the owner of the property will take precedence over those of a tenant, according to 333 CMR 13:000. Designations must be made prior to March 1 of each year and shall be effective from April 1 of that year to March 31 of the following year. (333 CMR 13.03, paragraphs 1b & 1c)

For more information on the Northeast Massachusetts Mosquito Control and Wetlands Management District, call 978-463-6630, or 978 352 2800.

SURVEILLANCE and **LARVICIDING** are of the utmost importance, and they comprise the greatest portion of the program cost. This is the regular testing of mosquitoes and birds for the virus, and the application of larvicides to mosquito breeding areas to kill or inhibit the growth of mosquito larvae (the early stage of the mosquito) from developing into the adult form. Continued annual surveillance is an early intervention or preemptive action to prevent a potential mosquito breeding site from becoming an actual mosquito breeding site.

ADULTICIDING is a term used by mosquito control to describe spraying for adult or flying mosquitoes. There are two kinds of adulticiding: Aerial, done by aircraft only in the event of a public health emergency; and Ground, sprayed from trucks selectively in accordance with the individual municipality's Best Management Practice Plan (BMP).

Ground Adulticiding is used in today's programs to control the mosquito populations in their aquatic or larval stages. This is accomplished by means of a truck-mounted Ultra Low Volume (ULV) aerosol sprayer. ULV sprays up to six ounces of insecticide per acre, creating a 300- to 400-foot swath. Depending on wind direction this swath will drift off the road; and tiny droplets will impinge on mosquitoes, effectively controlling the mosquitoes in the area.

Insecticide: The District uses Anvil (EPA Reg. No. 1021-1688-8329) for ULV applications. The active ingredient, Sumithrin, has a very low toxicity to mammals. This product is registered for use by the US EPA and the Mass. Pesticide Bureau. All District personnel are certified applicators and annually attend seminars to obtain recertification credits.

Most people are not expected to experience any adverse health effects after pesticide spraying for adult mosquito control. This includes pregnant women and unborn children. If a person has any concerns, the Board of Health may be contacted to request that spraying be excluded from the specific property.

Ground sprays do not pose an unreasonable risk to birds or mammals. Since spraying is done in the late evening, the bees and other flying insects are not foraging at that hour and will not be affected.

West Nile Virus: The primary mosquito carrier of WNV, *Culex Pipiens*, usually breeds in artificial containers such as catch basins, storm water structures, industrial parks and commercial or agricultural livestock facilities. Regularly empty any water-holding containers on your property such as garbage cans, flower pots, swimming pool covers, watering troughs and birdbaths, and dispose of old tires.

Information about EEE and reports of EEE activity in Massachusetts during 2008 can be found on the MDPH website at www.mass.gov/dph/wnv/wnvl.htm. Merrimac will continue to work closely with the MDPH Arbovirus Surveillance Program and the NE Massachusetts Mosquito Control Agency on mosquito control and surveillance efforts. Decisions regarding spraying will be made by the Board of Health in cooperation with the Mosquito Control Agency. As long as this program is continued annually, we remain protected from severe outbreaks.

TOWN OF MERRIMAC
BOARD OF HEALTH
2 School Street
Merrimac, MA 01860
Tel: 978-346-4066
nurse@townofmerrimac.com

Public Health Nurse Report for FY 2017

Public health nursing services for Merrimac continued throughout the 2017 calendar year with the Senior Center serving as my home base. The accessibility and programing at the Senior Center is ideal for interacting with the community as a whole for the practice of population focused health and well-being.

Activities during the year have included but not limited to home visits for weekly medication management, blood pressure monitoring and other health concerns. Weekly public blood pressure clinics are held on Tuesdays at 12:30 PM at the Senior Center and at the Merri Village activity hall at 2:00 PM.

I continue to serve as Merrimac's representative to the Northeast Public Health Preparedness Coalition. This group is comprised of the 14 communities in the northeast corner of Massachusetts and charged with responding to emerging public health threats and challenges. This past year has seen the beginnings of what is now known as the HMCC or Health and Medical Coordinating Coalition. This has brought together public health, hospitals, emergency services, ambulance services and long term care under one umbrella. During 2017, all our local coalition meetings have been held in Merrimac at our refurbished Town Hall meeting room. I also served a chair for our local coalition during this calendar year.

Merrimac's Sharps Disposal project remains very active with good community participation. The regulation type large Sharp's containers are available for a small cost at the Senior Center during regular business hours. Full containers are to be brought to the Senior Center for proper disposal.

A drug take-back kiosk located in the lobby of the Merrimac Police Department is being well utilized by local residents. Merrimac residents are urged to bring their unused or outdated medications to the kiosk for safe disposal. Remove temptation for drug abuse from your homes!

Flu vaccine administration for the current season began at the end of September again as part of a successful Health Fair at the Senior Center. Public and by-appointment clinics were held after that date but were underutilized by the community.

As a result, my preorder of vaccine was again reduced for the coming 2018 season. With the wide availability of vaccine. Local health departments appear to be suffering in the market place.

My monthly health column continues to appear in the Senior Center Centerpiece newsletter to provide up-to-date health information for the community. There is always something new to share with the readers. I can be reached by phone at 978-346-9549 for health related concerns.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlotte E. Stepanian
Charlotte E. Stepanian, MSN, RN-BC

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MERRIMAC HISTORICAL COMMISSION
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2017**

To the citizens of Merrimac:

During 2017 there were no separate matters brought before the Merrimac Historical Commission that required formal action by the Commission.

Similar to all other years, there have been numerous requests for historical information from any number of residents. Most prevalent have been the questions about the history and age of individual private homes. Not infrequent, though, are questions about the genealogy of their family or specific family members. We always do our best to share what information we have access to or at least give direction on how and where to search for the answers they desire.

Last year our report spoke of a Pentucket senior engaged in an internship program with the Merrimac Historical Museum as part of a new program at the high school. It was explained that the Historical Commission had been helping the Museum with this program. This year we are pleased to report that there are three Pentucket seniors enrolled in the program. They are avidly working on a project to provide biographical material on Helen R. Donaghue and Dr. Frederick N. Sweet-sir with the aim of having students attending the schools bearing their names, as well as the general public, have a better understanding of who these individuals were and what they did for the town of Merrimac and the public schools here.

Once again, Historical Commission members continue to assist with showing the Merrimac Historical Museum to the general public on Sundays, May-October, from 2-4 P.M. and during the Old Home Day weekend.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey W. Hoyt, Chairman
Yvonne D. Cosgrove
Carl J. Walden

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Affordable Housing Board of Trustees (AHBT) was established in June 2009 in accordance with the Town By-Law voted in May 2008.

The Board continues to support the Town's efforts to re-develop the former site of Coastal Metals at Little's Court as affordable housing. The North Shore Community Development Coalition (NSCDC) was selected to develop the site along with town owned property at 28 School Street. The AHBT entered into an agreement with the NSCDC to make \$20,000 from the Trust available to acquire additional adjacent parcel(s) to improve site access and lay out. NSCDC continues to negotiate with the owner of 14 Grove Street for purchase of that lot when the site is ready for development. A contract for demolition of the existing building was awarded by the Town in November.

The Board continues to support the City of Amesbury and Community Opportunities Group in ensuring full utilization of the Community Development Block Grant to assist nine Merrimac moderate income households with home improvements. Once all original applications were screened, it was determined there were sufficient funds remaining to accept additional applications. The Board assisted with outreach to ensure all available funds are utilized by the end of the program in mid-2018. The AHBT again voted that expiring HOME funds be dedicated to the program.

On May 11th, Karen Conard, CEO of MVPC, attended a meeting to introduce the Merrimack Valley Regional Housing Plan process. The plan will note similarities and differences in all the 15 communities served by Merrimack Valley Planning Commission. The plan will assist in developing strategies for the development of affordable housing throughout the communities. As Merrimac is one of only two communities included in the regional plan with an approved Housing Production Plan, information from that plan will be incorporated into the regional plan and the end date of Merrimac's HPP will be extended to 2022. The Chair is attending the regional planning strategy meetings and the Board will review and update Merrimac's strategies for affordable housing development in the current HPP.

Respectively submitted by:

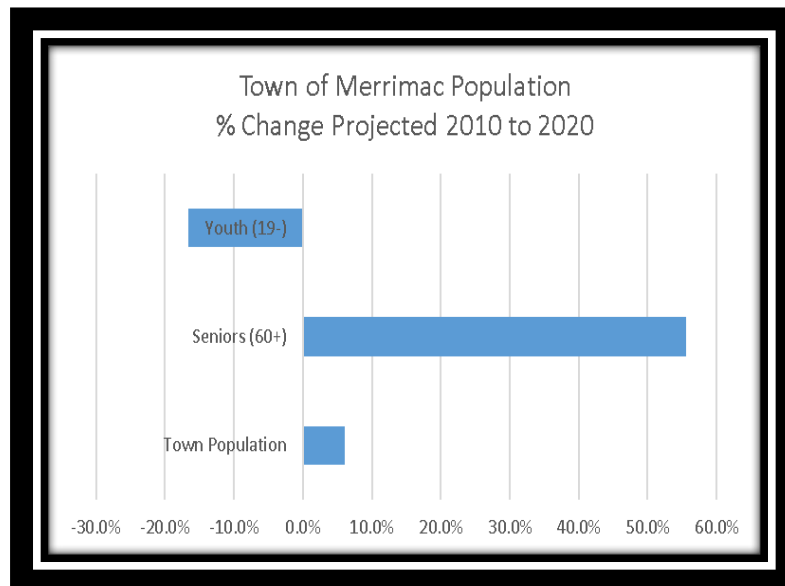
Sandra Venner, Chairperson	Term expires	2018
Laura Dillingham-Mailman	Term expires	2018
Phillip Parry	Term expires	2018
Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello, Secretary	Term expires	2018
Hal Lloyd, Representative of Board of Selectmen (resigned April 2017)		
Martha Crook (resigned May 2017)		
Rick Pinciario	Term expires	2019
Carol Traynor, Representative of Board of Selectmen (appointed July)	Term expires	2019
Dawne Young (appointed October 2017 to fill a vacancy)	Term expires	2019

CABLE 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Merrimac TV continued to tape the meetings of the BOS, planning board, chief's breakfast and other governmental hearings. Pat True volunteered her time as our interviewer on location as well as in the studio. Lilly Baumgardner fills all roles, interviewer, cameraperson and editor working only a few hours a week while attending NECCO. Chris Liquori remains the technical advisor. Although I feel, we can do much more I am pleased with the growth we have had over the last several years. Sargent Hall is being used more and more for meetings and events both taped for television viewing and as a nice meeting room for various Town gatherings. During December, we renegotiated our contract with Comcast and going forward we will be receiving 5% of the gross revenues instead of 4.5%. The contract is nonexclusive and therefore we can ask other providers to come into Town, however, to this date none is interested due to our small customer base. If the opportunity ever arises, we will gladly investigate it fully. If anyone has any ideas of a show, they would like to do or seen done please contact us at Town Hall.

Carol Traynor

MERRIMAC COUNCIL ON AGING AND SENIOR CENTER 2017 ANNUAL REPORT



The senior population from the Federal Census in 2010 showed that there were 1,250 seniors living in Merrimac. In 2017, there are 1,750 seniors living in Merrimac (age 60+), a 40% increase!

The staff at the Council on Aging cross-trains within our department, works with a team approach and collaborates with other departments within Town and other agencies. We also collaborate with other COA's to be able to deliver better programming and services. We would like to thank the Selectmen, Merrimac Fire and Police Departments, E.S.C.A. P.E., the Merrimac Public Health Nurse, Public Health Department, Merrimac Light Department, Merrimac Cultural Council, and the Merrimac DPW; Essex County Sheriff's Dept., Executive Office of Elder Affairs, Elder Services of Merrimack Valley, Community Action, Merrimac Housing Authority and our legislators. We are also grateful for the support from local residents and businesses including Northern Essex Elder Transport (NEET), Merrimack Valley Health Center, MA Commission for the Blind, the Merrimac Lions Club, Steven St. Germain, DDS, and AARP, Serve Pro, the Girl Scouts & Boy Scouts, the chorus students of Merrimac Donaghue & Groveland Bagnall Elementary School.

The Friends of the COA have successfully brought back the Senior Scramble fundraiser in June. The money raised from this event along with other donations made throughout the year make it possible for them to support and sponsor the Nutrition Program, Transportation and special events and programs offered at the Senior Center. A special thank you is extended to them for their hard work!

The Council on Aging core programs offered through the Senior Center are: Nutrition (congregate meal site, food pantry); Transportation (COA van and NEET volunteer drivers); Outreach (Identifies Needs, Case Management, Home Visits and Calls), Information and Referrals; and Health & Wellness (Intellectual, Social, Emotional, Vocational, Spiritual, Educational and Physical), and Activities and Services offered at the Merrimac Senior Center include (but are not limited to):

- AA Meetings
- Advocacy & Representation
- Bingo
- Blood Pressure Clinic
- Book Club & Guest Authors
- Bocce
- Bowling at Leo's

Breakfast with the Chiefs
Bridge
Candidate & Issues Forum
Caregivers Support Group
Chair Yoga
Congregate Meals
Copying
Craft Fair-Annual
Crafters Gift Shoppe
Crafters Meeting- 1st Wed of
Month
Cribbage
Cross Stitch
Cultural and Educational Events/Workshops
Crochet & Knitting
DMV-DOT-Registration &
License assistance
Exercise Classes (M/W/TH)
Friendly Visiting
Flu Clinics (Seasonal), Vitamin B-12 shots
45's Card Game (T)
Friends of COA Mtg. (1st Tue of Month)
Friends Senior Scramble
Free Birthday Lunch
Health Fair-Annual
Hearing Clinics
Holiday Parties
Ice Cream Socials
Information & Referrals
Intergenerational Programming
LGBT Social Connections (3rd Thursday of month at 6:30)
Library
Line Dancing (F)
Low Vision Support Group (Including field trips)
Group/Speakers
Lunch Club
Medical Equipment Lending
Men's Group
Movies at the Center
"Mr. Fix-it"
Newsletter Committee
Our Neighbors' Table Food Pantry Site*
Outreach
Painting Classes
Peggy's Senior Food Pantry a Partner of ONT*
Public Health Nurse – Information & Consulting
Podiatry (Foot care) Clinics
Poker
Pool
Powerful Tools for Caregivers Quilting
Reassurance Calls
Rug Hooking
Seasonal Events
Senior Health Fair*

(4th -Tuesday in Sept.)
 Senior Sing-a-long
 Senior Tax Work Off Program
 SHARPS (needles) Collection
 Site through Town Nurse
 SHINE (Health Insurance Help)
 Shredding (Secure) Free
 The Centerpiece (Newsletter-Available by mail & Online)
 Travel Club – Day trips, and Guided Travel Tours!
 Tai Chi
 Tax Preparation (seasonal)
 Transportation-Van & Northern Essex Elder Transportaton-
 (NEET) Volunteer Drivers
 Trips
 Volunteer Opportunities
 Yoga
 Walking Club
 Wii, Wii Tournaments
 Zumba

On the fourth Tuesday of September we held the 4th Annual Senior Health Fair and again it was a huge success thanks to the vendors, volunteers and hundreds of participants. We lucked out with the weather so everyone was able to enjoy a picnic lunch under the tents and umbrellas. We were able to purchase a large tent for outdoor use that provided shade for the event. The Senior Tones performed to huge acclaim.

In November, the Crafters held their hugely successful annual Holiday Craft Fair and Café. The crafters meet throughout the year planning and making items, visiting other fairs for ideas and inviting other crafters to attend our fair.

At the 2017 Annual Luncheon for Elder Services of Merrimack Valley (ESMV) the COA Executive Director, Laura Dillingham-Mailman and Ronald Bourque from ESMV and leader of the LGBT Senior Social Connection at the Merrimack Senior Center, received the 2017 Community Spirit Award for our unique commitment and support of the LGBT Senior Social Connection. The 3rd Thursday of every month, the COA hosts a dinner for the senior LGBT community (and friends) at large, providing a free dinner, opportunity to network and connect, provide resources and information and advocate on their behalf. We have had game nights, speakers, movies, and authors attend the meetings. The group serves lower Merrimack Valley and is the first LGBT group in the entire valley, leading in Best Practices.

The Senior Center Staff consists of Laura Dillingham-Mailman, Executive Director; Ann Murphy, Administrative Assistant; Eileen Murray, Kitchen Manager & Cook, Cook (PPT); Geraldine Morenski, Outreach Coordinator (retired October 2017); Charlotte Eileen Stepanian, Public Health Nurse, MSN, RN-BC; Christina Connor, Senior Aide, Van Driver, Kitchen Asst.; Sandy Blanchet, Volunteer Coordinator; Bonnie Kitsakos, Nutritionist; Nicholas Fiorello, Van Driver; and Wayne Jones, Custodian.

Volunteers are vital to the success of the Senior Center. They keep everything humming-with their enthusiasm, smiles, and “can-do” attitudes! As I have stated in the past, Volunteers lend their expertise and time as drivers, receptionists, dispatchers, kitchen assistants, food pantry organizers, trip leaders, group leaders, tax assistance, craft fair organizers and craft shop participants and handy men providing over 7,000 Volunteer hours* (*This does not include those who don’t remember to sign in to record their hours) of service to the Senior Center. The Senior Center Crafters Showcase and annual Holiday Fair have provided local talented seniors with a way to sell their wares, and support the Senior Center by generously donating 10 per cent of their earnings.

In addition to serving the senior population in Merrimack, as the only Human Services Agency in town we also serve the general population by providing resource information, referrals, counseling, medical equipment, flu shots, blood pressure clinics, and opportunities to volunteer or participate in programs, activities, and more. We also assist friends and families

looking for services for their loved one.

The COA would like to thank the Merrimac Public Access Cable TV and Carol Traynor, Manager for outfitting the meeting room at the Senior Center with a sound system and TV for power point presentations, etc. We would also like to thank Carol, Chris Liquori and volunteers for their dedication to finding and taping programs for the benefit of seniors and community in general.

Council on Aging Board Members:	Term Expiration:
Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello, Chairwoman	2019
Sgt. David Vance, Assistant Chairman	2018
Candie Benjamin, Secretary	2018
Nancy Bachelder	2018
David Dutton	2018
Betty Lou Elliott	2020
Dorothy Lumsden	2020
Maryann Mikson	2019
James Murphy	2019

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Dillingham-Mailman, Executive Director

TOWN CLERK ANNUAL REPORT

To The Honorable Board of Selectmen and Citizens of Merrimac,

The Town Clerk's office has been very busy during 2017. The office now has electronic databases to track Dog Tags; Boards, Commissions and Elections; Business Certificates; Vital Statistics and Public Records Requests. Through the efforts of volunteers Janet Bruno, Geraldine Morenski and Davis Jackson great strides have been made towards transitioning all paper records into the new databases. The volunteers have been a tremendous help during this transition. Thank you.

The Massachusetts Open Records Law went into effect in 2017 and the Town Clerk's Office has been very busy fulfilling and tracking all requests.

Merrimac held two elections during 2017. The Annual Local Election was held in May and a Special Election was held in June. Both Elections were very busy. I would like to thank the Poll Workers who always handle the election process with efficiency and accuracy.

2017 Dog Tag Totals

Male	41
Female	24
Neutered	316
Spayed	279
Total	660

2017 Vital Statistics

Marriage Intentions	19
Marriage Certificates	18
Births	46
Deaths	35

2017 Public Records Requests

June- December	84
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Respectfully Submitted,
Gwendolyn Lay Sabbagh
Town Clerk

**ANNUAL REPORT
BOARD of TRUSTEES
MERRIMAC PUBLIC LIBRARY
For the year ending December 31, 2017**

To the citizens of Merrimac:

The trustees of Merrimac Public Library are pleased and proud to report that the year 2017 has been one of continued high performance by our talented professional staff in providing our patrons with “state of the art” contemporary library services equal to any other municipality of our size in the Commonwealth.

Employing the format of prior annual reports, the library trustees present here a summary of the highlights of library matters dealing with the overall management of operations. An overview of the many specific library programs and services conducted during the year will be found in the library director’s portion of this report.

As indicated in last year’s annual report, our exceptional library director for the past twelve years, Martina Follansbee, gave notice of her plans to retire at the end of the fiscal year in June of 2017. In early spring the trustees began the process of advertising for candidates to fill the position. In doing so the trustees relied heavily on the advice and posting services provided by the offices of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. Of the ten most qualified applicants the trustees interviewed five individuals and contacted their references. All six trustees participated in the interview process along with representative library staff members for the inclusion of their valuable input.

At the end of this process, the trustees and participating staff members voted unanimously to offer the position to Kelly Unsworth. The trustees are delighted that she accepted. Space here will not allow for a full citing of Kelly’s curriculum vitae but the essential points included here demonstrate that she is eminently qualified: Masters Degree in Library Science from Simmons College; most recent employment as Branch Supervisor at Brookline Public Library (for the past four years); prior library experience in Norwood, Medfield, Mass. College of Pharmacy, and served as library trustee at Walpole Public Library. Kelly officially began her full time employment, with a contract, on July 17th, 2017. Thus far, the trustees have been very pleased with how quickly Kelly has adapted to meet the new challenges of her employment and we look forward to a long and rewarding tenure with her as our Library Director.

The trustees wish to thank Martina Follansbee for her assistance in helping Kelly “learn the ropes” in her new and multifaceted position. We also wish to thank fellow trustee Jennifer Brown for her masterful role in overseeing and scheduling all of the applicant interview times, dates, and communications.

During the year, the Merrimack Valley Library Consortium adopted a new system of library software called “Symphony”. Even though Symphony is an improvement over the prior system with many new features for the benefit of patrons—the conversion required training of all library staff members that was demanding and stressful. We commend the staff for making the transition smoothly and very professionally.

Because of the multiple problems encountered with the library’s asphalt shingle roof during the record breaking severe winter of 2015, the library trustees, in concert with the Building Inspector and the Capital Planning Committee, are asking the town this year to fund the capital expense of replacing the asphalt roof with a standing seam metal roof. The cost of the metal roof will be about twice as much as replacing the asphalt shingles, however,

the lifespan and durability of the metal roof is at least four times longer than that of the asphalt, which makes the investment extremely desirable.

Lastly, we are obliged and pleased once again to express our appreciation for the valuable assistance provided during the year by the following: The Friends of the Library for providing supplementary and enrichment funding and conducting excellent and popular programs throughout the year. The Merrimac Cultural Council for making an annual grant for the support of our Exhibits Advisor, Catherine Dullea. The Merrimac D.P.W. for snow plowing, lawn mowing, and manpower whenever and wherever needed. Our team of dedicated and faithful volunteers who provide accurate, dependable, and cheerful help for our library staff.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Coburn, Chair.
Jennifer Brown
Yvonne D. Cosgrove
Connie Haberkern
Jeffrey W. Hoyt
Susan Kern

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I would like to thank the library and town staff, the Trustees, Selectmen, and residents of Merrimac for their warm welcome and ongoing support to make my transition to Library Director successful. I am pleased to report that programs, services and building upkeep continued to be delivered at the high-level residents deserve.

In addition to the collection of popular books, magazines, newspapers and DVDs, the library collection of eBooks and audiobooks, available in many formats, continued to expand at a rapid pace. Popular offerings also included: museum passes, quiet study rooms, an ever-changing children's room, and engaging adult programming.

There was an increase in programs for adults as staff members had 2 additional hours weekly to plan and publicize events. These included author programs, craft nights, a personal safety class, and a unique presentation with "Mentalist" Preston Heller. One of the most successful programs was a folk music program, the "Kelly Girls", co-sponsored by the Friends of the Library, which was attended by over 130 residents, and included tables of homemade refreshments and floral decorations. It was an intergenerational, community-based program, and a joy to attend.

The children had their share of intriguing programs as well. The magic program "Abracadabra", a live animal program "Curious Creatures", and a "Mini Golf Program", each had over 110 participants. The Summer Reading Program, "Build a Better World", had 177 participants, and finishers received a meal at Friendly's and a free book. This was all in addition to the weekly story times: for infants thru age 6, which are always growing.

A truly unique event this past year was the town-wide creation of sculptural pieces made from donated metal and welded by artist Asia Scudder. Working under a grant from the Pentucket Arts Association, and in collaboration with the Merrimac Garden Club, residents dropped off pieces of metal which were then developed into sculpture. Due to an unexpected late start, the culminating reception was held in January of 2018. The reception was at the library, and featured a talk by the artist, refreshments by the Garden Club, and the unveiling of the sculpture that will remain on the library property, as well as 7 smaller sculptures which will be placed in garden plots around town.

The library building and grounds also required a collaborative effort with the DPW and Garden Club to keep the building in pristine condition as it ages. This past year, tradesmen were required for repairs in plumbing, masonry, and carpentry, to name a few.

Volunteers, both adult and teens, continued to play a key role in completing necessary tasks in the library. One volunteer focused exclusively on the Special Collections Room of the Library, and will continue to work with this fascinating collection throughout next year.

We look forward to another exciting year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Unsworth
Library Director

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

The Open Space Committee is bringing to conclusion its efforts to update the 2006-2010 Open Space and Recreation Plan. In February the revised plan was sent to the state Department of Housing and Community Development for approval. On 4/21/17 the committee was informed that conditional approval was granted through April 2022, but more information was needed in some areas for final approval. The committee compiled the necessary information and resubmitted the plan.

Essex County Greenbelt Association (ECGA) continues to be interested in purchasing a parcel of land off of Battis Road adjacent to the Town Forest and is in communication with the seller. On February 2, 2017 the Committee voted to recommend inclusion of a warrant article at Town meeting for \$10,000 to assist ECGA at such time as the sale goes forward. On July 6th Vanessa Johnson-Hall, ECGA, met with the Committee to discuss further interest in assisting with open space preservation in Merrimac.

On August 17th the Committee voted to requested that the Board of Selectmen appoint David Collins and Elizabeth Pell to the Committee which the Board did. With the new members, the Committee proceeded to identify the next projects to pursue. Priority was given to better marking and maintaining existing trails and to improve public access to the Merrimac River. David created color coded maps for blazing the trails in the Town Forest. The committee improved clearance for the Innis and Marshview Trails and installed new signs there and on the McLaren Trail. The committee will ask the Board of Selectmen for approval of signage informing the public of access points to the river, especially on River Road near the foot of Locust Street.

\$292 was expended for new plexiglass for the Town Forest kiosk to better preserve the trail information.

Respectively submitted by:

Carrie Rennie, Chair

Mel Briggie

Sandra Venner

David Collins

Elizabeth Pell (resigned in November when she moved out of town)

OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK
2 School Street, Town Hall
Merricac, MA 01860
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, APRIL 24, 2017

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town as provided by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108 as amended: Town Clerk, three Assessors, three Commissioners of Municipal Light, and raise, appropriate or transfer sums of money therefore and to determine sums of money raised to be transferred to defray the necessary and usual charges and expenses of the Town for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2017 and make appropriations for the same, said sums of money so raised, appropriated or transferred to be expended for specific purposes to be voted; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 1: The Town voted to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town as provided by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108 as amended: Town Clerk, three Assessors, three Commissioners of Municipal Light, and raise, appropriate or transfer sums of money therefore and to determine sums of money raised to be transferred to defray the necessary and usual charges and expenses of the Town for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2017 and make appropriations for the same, said sums of money so raised, appropriated or transferred to be expended for specific purposes to be voted.

And that \$ 14,353,361 be raised as follows:

Raise & Appropriate: \$ 14,353,361
Transfer WPAT Receipts Reserved: \$ 5,000

Hand Vote: Article Approved
A TRUE COPY
ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to operate the Wastewater Department Enterprise; or take any other action relative thereto.

Salaries:	\$ 360,135
Expenses:	\$ 593,809
Debt Service:	\$ 207,985
Total	\$ 1,161,929

And that \$ 1,161,929 be raised as follows:

Departmental Receipts:	\$ 1,116,929
Wastewater Betterment Fund:	\$ 45,000

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 2. The Town Voted to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to operate the Wastewater Department Enterprise.

Salaries:	\$ 360,135
Expenses:	\$ 593,809
Debt Service:	\$ 207,985
Total	\$ 1,161,929

And that \$ 1,161,929 be raised as follows:

Departmental Receipts:	\$ 1,116,929
Wastewater Betterment Fund:	\$ 45,000

Hand Vote: Article Approved
A TRUE COPY

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to operate the Water Department Enterprise; or take any other action relative thereto.

Salaries:	\$ 276,092
Expenses:	\$ 425,292
Debt Service:	\$ 306,713
Total	\$ 1,008,097

And that \$ 1,008,097 be raised as follows:

Departmental Receipts: \$ 1,008,097

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 3: The Town voted to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to operate the Water Department Enterprise.

Salaries:	\$ 276,092
Expenses:	\$ 425,292
Debt Service:	\$ 306,713
Total	\$ 1,008,097

And that \$ 1,008,097 be raised as follows:

Departmental Receipts: \$ 1,008,097

Hand Vote: Article Approved

A TRUE COPY

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to fund the operations of the Cable Television Department; or take any other action relative thereto.

Salaries:	\$ 51,079
Expenses:	\$ 100,500
Total	\$ 151,579

And that \$ 151,579 be transferred from the Cable Television Receipts Reserved Account.

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 4: The Town voted to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to fund the operations of the Cable Television Department.

Salaries:	\$ 51,079
Expenses:	\$ 100,500
Total	\$ 151,579

Hand Vote: Article Approved

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money from the Electric Light Operating Balance, said money to be used by the Assessors to reduce the Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2018; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 5: The Town voted to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum in the amount of \$10,085.48 from the Electric Light Operating Balance, said money to be used by the Assessors to reduce the Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2018.

Hand Vote: Article Approved

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$10,740 to be expended by the Board of Assessors to hire a consultant to perform an independent revaluation; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 6: The Town voted to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$10,740 to be expended by the Board of Assessors to hire a consultant to perform an independent revaluation; or take any other action relative thereto.

Hand Vote: Unanimous

Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$ 6,000 from available funds known as "Sale of Cemetery Lots", such sum or part thereof, to be expended under the direction of the Cemetery Trustees for the care, improvement and embellishment of said cemeteries, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 114, Section 15 and Section 25; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 7: The Town voted to transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$ 6,000 from available funds known as "Sale of Cemetery Lots", such sum or part thereof, to be expended under the direction of the Cemetery Trustees for the care, improvement and embellishment of said cemeteries, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 114, Section 15 and Section 25.

Hand Vote: Article Approved

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$150,500, to be used to make necessary repairs to Town roadways; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 8: The Town voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$150,500, to be used to make necessary repairs to Town roadways.

Hand Vote: Article Approved

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to accept the State Grant of Chapter 90 Highway Funds and authorize the Board of Selectmen to expend said funds for Highway purposes in accordance with the terms of said grants; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 9: The Town voted to accept the State Grant of Chapter 90 Highway Funds and authorize the Board of Selectmen to expend said funds for Highway purposes in accordance with the terms of said grants.

Hand Vote; Article Approved

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$290,000 for Solid Waste Collection and Disposal, Recycling Collection and Leaf Collection; or take any other action relative thereto.

And that \$ 290,000 be raised as follows:

Raise and Appropriate:	\$ 158,000
Transfer from Trash Offset Receipts:	\$ 132,000

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 10: The Town voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$290,000 for Solid Waste Collection and Disposal, Recycling Collection and Leaf Collection.

And that \$ 290,000 be raised as follows:

Raise and Appropriate:	\$ 158,000
Transfer from Trash Offset Receipts:	\$ 132,000

Hand Vote: Article Approved

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 11: The Town voted, pursuant to M.G.L., Chapter 44, Section 53E Yi, to establish revolving funds for the following departments for the specific purpose outlined below for the Fiscal Year 2018.

a. Police Firearms Revolving Fund

Fees received for firearms licenses and permit fees to be used to pay the state share of such fees and similar departmental needs, said expenditures to be approved by the Police Chief; and not to exceed \$5,000 during the Fiscal Year 2018.

b. Zoning Board of Appeal Revolving Fund

Fees received for applicants requesting appeal of zoning decisions to be used to pay for advertising, mailings, legal and administrative costs, said expenditures to be approved by the Zoning Board of Appeals; not to exceed \$4,000 during the Fiscal Year 2018

c. Board of Health Town Nurse Revolving Fund

Fees received for applicants requesting appeal of zoning decisions to be used to pay for advertising, mail-
Fees received for nursing programs and services to be used by the Town Nurse to pay for materials and

technical services for nursing programs and health promotion programs, said expenditures to be approved by the Board of Health; not to exceed \$10,000 during Fiscal Year 2018.

d. Zoning Bylaw and Building Code Compliance Enforcement Revolving Fund

5% of all fees received from building, wiring, plumbing and gas permits plus 100% of all fines and monetary judgments received as a result of Inspectional Services Department compliance enforcement actions to be used by Inspectional Services Department for legal fees and administrative costs relative to Zoning Bylaw and Building Code compliance enforcement actions; said expenditures to be approved by the Building Commissioner, not to exceed \$15,000 during Fiscal Year 2018

e. Board of Health Project Revolving Fund

50% of all permit fees received for the Bear Hill Road and Quail Ridge/Battis Road Subdivisions to be used by the Board of Health to pay for tests and inspections for these two projects; said expenditures to be approved by the Board of Health; not to exceed \$4,500 during the Fiscal Year 2018.

f. Board of Health Revolving Fund

80% of fees received from pre-rental inspections and re-inspections to be used to pay for the Health Agent's inspections, the remaining 20% of fees, and 100% of all fines and monetary judgments received as a result of Board of Health compliance enforcement actions to be used by the Board of Health for legal fees and administrative costs relative to the Board of Health Regulations and Health Code compliance and enforcement actions; said expenditures are to be approved by the Board of Health and are not to exceed \$4,000 during the Fiscal Year 2018.

g. Inspectional Services Inspection Revolving Fund

70% of all fees received from building, wiring, plumbing and gas to be used by Inspectional Services Department for costs relative to required inspections for the Inspectional Services Department; said expenditures to be approved by the Building Commissioner, not to exceed \$80,000 during Fiscal Year 2018.

h. PRSD Revolving Account

Funds received from PRSD will be used to pay for grounds maintenance at the Sweetsir and Donaghue Schools; said expenditures to be approved by the Board of Selectmen; not to exceed \$50,000 during the Fiscal Year 2018.

i. Tax Title Revolving Account

Funds received from tax title payments for legal fees, charges and other associated costs through the tax title redemption process may be used to pay related costs incurred in tax title foreclosure actions undertaken by the Town; said expenditures to be approved by the Finance Director; expenditures from fund may not exceed \$5,000 during the Fiscal Year 2018.

j. Playground Revolving Account

Funds received from fundraising events to be used to pay costs associated with the maintenance and enhancement of the Town's Playgrounds; said expenditures to be approved by the Playground Committee; expenditures not to exceed \$20,000 during the Fiscal Year 2018.

Hand Vote: Article Approved

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 12: To see if the town will vote to amend the General By-Laws of the town by adding a new section to establish and authorize revolving funds for use by certain town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E:Yi, or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 12: THE TOWN VOTED TO AMEND THE GENERAL BY-LAWS OF THE TOWN BY ADDING THE FOLLOWING NEW SECTION:

DEPARTMENTAL REVOLVING FUNDS

1.Purpose. This by-law establishes and authorizes revolving funds for use by town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers in connection with the operation of programs or activities that generate fees, charges or other receipts to support all or some of the expenses of those programs or activities. These revolving funds are established under and governed by General Laws Chapter 44, § 53EYi.

2.Expenditure Limitations. A department or agency head, board, committee or officer may incur liabilities against and spend monies from a revolving fund established and authorized by this by-law without appropriation subject to the following limitations:

- A. Fringe benefits of full-time employees whose salaries or wages are paid from the fund shall also be paid from the fund.
- B. No liability shall be incurred in excess of the available balance of the fund.
- C. The total amount spent during a fiscal year shall not exceed the amount authorized by town meeting on or before July 1 of that fiscal year, or any increased amount of that authorization that is later approved during that fiscal year by the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee.

3. Interest. Interest earned on monies credited to a revolving fund established by this by-law shall be credited to the general fund.

4. Procedures and Reports. Except as provided in General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E:Yi and this by-law, the laws, by-laws, rules, regulations, policies or procedures that govern the receipt and custody of town monies and the expenditure and payment of town funds shall apply to the use of a revolving fund established and authorized by this by-law. The town accountant shall include a statement on the collections credited to each fund, the encumbrances and expenditures charged to the fund and the balance available for expenditure in the regular report the town accountant provides the department, board, committee, agency or officer on appropriations made for its use.

5. Authorized Revolving Funds.

The Table establishes:

- A. Each revolving fund authorized for use by a town department, board, committee, agency or officer,
- B. The department or agency head, board, committee or officer authorized to spend from each fund,
- C. The fees, charges and other monies charged and received by the department, board, committee, agency or officer in connection with the program or activity for which the fund is established that shall be credited to each fund by the town accountant,
- D. The expenses of the program or activity for which each fund may be used,
- E. Any restrictions or conditions on expenditures from each fund;
- F. Any reporting or other requirements that apply to each fund, and
- G. The fiscal years each fund shall operate under this by-law.

Hand Vote

YES 52

NO 3

Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

Town of Merrimac - Table for Establishing Revolving Funds

A Revolving Fund	Department, Board, Committee, Agent or Officer Authorized to Spend from Fund	Fees, Charges or Other Receipts Credited to Fund	Program or Activity Expenses Payable from Fund	Restrictions or Conditions on Expenses Payable from Fund	other Requirements/ Reports	G Fiscal Years
Firearms	Police Chief	Firearm Licences, Permit Fees	State share of fees and similar departmental needs			Fiscal Year 18 and Subsequent years
Zoning Board of Appeal	Zoning Board of Appeals	Application fees	Advertising, mailings, legal and administrative costs			Fiscal Year 18 and Subsequent years
Town Nurse	Board of Health Nurse	Fees from nursing services and or programs	Materials and technical services for nursing programs and or health promotion programs			Fiscal Year 18 and Subsequent years
Zoning and Building Code Compliance	Building Inspector	5% of all fees from building, wiring, plumbing and gas permits, and 100% of all fines and monetary judgements received as a result of compliance enforcement	Legal fees and administrative costs relative to Zoning By-Law and Building Code compliance enforcement actions.	Salaries or wages of full-time employees shall be paid from the annual budget appropriation of the Building Inspector and not from the Fund		Fiscal Year 18 and Subsequent years
Board of Health Projects	Board of Health	50% of all permit fees for Bear Hill Road and Quail Ridge / Battis Rd subdivisions	Cost of Tests and inspections			Fiscal Year 18 and Subsequent years
Rental Inspections	Board of Health	Fees from pre-rental inspections, re-inspections, fines and monetary judgements received as a result of Board of Health compliance enforcement action	50% of permit fees to pay for Agent's inspections, retaining 20% and 100% of all fines and judgements for legal fees and administrative costs relative to Board of Health compliance and enforcement actions			Fiscal Year 18 and Subsequent years
Inspectional Services	Building Commissioner	75% of fees from building, wiring, plumbing and gas permits	Costs relative to required inspections for the Inspectional Services Department			Fiscal Year 18 and Subsequent years
PRSD Grounds	Board of Selectmen	PRSD funds	Ground Maintenance at the Sweetser and Donaghue schools			Fiscal Year 18 and Subsequent years
Tax Title	Finance Director	Tax Title payments for legal fees, charges and other associated costs through the tax title redemption process	Related costs incurred in tax title foreclosure actions undertaken by the town	Salaries or wages of full-time employees shall be paid from the annual budget appropriation the Finance Department and not from the Fund		Fiscal Year 18 and Subsequent years
Playground	Playground Committee	Funds received from fundraising events	Costs associated with the maintenance and enhancement of the town's playgrounds			Fiscal Year 18 and Subsequent years

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$60,000, for additional closure activities at the Battis Rd. Landfill; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 13: The Town voted to raise and appropriate, a sum of money in the amount of \$60,000, for additional closure activities at the Battis Rd. Landfill.

Article Approved

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$20,000, from the Wastewater l&l funds to provide funds needed for the MA DEP Grant being sought by the Lake Attitash Association; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: Article 14: TThe Town voted to appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$20,000, from the Wastewater l&I funds to provide funds needed for the MA DEP Grant being sought by the Lake Attitash Association.

Article Approved

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$275,000, or any other amount, to pay costs of replacing the roof on the Merrimac Public Library, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, borrowing or otherwise, or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 15: The Town voted to approve the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical District Committee's vote on FebrThe Town voted that \$275,000 is appropriated to pay costs of replacing the roof on the Merrimac Public Library, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, §7(1) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor. Any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

2/3 vote required

Article Approved

65 Yes Votes

10 No Votes

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$141,364, or any other amount, to pay costs of purchasing air packs for the Fire Department, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, borrowing, lease-purchase financing or otherwise, or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: Article 16: TThe Town voted that \$141,364 is appropriated to pay costs of purchasing air packs for the Fire Department, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to enter into a lease purchase financing agreement for a term of not more than five years, under

and pursuant to Chapter 44, §21C of the General Laws

2/3 Vote required

Article Approved Unanimously

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will amend the Town Personnel By-Law by replacing the existing Vacation and Longevity Policies with the text reprinted below; or take any other action relative thereto.

VACATION POLICY

Full-time employees shall be granted a vacation with pay in each fiscal year in accordance with the following schedule:

Length of Service	Vacation Period
New employees to five (5) years, as of anniversary date of hire	Two (2) weeks
Six (6) years to ten (10) years, as of anniversary date of hire	Three (3) weeks
Eleven (11) years to fifteen (15) years, as of anniversary date of hire	Four (4) weeks
Sixteen (16) years and beyond, as of anniversary date of hire	Five (5) weeks

Vacation shall accrue on an annual basis in accordance with the above schedule and shall be credited to employees on July 1 of each fiscal year. Permanent Part Time employees shall accrue vacation leave on a pro-rated basis.

Every employee who is in their first year of employment with the Town and who has actually worked for six (6) months in the aggregate prior to July 1st shall be allowed to take one (1) week of vacation leave.

Vacation periods shall be granted at times to be approved by immediate supervisors or their designees. For vacation leave exceeding 2 days, the employee shall give at least one (1) week advance notice to their supervisor or designee. For leave of less than two days, the employee shall notify their supervisor no later than the morning of said leave unless said leave shall be taken the day before or the day after a holiday period in which case (1) week advance notice shall be required. Employee shall be allowed to carry forward (5) days of accrued vacation in any given fiscal year.

Employees who terminate service without having been granted the vacation to which they are entitled, shall be paid an amount in lieu of vacation, in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 111 E.

LONGEVITY POLICY

The Town will pay longevity pay to full time employees in the amount of \$300.00 per year after the fifth full year of employment, \$400.00 per year after the tenth full year of employment, \$500.00 per year after the fifteenth full year of employment, \$600.00 per year after the twentieth full year of employment, \$700.00 per year after the twenty fifth full year of employment, \$800.00 per year after the thirtieth full year of employment, \$950.00 per year after the thirty sixth full year of employment, and \$1,000.00 per year after the fortieth full year of employment.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 17: The Town voted to amend the Town Personnel By-Law by replacing the existing Vacation and Longevity Policies with the text reprinted above.

Article Approved

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac General By-Laws by the Noise By-Law as follows; or take any other action relative thereto.

Article XII, Section 15: Regulation of certain types of activities.

General By-Law: Noise

A. For the purpose of controlling and abating disturbing noise, which either annoys, disturbs, injures, or endangers the reasonable quiet, comfort, repose, health, or safety of others within the Town of Merrimac, and to maintain and promote tranquility of residential neighborhoods, certain types of activities will be regulated.

B. It shall be unlawful for any Corporation, LLC, Sole Proprietor, or for any Entity for Commercial or for Profit to operate or cause to be operated any type of construction machinery powered by any internal combustion or diesel engine including but not limited to; heavy earthmoving equipment, materials handling equipment, logging and land clearing equipment, pumps, generators, and air compressors; during certain hours of the day, unless specifically authorized by the appropriate licensing or permitting authority.

C. It shall be unlawful for any Corporation, LLC, Sole Proprietor, or for any Entity for Commercial or for Profit to operate or cause to be operated any type of electrically powered equipment associated with construction activity including but not limited to; air actuated nailing guns, circular saws, drills and the like, that are utilized for the purpose of building or assembling construction materials, during certain hours of the day, unless specifically authorized by the appropriate licensing or permitting authority.

D. The aforementioned equipment and activities may only be utilized or carried out from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday, excluding legal holidays. The aforementioned equipment and activities may not begin prior to 12:00 noon and go beyond 7:00 p.m. on Sundays and legal holidays, unless a permit to perform such work or labor has been secured in accordance with MGL c. 136, §7.

Exemptions. None of the terms or prohibitions shall apply or be enforced against:

- A. Emergency vehicles. Any police, fire, or ambulance vehicles while engaged in necessary emergency business.
- B. Highway and utility maintenance or construction. Necessary excavation in, or repairs to bridges, streets, highways, or any public utility installation by, or on behalf of the Town, public utility, or agency of the State of Massachusetts.
- C. Public address. The reasonable use of amplifiers or loudspeakers for public addresses which are noncommercial in nature.
- D. Or Homeowner, in so far as the care of home or landscaping

Penalties.

The first violation of this Bylaw shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100. The second violation of this Bylaw within 12 months after the first violation shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$200. Further violations within 12 months after the last violation shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$300. Each such act, which either continues or is repeated more than Yi hour after the issuance of a written notice of violation of this Bylaw shall be a separate offense and shall be prosecuted as separate offense. If the violation occurs on the premises of rental property which has a nonresident owner, then the owner must also be notified in writing that the violation has occurred.

Rationale: To establish hours of operation for commercial/ construction operations throughout the town for the purpose of ensuring that the residents of the town have peaceful enjoyment of their property and time. Requested by the DPW Director.

COPY OF THE VOTE: Article 18: The Town voted to amend the Merrimac General By-Laws by the Noise By-Law; amended to include exemption of farm machinery.

Article Approved
A TRUE COPY
ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Merrimac General By-Laws, Article VII, Licenses, Article VIIA-Licenses General by revising the sections identified below, with text to be inserted shown as balded; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE VII LICENSES **ARTICLE VIIA - LICENSES, GENERAL**

7a.1 Reasonable fees for any

Permit, licenses or applications for the same considered or granted by the Selectmen or any licensing or permit-granting authority of the Town shall be established by the Selectmen in conformity with the laws of the Commonwealth. A schedule of the fees so established shall be posted in the Town Offices and in at least three public places in the Town.

7a.2 Licenses and permits of delinquent taxpayers

7a.2.1 The Tax Collector or other municipal official responsible for records of all municipal taxes, assessments, betterments and other municipal charges hereinafter referred to as tax collector, shall annually, and may periodically, furnish the Board of Selectmen hereinafter referred to as licensing authority, that issues licenses or permits including renewals and transfers, a list of any person, corporation or business enterprise, hereinafter referred to as the party, that has neglected or refused to pay any local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or other municipal charges and that such party has not filed in good faith a pending application for an abatement of such tax or a pending petition before the appellate tax board

7a.2.2 The licensing authority may deny, revoke or suspend any license or permit, including renewals and transfers of any party whose name appears on said list furnished to the licensing authority from the tax collector or with respect to any activity, event or other matter which is the subject of such license or permit and which activity, event or matter is carried out or exercised or is to be carried out or exercised on or about real estate owned by any party whose name appears on said list furnished to the licensing authority from the tax collector; provided, however, that written notice is given to the party and the tax collector, as required by applicable provisions of law, and the party is given a hearing to be held not earlier than fourteen days after said notice.

Said list shall be prima facie evidence for denial, revocation or suspension of said license or permit to any party. The tax collector shall have the right to intervene in any hearing conducted with respect to such license denial, revocation or suspension. Any findings made by the licensing

COPY OF THE VOTE: Article 19: The Town voted to amend the Town of Merrimac General By-Laws, Article VII, Licenses, Article VIIA-Licenses General by revising the sections identified above, with text to be inserted shown as balded.

Article Approved
A TRUE COPY
ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation to abolish the Merrimac Cemetery Commission and transfer its powers, duties and responsibilities to the Director of Public Works as set forth below; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to said bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments thereto prior to enactment by the General Court; and provided further that the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to approve amendments which shall be with-

in the scope of the general public objectives of this petition; or take any other action relative thereto

AN ACT AMENDING CHAPTER 392 OF THE ACTS OF 2008, AN ACT ESTABLISHING A DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS IN THE TOWN OF MERRIMAC

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

SECTION 1. Said chapter 392 of the acts of 2008 is hereby amended by striking out section 1 and inserting in place thereof the following:

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, there shall be in the town of Merrimac a Department of Public Works under the jurisdiction of the Board of Selectmen. The department shall have charge of and responsibility for the management of public works operations of the town not assigned to other departments, boards or commissions of the town including, but not limited to, the following: Highway Department; Parks and Recreation Department; Solid Waste and Recycling; Wastewater Department; Water Department; Cemetery; and all other related construction and operations as may be assigned from time to time by the Board of Selectmen when deemed necessary and desirable.

The Board of Selectmen may make all policy decisions relating to the Department of Public Works except as may be reserved to the Parks and Recreation Commissioners.

SECTION 2. On the effective date of this act, the Cemetery Board of Trustees shall be abolished and its powers, duties and responsibilities shall be transferred to the Director of Public Works.

SECTION 3. On the effective date of this act, the terms of office of those persons serving as the Town's Cemetery Board of Trustees shall terminate, provided, however, that no collective bargaining agreement, contracts or liabilities in force on said effective date shall be affected.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

authority with respect to such license denial, revocation or suspension shall be made only for the purposes of such proceedings at law, except for any appeal from such license denial, revocation, or suspension. Any license or permit denied, suspended or revoked under this section shall not be reissued or renewed until the license authority receives a certificate issued by the tax collector that the party is in good standing with respect to any and all local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or other municipal charges, payable to the municipality as the date of issuance of said certificate.

7a.2.3 Any party shall be given an opportunity to enter into a payment agreement, thereby allowing the licensing authority to issue a certificate indicating said limitations to the license or permit and the validity of said license shall be conditioned upon the satisfactory compliance with said agreement. Failure to comply with said agreement shall be grounds for the suspension or revocation of said license or permit; however, that the holder be given notice and a hearing as required by applicable provisions of law.

7a.2.4 The Board of Selectmen may waive such denial, suspension or revocation if it finds there is no direct or indirect business interest by the property owner, its officers or stockholders, if any, or member of his immediate family, as defined in section one (1) of chapter two hundred and sixty eight (268) in the business or activity conducted in or on said property.

7a.3 This by-law shall not apply to the following licenses and permits 7a.3.1 Permits for open burning: G.L. c.48, Section 13

7a.3.2 Bicycle permit: G.L. c. 85, Section 11A

7a.3.3 Permits to sell articles for charitable purposes: G.L. c.101, Section 33 7a.3.4 Work permits for children: G.L. c.149 ,Section 69

7a.3.5 Food and Beverage License: G.L. c.140, Section 21E 7a.3.6 Dog License: G.L. c.,140, Section 137

7a.3.7 Fishing & Hunting License: G.L. c.131, Section 12

7a.3.8 Marriage License: G.L. c.207, Section 28
7a.3.9 Theatrical and Public Exhibit Permits: G.L. c.140, Section 181
(STM 10/28/1996)

COPY OF THE WARRANT: ARTICLE 20: The Town voted unanimously to table authorizing the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation to abolish the Merrimac Cemetery Commission and transfer its powers, duties and responsibilities to the Director of Public Works as set forth above; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to said bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments thereto prior to enactment by the General Court; and provided further that the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition.

Article Tabled

A TRUE COPY
ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 19.1 of Article XIX of the Town's General Bylaws, known as "DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS", by revising the sections identified below, with text to be inserted shown as bolded, and text to be deleted show as stricken through, as follows, provided however, that said revisions shall take effect only upon the approval by the General Court of the special act authorized under Article 19 of this warrant; or take any other action relative thereto.

- 19.1 Notwithstanding any special or general law to the contrary, there is hereby established in the Town of Merrimac a Department of Public Works under the jurisdiction of the Board of Selectmen. The Department shall have charge of and responsibility for the management of public works operations of the town not assigned to other departments, boards or commission of the Town, including, but not limited to, the following: Highway Department, Parks and Recreation Department, Solid Waste and Recycling, Wastewater Department, Water Department; Cemetery; and all other related construction and operations as may be assigned from time to time by the Board of Selectmen when deemed necessary or desirable. The Board of Selectmen may make all policy decisions relating to the Department of Public Works except as may be reserved to the Parks and Recreation Commissioners. ***
- 19.4 On the effective date of this act The Wastewater Commissioners and the Water Commissioners and the appointed position of Water Manager shall be abolished, and their powers, duties, responsibilities, and compensation shall be transferred to the Director of Public Works. **The Director of Public Works shall have all the powers, duties, and responsibilities of the Wastewater Commissioners, Water Commissioners, Cemetery Commission/Board of Trustees (however named), and the appointed position of Water Manager, as those commissions and position previously existed, and any associated compensation shall be transferred to the Director of Public Works.**

COPY OF THE VOTE: ARTICLE 21: The Town voted to table amending Section 19.1 of Article XIX of the Town's General Bylaws, known as "DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS", by revising the sections identified above, with text to be inserted shown as bolded, and text to be deleted show as stricken through, as follows, provided however, that said revisions shall take effect only upon the approval by the General Court of the special act authorized under Article 19 of this warrant.

Article Tabled

A TRUE COPY
ATTEST: Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, OCTOBER 16, 2017

**OCTOBER 16, 2017
COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

ARTICLE 1. : To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$500,000, or any other amount, to pay costs of engineering and design of a new police station, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, borrowing or otherwise; and further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments deemed necessary to effectuate the purposes of this article, including contracts for periods in excess of three years; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: October 16, 2017

Article 1. The Town voted to appropriate \$500,000, or any other amount, to pay costs of engineering and design of a new police station, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, borrowing or otherwise; and further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments deemed necessary to effectuate the purposes of this article, including contracts for periods in excess of three years; or take any other action relative thereto.

Hand Vote YES 170

NO 17

Article adopted

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING: October 16, 2017
COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to increase the amount raised and appropriated in Article 1 of the April 24, 2017 Annual Town Meeting by the sum of\$ 20,000 and amend the following lines:.

Line# 39, Police Department Salaries\$10,000
Line# 60 - Essex-North Shore Tuition\$10,000

COPY OF THE VOTE: OCTOBER 16, 2017

Article 2. The Town voted to increase the amount raised and appropriated in Article 1 of the April 24, 2017 Annual Town Meeting by the sum of\$ 20,000 and amend the following lines:

Line# 39, Police Department Salaries\$ 10,000
Line# 60 - Essex-North Shore Tuitionnt.....\$ 10,000
; or take any other action relative thereto.

Hand Vote: Adopted

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to increase the amount raised and appropriated in Article 3 of the April 24, 2017 Annual Town Meeting by the sum of\$ 4,000, Water Department Salaries, and that this amount (\$4,000) be raised by departmental receipts; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: OCTOBER 16, 2017

Article 3. The Town voted to increase the amount raised and appropriated in Article 3 of the April 24, 2017 Annual Town Meeting by the sum of\$ 4,000, Water Department Salaries, and that this amount (\$4,000) be raised by departmental receipts; or take any other action relative thereto..

Hand vote

Adopted

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Article 7 of the April 25, 2016 Special Town Meeting, Sound-proofing Alternatives at Town Hall, a sum of money in the amount of \$45,000 to be used for the purchase and installation of air conditioning units in Sargent's Hall. o the General Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: OCTOBER 16, 2017

Article 4. The Town voted to transfer from Article 7 of the April 25, 2016 Special Town Meeting, Sound-proofing Alternatives at Town Hall, a sum of money in the amount of \$45,000 to be used for the purchase and installation of air conditioning units in Sargent's Hall.

Hand vote

Article Adopted

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will amend the Town Personnel By-Law by replacing the existing Holiday, Bereavement and Health Insurance Policies with the text reprinted below; or take any other action relative thereto.

HOLIDAY POLICY

Full-time employees shall be granted leave with pay on the days designated by law for observance of the following holidays:

New Year's Day	Veterans' Day
Martin Luther King Day	Thanksgiving Day
President's Day	Yz Day before Thanksgiving Day
Patriot's Day	Day after Thanksgiving
Memorial Day	Yz day before Christmas
Yz Day before Independence Day	Christmas
Independence Day Labor Day	Day after Christmas
Columbus Day	Yz Day- Day before New Year's

Permanent Part Time Employees shall be granted leave with pay on a pro-rated basis for all holidays that fall on a day that said employee would have otherwise worked but for the holiday.

BEREAVEMENT LEAVE POLICY

Employees shall be granted leave of absence with pay in the event of death in the immediate family. Such leave shall extend from the time the employee receives notification of the death to the first work day following the day of the funeral, or memorial service, not exceeding a period of five (5) days. Immediate family shall consist of father, mother, spouse or significant other, child, step-child, father-in-law, mother in-law, brother, sister, grandparents. grandchildren or other relative living in the household.

Employees shall be granted a three (3) days leave of absence with pay in the event of the death of a brother, sister, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, grandparents, grandchildren, aunt, uncle, nephew or niece.

HEALTH INSURANCE

The Town offers three separate health plans to full time and permanent part time employees, 1=4MO Blue, Blue Care [lect and BC/BS VIP 2000. The Town contributes 45% of the cost of the premium 55% of the cost of the premium for the HMO products and 50% of the cost of the premium for the BCEP on behalf of the employees. Details and coverage options are available at the office of the Finance Director.

COPY OF THE VOTE: OCTOBER 16, 2017

Article 5. The Town voted to amend the Town Personnel By-Law by replacing the existing Holiday, Bereavement and Health Insurance Policies with the text reprinted below; or take any other action relative thereto.

HOLIDAY POLICY

Full-time employees shall be granted leave with pay on the days designated by law for observance of the following holidays:

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Article adopted

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **ARTICLE 3 BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL DISTRICTS**, Section 3.1 Prohibited Uses by the addition of a subsection 3.1.1. to read “The operation of all types of non-medical marijuana establishments as defined in GL c94G sec 1, including marijuana cultivators, independent testing laboratory, marijuana product manufacturers, marijuana retailers or any other type of licensed marijuana related businesses within the Town of Merrimac”; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: OCTOBER 16, 2017

Article 6. The Town voted to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **ARTICLE 3 BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL DISTRICTS**, Section 3.1 Prohibited Uses by the addition of a subsection 3.1.1. to read “The operation of all types of non-medical marijuana establishments as defined in GL c94G sec 1, including marijuana cultivators, independent testing laboratory, marijuana product manufacturers, marijuana retailers or any other type of licensed marijuana related businesses within the Town of Merrimac”; or take any other action relative thereto.

YES 101

NO 43

Article adopted

A True Copy:

Attest: Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, OCTOBER 16, 2017

OCTOBER 16, 2017 - COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to amend the General By-Laws, Article XII, Section 15, Regulation of Certain Types of Activities, Noise, subsections B and C, by deleting the language noted in strikethrough below and by adding the language noted in bold and underlined to Subsections B and C of the Bylaw:

- B. It shall be unlawful for any Corporation, Limited Liability Company, Sole Proprietor, or for any Entity for Commercial or for Profit to operate or cause to be operated any type of construction machinery powered by any internal combustion or diesel engine including but not limited to; heavy earthmoving equipment, materials handling equipment, logging and land clearing equipment, pumps, generators, and air compressors; during certain hours of the day as set forth in Section D of this By law, unless specifically authorized by a license or permit issued by the appropriate licensing or permitting authority Planning Board, Building Inspector, Board of Selectmen and/or the Department of Public Works in accordance with the licensure or permitting requirements set forth by state law or the Town’s Bylaws.
- C. It shall be unlawful for any Corporation, Limited Liability Company, Sole Proprietor, or for any Entity for Commercial or for Profit to operate or cause to be operated any type of electrically powered equipment associated with construction activity including but not limited to; air-actuated nailing guns, circular saws, drills and the like, that are utilized for the purpose of building or assembling construction materials, during certain hours of the day, as set forth in Section D of this By-law, unless specifically authorized by a permit or license issued by the appropriate licensing or permitting authority Planning Board, Building Inspector, Board of Selectmen and/or the Department of Public Works in accordance with the licensure or permitting requirements set forth by state law or the Town’s Bylaws or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: OCTOBER 16, 2017

Article 7. The Town voted to amend the General By-Laws, Article XII, Section 15, Regulation of Certain Types of Activities, Noise, subsections B and C, by deleting the language noted in strikethrough below and by adding the language noted in bold and underlined to Subsections B and C of the Bylaw:

- B. It shall be unlawful for any Corporation, Limited Liability Company, Sole Proprietor, or for any Entity for Commercial or for Profit to operate or cause to be operated any type of construction machinery powered by any internal combustion or diesel engine including but not limited to;

heavy earthmoving equipment, materials handling equipment, logging and land clearing equipment, pumps, generators, and air compressors; during certain hours of the day as set forth in Section D of this By-Law, unless specifically authorized by a license or permit issued by the appropriate licensing or permitting authority Planning Board, Building Inspector, Board of Selectmen and/or the Department of Public Works in accordance with the licensure or permitting requirements set forth by state law or the Town's Bylaws.

- C. It shall be unlawful for any Corporation, Limited Liability Company, Sole Proprietor, or for any Entity for Commercial or for Profit to operate or cause to be operated any type of electrically powered equipment associated with construction activity including but not limited to; air-actuated nailing guns, circular saws, drills and the like, that are utilized for the purpose of building or assembling construction materials, during certain hours of the day, as set forth in Section D of this By-law, unless specifically authorized by a permit or license issued by the appropriate licensing or permitting authority Planning Board, Building Inspector, Board of Selectmen and/or the Department of Public Works in accordance with the licensure or permitting requirements set forth by state law or the Town's Bylaws. or take any other action relative thereto.

Hand Vote

YES 37

NO 3

Article adopted

A True Copy:

Attest: Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, OCTOBER 16, 2017

OCTOBER 16, 2017 - COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK

2 School Street, Town Hall

Merrimac, MA 01860

Town Clerk Annual Report 2017

To the honorable board of selectman and citizens of merrimac,

The Town Clerk's office has been very busy during 2017. The office now has electronic databases to track Dog Tags; Boards, Commissions and Elections; Business Certificates; Vital Statistics and Public Records Requests. Through the efforts of volunteers Janet Bruno, Geraldine Morenski and Davis Jackson great strides have been made towards transitioning all paper records into the new databases. The volunteers have been a tremendous help during this transition. Thank you.

The Massachusetts Open Records Law went into effect in 2017 and the Town Clerk's Office has been very busy fulfilling and tracking all requests.

Merrimac held two elections during 2017. The Annual Local Election was held in May and a Special Election was held in June. Both Elections were very busy. I would like to thank the Poll Workers who always handle the election process with efficiency and accuracy.

2017 Dog Tag Totals

Male	41
Female	24
Neutered	316
Spayed	279
Total	660

2017 Vital Statistics

Marriage Intentions	19
Marriage Certificates	18
Births	46
Deaths	35

2017 Public Records Requests

June- December	84
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Respectfully Submitted,
Gwendolyn Lay Sabbagh
Town Clerk

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