

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

*For the Year Ending December 31, 2013*



**IN MEMORY**

Of those

*Who Have Held*

*Public Office*

*In the*

*Town of Merrimac*



**Dorothy Cloyd**

Town Clerk 1969-1980

**Arthur O'Keefe**

Planning Board 1993 -2002

**John Buzzell**

Commissioner 2000-2008

**Robert Atwood**

Planning Board 2010-2013

Historic Commission 2013

## DIRECTORY OF ELECTED OFFICERS

### **Moderator – One Year**

Robert Bender

Term Expires 2014

### **Board of Selectmen – Three Years**

Ricky J. Pinciario, Chairperson

Term Expires 2014

Laura D. Mailman

Term Expires 2015

Harold E. Lloyd

Term Expires 2016

### **Board of Assessors – Three Years**

Louise Lingerman

Term Expires 2016

Joyce E. Clohecy

Term Expires 2014

Edward R. Davis, Chairman

Term Expires 2015

### **Planning Board – Five Years**

Dennis Brodie

Term Expires 2016

John Thomas

Term Expires 2017

Ronald Barnes

Term Expires 2018

Sandy Venner, Chairperson

Term Expires 2014

Robert Atwood, Deceased 11-6-2013

Term Expires 2015

Patricia True, Secretary

### **Constables – Three Years**

Arthur Evans

Term Expires 2016

Robert Turner

Term Expires 2016

### **Town Clerk – Three Years**

Patricia True

Term Expires 2016

### **Board of Health – Three Years**

Eileen Hurley, Chairperson

Term Expires 2014

Russell S. Hussey, Jr.

Term Expires 2015

Jason D. Sargent

Term Expires 2016

### **School Committee – Three Years**

Brian Page

Term Expires 2014

Todd Treado

Term Expires 2015

Jane Broz

Term Expires 2016

**Library Trustees – Three Years**

Susan M. Coburn	Term Expires 2015
Yvonne Cosgrove	Term Expires 2014
Ellen Evans	Term Expires 2016
Linda Getz	Term Expires 2014
Jennifer Brown	Term Expires 2015
Jeffrey W. Hoyt, Chairman	Term Expires 2016

**Municipal Light Commissioners – Three Years**

James Young	Term Expires 2015
Norman R. Denault	Term Expires 2014
Linda Soucy	Term Expires 2016

**Cemetery Trustees – Three Years**

Patricia Casey	Term Expires 2015
Ricky A. Gould	Term Expires 2014
Carol Ranshaw	Term Expires 2016

**Merrimac Housing Authority – Five Years**

C. Shirley Jones	Term Expires 2018
Altha Ottman	Term Expires 2017
Stephen P. True, Vice Treasurer	Term Expires 2018
Henry A. Beadoin	Term Expires 2014
Vacant, State Appointee	Term Expires 2015

## DIRECTORY OF APPOINTED OFFICERS

### Finance Committee

Richard LeSavoy, Co-Chairman  
Patricia Dillon, Secretary  
Ann Crowell

Eileen Deveau  
Sharon Tamagna  
Justin Peltier

### Board of Appeals

Arthur Amirault  
Gordon Broz, Alternate  
Ronald Dandurant  
Michael Roche

Joshua Jackson, Vice Chair  
Kathleen Walker  
Kathleen Marshall, Secretary

### Conservation Commission

Robert Prokop, Chairman  
Jon Pearson  
Arthur Yarranton

Ellis Katz  
Janet Terry  
Jay Smith, Agent

### 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

Greg Habgood, Deputy Chief

Larry Fisher, Deputy Chief

### Board of Registrars

Natalie Christie

Giuseppina Hayes

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 Secretary**

Jennifer Penney

**Rent Control Board**

Ricky J. Pinciario

Sandy Venner (interim appointment)

**Animal Care & Control Officer**

Lisa Young-Carey

**Cultural Council**

Thelma Gibbs

Joyce Zarins

Judy Flynn

Mary Gage Cogswell

Eleanor Hope McCarthy

**Veteran's Agent**

Kevin Hunt

**Historical Commission**

Jeffrey W. Hoyt, Chairman

Yvonne D. Cosgrove

Robert Atwood, Deceased 11-6-2013

Evelyn M. Calnan

Jason Sargent

**Council on Aging**

Laura Dillingham-Mailman, Director

Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello, Chairperson

Carol Ranshaw, Secretary

Nancy Bachelder

David Dutton

Natalie Christie

Dorothy Lumsden

James Murphy

David Vance

Betty Elliot

Lucy St. Pierre

Muriel McNair, Alternate

**Emergency Management Director**

Ralph W. Spencer, Chief

**Open Space Committee**

Michelle Carley

Carrie Rennie

Sandra Venner

Tracy Kelly

### **Parks and Recreation**

Bill Brown  
Harold Lloyd

Nick Barash  
Andy Melone

### **Town Nurse**

Charlotte Eileen Stepanian

### **Capital Planning Committee**

Patricia Dillon, Finance Committee Rep.  
Janet Bruno  
W. Earl Baumgardner

Sandra Venner, Chairperson  
Carol A. Traynor

### **Affordable Housing Board of Trustees**

Sandra Venner, Chairperson  
W. Earl Baumgardner, Selectman  
Phillip Parry

Ray Gingras, Vice-Chairperson  
Laura Dillingham-Mailman  
Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello

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.

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The 2013-2014 year was a particularly busy one for the Board of Selectmen.

First, we said goodbye to Earl Baumgardner who completed his second term and concluded 25 years of public service to our community. His passion and experience was an asset and will be missed.

We welcomed Hal Lloyd to the Board. Hal is no stranger to Town Meeting and had attended several Board meetings prior to his election. He has hit the ground running and is a valuable addition to the Board.

Throughout the year we had several projects which have had a positive impact on our community. Here is a list of some of the more important:

- 1) Finalized Town Center engineering and put the project out to bid, contractor selected in December with construction to start in Spring, 2014. This project financed with \$5 Million in Federal & State Funds.
- 2) Took ownership of Coastal Metals property and with the assistance of Merrimac Valley Planning Commission obtained financing to conduct additional testing and began the application process for cleanup funding.
- 3) Developed and implemented a 5 year road improvement plan with the DPW Director. This included the paving of several streets downtown and the drainage within the Little Pond subdivision.
- 4) Entered an agreement with Ameresco to make all town owned buildings, including our 2 elementary schools, more energy efficient. The \$1 Million in repair costs are paid for with the energy savings over 11 years with no cost to the tax payers.
- 5) Completed the Green Repair projects at our 2 schools. This included new roofs, windows and boilers.
- 6) Removed asbestos tiles and replaced the flooring in all classrooms at the Sweetsir School.
- 7) Remodeled the kitchen at the Donaghue School.
- 8) Entered into an agreement with the PRSD for our DPW Department to maintain the grounds and provide snow removal at our 2 schools.
- 9) Completed the rehabilitation of our 2 water towers and water filtration plant.
- 10) Secured new communication equipment and radio frequencies for Police & Fire. Recognition and congratulations go out to Chief Eric Shears and Deputy Larry Fisher for making this possible.

Not everything had a positive outcome however. I am referring to the closure of 1200 feet of River Road. The Board of Selectmen faced the harsh reality that no State or Federal funds, estimated at between \$3 and \$5 Million, had been available over the past 7 years to repair the road. Furthermore, the State Department of Transportation advised us and our legislative team, Senator O'Connor-Ives and Representative Lenny Mirra, that they would not recommend funding if money were made available in the future. The Board petitioned the Merrimac Valley Planning Commission to hold hearings, gather evidence and make a decision if this section of road should remain open or be closed permanently. Following several meetings they decided to



remove the easement and close the road. This matter was very difficult for the past and present members of the board but was necessary to follow through with as public safety was at risk.

In closing, as I retire from public service I would like to say that it has been an honor and a pleasure to serve our town over the past 20 years. I am humbled by the confidence you have shown in me by electing me to represent you in so many different capacities.

My thanks also goes out to the Town Hall team whom I have relied on and who provide excellent service and support to not only the Board of Selectmen but to our residents as a whole. Without their dedication the job of Selectman would have been very difficult.

Jennifer Penney; BOS Executive Assistant

Carol McLeod; Finance Director

Anne Jim; Town Accountant

Robert Sinibaldi, DPW Director

Sincerely,

Rick Pinciario Chairman, BOS  
Submitted on behalf of fellow Board members:  
Laura Mailman & Hal Lloyd

## **2013 REPORT OF THE BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS**

To: The Honorable Board of Selectmen &  
The Citizens of the Town of Merrimac

The Merrimac Fire Department has had another busy year with 867 calls.

With Engine 31 back from a much needed rehab, the truck is in great shape to operate for another 6 years. We wish to thank the Town of Salisbury for loaning us a spare truck while our engine was in the shop.

With the Chief out on medical leave for the past several months Deputy Fisher and Deputy Habgood worked very hard on different projects. I want to thank them for all they did.

Deputy Fisher along with Chief Shears took on a project of updating the 2 department's radio systems. The work was very time consuming and is moving forward so that the town for the first time will have its own stand alone radio system.

Deputy Habgood has been hard at work trying to get our ambulance service to an Advanced Life Support level of service and has worked long hours in doing so.

To the Board of Selectman we wish to thank you for all your support this past year and to the Finance Committee we also wish to thank for working so hard to make sure we have everything we need.

To the Citizens of Merrimac we wish to thank you for all your kind words and support this past year as a few kind words make our members work harder for you.

To our Firefighters and EMT's Thank you never seems to be enough for all the long hours and hard work that you do each and every day.

Respectfully Submitted

Chief Ralph W Spencer  
Deputy Larry S Fisher  
Deputy Greg L Habgood

Merrimac Fire Department

Actions Taken by Incident Type

Alarm Date Between {01/01/2013} And {12/31/2013}

Type of Action Taken	Count	Percent
<b>100 Fire, Other</b>		
10 Fire control or extinguishment, other	1	0.12 %
86 Investigate	1	0.12 %
87 Investigate fire out on arrival	1	0.12 %
	<u>3</u>	<u>0.37 %</u>
<b>111 Building fire</b>		
11 Extinguishment by fire service personnel	3	0.37 %
91 Fill-in or moveup	1	0.12 %
	<u>4</u>	<u>0.49 %</u>
<b>113 Cooking fire, confined to container</b>		
51 Ventilate	3	0.37 %
61 Restore municipal services	1	0.12 %
63 Restore fire alarm system	6	0.74 %
87 Investigate fire out on arrival	4	0.49 %
	<u>14</u>	<u>1.73 %</u>
<b>114 Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue</b>		
10 Fire control or extinguishment, other	1	0.12 %
	<u>1</u>	<u>0.12 %</u>
<b>130 Mobile property (vehicle) fire, Other</b>		
11 Extinguishment by fire service personnel	1	0.12 %
	<u>1</u>	<u>0.12 %</u>
<b>131 Passenger vehicle fire</b>		
87 Investigate fire out on arrival	1	0.12 %
	<u>1</u>	<u>0.12 %</u>
<b>132 Road freight or transport vehicle fire</b>		
87 Investigate fire out on arrival	1	0.12 %
	<u>1</u>	<u>0.12 %</u>
<b>134 Water vehicle fire</b>		
87 Investigate fire out on arrival	1	0.12 %
	<u>1</u>	<u>0.12 %</u>
<b>140 Natural vegetation fire, Other</b>		
11 Extinguishment by fire service personnel	1	0.12 %
	<u>1</u>	<u>0.12 %</u>
<b>141 Forest, woods or wildland fire</b>		

# Merrimac Fire Department

## Actions Taken by Incident Type

Alarm Date Between {01/01/2013} And {12/31/2013}

Type of Action Taken	Count	Percent
11 Extinguishment by fire service personnel	2	0.25 %
	2	0.25 %
<b>142 Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire</b>		
10 Fire control or extinguishment, other	5	0.62 %
11 Extinguishment by fire service personnel	6	0.74 %
86 Investigate	3	0.37 %
	14	1.73 %
<b>143 Grass fire</b>		
92 Standby	1	0.12 %
	1	0.12 %
<b>150 Outside rubbish fire, Other</b>		
86 Investigate	1	0.12 %
	1	0.12 %
<b>151 Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire</b>		
10 Fire control or extinguishment, other	1	0.12 %
11 Extinguishment by fire service personnel	1	0.12 %
85 Enforce codes	1	0.12 %
86 Investigate	1	0.12 %
92 Standby	1	0.12 %
	5	0.62 %
<b>154 Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire</b>		
11 Extinguishment by fire service personnel	1	0.12 %
	1	0.12 %
<b>321 EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury</b>		
30 Emergency medical services, Other	3	0.37 %
301 Emergency medical services, Patient Refusal	53	6.54 %
31 Provide first aid & check for injuries	1	0.12 %
32 Provide basic life support (BLS)	22	2.71 %
33 Provide advanced life support (ALS)	27	3.33 %
34 Transport person	350	43.16 %
341 Transport 2 patients	1	0.12 %
70 Assistance, Other	2	0.25 %
71 Assist physically disabled	7	0.86 %
73 Provide manpower	3	0.37 %
86 Investigate	4	0.49 %
92 Standby	1	0.12 %
	474	58.45 %

# Merrimac Fire Department

## Actions Taken by Incident Type

Alarm Date Between {01/01/2013} And {12/31/2013}

Type of Action Taken	Count	Percent
<b>3211 EMS call, excluding MVA with injury - 2nd tone</b>		
32 Provide basic life support (BLS)	1	0.12 %
34 Transport person	1	0.12 %
	<u>2</u>	<u>0.25 %</u>
<b>322 Motor vehicle accident with injuries</b>		
30 Emergency medical services, Other	1	0.12 %
301 Emergency medical services, Patient Refusal	2	0.25 %
31 Provide first aid & check for injuries	1	0.12 %
32 Provide basic life support (BLS)	1	0.12 %
33 Provide advanced life support (ALS)	4	0.49 %
34 Transport person	13	1.60 %
341 Transport 2 patients	2	0.25 %
73 Provide manpower	1	0.12 %
78 Control traffic	2	0.25 %
92 Standby	1	0.12 %
	<u>28</u>	<u>3.45 %</u>
<b>324 Motor Vehicle Accident with no injuries</b>		
301 Emergency medical services, Patient Refusal	13	1.60 %
70 Assistance, Other	1	0.12 %
86 Investigate	4	0.49 %
92 Standby	6	0.74 %
	<u>24</u>	<u>2.96 %</u>
<b>350 Extrication, rescue, Other</b>		
22 Rescue, remove from harm	1	0.12 %
92 Standby	1	0.12 %
	<u>2</u>	<u>0.25 %</u>
<b>360 Water &amp; ice-related rescue, other</b>		
75 Provide equipment	1	0.12 %
	<u>1</u>	<u>0.12 %</u>
<b>411 Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill</b>		
86 Investigate	1	0.12 %
	<u>1</u>	<u>0.12 %</u>
<b>412 Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)</b>		
00 Action taken, Other	1	0.12 %
64 Shut down system	1	0.12 %
82 Notify other agencies.	2	0.25 %
84 Refer to proper authority	3	0.37 %

Merrimac Fire Department

Actions Taken by Incident Type

Alarm Date Between {01/01/2013} And {12/31/2013}

Type of Action Taken	Count	Percent
86 Investigate	13	1.60 %
	20	2.47 %
<b>424 Carbon monoxide incident</b>		
42 HazMat detection, monitoring, sampling, & analysis	1	0.12 %
86 Investigate	2	0.25 %
92 Standby	1	0.12 %
	4	0.49 %
<b>441 Heat from short circuit (wiring), defective/worn</b>		
45 Remove hazard	1	0.12 %
	1	0.12 %
<b>444 Power line down</b>		
86 Investigate	1	0.12 %
92 Standby	1	0.12 %
	2	0.25 %
<b>510 Person in distress, Other</b>		
71 Assist physically disabled	13	1.60 %
	13	1.60 %
<b>511 Lock-out</b>		
00 Action taken, Other	3	0.37 %
52 Forcible entry	1	0.12 %
65 Secure property	1	0.12 %
70 Assistance, Other	8	0.99 %
	13	1.60 %
<b>520 Water problem, Other</b>		
92 Standby	1	0.12 %
	1	0.12 %
<b>522 Water or steam leak</b>		
60 Systems and services, Other	1	0.12 %
64 Shut down system	1	0.12 %
	2	0.25 %
<b>531 Smoke or odor removal</b>		
51 Ventilate	2	0.25 %
86 Investigate	2	0.25 %
	4	0.49 %
<b>542 Animal rescue</b>		

# Merrimac Fire Department

## Actions Taken by Incident Type

Alarm Date Between {01/01/2013} And {12/31/2013}

Type of Action Taken	Count	Percent
72 Assist animal	1	0.12 %
	1	0.12 %
<b>550 Public service assistance, Other</b>		
70 Assistance, Other	1	0.12 %
73 Provide manpower	1	0.12 %
86 Investigate	2	0.25 %
	4	0.49 %
<b>553 Public service</b>		
75 Provide equipment	1	0.12 %
	1	0.12 %
<b>554 Assist invalid</b>		
71 Assist physically disabled	4	0.49 %
	4	0.49 %
<b>571 Cover assignment, standby, moveup</b>		
73 Provide manpower	1	0.12 %
74 Provide apparatus	1	0.12 %
90 Fill-in, standby, Other	2	0.25 %
91 Fill-in or moveup	10	1.23 %
92 Standby	2	0.25 %
	16	1.97 %
<b>600 Good intent call, Other</b>		
00 Action taken, Other	1	0.12 %
86 Investigate	6	0.74 %
	7	0.86 %
<b>611 Dispatched &amp; cancelled en route</b>		
93 Cancelled en route	44	5.43 %
	44	5.43 %
<b>622 No Incident found on arrival at dispatch address</b>		
00 Action taken, Other	2	0.25 %
301 Emergency medical services, Patient Refusal	1	0.12 %
86 Investigate	10	1.23 %
	13	1.60 %
<b>651 Smoke scare, odor of smoke</b>		
45 Remove hazard	1	0.12 %
	1	0.12 %

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# Merrimac Fire Department

## Actions Taken by Incident Type

Alarm Date Between {01/01/2013} And {12/31/2013}

Type of Action Taken	Count	Percent
<b>652 Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be smoke</b>		
87 Investigate fire out on arrival	1	0.12 %
	1	0.12 %
<b>700 False alarm or false call, Other</b>		
30 Emergency medical services, Other	1	0.12 %
63 Restore fire alarm system	2	0.25 %
86 Investigate	1	0.12 %
	4	0.49 %
<b>731 Sprinkler activation due to malfunction</b>		
86 Investigate	1	0.12 %
	1	0.12 %
<b>733 Smoke detector activation due to malfunction</b>		
60 Systems and services, Other	1	0.12 %
61 Restore municipal services	1	0.12 %
70 Assistance, Other	1	0.12 %
80 Information, investigation & enforcement, Other	1	0.12 %
86 Investigate	31	3.82 %
87 Investigate fire out on arrival	1	0.12 %
	36	4.44 %
<b>734 Heat detector activation due to malfunction</b>		
86 Investigate	4	0.49 %
	4	0.49 %
<b>735 Alarm system sounded due to malfunction</b>		
00 Action taken, Other	1	0.12 %
60 Systems and services, Other	1	0.12 %
61 Restore municipal services	2	0.25 %
86 Investigate	4	0.49 %
	8	0.99 %
<b>736 CO detector activation due to malfunction</b>		
60 Systems and services, Other	2	0.25 %
86 Investigate	10	1.23 %
	12	1.48 %
<b>740 Unintentional transmission of alarm, Other</b>		
86 Investigate	2	0.25 %
	2	0.25 %



Merrimac Fire Department

Actions Taken by Incident Type

Alarm Date Between {01/01/2013} And {12/31/2013}

Type of Action Taken	Count	Percent
<b>743 Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional</b>		
86 Investigate	2	0.25 %
	2	0.25 %
<b>745 Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional</b>		
63 Restore fire alarm system	1	0.12 %
	1	0.12 %
<b>746 Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO</b>		
86 Investigate	4	0.49 %
	4	0.49 %
<b>900 Special type of incident, Other</b>		
86 Investigate	2	0.25 %
	2	0.25 %
<b>Total Actions Taken Count:</b>	<b>811</b>	



## MERRIMAC POLICE DEPARTMENT

Eric M. Shears  
*Chief of Police*

16 East Main Street  
Merrimac, Massachusetts 01860  
Tel: 978-346-8321  
Fax: 978-346-0592



### REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE 2013

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

I am honored to serve as your Police Chief. Merrimac is a fine New England community that deserves exemplary services from all of the Town's departments. The Merrimac Police Department is committed to providing that kind of quality service to the Town of Merrimac. I am very proud of my staff for their hard work and dedication to the citizens of Merrimac.

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 and Light Department. Working together, we continue to provide for the safety and security of our Town.

We have made some staff changes in 2013...We hired and trained several part-time dispatchers to fill open shifts. Congratulations to Tenley Goodwin, Christopher Markey, Brandon Cote, AJ Pesci, Michael Arahovites and Sydney Hilts.

We continue to work on the new radio system that was approved at last year's Town Meeting. We have hired a vendor, purchased equipment and are waiting for installation. This project has required a tremendous amount of our time and energy to get to this point. I am confident that the system will greatly enhance our ability to communicate. Further, we continue to embrace social media as a means to communicate with our community. If you haven't, please "like" us on Facebook.

It is truly a pleasure to serve as your Police Chief. 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 2013

**Eric M. Shears**  
Chief of Police

**Stephen M. Ringuette**  
Administrative Sergeant

**Jennifer Sforza**  
Administrative  
Assistant

**David J. Vance**  
Operations Sergeant

## Patrolmen

**Richard P. Holcroft**  
Patrolman

**Stephen A. Ringuette**  
Patrolman

**Jeffrey D. Boisvert**  
Patrolman

**Robert F. Coppola**  
Patrolman

## Reserve Officers

**Michael R. McGrath**  
Reserve Officer

**Mark E. Sayers**  
Reserve Officer

**James T. Mikson**  
Reserve Officer

**Stephen E. Beaulieu**  
Reserve Officer

**Michael A. D'Angelo**  
Reserve Officer

**Paul M. Hogg**  
Reserve Officer

**Adam E. White**  
Reserve Officer

## Police & Fire Signal Operators

**Bonnie J. Bishop**  
Dispatcher

**Mark E. Sayers**  
Dispatcher

**Kathy A. Spencer**  
Dispatcher

**Jacob R. Wallace**  
Dispatcher

## Part-Time Police & Fire Signal Operators

**Brian W. Peavey, Jr.**  
Reserve Dispatcher

**Jennifer D. Marden**  
Reserve Dispatcher

**Christopher Maguire**  
Reserve Dispatcher

**Tenley Goodwin**  
Reserve Dispatcher

**Christopher Markey**  
Reserve Dispatcher

**Al Pesci**  
Reserve Dispatcher

**Michael Arachovites**  
Reserve Dispatcher

**Sydney Hilts**  
Reserve Dispatcher

## Police Matrons

**Bonnie J. Bishop**  
Matron

**Kathy A. Spencer**  
Matron

**Jennifer D. Marden**  
Matron

**Sydney Hilts**  
Matron

2013 POLICE ACTIVITIES BY DISPATCH REASON	
Intelligence	245
Robbery	4
Assault & Battery	10
B & E (Attempted)	2
B&E Building	28
B&E Motor Vehicle	30
Larceny / Personal Property	28
Larceny by Check	3
Larceny of Motor Vehicle	7
Assault (Threats / No Battery)	3
Arson / Bombing	1
Kidnapping (Parental)	1
Stalking	1
Receive / Possess Stolen Property	2
Vandalism Complaint	19
Weapons Violation	1
Sex Offenses	1
Drug Law Violations	4
Offenses Against Family / Child	1
Intoxicated Driver Complaint	13
Disorderly Conduct	2
209A Violation	5
209A Order Received	18
Officer Investigation	119
Warrant Arrest	17
Larceny of Bicycle	0
General Offenses	14
Trespass Complaint	12
Civil Complaint	65
Juvenile Offense	8
Recovered Stolen MV	3
Missing Person	16
Lost / Found Property	63
Disturbance (General)	27
Domestic Disturbance	42
Disturbance (Group)	15
Hazard / Youths in Street	42
Disturbance (Noise)	68
Annoying Harassing Phone Calls	17
Suspicious Activity	256
ATV / Dirt bike Complaint	12
General Services	1216

Welfare Check	81
Officer Wanted	784
Prisoner Transport	6
Assist Citizen	358
Building Check	2352
Message Delivery	85
Animal Incident (ACO)	368
Assist Municipal Agencies	254
Utility Alarm / Emergency	100
Medical Emergency	460
Mental Health Emergency	24
Reported Death	1
Intoxicated Person	5
FIRE ALARM - Street Box	47
FIRE ALARM - Brush Fire	16
FIRE ALARM - Car Fire	8
FIRE ALARM - Structure Fire	8
FIRE ALARM - Investigation	122
FIRE ALARM - Mutual Aid	42
Burglar Alarm	151
Assist Other Police Department	156
Motor Vehicle Stop	1293
Motor Vehicle Listing	97
Parking Violation	117
RADAR Assignment	695
Motor Vehicle Complaint (Speed)	74
Motor Vehicle Accidents	116
Traffic Control	1
Abandoned MV Complaint	7
Disabled MV Complaint	123
Inter - Department Services	26
Court (On Duty)	61
911 Calls	71
Servicing Cruiser	569
Pursuit (MV or Foot)	5
TOTAL	11124

### **ADULT ARRESTS**

Male Arrests	72
Female Arrests	20

### **JUVENILE ARRESTS**

Male Juvenile Arrests	4
Female Juvenile Arrests	1

### **PROTECTIVE CUSTODY**

Male PC	3
Female PC	2

### **CRIMINAL COMPLAINT APPLICATIONS**

Various Criminal Offenses	87
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## MERRIMAC DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES

Kevin Hunt  
Telephone: 978 465-4418  
Director

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 selected veterans or their surviving spouses. Any money expended by the town under Chapter 115 is returned to the Town by the State at the rate of \$.75 to the dollar expended. In 2013, approximately \$80,000 was expended to eligible veterans and their families.

### **VETERANS DAY:**

Thanks to the efforts of Commander Roger Clark, and the members of Post 134 of the American Legion, Veterans Day was commemorated on November 11, 2013

### **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 before Memorial Day in 2013.

### **VA COMPENSATION**

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 \$655,000 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 Clinic 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

**DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES  
THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**

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

Dr. Jeffrey J. Mulqueen  
Superintendent of Schools

Dr. William I. Hart  
Assistant Superintendent

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The Merrimac Annual Report of activities for FY13 has been developed by the Principals of the Frederick N. Sweetsir 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.

Brian Page, Chairman  
Joseph D'Amore, Vice Chairman  
Jill Eichhorst, Secretary  
John Willett  
Douglas Gelina  
Jayne Broz  
Christopher Wile  
Wayne Adams  
Christine Reading



**DR. FREDERICK N. SWEETSIR SCHOOL  
HELEN R. DONAGHUE SCHOOL  
ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013**

It is a pleasure to submit the annual report for the Dr. Fredrick N. Sweetsir School and the Helen R. Donaghue School for the 2012 - 2013 school year.

Our school year began with the twelfth annual, "Merrimac Goes Back to School Day" to celebrate the opening of school. Families had an opportunity to visit classrooms, meet teachers and obtain information about the school, community, and PTO. Since its inception, this evening has provided a positive beginning to each school year. Students and families new to the community, in particular, have benefitted from this event, having an opportunity to meet new classmates and make community connections.

The October 1, 2012 enrollment was 221 students in grades Preschool through grade 2 at the Dr. Sweetsir School and 356 in grades 3 through 6 at the Helen R. Donaghue School. This continued a decline in total enrollment in the town's schools.

Dr. Jeffrey Mulqueen became Superintendent of Schools prior the beginning of the school year, assuming this position after the retirement of Dr. Paul Livingston. With Dr. Mulqueen's leadership, the Merrimac schools, along with the rest of the Pentucket Regional School District, embarked on a mission to provide Pentucket students with a World Class education. In doing so, we intend to become the educational opportunity of choice for students, the employment opportunity of choice for talented educators, and the investment opportunity of choice for our communities. Our work will include providing students with voice and choice in the learning, helping them learn to assume responsibility for their learning, and providing students with greater personalization of teaching. We will also provide staff with a clear sense of purpose for the work they do, greater autonomy in how they do it, and opportunities for them to master what they do and support to help them do so. Purpose, autonomy, and mastery are key elements of motivation, and will help us and the school district realize our World Class goal.

During the school year, teachers participated in instructional rounds with Dr. Mulqueen and me. These provided teachers with opportunities to observe classroom activities and then discuss the level of challenge they saw students engaged in, as well as the amount of relevance or meaning the classroom learning activities had for students. Higher levels of challenge and relevance in activities result in higher levels of learning by students. As the year progressed, we saw an increase in both elements in many classrooms. Providing more challenging and relevant learning opportunities to students remain a goal in the current school year.

Each year, the School Councils for the schools meet to assess the needs of the school and develop improvement goals. Beginning in 2010, the School Councils for the Dr. Sweetsir and Helen R. Donaghue Schools developed the following School Improvement Plan goals to focus on during the 2010 - 2013 school years:

**Area: Student Learning and Achievement**

Goal #1: Habits of Learning – Students will evidence development of five "Habits of Learning".

Goal #2: Language Literacy – All students in all subgroups will make AYP on MCAS testing as defined by the Massachusetts DESE school accountability criteria.

Goal #3: Mathematics Literacy - All students in all subgroups will make AYP on MCAS testing as defined by the Massachusetts DESE school accountability criteria.

**Area: School Culture and Climate**

Goal #1: Create and maintain a school climate of respect, tolerance, and positive interpersonal behavior.

**Area: Parent Involvement**

Goal #1: All parents engage with school in educating children.

The schools continued to work on achieving these goals during the 2012-2013 school year. The schools made progress toward goals #1 and #2. All teachers taught units and lessons that focused on the learning standards contained in the state curriculum frameworks, while also focusing on developing with students the habits or competencies successful learners possess and use, the Habits of Learning. Previously, the district identified five habits or competencies: *Thinking; Communication; Collaboration; Independence, and Creative Exploration*. These are transferrable skills essential for student's learning in all areas and important for success beyond school. Students in grades 4 and 6 demonstrated how they developed the five habits by presenting portfolios with examples of learning in these areas to audiences of students and parents. Sixth grade students also presented to classmates and received feedback from them on their work.

The schools did not realize goals Student Learning and Achievement Goals #2 and #3. The state assessments, taken by students in grade 3 through 6 in English language arts and mathematics each spring, showed that students in subgroups did not make the annual performance gains expected by the state. The subgroups at the Donaghue School are students from low income households and students with identified disabilities. The overall performance for students in these groups did not indicate that the schools are closing the achievement gap between these students and their peers. In response, we will review and reallocate as needed Title I and other available Literacy and mathematics support for students. We will also schedule student learning time and teacher time to foster greater collaboration between regular education teachers and special education and other support teachers.

Both schools continued their work to develop school and classroom climates and environments that support challenging learning, School Culture and Climate Goal #1. At Sweetsir, students continued to learn and practice the value of “filling another’s bucket” through intentional acts of kindness. Teachers all read the book on which this practice is based and they recognized students when they “filled someone’s bucket.” At the Donaghue, monthly school-wide community meetings and daily classroom meetings focused on developing positive relationships with and between students, and on developing attitudes and behaviors of respect, personal responsibility, kindness, and safety for all. The school recognizes that the success of this effort will come with the active support of parents.

In the current school year, the School Councils will be revising these goals to reflect the work the schools will be doing to support the school district’s strategic objectives.

Once again, students in Grades 3, 4, 5, and 6 were tested as part of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS). Students in all of these grades took tests in English Language Arts/Reading and Mathematics. Students in Grade 5 also took tests in Science, Engineering, and Technology. The percentage of students scoring at the proficient or advanced level increased from the previous year in Grade 5 English Language Arts, and in Grade 3, Grade 5, and grade 6 Mathematics. The number of students scoring in the top two levels decreased in English Language Arts in Grade 3, Grade 4, and Grade 6. Students in Grade 5 scored higher in Science, Engineering, and Technology than in the previous year.

These test results, along with other assessments of students' learning, were used by the teachers to set improvement goals in their Professional Learning Teams. At grade 3, this included teachers, special educators, and reading support staff together providing small group reading instruction to all students four times each week. All teachers have refocused effort on providing individual students with the additional instruction they might need as indicated by both MCAS results and classroom assessments. Additional reading support, Title I mathematics support, scheduled intervention periods, and frequent monitoring of students' progress will all be used to help us achieve this goal. We will also provide tutoring in English language arts and mathematics for students who performed at a level well below proficient in either area on the MCAS exams. Importantly, the staff will design and teach units of study that integrate students' learning content skills and knowledge with developing the important adaptive learning skills. Staff will also continue to modify units of study and individual lessons to meet students' learning needs.

In the 2012-2013 school year, the Town of Merrimac continued its participation in the Massachusetts School Building Authority Green Repair program. Through this, rooftop heating units and old duct work were replaced, and exterior doors and windows were replaced with energy efficient units at the Sweetsir School. After the close of school, the asbestos-containing tile floors in the classrooms were replaced with new vinyl tile. We appreciate the commitment the town made to make these upgrades to the school buildings.

Once again, the PTO has been a strong partner with the schools. They purchased a variety of educational resources for the schools, which included: tablets for teachers and students to use for learning, recess supplies, a *Reading A to Z* classroom subscription, books for classroom libraries, musical instruments, data projectors, media equipment for students to use, and Sixth Grade and Field Day T-shirts. The PTO presented a graduating Pentucket senior with a PTO Scholarship, coordinated teacher appreciation events, produced a student yearbook, offered Exploration Classes after school, and supported our classroom programs by volunteering in our schools every day. In addition, they sponsored many cultural arts programs for students and helped defray the costs of sixth grade student attendance at Sargent Center in Hancock, New Hampshire. On behalf of the schools, I want to take this opportunity to thank the PTO for their continued commitment to the children of Merrimac. With their help, we can "lock arms" with parents to provide their children with the best educational opportunities.

Our Before and After School Program continues to provide tuition-based services to over 90 children daily at the two schools. On early release Wednesdays, they also offer care for additional students immediately after the early dismissal. This program represents an important way that the schools continue to provide parents and their children with support for

their learning. This program began to offer additional programming for kindergarteners attending the half-day program at the Sweetsir School at the beginning of the 2013-2014 school year.

To help the school maintain elementary class sizes at about 23 students or below, the superintendent's budget modified the leadership of the Merrimac Schools. To reduce administrative expenses, one principal began to lead both schools on July 1, 2013. A School Manager and Support Coordinator was hired to provide daily assistance to the principal. This manager will take on responsibilities for procedures, schedules, transportation, facilities, daily student discipline, and other similar tasks. This will allow the principal to focus on daily activities that impact the quality of teaching and learning and the educational opportunities offered to students at the two schools.

In closing, on behalf of all the Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir and Helen R. Donaghue staff members, I want to express my appreciation for the continued support shown to the schools by the Merrimac community. As educators, the staff of the two schools continue to highly value public education and base their work on the belief that education is the cornerstone of a community, a major resource for enhancing the quality of life for our current and future citizens.

## **PENTUCKET REGIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013**

### **Demographic Information**

The Pentucket Regional Middle School is located in the town of West Newbury, Massachusetts, and serves the students in grades 7 (262 students) and 8 (262 students) from West Newbury, Merrimac, and Groveland. The Middle School is the first experience students have outside their home community and combining with others within the Pentucket Regional School District. The enrollment for the 2012-2013 school year was 524 students, 45 of whom were school choice.

### **School Highlights**

- Student/Teacher ratio, 22:1
- State of the art school website
- Curriculum integration of technology (Computer lab with 28 updated computers, LCD projectors and SMART boards, and the Library with a new virtual computer lab)
- Secure, on-line posting of homework and grades
- Performing arts opportunities
- 3 foreign languages (Spanish, German, and Latin)
- Team approach
- Differentiated lessons
- Inclusionary model
- Growing choral and band programs
- Musical productions each year
- Health, wellness, and physical education programs
- Extensive extracurricular offerings: intramural sports, math team, newspaper, yearbook, peer leaders, student council
- Dedicated and generous PTO

### **School Culture**

- Second Step was taught to both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade in 2012
- (1) Additional Peer Trainer's Program Advisor was trained in a 3-day workshop in VT during the summer of 2012 to = 3 total Advisors
- Peer Trainer's Program was implemented in the fall of 2012 with a 3-day workshop held off-site
- Advisory was piloted as a school-wide program with the following purpose statement agreed to by faculty: *Advisory is a place for all students to develop a relationship with a trusted adult and group of peers with the goal of fostering connectedness, success, and positive climate within our school community*
- Community Meetings for teachers by the Principal create a casual setting for conversation

- Teachers were encouraged by the Principal to take part in PTO and School Council and list of dates were provided to teachers the first week of school
- An electronic Events Calendar is prepared and distributed each week for faculty
- In 2011 A *Destination Imagination* team from PRMS made it to the state finals and the initiative broadened and continued in 2012
- In August 2013, KIEVE staff facilitated a parent information night and a team-building day for 7<sup>th</sup> grade students transitioning to PRMS

### **Curriculum**

- Teachers explicitly taught the Habits of Learning in at least 10 lessons in 2011 and continued this practice into 2012
- Teachers assisted students in collecting work for their portfolios in 2011/2012 including 2 artifacts from each subject area and 8<sup>th</sup> grade portfolio presentations occurred in 2012/2013
- Parents were invited to the HoL portfolio presentations in 2013 – promoting collaboration among teachers, parents and students through the use of rubrics
- Professional Learning Communities (PLC's) were configured by interdisciplinary, like-subject and department chair-led groups where HoL lessons were analyzed and student work shared
- Technology Integration was increased during the 2012/2013 school year

### **Instruction**

- In 2012/2013 the supervision and evaluation process at PRMS focused on the 5 Common Elements of Powerful Learning and during the pre and post conferences surrounding an observation, there was dialogue between administration and teacher regarding student ownership, whether they force students out of their comfort zone, and whether there was time for creativity, reflection or metacognitive thinking
- Walkthroughs began in 2012 with 90% of faculty taking part
- During the 2012/2013 school year, the supervision and evaluation process focused on developing an understanding and application of high rigor and high relevance through pre and post conferences surrounding observations
- 7 Powerful Learning Technology Specialists were appointed at PRMS and a SMART goal was developed to help articulate their purpose as a support system to all teachers

### **Assessment**

- The Instructional Support Team process was revised and overviewed with faculty in 2012 by the Student Support Team
- The Instructional Support Team process was posted to the PRMS website in 2012
- The Instructional Support Team process was revisited with faculty in 2012/2013
- Guidance counselors continue to encourage the use of The Instructional Support Team during the 2012/2013 school year

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. Debra Lay, Principal



**PENTUCKET REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL  
ANNUAL REPORT  
FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013**

The 2012-2013 school year was productive at Pentucket Regional High School. Student enrollment was 776 and comprised of 170 from West Newbury, 277 from Groveland, 289 from Merrimac, and 40 students through school choice.

Below is a summary of activities that took place in the areas of curriculum, instruction, assessment, professional development and the community.

**Curriculum:**

The grade 9 and 10 studies teachers in collaboration with the ELA, Art, Music, Theatre Arts and Video programs and created an interdisciplinary unit of study, capped off with an evening presentation to demonstrate their learning, called "Civil to Civil". This impressive unit involved more than 500 of our students in an unprecedented collaborative effort.

**Instruction:**

Instructors continue to challenge themselves to create the most engaging classroom environment through the use of varied instructional approaches. These approaches are on display every day across the school. In particular, staff are working to create powerful units of study that include rigorous thinking, real world problem solving and personal connections.

**Assessment:**

Our multi-year self-assessment project to prepare for our decennial accreditation visit culminated in a 4 day visit from a team of NEASC assessors. Our students continue to score at very high levels on the yearly MCAS assessments as can be seen by the results below. More than 98% of grade 10 students in ELA and 88% in Math scored Advanced and Proficient, while 81% of grade 9 students scored Advanced and Proficient in Biology.

**Professional Development:**

During the professional development time built into our Early Release days the high school staff completed the lengthy process of our NEASC self-study and prepared to host the visiting team in April.

Teachers regularly engage in powerful self-reflection on their practices through a process called instructional rounds, or classroom walkthroughs. During these sessions, teachers spend a class period walking through classrooms, spending approximately 5 minutes per classroom and then follow up with another class period discussing what we observed. The focus of the conversation is the level of rigor and relevance evident in the lesson students were working on. The definition of rigor we use is higher level thinking – Knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis and evaluation. The definition of relevance is the degree to which students understand why they are learning or if they see a personal connection to the learning or can identify that this is a real world problem or application they are working through.

Community:

School support organizations namely The Pentucket Arts Foundation, the Pentucket Athletic Association and the Pentucket Education Foundation continue to provide great supports and benefits to the high school throughout the school year, sponsoring teacher curriculum grants, improving athletic equipment and facilities and providing improved equipment to enhance our educational program.

For the first time this year, the entire senior class spent a school day in May working to give back to the community through a day of service. Approximately 200 students worked in teams at more than a dozen locations in our 3 communities.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan P. Seymour



## MERRIMAC GRADUATES:

Ackerman, Megan  
Acorn, Jonathan  
Antonelli, Simonne  
Arredondo, Angelica  
Bartholomew, Jacquelin  
Bartula, Zachary  
Belaya, Ekaterina  
Bomba, Samantha  
Bowden, Mitchell  
Clark, Kevin  
Cloyd, Matthew  
Cowher, Shawn  
Creesy, Sarelle  
Curtin, Jaclyn  
Curtin, John  
D'Agostino, Nicholas  
Daniels, Emily  
Davis, Peter  
Dodier, Hannah  
Fontaine, Robert  
Freeman, Jessica  
Freiermuth, Timothy  
Gariepy, Andrea  
Gaudet, Edward  
Gregory, Faith  
Gulezian, Ellen  
Hamerstrom, Haley  
Hardy, Kyle  
Hean, Alexander  
Heath, Michael  
Kilian, Colleen  
Ledoux, Kelsea  
Lundy, Marisa  
Lyons, Hannah  
Madeiros, Daniel  
Meuse, Benjamin  
Miles, Kevin

Miller, Davis  
Mistretta, Jacob  
Moskal, Natasha  
Moynihan, Brendan  
Murphy, Kate  
Nogueira, Tess  
O'Conner, Paige  
O'Meara, Luis  
Peavey, Jacob  
Philbrick, Courtney  
Poulin, Alysha  
Queenan, Sara  
Reinhold, Lillian  
Rizzo, Haley  
Rohrdanz, Miranda  
Rothwell, Cody  
Sanborn, Hayden  
Smith, Abigail  
Snook, Jamie  
Spofford, Victoria  
St. Hilaire, Audra  
Stevens, Allen  
Strangman, Morgan  
Sullivan, Erin  
Swansen, Derek  
Thornton, Daniel  
Verville, Abigail  
Weakley, Kathryn  
Wilbur, Stephanie  
Wiles, Calvin  
Yezzell, Joshua  
Zaneski, William  
Beaudoin, Ryan  
Bowman, Rebecca  
Prescott, Zachary

# WHITTIER ANNUAL OPERATING REPORT TO TOWN OF MERRIMAC SEPTEMBER 12, 2013

## ANNUAL OPERATIONAL REPORT

TO: The Honorable Board of Selectmen

FROM: Paul Tucker, Whittier Representative  
William P. DeRosa, Superintendent

Whittier offers 19 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 fortieth year. To date we have graduated 10,051 students from the day school.

The enrollment for the Evening School from Merrimac: 4

The October 1, 2012 Day School Enrollment:

	Boys	Girls
Grade 9	9	10
Grade 10	9	6
Grade 11	4	2
Grade 12	11	4
Total -	55	
2013 Graduates -	14	

The cost to Merrimac for the school year 2012-2013 was \$587,129.00.

Respectfully yours,

Paul Tucker  
Merrimac Representative

William P. DeRosa  
Superintendent

**ANNUAL REPORT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MERRIMAC PUBLIC LIBRARY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2013**

To the citizens of Merrimac:

The trustees of Merrimac Public Library are pleased to report that 2013 has been yet another year of steady growth and significant accomplishment – especially in the areas of creative and diverse programs, scope and range of services, and community utilization of our excellent facilities.

Last year we reported that the library applied for and received a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Grant in the amount of **\$7,500**. The purpose of the grant was to support a community effort to expand reading. The theme selected for the grant, which ran from March to September of 2013, was called “Merrimac Reads Local Mysteries.” A host of very successful programs and activities were conducted during those seven months to support the theme. A more detailed summary of the specifics of the programs and the enthusiasm they generated has been included in the library director’s annual report. The library trustees have been especially pleased and impressed with the variety of activities created which involved all age groups, different ways and venues to participate, and partnership with several other town departments. The director and entire library staff are to be commended for all of the extra work and special effort required to make this major undertaking such a laudable and highly praiseworthy event.

The results of the town-wide “Wages and Classification Study” have been very gratifying for the library trustees, as those results have applied to all of our loyal and conscientious staff members. Similar to all other town departments affected by the study, we are now pleased to have each of the pay amounts of our employees brought up to parity with comparable positions in municipalities of similar size. We thank the town officials responsible for the study and especially the actions of town meeting to properly fund the equalization.

Another milestone accomplishment this year which has greatly improved pedestrian safety in library usage has been the construction of a proper sidewalk on the south side of Route 110 from 60 West Main Street all the way up to the library complex. Mass Highway performed the engineering, layout, and construction with local oversight provided by Bob Sinibaldi and Tom Barry. The whole project was a thorough and well-executed job that included granite curbing, an amply wide cement sidewalk with handicap grades at street and driveway entrances and a complete resurfacing of Route 110 for the entire distance.

Use of the library meeting room continues to be very high. This year there were no less than four municipal elections conducted here along with “Merrimac Reads Local Mysteries” events, blood drives, book sales, Scout meetings, Yoga and Zumba classes, and regular meetings of town boards and other civic events.

Unfortunately, our Exhibits Advisor, Nancy Philo, resigned her position in March. A new Exhibits Advisor, Lily Ackerly, was appointed by the trustees to fill the part-time position in

September. Taxpayers are reminded that the funding for this position comes entirely from contributions from local businesses and a grant from the Merrimac Cultural Council.

Lastly, and just as important as all that has been written above, we express our continued deep appreciation to the three pillars of our supplementary support providers. First are the Friends of Merrimac Public Library, who generously provide important ancillary enrichments that range from museum passes to an annual appreciation luncheon for our talented staff. Second is the devoted group of cheerful and eager volunteers that greatly lighten the load every day for the regular library personnel. Third, and not least, is the Merrimac Highway Department that does such an excellent job each year with winter snow removal and summer lawn mowing.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Coburn *Co-Chair.*

Ellen Evans *Co-Chair.*

Jennifer Brown

Yvonne D. Cosgrove

Linda Getz

Jeffrey W. Hoyt

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

It was a busy and eventful year. Our energies for most of 2013 were taken up with our first-ever Community Reads Grant, "Merrimac Reads Local Mysteries." The library chose "local mysteries" as the theme of the Grant and we were delighted to bring the citizens of Merrimac a variety of related events and programs. In addition, from June to August the summer reading program, "Dig into Reading," ran full-tilt. All the staff pulled together to make each activity the best it could be and still keep the library running smoothly. There was a lot to be done; we all got behind in our work at times and breathed a sigh of relief when big, successful programs were over, but the experience has been satisfying and the community seemed to enjoy the added programs. A frequent refrain became "Are you going to do this again next year?"

Grant events included the CSI program, "Criminal Minds, Killer Events" in May and two very well-attended events in July: the Paranormal program, "A Supernatural Evening with Jeff Belanger," and "Crime Vehicle Day." The Merrimac Police and Fire departments made the Crime Vehicle Day possible. The biggest hit of that event was the police dog K-Bar and his handler, who garnered rapt attention every minute they were here. An equally big hit for the kids was that they got to make the car sirens whoop and could use the loud speakers. I think the town of Merrimac may have had to replace cruiser batteries a little earlier last year! Other events were book-group discussions at the Senior Center and library, two movies, a local mystery author visit, and a historian's talk about high profile "Murders in Massachusetts."

The highlight of the season, however, turned out to be the comic play, "A Menacing Night at the Modern Museum," in August. The play was written locally and there were some very-local

actors, which made it great fun. There were some unfortunate last-minute circumstances that threatened to derail the performance, but “the show must go on,” and we all pulled together. One staff member, in particular, made it possible for the play to happen in quality form by stepping in as director and finding a last-minute replacement for a missing actor with a small but very important part. We reached the meeting room’s capacity (125) and didn’t have even one more spot we could put a chair. Unhappily we had to turn some people away which has never happened before, but we were thrilled at the community’s response to the performance.

Respectfully submitted,

Martina Follansbee  
Library Director



# TOWN OF MERRIMAC INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

2 School Street Merrimac, MA 01860

Ph. (978) 346-0525 Fax (978) 346-0522

## 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED	CALENDAR YEAR			
	2013	2012	+/-	
New 1+2 Family Dwellings (R4)	27	9	18	
Residential: Addition/Remodel (R4)	180	195	-15	
Accessory Building / Barn / Detached Garage	5	3	2	
Fireplace & Wood/Coal/Pellet Stove (independent)	3	3	0	
Swimming Pools: In-ground + Above-ground	5	4	1	
New/Replacement Manufactured Housing (M.H.)	3	4	-1	
Permit for Temporary Housing Unit	0	1	-1	
Trench Permits	8	13	-5	
Sheet Metal Permits	18	17	1	
Commercial: New / Addition / Remodel	12	10	2	
Multi-family Dwelling: R3, R2, R1 (Building, not dwelling units)	0	0	0	
Municipal Projects	4	1	3	
Demolition Permit	9	4	5	% Change
<b>NUMBER OF BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4%</b>

Amount collected from building permits issued	\$90,220.00	\$62,093.00		
Addendum to open building permit, fees collected	\$676.71	\$1,195.00		
Trench permits, fees collected	\$240.00	\$420.00		
Mechanical permit fees collected	\$1,080.00	\$452.00		
Municipal Projects, fees collected	\$3,901.00	\$10.00		
Copy and miscellaneous, fees collected	\$196.00	\$67.63		
Occupancy and Use certificate	\$1,000.00	\$1,130.00		
Inspections: 780CMR, §106 and MGL c.138, § 11E	\$160.00	\$120.00	\$160.00	
				+/- % Change
<b>Total Building Permit Fees</b>	<b>\$99,497.00</b>	<b>\$66,037.63</b>	<b>\$33,459.37</b>	<b>51%</b>
<b>Total Wiring Permit Fees</b>	<b>\$31,319.00</b>	<b>\$20,900.00</b>	<b>\$10,419.00</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Total Plumbing Permit Fees</b>	<b>\$9,700.00</b>	<b>\$10,145.00</b>	<b>-\$445.00</b>	<b>-4%</b>
<b>Total Gas Permit Fees</b>	<b>\$6,560.00</b>	<b>\$7,450.00</b>	<b>-\$890.00</b>	<b>-12%</b>
<b>Total Enforcement Action Fees</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>\$440.00</b>	<b>-\$240.00</b>	<b>-55%</b>

<b>TOTAL DEPARTMENT FEES</b>	<b>\$148,468.00</b>	<b>\$104,972.63</b>	<b>\$43,495.37</b>	<b>41%</b>
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<b>Fees Waived by Selectmen</b>	<b>\$1,192.00</b>	<b>\$1,680.00</b>	
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<b>TOTAL COLLECTED REVENUE</b>	<b>\$147,276.00</b>	<b>\$103,292.63</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$43,983.37</b>	<b>43%</b>
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Submitted By: Robert S. Sinibaldi, Building Commissioner /  
Zoning Enforcement Officer (D.W.)

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MERRIMAC WATER DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2013

**NEW CONNECTIONS:** During FY2013 there were 12 new homes connected to the town's water system, bringing the total number of connections to 1,824.

**PRIVILEGE FEE:** \$19,200.00 was collected during FY2013 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 FY13 with a surplus of \$ 104,593.25. 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. 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	120,444,700	a decrease of 8,561,900 from FY12
Gallons sold to customers	106,740,060	a decrease of 1,981,830 from FY12
Gallons plant backwash	1,824,700	
Gallons unaccounted for	13,704,640	12% of all water pumped could not be accounted for. Causes: Fire protection, flushing, inaccurate meters, water theft and minor leaks not detectable, tank rehab and E. Main St. Filter rehab and water main breaks.

**IN THE FUTURE:** The town has been working on the improvements to the Sargent Pit Wellfield and is near completion. The town is also working in other areas of the town's water infrastructure to implement improvements. In FY13 the filters at the East Main Street Water Filter plant were rebuilt and the filter media was replaced to provide better water quality. The rehabilitation of the Bear Hill Water Storage Tank has been completed and the exterior of the West Main Street Water Storage Tank is complete with the instillation of a new security fence. Also, some parts of the distribution system are experience low water pressures under various flow conditions that can create undesirable water quality. The addition of several water booster pump stations in several key location of town, are in the engineering stage and should help remedy most of these low water pressure issues. Installation of these booster pumps are scheduled to break ground in 2014.

The Town Square project is scheduled to start in the spring of 2014 and will include the replacement of water mains on Main Street from Liberty Street to Union Street.

The governing rules of the EPA and DEP are always changing and to keep up we have to implement new rules and procedures to comply. Without the support of the employees of the Water Department this would not be possible. My sincere thanks to all employees for their efforts and commitment to water quality throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted  
Gary Tuck, Water Foreman



# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WATER DEPARTMENT

## FISCAL YEAR 2013

Operating beginning balance		\$ 189,285
REVENUES		
User fees		770,686
Liens		28,561
Miscellaneous		0
Interest income		2,005
Total revenues		<u>\$ 801,253</u>
EXPENDITURES		
Salaries	274,942	
Expenditures	384,905	
Capital projects	39,540	
Debt service	33,464	
Total expenditures	<u>\$ 732,852</u>	
Reserved for projects	168,000	
Unreserved from projects		32,000
Retained earnings		<u>\$ 161,226</u>
WATER PRIVILEGE		
Opening balance		44,700
Privilege fees		19,200
Interest income		119
Reserved for projects	32,000.00	
Privilege ending balance		<u>\$ 32,019</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Sinibaldi  
DPW Director

**TOWN OF MERRIMAC**  
**ALLOCATION OF MONTHLY INVESTMENT INCOME – WATER DEPARTMENT**

Water Department													
	Jul-12	Aug-12	Sep-12	Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	Jan-13	Feb-13	Mar-13	Apr-13	May-13	Jun-13	Totals
													(Refnc only)
Operating Cash Balance-Begin of month	189,284.93	260,898.31	219,714.15	177,260.56	333,743.58	270,629.72	195,892.54	312,939.04	285,474.02	258,567.60	357,335.49	315,293.06	3,177,033.01
+ Monthly Rev/User Charges 4211	150,572.22	32,002.45	8,939.12	200,396.11	22,786.68	6,513.68	138,653.49	18,574.23	13,632.01	143,821.85	22,648.58	12,145.81	770,686.23
+ Monthly Revenue/Liens		1,307.11			1,198.56	208.93	16,527.43	1,721.35	216.46	3,609.83	1,002.85	2,768.67	28,561.19
+ Monthly Revenue/Misc 4840													0.00
+ Bond Anticipation Note													0.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>150,572.22</b>	<b>33,309.56</b>	<b>8,939.12</b>	<b>200,396.11</b>	<b>23,985.24</b>	<b>6,722.61</b>	<b>155,180.92</b>	<b>20,295.58</b>	<b>13,848.47</b>	<b>147,431.68</b>	<b>23,651.43</b>	<b>14,914.48</b>	<b>799,247.42</b>
- Monthly Expenditures-Sal 5110	16,464.00	19,567.80	19,585.84	20,039.78	30,201.42	20,673.86	21,765.26	23,271.52	19,993.50	21,926.12	32,951.73	28,501.10	274,941.93
- Monthly Expenditures-Ben 5192	52,094.00	2,110.84	2,137.12	2,138.48	2,258.65	2,131.76	2,146.20	2,176.41	2,127.86	2,154.75	2,283.50	2,139.62	75,899.19
- Monthly Expenditures-Debt Svc						25,660.02						7,804.46	33,464.48
- Monthly Expenditures-Exp 5700	10,566.92	22,623.95	25,333.95	17,183.44	54,805.75	33,118.85	14,422.17	22,476.82	18,798.13	24,803.06	30,659.34	34,213.87	309,006.25
- Monthly Expenditures-Sp Arts		30,331.00	4,445.00	4,763.85									39,539.85
- Monthly Transfers-Out													0.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>79,124.92</b>	<b>74,633.59</b>	<b>51,501.91</b>	<b>44,125.55</b>	<b>87,265.82</b>	<b>81,584.49</b>	<b>38,333.63</b>	<b>47,924.75</b>	<b>40,919.49</b>	<b>48,883.93</b>	<b>65,894.57</b>	<b>72,659.05</b>	<b>732,851.70</b>
Operating Cash Balance-before interest	260,732.23	219,574.28	177,151.36	333,531.12	270,463.00	195,767.84	312,739.83	285,309.87	258,403.00	357,115.35	315,092.35	257,548.49	
Monthly Interest Rate	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.65%	0.74%
Plus Monthly calculated Interest	166.08	139.87	109.20	212.45	166.72	124.70	199.21	164.15	164.60	220.14	200.71	137.59	2,005.44
Interest Already Credited													0.00
Adjustment Interest Due	166.08	139.87	109.20	212.45	166.72	124.70	199.21	164.15	164.60	220.14	200.71	137.59	2,005.44
Operating Cash-End of month	260,898.31	219,714.15	177,260.56	333,743.58	270,629.72	195,892.54	312,939.04	285,474.02	258,567.60	357,335.49	315,293.06	257,686.09	2,005.44

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SEWER DEPARTMENT FISCAL YEAR 2013

In 2013, we saw the upgrade completion at the West Shore station with the long-overdue startup for the Attitash station; a project that encompasses the complete renovation from below ground to a new building exterior. This structure will boast two new pump units in addition to a control panel and generator.

At the treatment plant, the aeration system received 13 new discs and the plant dewatered 400 tons of sludge, which was transported to a composting facility in Ipswich.

Operating beginning balance		\$	340,793
REVENUES			
User fees			1,014,419
Liens			44,687
Betterments			80,046
Fees			1,305
Licenses & permits			1,700
Miscellaneous			17
Inflow & infiltration fees			60,000
State revenues			0
Interest income			3,921
Total revenues		\$	1,206,094
EXPENDITURES			
Salaries	316,336		
Expenditures	383,832		
Capital projects	61,493		
Debt service	214,384		
Total expenditures	\$	976,045	
Betterment transfer in			50,000
Reserve for projects	37,900		
Unreserved from projects			69,009
Operating ending balance		\$	633,398
Inflow & infiltration	212,662		
Net retained earnings		\$	420,736
SEWER CAPITAL FUND			
Opening balance			137,881
Connection fees			29,400
Interest income			334
Capital ending balance		\$	167,616

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Sinibaldi  
DPW Director

**TOWN OF MERRIMAC**  
**ALLOCATION OF MONTHLY INVESTMENT INCOME – SEWER DEPARTMENT**

Sewer Department													
066 0066 XXXX XXXX	Jul-12	Aug-12	Sep-12	Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	Jan-13	Feb-13	Mar-13	Apr-13	May-13	Jun-13	Totals (Refnc only)
Operating cash balance-begin of month	\$340,792.84	\$431,345.69	\$414,742.59	\$410,229.91	\$605,579.42	\$478,790.77	\$420,260.35	\$604,912.67	\$573,937.87	\$542,174.86	\$691,514.53	\$613,297.67	\$6,127,579.17
+ Revenue/User charges 4246	194,912.34	46,241.02	11,376.88	250,502.12	32,434.52	8,301.93	188,076.31	30,008.62	15,032.73	192,624.52	30,959.40	13,948.19	1,014,418.58
+ Rev/Liens 1460 4143 YEAR	141.28	791.80				1,202.84	26,236.05	3,785.49	416.59	4,035.15	1,354.68	6,722.71	44,686.59
+ Rev/Betterments 4750/4753 YEAR	5,991.32		6,335.90		16,676.37	367.24	20,537.33	4,604.84	772.37	21,550.75	3,210.19		80,046.31
+ Revenue/Fees 4326	100.00		700.00		22.50				200.00	55.00		227.50	1,305.00
+ Revenue/Lic & Permits 4455	100.00		100.00		1,200.00	200.00				100.00			1,700.00
+ Revenue/Misc 4840							17.00						17.00
+ Revenue/I&I 4840		5,000.00	25,000.00		5,000.00				10,000.00		10,000.00	5,000.00	60,000.00
+ Revenue/State 4680													0.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>201,244.94</b>	<b>52,032.82</b>	<b>43,512.78</b>	<b>250,502.12</b>	<b>55,333.39</b>	<b>10,072.01</b>	<b>234,866.69</b>	<b>38,398.95</b>	<b>26,421.69</b>	<b>218,365.42</b>	<b>45,524.27</b>	<b>25,898.40</b>	<b>1,202,173.48</b>
- Expenditures-Salaries 5110	19,078.66	21,529.68	22,857.94	23,895.30	36,254.75	24,611.86	24,387.94	25,354.02	24,081.42	23,780.70	38,033.79	32,470.31	316,336.37
- Expenditures-Benefits 5192	73,120.00	2,265.85	2,231.59	2,256.65	2,380.74	2,238.63	2,231.85	2,260.19	2,227.48	2,231.31	2,392.18	2,186.06	98,022.53
- Expenditures-Debt service	7,639.59	17,218.75		6,182.50	114,519.65	5,491.01	1,317.80	1,956.25	1,082.50		58,869.65	105.88	214,383.58
- Expenditures-Dept exp 5700	10,428.43	25,385.65	23,188.66	18,003.66	24,271.86	29,893.84	22,734.06	28,839.50	21,743.44	26,156.75	24,835.92	30,327.27	285,809.04
- Expenditures-Special articles	700.00	2,500.00		5,200.00	4,990.00	6,634.62	(72.20)	11,293.81	9,395.00	17,283.00		3,568.76	61,492.99
- Expenditures-Transfers out													0.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>110,966.68</b>	<b>68,899.93</b>	<b>48,278.19</b>	<b>55,538.11</b>	<b>182,417.00</b>	<b>68,869.96</b>	<b>50,599.45</b>	<b>69,703.77</b>	<b>58,529.84</b>	<b>69,451.76</b>	<b>124,131.54</b>	<b>68,658.28</b>	<b>976,044.51</b>
Operating cash balance-before interest	431,071.10	414,478.58	409,977.18	605,193.92	478,495.81	419,992.82	604,527.59	573,607.85	541,829.72	691,088.52	612,907.26	570,537.79	
Monthly interest rate	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.65%	0.06%
Plus monthly calculated Interest	274.59	264.02	252.73	385.50	294.96	267.53	385.08	330.02	345.14	426.01	390.41	304.81	3,920.79
Interest Already Credited/Debited													0.00
Interest adjustment	274.59	264.02	252.73	385.50	294.96	267.53	385.08	330.02	345.14	426.01	390.41	304.81	3,920.79
<b>Operating Cash-End of month</b>	<b>431,345.69</b>	<b>414,742.59</b>	<b>410,229.91</b>	<b>605,579.42</b>	<b>478,790.77</b>	<b>420,260.35</b>	<b>604,912.67</b>	<b>573,937.87</b>	<b>542,174.86</b>	<b>691,514.53</b>	<b>613,297.67</b>	<b>570,842.60</b>	<b>3,920.79</b>

**Sewer Department**

<b>066 0066 XXXX XXXX</b>	<b>Jul-12</b>	<b>Aug-12</b>	<b>Sep-12</b>	<b>Oct-12</b>	<b>Nov-12</b>	<b>Dec-12</b>	<b>Jan-13</b>	<b>Feb-13</b>	<b>Mar-13</b>	<b>Apr-13</b>	<b>May-13</b>	<b>Jun-13</b>	<b>Totals</b> (Refnc only)
DR 001 1450 4820	3,920.79												
CR 001 0001 1040	3,920.79												
CR 066 0066 4820	3,920.79												
DR 066 0066 1040	3,920.79												
<b>JE# 6838 11/21/13</b>													

<b>Sewer Capital Fund</b>	<b>Jul-12</b>	<b>Aug-12</b>	<b>Sep-12</b>	<b>Oct-12</b>	<b>Nov-12</b>	<b>Dec-12</b>	<b>Jan-13</b>	<b>Feb-13</b>	<b>Mar-13</b>	<b>Apr-13</b>	<b>May-13</b>	<b>Jun-13</b>	<b>Totals</b> (Refnc only)
Opening balance	137,881.08	140,365.47	142,848.75	155,130.07	155,160.40	157,637.08	157,664.87	157,689.16	157,706.70	157,733.14	162,660.70	167,588.81	137,881.08
Connection fees	2,450.00	2,450.00	12,250.00		2,450.00					4,900.00	4,900.00		29,400.00
Interest income	34.39	33.28	31.32	30.33	26.68	27.79	24.29	17.54	26.44	27.56	28.11	26.71	334.44
Expenditures/transfers out													0.00
	140,365.47	142,848.75	155,130.07	155,160.40	157,637.08	157,664.87	157,689.16	157,706.70	157,733.14	162,660.70	167,588.81	167,615.52	167,615.52

**MERRIMAC MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT  
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2013**

The Board of Light Commissioners and General Manager are pleased to submit the Annual Report of the Merrimac Municipal Light Department ("MMLD") for the year 2013.

**NEW SERVICES**

During 2013 there were a total of 15 new electrical services added to the MMLD's electric distribution system. The total number of electric meters in service at year's end was 2,835.

**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 2013 the MMLD's system experienced a total of 19 outages which affected a total of 1,790 customers. Quick response to these outages, by the MMLD's crews, resulted in 82% of the total number of customers being restored in less than 60 minutes, 7% restored between 61 and 120 minutes and only 11% restored in more 2 hours. Additionally, 37% of the total number of outages were caused by animal interference and 16% caused by weather related events.

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
32.92	0.607	54	19

Table 1

**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 difficult task especially because of the congested energy load zone that the Town is part of. Power congestion in the Northeast Massachusetts ("NEMA") and old power plants coming offline have been driving energy, transmission and capacity costs up. This is a problem that has been affecting both the municipal and Investor-owned electric utilities in this region.

During the year 2012 the MMLD started looking into adding 1.5 MW of solar power to its energy portfolio. Solar power has been a very popular source of renewable energy due to the multiple incentives provided by state agencies. Solar suppliers are offering competitive prices that could be very beneficial to rate payers and to the Town.

In 2013 the MMLD signed a Purchased Power Agreement with Consolidated Edison Development to buy the energy output of a 1.5 MW solar farm to be installed on a piece of land between East Main Street and Federal Way. The project came online on December 27<sup>th</sup> and should cover about 8% of the Town's energy needs.

### **CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TOWN**

Based on preliminary results of year 2013, the Municipal Light Department will be providing the Town with the following contributions for Payment in Lieu of Taxes:

<b>Cash Payment:</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>
<b>Unbilled Streetlight Usage:</b>	<b><u>\$22,948.51</u></b>
<b>Total PILOT Payment</b>	<b>\$32,948.51</b>

### **COMMUNITY**

The Merrimac Municipal Light Department is a Public Utility, that means it is owned by its rate payers and not by a board of directors like the investor owned utilities. That means that when you call or come into the office you get to talk to a person, someone who will help you with questions that you may have about your bill or your electric service. We at the Municipal Light Department are here to serve the community.

During 2013 the MMLD conducted a number of electrical safety programs at the Helen R. Donaghue School, at the Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir School and at the Senior Center. These programs, conducted by our Public Safety Coordinator, have the objective of teaching the young and elderly population in our community about the possible electric hazards at home or outside and how to stay safe and make others safe when dangerous situations are encountered.

The MMLD recognizes the need to effectively communicate with the public during special situations therefore it continues its financial support of the Code RED system being used in Town. In addition, the MMLD continues to support other departments, such as the Library, Senior Center and DPW, with the use of some of our equipment and electrical expertise.

In December of 2013, the MMLD assisted the Santa Committee hanging reefs at the Town Hall building and strung the lights for the annual Christmas lighting event at the Kimball Park, which has become a family tradition well enjoyed by the community.

### **STAFF AND COMMISSIONERS**

Both the MMLD's staff and Commissioners continue to be very 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.

Respectfully submitted,

Francisco A. Frias, General Manager

Board of Light Commissioners

Norman Denault	Term Expires 2014
Linda Soucy	Term Expires 2016
Jim Young	Term Expires 2015



**MERRIMAC ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT  
STATEMENT OF INCOME FOR THE YEAR 2013**

	Current Year	Increase or (Decrease) from Preceding Year	
	<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>		
400 Operating Revenue	4,503,589.95	(61,952.31)	4,565,542.26
	<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		
401 Operation Expense	3,710,775.65	(208,426.09)	3,919,201.74
402 Maintenance Expense	174,177.32	(5,453.45)	179,630.77
403 Depreciation Expense	278,413.65	8,614.31	269,799.34
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	4,163,366.62	(205,265.23)	4,368,631.85
<b>Operating Income</b>	340,223.33	143,312.92	196,910.41
	<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
415 Income from Merchandising, Jobbing and Contract Work			
419 Interest Income	16,415.53	(60,405.62)	76,821.15
421 Miscellaneous Nonoperating Income.			
<b>Total Income</b>	356,638.86	82,907.30	273,731.56
	<b>INTEREST CHARGES</b>		
427 Interest on Bonds and Notes	43,950.00	(2,250.00)	46,200.00
431 Other Interest Expense			
<b>Total Interest Charges</b>	<u>43,950.00</u>	<u>(2,250.00)</u>	<u>46,200.00</u>
<b>NET INCOME.....</b>	<u><b>312,688.86</b></u>	<u><b>85,157.30</b></u>	227,531.56

	Debits	Credits
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus (at beginning of period)		3,941,732.59
433 Balance Transferred from Income		312,688.86
434 Miscellaneous Credits to Surplus		37,357.10
435 Miscellaneous Debits to Surplus	75,000.00	
436 Appropriations of Surplus		
437 Surplus Applied to Depreciation		
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus (at end of period)	<u>4,216,778.55</u>	-
	<u>4,291,778.55</u>	<u>4,291,778.55</u>

**MERRIMAC ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT  
COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET 2013**

	Balance Beginning of Year	Balance End of Year	Increase or (Decrease)
<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>			
<b>UTILITY PLANT</b>			
101 Utility Plant - Electric .	4,814,976.83	4,847,303.30	32,326.47
<b>FUND ACCOUNTS</b>			
125 Sinking Funds	719.17	719.17	-
126 Depreciation Fund..	2,219,679.18	2,298,611.47	78,932.29
126 Rate Stabilization Fund..	272,864.74	274,609.05	1,744.31
126 Bond Fund.	-	-	-
<b>CURRENT AND ACCRUED ASSETS</b>			
131 Cash	(199,150.81)	17,015.80	216,166.61
132 Special Deposits	74,099.28	74,399.28	300.00
132 Working Funds.	200.00	200.00	-
142 Customer Accounts Receivable..	247,665.77	198,742.66	(48,923.11)
143 Other Accounts Receivable..			
146 Receivables from Municipality..			
151 Materials and Supplies	15,001.94	15,001.94	-
165 Prepayments	21,614.00	22,321.31	707.31
165 Prepayments CTC charge..	400,772.35	400,803.67	31.32
<b>DEFERRED DEBITS</b>			
183 Other Deferred Debits	<u>315.30</u>	<u>381.84</u>	<u>66.54</u>
<b>Total Assets and Other Debits</b>	<u>\$ 7,868,757.75</u>	<u>\$ 8,150,109.49</u>	<u>281,351.74</u>
<b><u>LIABILITIES</u></b>			
<b>SURPLUS</b>			
206 Loans Repayments..	1,591,707.96	1,591,707.96	-
207 Appropriations for Construction Repayments.	8,889.05	8,889.05	-
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus	3,941,732.59	4,216,778.55	275,045.96

	Balance Beginning of Year	Balance End of Year	Increase or (Decrease)
<b>LONG TERM DEBT</b>			
221 Bonds..	1,125,000.00	1,050,000.00	(75,000.00)
231 Notes Payable	-		-
<b>CURRENT AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES</b>			
232 Accounts Payable.	249,637.46	294,309.70	44,672.24
235 Customer' Deposits.	74,099.28	74,399.28	300.00
242 Miscellaneous Current and Accrued Liabilities	315.30	381.84	66.54
<b>DEFERRED CREDITS</b>			
252 Customer Advances for Construction	1,220.67	1,220.67	-
<b>RESERVES</b>			
260 Reserves for Uncollectable Accounts.	13,586.20	13,586.20	-
<b>CONTRIBUTIONS IN AID OF CONSTRUCTION</b>			
271 Contributions in Aid of Construction..	<u>862,569.24</u>	<u>898,836.24</u>	<u>36,267.00</u>
<b>Total Liabilities and Other Credits</b>	<u>\$ 7,868,757.75</u>	<u>\$ 8,150,109.49</u>	<u>281,351.74</u>

## 2013 MERRIMAC PLANNING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

In calendar year 2013, the pace of development accelerated and the Planning Board continued to attend to other aspects of its role of overseeing land use and development.

The year began with the presentation of a conceptual plan for a retail store next to the intersection of Bear Hill Road and East Main Street. As the proposed use is allowed by right in the Rural Highway District, the Board's role was to conduct a Site Plan Review (SPR). Public hearings for SPR began in May drawing large public attendance and seeing many objections raised. Before the Board concluded the hearing process, the applicant withdrew the SPR request.

At its June 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Board approved the Special Permit and SPR for the Poplar Hill subdivision, an Open Space Residential Development off Middle Road. The Board also completed and rendered a decision on SPR for a parking adjacent to Merrimac Savings Bank. At the October 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Board approved the Special Permit and SPR for the installation of solar panels on a parcel off of E. Main Street, a project of Con Edison in partnership with Merrimac Light Department. The Board's recommendation for acceptance of Lakewoods Drive at the fall Special Town Meeting was approved. Three new Approval Not Required (ANRs) were granted by the Board during the year. The Board collected \$1,750 in filing fees for its review activities in 2013.

There are two subdivisions in Merrimac that continue to be under construction and monitored by the Board: Madison Way and Quail Ridge. The Madison Way development off of Bear Hill Road is nearing completion with monitoring primarily consisting of concerns related to erosion on site. Development at Quail Ridge on Battis Road is steadily progressing and the new developer has been very responsive to issues raised by the Planning Board.

The Board held a public hearing for zoning by-law amendments to make the following changes: (1) map change and description for an expanded Lake Attitash District; (2) clarification of language for residential units in commercial buildings in the Village Center District; (3) deletion of fee amount in the Earth Removal By-law; (4) inclusion of medical marijuana dispensary as a use by Special Permit in the Office Light Industrial District (OLID) and explicitly prohibiting it in other districts; (5) inclusion of commercial solar and wind installations in OLID and Rural Highway District; and (6) allowing rooftop residential solar installation in all residential districts. These changes were approved at the Annual Town Meeting.

The Board reorganized in May and voted John Thomas as MVPC Commissioner, Robert Atwood as Vice Chair, and Sandra Venner as Chair. Sandra Venner also continues to serve as chair of the Affordable Housing Board of Trustees.

The Board was greatly saddened by the death of Robert Atwood in November and asked the Board of Selectmen to approve the establishment of an Environmental Quality Betterment Fund for the Town in his memory.

As always, the Board is grateful for the professionalism and dedication of its secretary, Patricia True, who not only serves the Board well but the entire community.

Respectfully submitted by

Sandra Venner, Chairperson  
Merrimac Planning Board

Sandra Venner	Term expires 2014
Robert Atwood, Deceased 11-6-13	
Karol Flannery (thru May 2014)	
Dennis Brodie	Term expires 2016
John Thomas	Term expires 2017
Ronald Barnes	Term expires 2018



**TOWN OF MERRIMAC  
FINANCE DIRECTOR**

4 School Street  
Merrimac, MA 01860  
Phone (978) 346-0524  
Fax (978) 346-8863

E-Mail: [cmcleod@townofmerrimac.com](mailto:cmcleod@townofmerrimac.com)

**Honorable Board of 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, 2013 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 2013**

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Original Amount</u>	<u>Balance 7/1/12</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Retired</u>	<u>Balance 6/30/13</u>	<u>Interest Paid 7/1/12-6/30/13</u>
Title V	4/29/1999	0%	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 55,502.00	\$	- \$ 11,100.40	\$ 44,401.60	\$ -
River Road MWPAT	10/6/1999		\$ 149,856.00	\$ 80,000.00	\$	- \$ 10,000.00	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 1,317.80
Refunded	10/15/2002	2.5%-4.6%	\$ 4,820,000.00	\$ 495,000.00	\$	- \$ 345,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 12,900.00
Town Hall	10/15/2002	2.5%-4.6%	\$ 2,850,000.00	\$ 1,545,000.00	\$	- \$ 145,000.00	\$ 1,400,000.00	\$ 63,520.00
Sewer	10/15/2002	2.5%-4.6%	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 55,000.00	\$	- \$ 5,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 2,265.00
Multi-Purpose Loan	11/15/2003	2%-4.5%	\$ 4,231,000.00	\$ 2,460,000.00	\$	- \$ 210,000.00	\$ 2,250,000.00	\$ 99,352.50
Multi-Purpose Loan	4/15/2007	4.95%	\$ 378,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$	- \$ 10,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 2,475.00
Multi-Purpose Loan	2/15/2008	3.56%	\$ 2,380,000.00	\$ 1,870,000.00	\$	- \$ 175,000.00	\$ 1,695,000.00	\$ 68,950.00
Sewer Port Lift Station	6/3/2009	4.90%	\$ 183,000.00	\$ 73,200.00	\$	- \$ 36,600.00	\$ 36,600.00	\$ 3,586.80
Sewer - Ridgefield Rd.	8/23/2010	3.97%	\$ 132,080.00	\$ 115,000.00	\$	- \$ 15,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 4,175.00
<b>Total All</b>				<b>\$ 6,798,702.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>- \$ 962,700.40</b>	<b>\$ 5,836,001.60</b>	<b>\$ 258,542.10</b>
<b>Less: Electric</b>	2/15/2008	3.60%	\$ 1,500,000.00	<b>\$ 1,200,000.00</b>		<b>\$ 75,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,125,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 45,075.00</b>
<b>Total Excluding Electric</b>				<b>\$ 5,598,702.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>- \$ 887,700.40</b>	<b>\$ 4,711,001.60</b>	<b>\$ 213,467.10</b>

**TOWN OF MERRIMAC**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES**  
**BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND**  
**FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2013**

	Original	Final	Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Budget			
Revenues:				
Property taxes	\$ 10,192,811	\$ 10,192,811	\$ 10,163,027	\$ (29,784)
Excise taxes	645,500	645,500	770,888	125,388
Payments in lieu of tax	1,291	1,291	1,293	2
Departmental charges for services	434,000	434,000	448,052	14,052
Licenses and permits	60,000	60,000	61,331	1,331
Intergovernmental	1,203,646	1,203,646	1,189,413	(14,233)
Fines	55,000	55,000	71,218	16,218
Investment income	11,000	11,000	10,227	(773)
Other			49,599	49,599
Transfers from other funds	25,500	80,500	147,430	66,930
Total Revenue	12,628,748	12,683,748	12,912,478	228,730
Expenditures:				
General government	751,930	731,831	675,381	56,450
Public safety	1,491,875	1,810,375	1,779,747	30,628
Education	7,128,251	7,128,251	7,075,124	53,127
Public works	924,065	1,057,065	1,035,196	21,869
Human services	311,073	326,155	321,589	4,566
Culture and recreation	244,055	244,055	241,190	2,865
Debt service	866,327	866,327	862,343	3,984
Intergovernmental	166,054	166,054	166,774	(720)
Employee benefits	605,118	605,118	545,048	60,070
Insurance	140,000	140,000	132,839	7,161
Transfers to other funds		217,758	217,758	0
Total Expenditures	12,628,748	13,292,989	13,052,989	240,000
Excess of revenue over expenditures	0	(609,241)	(140,511)	468,730
Fund balance allocation	\$ 4,700	\$ 609,241		



**TOWN OF MERRIMAC  
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013**

	<u>Special Revenue</u>		Capital Projects	Permanent	Total
	Grants	Other			
Revenues					
Department charges for services		203,015		4,800	207,815
Intergovernmental	340,304				340,304
Investment Income	2	19		(2,696)	(2,675)
Other		202,549			202,549
Total revenues	340,306	405,583	0	2,104	747,993
Expenditures					
Current					
General government	3,663	98,325	133,377		235,365
Public safety	38,291	160,075			198,366
Public works	291,626			8,162	299,788
Human services	8,768	56,564	2,747		68,079
Recreation and culture	10,259	8,674		1,550	20,483
Total expenditures	352,607	323,638	136,124	9,712	822,081
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(12,301)	81,945	(136,124)	(7,608)	(74,088)
Other financing sources (uses)					
Proceeds from bond issues					0
Operating transfers in					0
Operating transfers out		(61,667)			(61,667)
Total other financing sources (uses)	0	(61,667)	0	0	(61,667)
Net changes in fund balances	(12,301)	20,278	(136,124)	(7,608)	(135,755)
Fund balances, beginning of year	68,211	842,835	12,989	456,046	1,380,081
Fund balances, end of year	\$ 55,910	\$ 863,113	\$(123,135)	\$ 448,438	\$ 1,244,326

**TOWN OF MERRIMAC**  
**COMBINING BALANCE SHEET - NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**JUNE 30, 2013**

	<u>Special Revenue</u>		Capital		
	Grants	Other	Projects	Permanent	Totals
<u>Assets</u>					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,306	\$ 850,431	\$ 19,613	\$ 104,483	\$ 977,833
Investments				343,955	343,955
Receivables:					0
Departmental		58,251			58,251
Due from other governments	230,797				230,797
Total assets	234,103	908,682	19,613	448,438	1,610,836
<u>Liabilities and Fund Balances</u>					
<u>Liabilities:</u>					
Warrants and accounts payable	178,193	7,318	2,748		188,259
Deferred revenue			140,000		140,000
Notes payable					0
Total liabilities	178,193	7,318	142,748	0	328,259
<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>					
Unavailable revenue		38,251			38,251
	0	38,251	0	0	38,251
<u>Fund Balances</u>					
Nonspendable				323,317	323,317
Restricted	55,910	829,918	17,430	125,121	1,028,379
Assigned		33,195			33,195
Unassigned			(140,565)		(140,565)
Total fund balances	55,910	939,615	(123,135)	448,438	1,320,828
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 234,103	\$ 908,682	\$ 19,613	\$ 448,438	\$ 1,610,836

## THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Board of Assessors has become busier than it has been for the last couple of years with the increase of New Construction permits. We expect to be very busy with a number of new homes being built and additions being added. We are continuing with our cyclical inspections of homes as required by the Department of Revenue that dictates that we must inspect every home in town over a period of nine years. We appreciate the cooperation of homeowners allowing us into their homes for these inspections.

### FY 2014 RECAP

AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED 15,605,395.00

AMOUNTS CERTIFIED FOR TAX TITLE PURPOSES	4,000.00
TOTAL CHERRY SHEET OFFSETS	7,009.00
SNOW AND ICE DEFICITS	1,931.64
OTHER	64.34
STATE & OUNTY CHERRY SHEET CHARGES	156,147.00
ALLOWANCE FOR ABATEMENTS AND EXEMPTIONS	97,583.47
TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE RAISED	15,872,130.45

### ESTIMATED RECEIPTS AND OTHER REVENUE SOURCES

CHERRY SHEET ESTIMATED RECEIPTS	792,328.00
MASS. SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY PAYMENTS	152,584.00
LOCAL RECEIPTS NOT ALLOCATED	1,333,800.00
ENTERPRISE FUNDS	2,312,169.00
FREE CASH	609,241.00
OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS	66,200.00
MUNICIPAL LIGHT SOURCE	10,000.00
TOTAL REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LEVY	10,595,808.45
TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM ALL SOURCES	15,872,130.45

## ANNUAL REPORT - OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen

As the Town Clerk of the Town of Merrimac, I hereby submit my annual report for the year ending December 31, 2013

### BIRTHS

Number of Births Recorded	57
Males	28
Females	29
Father Native Born	44
Mother Native Born	45
Both Parents Native Born	45
Both Parents Foreign Born	3
Mixed Parentage	7

### MARRIAGES

Number of Marriages Recorded	18
First Marriage, Male	16
First Marriage, female	15
Male Native Born	18
Female Native Born	17
Average Age, Male	34 yrs.
Average Age, Female	32 yrs.

### DEATHS

Number of Deaths Recorded	39
Males	22
Females	17
Under 5 years	0
Males, Native Born	20
Females, Native Born	17
Parents, Native Born	28
Parents, Foreign Born	1
Mixed Parentage	10
Average Age	71 yrs.
Oldest Person	95 yrs.

### LICENSES

Total Dog Licenses	654
Male	45
Female	12
Spade	283
Neutered	314
Kennel Licenses	0

Respectfully Submitted,  
Patricia E. True  
Town Clerk

## **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL OFFICER**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

Activities from January 2013 to December 2013.

The number of dogs licensed for 2013, was 659. Under Massachusetts General Laws, Ch. 140 Sec. 137, all dogs over six months old, are required to have rabies shot and licensing.

This past year twenty-three dogs were picked up, or dropped at Police Department; twelve of those dogs were returned to owners promptly after proof of current vaccinations and payment of fines. Nine dogs were kenneled at Bed and Biscuit. Three dogs were never claimed. They were fostered and placed in good homes. We received several complaints concerning dogs running at large that we were unable to locate. Two pit bulls were abandoned in Merrimac; one was in the area of School Street and the other was at the rest area off 495. Both dogs were adopted out after a lengthy kenneling.

There were six lost cats; five of which were found. One was found dead. Only one of the cats was claimed. One cat was rescued from a tree on Locust Street. Keeping cats indoors is the best avenue in keeping your pet alive and well.

Quarantine for animal bites; there were seven reported dog bites. All of these animals were quarantined for ten days. Six of the dogs had all their vaccinations up to date. One dog did not and the animal received its booster after five months of strict quarantine because the bite was from a wild animal that had gotten away. Rabies shots are required by Massachusetts General Laws, Ch. 140 Sec. 145. This is for both protection of your pets and people in general.

There were several warnings and citations issued for barking dog complaints, nuisance, and dogs running at large. It is important to always have your animal on a leash.

We dealt with many wildlife calls this year. We suggest that you leave these animals alone, remove any food from your yard and keep your garbage cans closed. We answered three calls for bats in the house. All of the bats were caught and sent for testing. All the bats were negative for the rabies virus. We removed three squirrels and three opossums from residences in Merrimac. We also assisted the Health Department by removing a skunk that was floating in a pool of an abandoned house.

We assisted with a horse rescue in the Town Forrest. The rescue was successful because we worked with the owners, the police and fire departments to get the horse out.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Young-Carey, ACCO

## 2013 ANNUAL REPORT OF CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

As in other years, departments were asked to submit forms documenting their capital requests for FY'14 and the next five years to the Capital Planning Committee. For consideration as a capital item the request must have a life duration of at least five years and an initial cost of \$10,000 or more. In February and March the committee met with the departments and reviewed supporting documents to determine its recommendations. The criteria applied for developing recommendations in order of priority are: a) necessary to respond to state or federal mandate; b) public health and/or safety consideration; and c) operational necessity.

At the Special Town Meeting on April 29, 2013, the CPC recommended that \$367,000 be expended from Free Cash for capital items for Town departments. It was also recommended that \$72,586 from Free Cash be appropriated for the Stabilization Fund and \$72,586 for the Capital Stabilization Fund. The CPC supported \$55,000 for the Ambulance Stabilization Fund in addition to the \$80,000 from Free Cash for purchase of an ambulance. The CPC also supported use of fund remaining from the borrowing for replacement of kitchen equipment at the Donaghue School to be authorized for flooring at the Sweetsir School. Also supported was \$1,021,853 energy building improvements for town and school buildings to be repaid out of utility accounts using the energy savings achieved. Other recommended expenditures were transfers from the Waste Water Treatment and Water Departments' respective retained earnings for purchase of trucks by both departments and upgrade of water mains. All recommendations were voted affirmatively.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Venner, Chairperson  
Janet Bruno, Vice Chairperson  
Patricia Dillon, Representing the Finance Committee  
Earl Baumgartner, Representing the Board of Selectman  
Carol Traynor

## **MERRIMAC CONSERVATION COMMISSION 2013 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 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 Bylaw. The Conservation Commission is composed of seven members who serve as unpaid volunteers, who are assisted by a part-time Wetland Agent. The Commission generally meets once a month on the second Wednesday of the month 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 10 regular meetings were held, 7 site visits were conducted, and the Commission held 1 special meeting. There were 19 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 2013, 1 enforcement order was issued to property owners regarding work undertaken in violation of the Act.

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 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 Town's 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. The Commission is currently looking for additional members, 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  
Ellis Katz  
Jon Pearson  
Janet Terry  
Arthur Yarranton



## BOARD OF HEALTH, 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

The Board of Health meetings are usually held once a month, but the date fluctuates to accommodate the availability of its members or of a particular hearing request. We may be contacted at [boh@townofmerrimac.com](mailto:boh@townofmerrimac.com) or by calling 978-346-4066. The office is staffed on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

During 2013, the Board of Health has 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 our primary representatives and contacts in this program.

**Deborah Ketchen** has been our Health Inspector since March 2006, and was a former board member since 1999. .

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 continue to improve.

**Russell S. Hussey, Jr.** was elected to a three-year term on the Board of Health in May 2012. He has an extensive background and knowledge in many facets of city boards and departments. He has over twenty years of municipal involvement. He recently has been MAHB Certified as a Board of Health member and is beginning testing for Certificates of Achievement in Incident Command Systems which is an essential requirement regarding Emergency Management and Environmental Health.

**Jason Sargent** was elected to serve a three-year term on the Board in May 2013. Jason received an Associate Degree in Business Administration, and continued on to receive his Bachelor of Science Degree from Oklahoma State University, in Agronomy, in College of Agriculture. Jason possesses a substantial knowledge of many facets of operation relating to the functions of the Board of Health. Amongst others, these would include the earth, air quality, food and nutrition, animals, farming and organic recycling.

**Eileen Hurley**, Chairperson, has served on the Board since 2000 and is also the Office Administrator since 1999. She is MAHB Certified, and assists contractors and the general public by responding to their questions and requirements. Several responsibilities include managing the Title V Program, updating records of well installations and water test results throughout the town, maintaining central records 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.merrimac01860.info](http://www.merrimac01860.info). Applications and notification of expiration are no longer mailed. License fees are payable by December 31 each year.

Income from licenses and permits issued in 2013:

BUSINESS LICENSES			WORK PERMITS		
Qty.	Category	Fee	Qty.	Category	Fee
12	Restaurant	\$ 700	11	Disposal System	\$ 4,650
3	Non-PHF Food	100	1	System Repairs	50
10	Common Victualler	450	4	Deep Hole Test &	1,400
1	Mobile Food	50	8	Perc	1,200
1	Service	50		Well & Pump Permit	
8	Catering Service	70			
10	Milk Products	1,435			
5	Installers	380			
4	Haulers	200			
2	Tobacco Sales	100			
	Mfrd. Homes Park				
Total:		\$ 3,535	Total:		\$ 7,250

**\$10,785** TOTAL Permits & Applications

Respectfully submitted,

Merrimac Board of Health

Eileen Hurley Term expires 2014

Russell S. Hussey, Jr. Term expires 2015

Jason Sargent Term expires 2016

## MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAM INFORMATION

**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](http://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.

## 2013 PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE REPORT FOR THE TOWN OF MERRIMAC

At the time of writing this report finds me just a few weeks short of forty-three years as the "Town Nurse" for the Town of Merrimac, MA. There has been a hundred and eighty degree sea turn in the evolution of public health nursing practice during those many years. In 1971, the position was an extension of hospital care for recently discharge patients. In the early 1980's, the visiting nurse concept evolve into what is now known as home care agencies. Small towns did not meet the criteria for becoming home care agencies and ended up serving the under-insured clients known as "free care".

Fast-forwarding to the second decade of the twenty-first century, finds the country finally valuing "prevention" and "health education" as the tool for keeping the populations more healthy and knowledgeable. While being driven by finances and costs, staying healthy and in the community is best for the individual and the entire population as we shift from the medical model or disease-driven model of care to one that is ecologically and environmentally based. We now recognize that where you live can make you sick! This makes you in charge of your health now!

The frequency of reported Lyme disease infected individuals in Merrimac is a prime example of an ecological and environmental causative factor; all of which can be prevented through education and awareness. Lyme disease continues to hold the top spot in Merrimac for diseases reported by the Department of Public Health.

In spite of the availability of seasonal flu vaccine in diverse commercial settings, there are still Merrimac residents and others from nearby communities that utilize the Board of Health as their expected source for flu vaccine. A total of 250 doses of purchased vaccine were administered in the 2013-2014 Flu season. Several public clinics were held at the Senior Center in addition to numerous walk-in and by appointment only sessions.

Twice weekly blood pressure clinics continue to be held at the Senior Center on Tuesdays at 12:30 PM in the second floor Library and at Merri Village in the Function Hall on Wednesdays at 1 PM. Health education and health promotion information is offered and shared for both individuals and groups. A total of 98 blood pressure monitoring clinics were held during 2013.

Weekly home visits for medication administration and management continue coupled with assessment and education provided to the individual and family as needed. During 2013, a total of 163 home visits were conducted for residents.

Merrimac continues with a sharps disposal program that has been in place since 1998. **Used sharps must be collected in a traditional Sharps containers.** The heavy gauge plastic detergent bottles that were being used for Sharps collection are no longer accepted by the medical waste company that completes the highly regulated disposal process. Filled Sharps containers may be brought to the Senior Center during regular business hours for disposal. Since July 2012, it is illegal to dispose of sharps in regular household trash within the Commonwealth. Official Sharps containers are available at the Senior Center for a nominal cost.

I continue as Merrimac's representative to the Northeast Public Health Coalition for Emergency Preparedness. The coalition is comprised of 14 communities in the northeast corner of the state that collectively addresses public health concerns impacting our communities. The coalitions across the state in conjunction with the Department of Public Health are engaged in creating a merger of hospitals and acute care systems with public health to form a coordinated delivery system regionally and state-wide. This is a work in progress with much to be done yet.

I continue to be the public health representative to the Professional Advisory Committee of the Home Health Visiting Nurse Association (HHVNA). My attendance began in 1998.

In June 2013, I did a poster presentation addressing population-focused education and practice at the joint national convention of the Association of Community Health Educators and the Association of Public Health Nurses in Cary, NC. In April 2013, I was inducted as a Fellow in the Local Public Health Institute of Massachusetts.

In addition to my duties for the Board of Health and the Senior Center/Council on Aging, I continue as adjunct faculty at St. Joseph's College of Maine teaching two graduate level courses in Population-focused Care as well as an undergraduate course in Community Health at Endicott College in Beverly.

I can be reached at my office at the Senior Center during regular business hours by calling 978-346-9549.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte E. Stepanian, MSN, RN-BC  
Merrimac Public Health Nurse

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
MERRIMAC HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2013**

To the Citizens of Merrimac:

The bulk of activities for the calendar year 2013 centered on answering historical and research questions for residents, genealogists, state agencies, town boards and officials, and assisting with the operation of the Merrimac Historical Museum.

Questions from residents ranged from the age of their home to information about family members, school records, early maps, old photographs, and a host of other topics.

Genealogists, professional and amateur, asked for vital information (birth, death, marriage, records, etc.) about various individuals and family members, in some cases spanning the past three hundred years. Most interesting among these this year was a biographical sketch of William W. Taylor (1874-1949), director of Henry Ford's Dearborn, Michigan museum and antiques collector for Ford for 45 years. Mr. Taylor was born and grew up in Newton, N.H., and wrote several sketches of his weekly boyhood visits to Merrimac and the drug store operated here in the 1880's by druggist Fred L. Parker.

Assistance to town boards and officials has been high this year. A great deal of information has been provided to the Merrimac Planning Board regarding the several historical properties inventoried by Dr. Sweetsir for his proposed historic district at Merrimacport and now included in a subdivision off Middle Road at what was formerly the Whitcomb farm. Much historical information was also gathered to document the location and importance to two large Lombardy poplar trees, called "Martha and Mary" (after Thomas Jefferson's daughters) located on the crest of the hill at Whitcomb farm and used for several decades as landmarks for ships entering Newburyport harbor to navigate the channel at the mouth of the *Merrimack River*. Research was also required to inform the Planning Board as to exactly when River Road was declared a scenic highway by a vote of town meeting.

Materials have been provided to the Town Finance Director to assist in the effort to identify and apply for any appropriate and available state or federal grants. In similar fashion, Historical Commission members provided much time and expertise in the move of several concerned citizens to save 28 School Street from sale and demolition (1871 Fire House converted to former Senior Center).

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

Finally, we were shocked and saddened by the unexpected and sudden death of new Historical Commission member Robert C. Atwood on November 6, 2013, at the age of 45. Rob had been appointed to the commission in July and as a professional architect brought a wealth of historic preservation experience and boundless enthusiasm to the position. We express our sincerest condolences to his family for their tragic loss.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey W. Hoyt, Chairman

Evelyn M. Calnan

Yvonne D. Cosgrove

Jason Sargent

Robert Atwood (deceased 11-6-13)

## MERRIMAC COUNCIL ON AGING ANNUAL REPORT FY13

In keeping with our mission to provide services to the elder residents in our community and their families, the Council on Aging maintained, improved and added services and programs. The staff at the Senior Center worked closely with other departments and agencies to help meet the needs of seniors, their families, and residents seeking information and referrals. The partnerships, supporters and associations that we worked with included the Merrimac Police and Fire Departments, the Merrimac Public Health Department, the Merrimac Public Health Nurse, Merrimac Light and Water Department, Merrimac Cultural Council, the Essex County Sheriff's Department, Northern Essex Elder Transport (NEET), Executive Office of Elder Affairs, Elder Services of Merrimack Valley, MA Commission for the Blind, Community Action, Our Neighbors' Table, Merrimac Housing Authority, Merrimac Valley Hospital, Our Neighbors' Table, Merrimac Cultural Council, Merrimac Savings Bank, Pilgrim Congregational Church, Merrimacport United Methodist Church, Holy Redeemer Church, Amesbury Village, Country Center for Health & Rehabilitation, Friends of the Merrimac COA, The Merrimac Lions Club, Steven St. Germain, DDS; AARP and the residents of Merrimac.

The core programs of the Council on Aging 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, and Physical; and Activities and Services offered at the Senior Center include (but are not limited to):

- |  |   |                                    |
|--|---|------------------------------------|
| • Exercise (M/W/TH)                                      | Table (2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed)   | • Host site for AA groups (W/TH/F) |
| • TRIAD (2 <sup>nd</sup> M/Month)                        | • Our Neighbors' Table Mobile Food Pantry Site(1 <sup>st</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat.) for Merrimac Residents-all ages | • Newsletter Committee             |
| • Meal Site (M-F)  | • Craft Shoppe (T/W/TH)   | • Tax Work Off                     |
| • Pool (M/F)   | • Yoga (W-4 pm)   | • Volunteer Opportunities          |
| • Bingo (M)  | • Chair Yoga (W)  | • Intergenerational Programs       |
| • Wii (T)  | • Bowling at Leo's (F)  | • Tai Chi                          |
| • Cross Stitch   | • Painting Classes  | • Cultural and Educational Events  |
| • Bridge (T)   | • Line Dancing (F)  | • Blood Pressure Clinic            |
| • 45's Card Game (T)                                     | • Lunch Club (3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri of month)   | • Flu Clinics                      |
| • Poker (TH)   | • Movies at the Center  | • Podiatry Clinic                  |
| • Crochet & Knitting (T)                                 |   | • Hearing Clinics                  |
| • Peggy's Senior Food Pantry a Partner of Our Neighbors' |   |                                    |



- Zumba (F & evenings)
- Seasonal Events
- Friends of COA
- Breakfast With the Chiefs
- Medical Equipment Lending Program
- Book Club
- LGBT Social Connections (meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. of month at 6:30)
- Low Vision Support Group
- Caregivers Support Group
- Powerful Tools for Caregivers Class
- Trips
- Men's Group (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday s)
- Quilting

We cannot stress enough the importance of volunteers, without whom the senior center would not be able to function. The Senior Center Staff consists of: Laura Dillingham-Mailman, Executive Director and Joyce Garipey, Administrative Assistant both full time employees. In addition, we have Eileen Murray, Cook (PPT), Geraldine Morenski, Outreach Coordinator; Charlotte Eileen Stepanian, Public Health Nurse; Dorothy Spinney, Kitchen Aide; Sandy Blanchet, Volunteer Coordinator; Nicholas Fiorello, Transportation Coordinator and Van Driver, David Hall, Van Driver and Herbert Sayers, Custodian all of who work various part time hours. Therefore, it is with special thanks to the volunteers who fill in the gaps, including all staffers who work many extra, unpaid hours. 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 operators and handy men & women providing **7,595 Volunteer hours** of service to the Senior Center, an increase of 25% over the previous year. 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.

Having received Director Certification from the Massachusetts Councils on Aging (MCOA) state association, in October of 2010, Laura Dillingham-Mailman has continued to attend continuing education programs offered by MCOA, Merrimack Valley Hospital and other agencies that provide educational opportunities. The Directors Certification purpose is "To promote professionalism in our chosen field and encourage excellence in our network...(so) that the public and our colleagues can identify COA Directors and staff who meet the high professional standards set by MCOA".

Merrimac TRIAD continued to be very active this year providing many educational opportunities and events: Reminder Sheets for Doctor Visits, Yellow Dot, I.C.E. your Phone (In Case of Emergency), Grab & Go Bags, Speaker series, Photo ID's, File of Life, Prescription Drug Disposal," Is Your Number Up?" and several appearances of the Essex County Sheriff's Department Canine Unit giving demonstrations. The Chiefs Breakfast is a TRIAD event brings the Police Chief, Fire Chief, Town Department Heads, Town Officials, Essex County Sheriff's Department, District Attorney General's Office, Veteran's Agent and others from the community together to share information and answer questions.

There continues to be building maintenance issues that are a result of the California HVAC system that was put in twelve years ago when the senior center was built. Maintenance and repairs to the system is a costly part of our budget expenses.

As I have stated in previous reports, the level of enthusiasm, camaraderie, and willingness to help others among the elders themselves makes this senior center a bustling place. The team spirit of the staff and the genuine caring that they demonstrate provides professionalism with a heavy dose of caring. Many people who enter our doors for the first time remark what a wonderful place this is and how welcome they feel. We are proud and honored that we are able to offer fun activities to those who are looking for something to do, bring smiles to those who may be lonely, comfort to those who need someone to listen to, and information to those who don't know where to turn. As our motto says, "We are here when you need us" and "We are the "Spirit of Community".

The price of success is that the Senior Center needs to expand to accommodate the growing needs of staff and members. Offices are shared by many people, including the Nurse's office. For example, the Nurse's office is used by the Outreach Coordinator, Public Health Nurse, Podiatrist (cutting toenails), Flu Shot clinic, Hearing tests, and Shine Counselor (Health Insurance counseling). The administrative office is shared by the Administrative Assistant, the Transportation Coordinator, the Volunteer Coordinator, the Cook and Kitchen Aide, students, and people who need to use the shredder or photo copier. The kitchen staff has no office space so must find space in the admin office with everyone else. There is no place for additional activities, there is no storage or closet space, and many of the activities are crowded into shared rooms with other programs. We are hoping to form a committee to study future needs and we are considering possible alternatives.

**FY12 Council on Aging Board of Directors:**

	<b>Term Expires</b>
Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello, Chairwoman	(June, 2016)
Carol Ranshaw, Secretary	(June, 2016)
Nancy Bachelder	(June, 2015)
Natalie Christie	(June, 2015)
David Dutton	(June, 2015)
Betty Elliot	(June, 2014)
Dorothy Lumsden	(June, 2014)
James Murphy	(June, 2014)
Lucy St. Pierre	(June, 2016)
David Vance	(June, 2016)

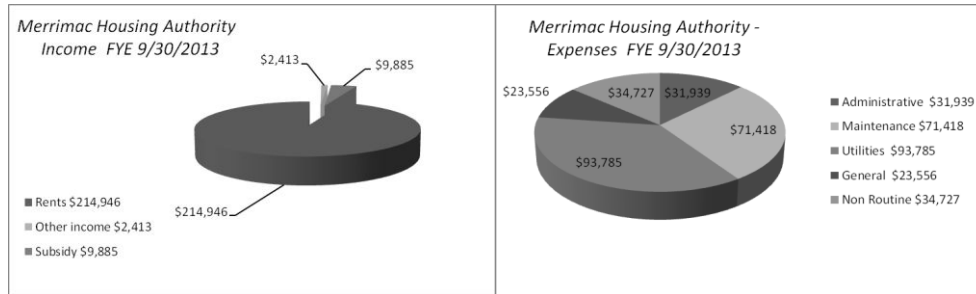
Alternate Member: Muriel McNair

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Dillingham-Mailman, Executive Director  
Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello, Chairwoman

**MERRIMAC HOUSING AUTHORITY  
ANNUAL REPORT  
FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2013**

The Merrimac Housing Authority enjoyed a good year for the 12 month period ending September 30, 2013. Total income for that period was \$227,244, with expenses of \$255,425, leaving a negative variance of \$28,181. This negative balance is supplemented by subsidy, special modernization and incentive programs. Modernization funds are generated by bond proceeds sold by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.



Merri village consists of 48 one-bedroom units. The typical unit contains 450 ft.<sup>2</sup>, which includes a private bathroom, and bedroom. The front section of the unit consists of a living room /kitchen/dining area. The units are heated with radiant baseboard electric heat. Domestic hot water is also heated electrically. Twenty-four forty gallon electric water heaters are located in the basements of the six residential buildings. These hot water heaters provide hot water for every two units. The community building also has an electric hot water heater in the basement for bathrooms, kitchen and laundry.

The residents at Merri village celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> birthday in September 2013. Merri- village was opened for occupancy in August of 1973 (this represents over 23,000 unit months of affordable housing provided to Merrimac residents). Fifty or more people were in attendance. Town and housing authority officials made an appearance and wished the residents and Merri-Village a happy birthday. The event was catered. All the food was provided by the Merrimac Council on Aging. Merri-village residents helped in the planning, preparations and decorations necessary to make the event a resounding success.

Merrimac Housing Authority also owns two duplexes. One is located on Lincoln Street and is managed by the NE. Veterans Opportunity Ctr. of Haverhill. The Lincoln Street duplex consists of two three-bedroom apartments. The Merrimac Housing Authority and NVOC have enjoyed a good working relationship since 2008. There is another duplex located on Green Street. This unit consists of two, 2-bedroom units. This building has been off-line for over five years due to the MHA's inability to secure an occupancy certificate. This building required considerable repair. The MHA did not have adequate funds to address modernization requirements for the Green Street duplex until 2013. Once those funds became available from the Commonwealth all the required work is close to completion. The total cost of the repairs was over \$33,000 for that duplex, alone. Improvements this year included a new roof, rain gutters and downspouts on the building exterior, and a considerable upgrade of the interior of both units.

Since 2011 the Merrimac Housing Authority has had a management agreement in place with the Amesbury Housing Authority. This new arrangement allows for AHA maintenance staff to work in close cooperation with the regular maintenance staff at Merri village. Merri village has been staffed by veterans from Haverhill's Northeast Veterans Opportunity Center (NVOC) since 2009. The veterans are classified as trainees and provide a large percentage of the work for upkeep, including cleaning, landscaping, snow removal and unit preparation; while the AHA staff provides supervision, expertise with some of the building systems that the veterans may not be prepared to address. Previously, the MHA would hire a single maintenance staff person to provide all maintenance. This was not a full time position. There was no back-up under that plan.

The Amesbury Housing Authority helped to develop the Merrimac Housing Authority properties during the 1970s and 80s. Since that time the Amesbury Housing Authority has provided executive and administrative support to the Merrimac Housing Authority. Only recently has the role of AHA staff to been expanded to include maintenance supervision, technical support, purchasing and training for the staff provided by the VNOC.

We saw a vacancy percent rate at Merri village of 12% in 2013. Six units became vacant and were reoccupied within 60 days. Depending on the condition, each vacancy requires 200 to 300 man-hours for repairs and painting and an average of \$3500 for supplies and materials.

In in 2013, the Merrimac Housing Authority utilized approximately \$6,500 of specialized modernization funding to make the community building at Merri village more accessible for people in wheelchairs. Automatic door openers were installed front and rear to achieve this accommodation. As a 40 year old building, the community building did not meet any of the accessibility requirements included in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Merri village also includes four units in building six that are specifically designed for people in wheelchairs. These accommodations include roll in showers, barrier-free entrances, roll under sinks and cabinets. Some are equipped with automatic door openers, as well. The special units also include one hundred additional square feet to allow for better mobility.

The Merrimac Housing Authority has been a participant in the Massachusetts state aided affordable housing program for over four decades. The 52 units which are owned and managed by the Merrimac Housing Authority are a small portion of the 50,000 units developed by the Commonwealth since the mid-1940's to provide decent safe and affordable housing for families and individuals who could not otherwise afford it.

Massachusetts is the only state in the nation that has a (non-federal) inventory of this size. Over the years, state-designated rent structures, reserve level oversight and tenant selection criteria have made it more difficult to reach a breakeven point in our fiscal management. In addition, many of the buildings in this statewide portfolio have suffered from inadequate modernization expenditures for decades. The nine buildings which comprise the 52-unit inventory owned by the Merrimac Housing Authority are similarly affected. The Commonwealth contributes \$1,240 per unit per year to subsidize the operation of this portfolio (this amount is in addition to the average annual per-unit rent payment of \$4,128). The ever-increasing cost of energy for heat is the primary reason that many housing authorities require subsidy from the Commonwealth.

## TRUSTEES OF CEMETERIES 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

### **To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:**

The Trustees meet the third Tuesday of the month at the Cemetery Office, 2 Locust Grove Road.

During the past year all cemeteries were well maintained by the Highway Department. We are particularly grateful that Harold "Huey" White is available to us. His knowledge of all three of Merrimac's Cemeteries is a great help in identifying lots for sale and details for lots already sold.

One large tree at the Church Street Cemetery and three at Locust Grove were removed. We plan to replace them as soon as possible as funds allow.

We were pleased that we were able to purchase a surplus truck from the Light Department, as our truck would no longer pass inspection.

By far our greatest accomplishment this year was the long-planned replacement of the Church Street Cemetery rock wall. The wall was demolished and replaced with a steel and granite fence. In addition to the 300' of fence along Church Street, we were able to remove the chain link fence along the end of the Training Field and replace it with matching fence. There are a number of sections of fence left over, and our plan is to complete the job by installing new fence along the back of the Training Field as well. To that end, and so we will not have to go to Town Meeting for the necessary funds, a Gift Account was established, and stones from the old wall were sold as souvenirs. During the spring and summer of 2014 we hope to have a memorial fundraiser to raise enough to allow us to complete the project.

### Members:

Rick Gould	Term Expires 2014
Patricia Casey	Term Expires 2015
Carol "Sue" Ranshaw	Term Expires 2016

Respectfully submitted,

Carol S. Ranshaw, Clerk

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, APRIL 29, 2013**  
**APRIL 29, 2013**

**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 : Moderator, Town Clerk, Three Assessors, three Commissioners of Municipal Light, appropriate or transfer sums of money therefore and to determine sums of money raised or transferred to defray the necessary and usual charges and expenses of the Town for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2014 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**  
**April 29, 2013**

**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 to be raised or transferred to defray the necessary and usual charges and expenses of the Town for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2014 and make appropriations for the same, said sums of money so raised, appropriated or transferred to be expended for specific purposes as follows.

<b>Maturing Debt</b>	<b>\$494,629</b>
<b>Interest on Debt</b>	<b>143,141</b>
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>956,071</b>
<b>General Government</b>	<b>565,996</b>
<b>Public Safety</b>	<b>1,540,866</b>
<b>Health &amp; Sanitation</b>	<b>91,464</b>
<b>Highway</b>	<b>594,270</b>
<b>Public Assistance</b>	<b>285,652</b>
<b>Whittier</b>	<b>607,836</b>
<b>Pentucket</b>	<b>6,663,187</b>
<b>Library</b>	<b>252,914</b>
<b>Cemetery</b>	<b>471,356</b>
<b>Total Ominbus</b>	<b>12,243,382</b>
 <b>Raise and Appropriate</b>	 <b>\$12,238,382</b>
 <b>Transfer WPAT Receipt Reserve</b>	 <b>5,000,000</b>
 <b>Hand Voted</b>	
<b>Motion Approved</b>	

## **COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**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:	\$ 335,849
Expenses:	\$ 521,138
<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>\$ 256,970</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,113,957</b>

And that \$1,113,957 be raised as follows:

Departmental Receipts:	\$1,063,957
Wastewater Betterment Fund\$	50,000

## **COPY OF THE VOTE**

**April 29, 2013**

**Article 2.** The Town voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$1,113,957 (One million one hundred thirteen thousand nine hundred fifty seven) to operate the Wastewater Department, to be raised as follows:

Departmental receipts:	\$1,063,957
Wastewater Betterment Fund	50,000

**Hand Vote**  
**Motion Approved**

## **COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**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	\$ 2 81,126
Expenses	\$ 403,686
<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>\$ 307,500</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 992,312</b>

And that \$ 992,312 be raised as follows: Department Receipts: \$992,312

## **COPY OF THE VOTE**

**April 29, 2013**

**Article 3.** The Town voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money, in the amount of \$ 992,312 (nine hundred ninety two thousand three hundred twelve) to operate the Water Department Enterprise to be raised as follows:



Departmental Receipts: \$992,312

**Hand Vote**  
**Motion Approved**

**COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 4.** 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 2014; or take any other action relative thereto.

**COPY OF THE VOTE**  
**April 29, 2013**

**Article 4.** The Town voted to transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$10,000 (ten thousand) from the Electric Light Operating Balance, said money to be used by the Board of Assessors to reduce the Tax Rate for the Fiscal Year 2014.

**Hand Vote**  
**Motion Approved**

**COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 5.** 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 an consultant to perform an independent revaluation; or take any other action relative thereto

**COPY OF THE VOTE**  
**April 29, 2013**

**Article 5.** The Town voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$10,740 (ten thousand seven hundred forty) to be expended by the Board of Assessors to hire a consultant to perform an independent revaluation.

**Hand Vote**  
**Motion Approved**

**COPY OF ARTICLE ON THE WARRANT**

**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 \$ 6,200 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 25; or take any other action relative thereto.



**COPY OF THE VOTE**  
**April 29, 2013**

**Article 6.** The Town voted to transfer from available funds known as "Sale of Cemetery Lots", a sum of money, in the amount of \$6,200 (six thousand two hundred) 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**  
**Motion Approved**

**COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 7.** 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 grant; or take any other action relative thereto.

**COPY OF THE VOTE**  
**April 29, 2013**

**Article 7.** 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**  
**Motion Approved.**

**COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 8.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$185,000 for Solid Waste Collection and Disposal, Recycling Collection and Leaf Collection; or take any other action relative thereto .

**COPY OF THE VOTE**  
**April 29, 2013**

**Article 8.** The Town voted to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$185,000 (One hundred eighty five thousand), for Solid Waste Collection and Disposal, Recycling Collection and Leaf Collection.

And that \$185,000 be raised as follows:

Raise and Appropriate:	\$90,000
Transfer from Trash Offset Receipts :	\$95,000

**Hand Vote**  
**Motion Approved**

## COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

**Article 9.** To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ , to establish revolving funds for the following departments for the specific purpose outlined below for the Fiscal Years 2014; or take any other action relative thereto.

- 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 2014.
- b. **Zoning Board of Appeals 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 2014.
- c. **Board of Health Town Nurse Revolving Fund** 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 2014.
- d. **Parks & Recreation Revolving Fund** Fees received from Fundraising Events to be used to pay costs associated with the maintenance and enhancement of the Town's parks and fields, said expenditures to be approved by the Playground Commissioners; not to exceed \$10,000 during Fiscal Year 2014.
- e. **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 2014.
- f. **Board of Health 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 \$2,500. during the Fiscal year 2014.
- g. **Assessor's Map Update Revolving Fund** Fees received from the creation of lots to be used by the Assessors to pay for updates of Town maps; said expenditures to be approved by the Board of Assessors; not to exceed \$1,000 during the Fiscal Year 2014.
- h. **Village of Merrimac project Revolving Fund** Fees received from developers for the Village of Merrimac applications to be used to pay for plan reviews, inspections and related legal and administrative costs; said expenditures to be approved by the Board of Selectmen; not to exceed \$50,000 during the Fiscal Year 2014
- i. **Board of health Revolving Fund** 80% of fees received from pre-rental 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. Expenditures are to be approved by the Board of Health and are not to exceed \$4,000 during the Fiscal Year 2014.

- j. **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 2014.

#### **COPY OF THE VOTE**

**April 29, 2013**

**Article 9.** The Town voted, pursuant to M.G.L., Chapter 44, Sec 53E ½, to establish revolving funds for the departments for the specific purposes outlined above for the Fiscal Year 2014.

**Hand Vote**

**Motion Approved**

#### **COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**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 \$80,000 for additional closure activities at the Battis Road landfill; or take any other action relative thereto.

#### **COPY OF THE VOTE**

**April 29, 2013**

**Article 10.** The Town voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money, in the amount of \$80,000 (Eighty thousand) for additional closure activities at the Battis Road Landfill.

**Hand Vote**

**Motion Approved.**

#### **COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 11.** To see if the Town will vote to approve the amendment passed by the Pentucket Regional School District on March 5, 2013, to the \$250,000 borrowing authorized by vote of the Pentucket Regional School District School Committee on April 3, 2012, for the purpose of paying the costs of replacement of kitchen equipment and related renovation to the District's Helen R. Donaghue Elementary School in Merrimac Massachusetts, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the "Donaghue Project"), which amendment provides that to the extent any balance of the appropriation remains after completion of the Donaghue Project, such amount shall be applied to the remediation of flooring at the District's Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir Elementary School in Merrimac, Massachusetts, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the "Sweetsir Project"), and to acknowledge that pursuant to the District Agreement, all costs of the Donaghue and Sweetsir Projects, including the debt service on the bonds or notes issued by the District to finance the Donaghue and Sweetsir

Projects, shall be allocable solely to the Town of Merrimac; or take any other action relative thereto.

**COPY OF THE VOTE**  
**April 29, 2013**

**Article 11.** The Town voted to approve amendment passed on March 5, 2013, to the \$250,000 borrowing authorized by vote of the Pentucket Regional School District School Committee on April 3, 2012, for the purpose of paying the costs of replacement of kitchen equipment and related renovation to the District's Helen R. Donaghue Elementary School in Merrimac, Massachusetts, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the "Donaghue Project"), which amendment provides that to the extent any balance of the appropriation remains after completion of the Donaghue Project, such amount shall be applied to the remediation of flooring at the District's Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir Elementary School in Merrimac, Massachusetts, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the Sweetsir Project"), and the Town acknowledges that pursuant to the District Agreement, all costs of the Donaghue and Sweetsir Projects, including the debt service on the bonds or notes issued by the District to finance the Donaghue and Sweetsir Projects, shall be allocable solely to the Town of Merrimac

**2/3 Vote Required**  
**Unanimous**  
**Motion Approved.**

**COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 12.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,021,853, to make improvements to school and town buildings as identified in the Energy Audit prepared by Ameresco, Inc. and detailed in Attachment "A" of the warrant, 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 authorize the Selectmen to take any other action necessary to carry out this project; or take any other action relative thereto.

**COPY OF THE VOTE**  
**April 29, 2013**

**Article 12.** The Town voted that \$1,021,853 (One million twenty one thousand eight hundred fifty three) is appropriated for the purpose of making energy efficiency improvements to Town buildings, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow \$1,021,853 under M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 7 (3B) or any other enabling authority, or to enter into a lease purchase financing agreement with respect to such project with a principal amount not to exceed \$1,021,853; and to authorize the Selectmen to enter into an Energy Services Contract (ESCO) with Ameresco or any other appropriate company relating to the project; provided, however, that the appropriation and borrowing authority or lease financing authorized under this vote shall not be effective until the Board of Selectmen approves an intermunicipal agreement between the Town and the Pentucket Regional School District, pursuant to which the Town may carry out the portion of the project and borrowing

authorized hereunder in District school buildings located in the Town, and pursuant to which the energy savings costs savings achieved in such school buildings as a result of the project shall offset debt services incurred by the Town for the project; and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out the project.

**2/3 Vote Required**  
**Unanimous**  
**Motion Approved**

#### **COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 13.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, management and control of the real property described in this article from the Board of Selectmen for the purpose for which the property is now held to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of conveyance, and will authorize the Selectmen to convey, pursuant to the requirements of General Laws Chapter 30B, Section 16, the parcel of surplus land with any buildings thereon, containing about .228 Acres, located at 28 School St., shown on Assessors Map 13 Block 1 as Lot 18, on such terms and conditions and for such sum of money as the Selectmen may determine; or take any other action relative thereto.

#### **COPY OF THE VOTE** **April 29, 2013**

**Article 13.** The Town voted to Table this article.

**2/3 Vote Required**  
**Unanimous**  
**Motion Approved**

#### **COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 14.** to see if the Town will vote to amend the Official Merrimac Zoning Map, by extending the Lake Attitash District to now include, but not limited to the following: Bisson Lane, Attitash Avenue, Shore Road, Colgan Road, Alnette Road, Greystone Road, and the North Easterly side of West Shore Road as far as Colgan Road; or take any other action relative thereto.

#### **COPY OF THE VOTE** **April 29, 2013**

**Article 14.** The Town voted to amend the Official Merrimac Zoning Map, by extending the Lake Attitash District to now include, but not limited to the following: Bisson Lane, Attitash Avenue, Shore Road, Colgan Road, Alnette Road, Greystone Road, and the North Easterly side of West Shore Road as far as Colgan Road

**2/3 Vote Required**  
**Unanimous**  
**Motion Approved.**

## COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

**Article 15.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **ARTICLE 8 VILLAGE CENTER DISTRICT, Section 8.3 Uses and Structures Permitted by Special Permit:** Subsection 8.3.1 to read "New Construction of Multi-family dwellings restricted for occupancy by persons over 55 and persons with disabilities, with up to 9 dwelling units on a conforming LOT." or take any other action relative thereto.

## COPY OF THE VOTE

April 29, 2013

**Article 15.** The Town voted to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **ARTICLE 8 VILLAGE CENTER DISTRICT, Section 8.3 Uses and Structures Permitted by Special Permit:** Subsection 8.3.1 to read "New Construction of Multi-family dwellings restricted for occupancy by persons over 55 and persons with disabilities, with up to 9 dwelling units on a conforming LOT."

**2/3 Vote Required**  
**Unanimous**  
**Motion Approved.**

## COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

**Article 16.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **Article 23 SUPPLEMENTAL REGULATIONS ; Section 23.7 Earth Removal:** Subsection 23.7.1 Stripping of Topsoil, item 23.7.1.2.1 by removing the following "accompanied by a non-refundable fee of \$150.00" and replace with "*accompanied by a non-refundable fee*" and in Subsection 23.7.2 Excavation of Clay, Sand, Gravel or Rock, item 23.7.2.2.1 by removing the following: "accompanied by a non-refundable fee of \$150.00" and replace with "*accompanied by a non-refundable fee*"; or take any other action relative thereto

## COPY OF THE VOTE

April 29, 2013

**Article 16.** The Town voted to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **Article 23 SUPPLEMENTAL REGULATIONS ; Section 23.7 Earth Removal:** Subsection 23.7.1 Stripping of Topsoil, item 23.7.1.2.1 by removing the following "accompanied by a non-refundable fee of \$150.00" and replace with "*accompanied by a non-refundable fee*" and in Subsection 23.7.2 Excavation of Clay, Sand, Gravel or Rock, item 23.7.2.2.1 by removing the following accompanied by a non-refundable fee of \$150.00" and replace with "*accompanied by a non-refundable fee*."

**2/3 Vote Required**  
**Yes 56**  
**No 1**  
**Motion Approved**



## COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

**Article 17.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **ARTICLE 11 OFFICE LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT** Section 11.4 Uses and Structures Permitted by Special Permit; by the addition of Subsection 11.4.14 to read "*Dispensaries for supplying marijuana for medical purposes by prescription and as regulated by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health*"; or take any other action relative thereto.

## COPY OF THE VOTE

**April 29, 2013**

**Article 17.** The Town voted to amend the Merrimac Zoning B-law **ARTICLE 11, OFFICE LIGHT INDUSTRIAL**, Section 11.4 Uses and Structures Permitted by Special Permit; by the addition of Subsection 11.4.14 to read "*Dispensaries for supplying marijuana for medical purposes by prescription and as regulated by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health*".

**2/3 Vote Required**

**Unanimous**

**Motion Approved**

## COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

**Article 18.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **ARTICLE 4 VILLAGE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT**, Section 4.5 Prohibited Uses, subsection 4.5.5; to read "*The dispensing of medical marijuana*" and the addition of 4.5.6 to read "*any use not explicitly provided for in the By-law*" :**ARTICLE 5 SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT**; Section 5.5 Prohibited Uses; amending subsection 5.5.5 to read "*The dispensing of medical marijuana*" and the addition of 5.5.6 to read "*Any use not explicitly provided for in this By-law*": **ARTICLE 6 AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT** Section 6.5 Prohibited Uses; amending subsection 6.5.5 to read "*the dispensing of medical marijuana*" and the addition of 6.5.6 to read "*Any use not explicitly provided for in this By-law*": **ARTICLE 7 LAKE ATTITASH DISTRICT**, Section 7.5 Prohibited Uses, amending subsection 7.5.2 to read "*the dispensing of medical marijuana*" and the addition of subsection 7.5.3 to read "*Any use not explicitly provided for in this By-law.*": **ARTICLE 8 VILLAGE CENTER DISTRICT**, Section 8.4 Prohibited Uses, amending subsection 8.4.10 to read "*The dispensing of medical marijuana*" and the addition of Subsection 8.4.11 to read "*Any use not explicitly provided for in the By-law*"; **ARTICLE 9, RURAL HIGHWAY**, Section 9.4 Prohibited Uses, amending Subsection 9.4.5 to read "*The dispensing of medical marijuana*" and the addition of Subsection 9.4.6 to read "*Any uses not explicitly provided for in this By-law.*" **ARTICLE 10 HIGHWAY SERVICES DISTRICT**, Section 10.4 Prohibited Uses, to amend Subsection 10.4.6 to read "*The dispensing of medical marijuana*", and the addition of Subsection 10.4.7 to read "*Any use not explicitly provided for in this By-law*"; or take any other action relative thereto.

## COPY OF THE VOTE

**April 29, 2013**

**Article 18.** The Town voted to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law as stated above.

**2/3 Vote Required**  
**Unanimous**  
**Motion Approved**

#### **COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 19.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **ARTICLE 11 OFFICE LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT**, Section 11.4 Uses and Structure Permitted by Special Permit, with the addition of 11.4.14 "*Commercial Solar Power Installations, of 250 kilowatt or larger of rated nameplate capacity*" and the addition of 11.4.15 "*Commercial Wind Power Installations, not to exceed 3 turbines*"; also to amend **ARTICLE 9 RURAL HIGHWAY DISTRICT**, Section 9.3 Uses and Structures Permitted by Special Permit, by the addition of 9.3.17 "*Commercial Solar Power Installations of 250 kilowatt or larger of rated nameplate capacity located at least 300 feet from the center line of West Main Street (Rte 110).*"

#### **COPY OF THE VOTE** **April 29, 2013**

**Article 19.** The Town voted to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **ARTICLE 11 OFFICE LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT**, Section 11.4 Uses and Structures Permitted by Special Permit, with the addition of 11.4.15 "*Commercial Solar Power Installations, of 250 kilowatt or larger rated nameplate capacity*" and the addition of 11.4.16 "*Commercial Wind Power Installations, not to exceed 3 turbines*"; also to amend **ARTICLE 9 RURAL HIGHWAY DISTRICT**, Section 9.3 Uses and Structures Permitted by Special Permit, by the addition of 9.3.17 "*Commercial Solar Power Installations of 250 kilowatt or larger nameplate capacity located at least 300 feet from the center line of West main Street (Route 110).*"

**2/3 Vote Required**  
**Yes**                **56**  
**No**                 **3**  
**Motion Approved**

#### **COPY ON THE WARRANT**

**Article 20.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **ARTICLE 4 VILLAGE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT**, Section 4.2 Permitted Uses and Structures, the addition of Subsection 4.2.11 to read, "*Rooftop residential solar installations*"; **ARTICLE 5 SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT**, Section 5.2 Permitted Uses and Structures, the addition of Subsection 5.2.8 to read "*Rooftop residential solar installations*"; **ARTICLE 6 AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT**, Section 6.2 Permitted Uses and Structures, the addition of Subsection 6.2.11 to read "*Rooftop residential solar installations*"; **ARTICLE 7 LAKE ATTITASH DISTRICT**, Section 7.3 Permitted Uses and Structures, the addition of Subsection 7.2.5 to read "*Rooftop residential solar installations*"; **ARTICLE 8 VILLAGE CENTER DISTRICT**, Section 8.2 Permitted Uses and Structures, the addition of subsection of 8.2.5.4 to read, "*Rooftop residential solar installations*"; or take any other action relative thereto.



**COPY OF THE VOTE**  
**April 29, 2013**

**Article 20.** The Town voted to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **ARTICLE 4 VILLAGE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT**, Section 4.2 Permitted Uses and Structures, the addition of Subsection 4.2.11 to read, "Rooftop residential solar installations"; **ARTICLE 5 SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT**, Section 5.2 Permitted Uses and Structures, the addition of Subsection 5.2.8 to read "Rooftop residential solar installations"; **ARTICLE 6 AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT**, Section 6.2 Permitted Uses and Structures, the addition of Subsection 6.2.11 to read "Rooftop residential solar installations;" **ARTICLE 7 LAKE ATTITASH DISTRICT**, Section 7.3 Permitted Uses and Structures, the addition of Subsection 7.2.5 to read "Rooftop residential solar installations"; **ARTICLE 8 VILLAGE CENTER DISTRICT**, Section 8.2 Permitted Uses and Structures, the addition of subsection of 8.2.5.4 to read, "Rooftop residential solar installations"

**2/3 Vote Required**

**Yes 56**

**No 3**

**Motion Approved.**

**COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 21.** To see if the Town will vote to accept M.G.L. c. 59 Sec. 5N, authorizing the Board of Selectmen to establish a program to allow Veterans who qualify for participation to volunteer to provide services to the Town in exchange for a reduction in the real property tax obligations of that veteran on the veteran's tax bills, in addition to any exemption or abatement to which that person is otherwise entitled, not to exceed \$1,000.00 and not to exceed the current minimum wage of the Commonwealth per hour; and further to see if the Town will vote to adjust the exemption by

- (1) allowing an approved representative for persons physically unable to provide such services to the Town; or
- (2) allowing the maximum reduction of the real property tax bill to be based on 125 volunteer service hours in a given year, rather than \$1,000.00: or take any other action relative thereto.

**COPY OF THE VOTE**  
**April 29, 2013**

**Article 21.** The Town voted to accept M.G.L. c. 59 Sec. 5N, authorizing the Board of Selectmen to establish a program to allow Veterans who qualify for participation to volunteer to provide services to the Town in exchange for a reduction in the real property tax obligations of that veteran on the veteran's tax bills, in addition to any exemption or abatement to which that person is otherwise entitled, not to exceed \$1,000.00 and not to exceed the current minimum wage of the Commonwealth per hour; and further to voted to adjust the exemption by

- (1) allowing an approved representative for persons physically unable to provide such services to the Town; or

- (2) allowing the maximum reduction of the real property tax bill to be based on 125 volunteer service hours in a given year, rather than \$1,000.00

**Hand Vote**  
**Motion Approved**  
**Unanimous**

### **COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 22.** To see if the Town will vote **to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by, gift, purchase or take by eminent domain, permanent and temporary easements or fee interest(s) in certain parcels of land and in any land within one hundred (100) feet of said parcels, for the purpose of facilitating the construction, reconstruction, replacement, maintenance, inspection or repair of certain improvements in, on, under, abutting, off of or appurtenant to West Main Street (Route 110), Fairfield Street, School Street and Church Street and all other adjacent and affected streets and ways** as shown on a set of plans which will be filled at the Office of the Town Clerk fourteen (14) days prior to the date of town meeting, entitled "Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division Plan and Profile of Route 110 (West/ East Main Street) in the Town of Merrimac, Essex County" in 20 Sheets, prepared by WorldTech Engineering LLC dated May 20, 2011 and bearing revision dates of December 16, 2011, October 5, 2012, January 11, 2013 and February 5, 2013, as such plans may be further revised, and which improvements include, without limitation, drainage and other public utility pipes, conduits, detention basins and appurtenances outside the right of way, replacement of retaining walls, slope grading, and above ground, aerial and/or underground electric or telecommunications utility poles, conduits, wires and appurtenances and construction and/ or maintenance of a parking lot and to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds or appropriate by borrowing a sum of money for these purposes and any expenses related thereto, and authorize the Board of Selectmen and/ or the Board of Light Commissioners to enter into all agreements, and take all action necessary, convenient or appropriate to carry out these acquisitions, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deems appropriate, and further, to transfer from the board and/ or commission currently have care and / or custody of such parcels of land for the purpose for which it is currently held to the Board of Selectmen for the purposes set forth above or to act in any manner relating thereto.

### **COPY OF THE VOTE** **April 29, 2013**

**Article 22.** The Town voted **to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by, gift, purchase or take by eminent domain, permanent and temporary easements or fee interest(s) in certain parcels of land and in any land within one hundred (100) feet of said parcels, for the purpose of facilitating the construction, reconstruction, replacement, maintenance, inspection or repair of certain improvements in, on, under, abutting, off of or appurtenant to West Main Street (Route 110), Fairfield Street, School Street and Church Street and all other adjacent and affected streets and ways** as shown on a set of plans which will be filled at the Office of the Town Clerk fourteen (14) days prior to the date of town meeting, entitled "Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division Plan and Profile of Route 110 (West/ East Main Street) in the Town of Merrimac, Essex County" in 20 Sheets, prepared by WorldTech

Engineering LLC dated May 20, 2011 and bearing revision dates of December 16, 2011, October 5, 2012, January 11, 2013 and February 5, 2013, as such plans may be further revised, and which improvements include, without limitation, drainage and other public utility pipes, conduits, detention basins and appurtenances outside the right of way, replacement of retaining walls, slope grading, and above ground, aerial and/or underground electric or telecommunications utility poles, conduits, wires and appurtenances and construction and/ or maintenance of a parking lot and to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds or appropriate by borrowing a sum of money for these purposes and any expenses related thereto, and authorize the Board of Selectmen and/ or the Board of Light Commissioners to enter into all agreements, and take all action necessary, convenient or appropriate to carry out these acquisitions, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deems appropriate, and further, to transfer from the board and/ or commission currently have care and / or custody of such parcels of land for the purpose for which it is currently held to the Board of Selectmen for the purposes set forth above or to act in any manner relating thereto

**2/3 Vote Required**  
**Unanimous**  
**Motion Approved**

#### **COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 23.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of selectmen to petition the General Court for the enactment of a special law permitting certain retired police officers to work police details beyond the mandatory retirement age but in no event beyond age 70; provided however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition; or take any other action relative thereto.

An Act relative to retired Police Officers in the Town of Merrimac  
**SECTION 1.** The board of selectmen of the town of Merrimac, upon recommendation of the chief of police, appoint as they deem necessary, retired police officers of the town as special police officers for the purpose of performing police details or any police duties arising there from or during the course of police detail work, whether or not related to the detail work. The retired police officers must have been regular Merrimac police officers who retired based on superannuation. The special police officers shall not be subject to the maximum age restrictions applied to regular police officers under chapter 32 of the General Laws, but shall not be eligible to serve as special police officers if they have reached the age of 70. A special police officer must pass a medical examination by a physician or other certified professional chosen by the town to determine that he is capable of performing the essential duties of a special police officer, the cost of which shall be borne by the special police officer prior to performing police details.

**Section 2.** Special police officers, appointed under this act, shall not be subject to chapter 31 of the General Laws, section 99A of Chapter 41 of the General Laws, or chapter 150E of the General Laws

Section 3. Special police officers shall when performing their duties under section 1, have the same powers to make arrests and perform other functions as do regular police officers in the town of Merrimac.

Section 4. Special police officers shall be appointed for an indefinite term, subject to removal by the Board of selectmen of the town of Merrimac at any time, with or without cause, with 14 days written notice. Special police officers appointed under this act shall not have any entitlement to continued appointment as a special police officer.

Section 5. Special police officers shall be subject to the rules and regulations, policies and procedures and requirements of the police department, board of selectmen (as applicable) and chief of police of the town of Merrimac, including restrictions on the type of detail assignment, requirements regarding medical examinations to determine continued capacity to perform the duties of a special police officer, requirements for training, requirements for firearm licensing and qualification and requirements regarding uniforms and equipment. Special police officers shall not be subject to section 96B of chapter 41 of the General Laws. The cost of all training, uniforms and equipment shall be borne by the special police officer.

Section 6. Special police officers shall be sworn in before the town clerk of the town of Merrimac who shall keep a record of all such appointments.

Section 7. Special police officers appointed under this act shall be subject to sections 100 and 111F of Chapter 41 of the General Laws. The amount payable under said section 111F shall be calculated by averaging the amount earned over the prior 52 weeks as a special police officer working police details, or averaged over such lesser period of time for any officer designated as special police officer less than 52 weeks before the incapacity. In no event shall payment under said section 111F exceed, in any calendar year, the limitation on earning contained in subsection (b) of section 91 of Chapter 32 of the General Laws. Since special police officers in the town of Merrimac shall not be subject to the maximum age restriction, payment under said section 111F shall not terminate when a special police officer reaches the age of 65; however, in no event shall the benefits under said section 111F extend beyond the age of 70 for any special police officer. Special police officers appointed under this act shall not be subject to sections 85H or 89E of said Chapter 32 or eligible for any benefits under those sections.

Section 8. An individual who is appointed as a special police officer under this act shall be eligible for, but not entitled to, assignment to any detail by the chief of police.

Section 9. Retired police officers in the town of Merrimac serving as special police officers under this act shall be subject to the limitations on hours worked and on payments to retired town employees under subsection (b) of section 91 of chapter 32 of the General Laws.

### **COPY OF THE VOTE**

**April 29, 2013**

**Article 23.** The Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for the enactment of a special law permitting certain retired police officers to work police details beyond the mandatory retirement age but in no event beyond age 70; provided however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court;

and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition, as above.

**2/3 Vote Required**  
**Unanimous**  
**Motion Approved**

#### **COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 24.** To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 41, Section 97A, inclusive, relative to the powers and duties of the police chief in making suitable regulations governing the police department; or take any other action relative thereto.

#### **COPY OF THE VOTE** **April 29, 2013**

**Article 24.** The Town voted to accept the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 41, Section 97A, inclusive, relative to the powers and duties of the police chief in making suitable regulations governing the police department.

**Hand Vote**  
**Motion Approved**

#### **COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 25.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for the enactment of a special law permitting certain retired firefighters to work fire details beyond the mandatory retirement age but in no event beyond age 70; provided however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition, or take any other action relative thereto.

#### **An Act Relative to Firefighters in the Town of Merrimac**

Section 1. Notwithstanding chapter 32 of the General Laws or any other general or special law, rule or regulation to the contrary, all permanent and call firefighters employed by the town of Merrimac, including the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief(s), may continue in service beyond the age of 65; provided, however, that each such permanent or call fire fighter over the age of 65 remains physically and mentally capable of performing the duties of firefighter. In no event shall any such permanent or call firefighter remain in service beyond the age of 70.

Section 2. The town of Merrimac may require, at its discretion, each permanent or call firefighter who desires to remain in service beyond the age of 65 to undergo examination(s) by impartial physician(s) designated by the town, to determine the firefighter's fitness to remain in service. Such examination(s) shall be at the expense of the permanent or call firefighter

Section 3. No further deductions shall be made from the regular compensation of permanent or call firefighters under chapter 32 of the General Laws for any service performed subsequent to

reaching age 65. Upon the retirement of such permanent or call firefighter, he shall receive a superannuation retirement allowance equal to that to which he would have been entitled had he retired upon reaching the age of 65, if any.

Section 4. The provisions of this act shall not entitle any permanent or call firefighter to remain in service to the town of Merrimac if otherwise removed or suspended from office in accordance with applicable laws, rules and regulations.

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

#### **COPY OF THE VOTE**

**April 29, 2013**

**Article 25.** The Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for the enactment of a special law permitting certain retired firefighters to work fire details beyond the mandatory retirement age but in no event beyond age 70; provided however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court; and authorized the Board of Selectmen to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition as above.

**2/3 Vote Required**

**Unanimous**

**Motion Approved**

#### **COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 26.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for the enactment of a special law creating a new regional veterans' services district, including the Town of Merrimac and one or more of its neighboring communities, which may include Newburyport, Newbury, Salisbury, and/or Amesbury; provided however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition; or take any other action relative thereto.

#### **COPY OF THE VOTE**

**April 29, 2013**

**Article 26.** The Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for the enactment of a special law creating a new regional veterans' services district, including the Town of Merrimac and one or more of its neighboring communities, which may include Newburyport, Newbury, Salisbury and/or Amesbury; provided however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court; and authorized the Board of Selectmen to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition.

**2/3 Vote Required  
Unanimous  
Motion Approved**



**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, APRIL 29, 2013  
APRIL 29, 2013**

**COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 1.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, a sum of money in the amount of \$609,241 for the following specific purposes outlined below; or take any other action relative thereto.

- a. \$80,000 – To purchase a new ambulance and necessary equipment for the Fire Department. This article is in combination with Article 3.
- b. \$175,000 – To purchase and install communication infrastructure for the Public Safety Department.
- c. \$5,000 – To purchase a VHF Base Radio for the 24 hour dispatch (only if item b is defeated).
- d. \$50,000 – To purchase a 1 –Ton truck with plow for the DPW Department, Highway Division.
- e. \$28,000 – To purchase a lawn mower for the DPW Department, Parks and Recreation Division.
- f. \$14,000 – To purchase necessary equipment to outfit an existing truck in the DPW Department, Water Division for use by the Cemetery Division.
- g. \$20,000 – To request additional funds for the repair or replacement of the cemetery wall on Church St.
- h. \$7,950 – To purchase of 3 tablets, software, and accessories for the Board of Selectmen
- i. \$4,533 – To purchase Fixed Asset Software and associated implementation costs for the Town accounting system.
- j. \$8,000 – To make necessary repairs to the exterior of the Senior Center including repairs to siding, rotting wood, doors, and painting.
- k. \$4,000 – For firearms maintenance for the Police Department.
- l. \$72,586 – To appropriate 1/3 of the balance of Free Cash to the Other Post Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund.
- m. \$72,586 – To appropriate 1/3 of the balance of Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund. (Require 2/3 Vote)
- n. \$72,586 – To appropriate 1/3 of the balance of Free Cash to the Capital Stabilization Fund. (Require 2/3 Vote)

**COPY OF THE VOTE  
April 29, 2013**

**Article 1.** The Town voted to appropriate \$609,241 from Free Cash for the specific Purposes listed above.

**Items a & c-l  
Hand Vote  
Motion Approved**

**Items m & n  
2/3 Vote Required  
Unanimous Motion Approved.**



## **COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 2.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Ambulance Stabilization, a sum of money in the amount of \$55,000 for the purchase of a new ambulance and required equipment; or take any other action relative thereto.

### **COPY OF THE VOTE April 29, 2013**

**Article 2.** The Town voted to appropriate \$55,000(fifty five thousand) from Ambulance Stabilization to purchase a new ambulance and required equipment. (This article is in combination with item a of Article 1)

**2/3 Vote Required  
Unanimous  
Motion approved.**

## **COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 3.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Wastewater Retained Earnings a sum of money in the amount of \$54,900 for the following specific purposes outlined below; or take any other action relative thereto.

- a. \$35,000 – To purchase a ¾ Ton 4x 4 Pick Up Truck for the DPW Department, Wastewater Division
- b. \$17,000 – To purchase 50% of a computer and software for a centralized Utility Billing System for Water and Wastewater operations.
- c. \$2,900 – To purchase a telescoping boom crane for the DPW Department, Wastewater Division

### **COPY OF THE VOTE April 29, 2013**

**Article 3.** The Town voted to appropriate \$37,900 (Thirty seven thousand nine hundred) from Wastewater Retained earnings to purchase the following for the DPW Department, Wastewater Division.

- a. \$35,000 - To purchase a ¾ -Ton Pick Up Truck
- b. This item was Tabled.
- c. \$ 2,900 – To purchase a telescoping boom crane.

**2/3 Vote Required  
Unanimous  
Motion approved**

## **COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 4.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Water Retained earnings a sum of money in the amount of \$185,000 for the following specific purposes outlined below; or take any other action relative thereto.

- a. \$120,000 – To make necessary upgrades to sections of the Town's water mains
- b. \$ 38,000 – To purchase a 4x4 Utility Pick Up truck with Plow for DPW Dept. Water Division
- c. \$ 10,000 – To request additional funds for the repair of replacement of the roof at the Water treatment Plant.
- d. \$ 17,000 – To purchase 50% of a computer and software for a centralized Utility Billing System for Water and Wastewater operations.

## **COPY OF THE VOTE**

**April 29, 2013**

**Article 4.** The Town voted to appropriate from Water retained earnings \$168,000 (One hundred sixty eight thousand) for the following purposes:

- a. \$120,000 – To make necessary upgrades to sections of Town's Water Mains
- b. \$ 38,000 – To purchase a 4x4 Utility Pick Up truck with Plow for the DPW Dept. Water Department Division.
- c. \$10, 000 – To request additional funds for the repair of replacement of the roof at the Water Treatment Plant.

**Hand Vote**

**Motion Approved.**

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING,  
OCTOBER 21, 2013**

**October 21, 2013**

**COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 1.** To see if the Town will vote to increase the amount raised and appropriated in Article 1 of the April 30, 2013 Annual Town Meeting in the amount of \$9,487 and amend the following lines:

Line #29 Finance Department Salaries	\$2,962
Line #54 Police Department Salaries	\$5,590
Line #72 Board of Health Nurse Salaries	\$ 624
Line #79 Council on Aging salaries	\$ 311

Or take any other action relative thereto.

**COPY OF THE VOTE**

**October 21, 2013**

**Article 1.** The Town voted to increase the amount raised and appropriated in Article 1 of the April 30, 2013 Annual Town Meeting in the amount of \$9,487 and amend the following lines:

Line #29 Finance Department Salaries	\$2,962
Line #54 Police Department Salaries	\$5,590
Line #72 Board of Health Nurse Salaries	\$ 624
Line #79 Council on Aging salaries	\$ 311

**Hand Vote**

**Motion Approved**

**Article 2.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the following line items appropriated in Article 1 of the April 30, 2013 Annual Town Meeting:

Line #12 Group Health & Life Insurance	(\$10,000)
Line #58 EMT Wages	\$10,000

Or take any other action relative thereto

**COPY OF THE VOTE**

**October 21, 2013**

**Article 2.** The Town voted to amend the following line items appropriated in Article 1 of the April 30, 2013 Annual Town Meeting:

Line #12 Group Health & Life Insurance	(\$10,000)
Line #58 EMT Wages	\$10,000

**Hand Count**

**Motion Approved**

**Article 3.** To see if the Town will vote to increase the amount raised and appropriated in Article 1 of the April 30, 2013 Annual Town Meeting in the amount of \$7,475 and amend the following lines:

Line #84 Veterans Agent Salary	(\$ 2,665)
Line 84 Veterans' Expense	\$10,140

Or take any other action relative thereto.

**COPY OF THE VOTE**  
**October 21, 2013**

**Article 3.** The Town voted to increase the amount raised and appropriated in Article 1 of the April 30, 2013 Annual Town Meeting in the amount of \$7,475 and amend the following lines:

Line #84 Veterans Agent Salary	(\$ 2,665)
Line 84 Veterans' Expense	\$10,140

**Hand Vote**  
**Motion Approved**

**Article 4.** To see if the Town will vote to increase the amount raised and appropriated in Article 1 of the April 30, 2013 Annual Town Meeting in the amount of \$94,176 and amend line 87 Pentucket Base Assessment; or take any other action relative thereto.

**COPY OF THE VOTE**  
**October 21, 2013**

**Article 4.** The Town voted to increase the amount raised and appropriated in Article 1 of the April 30, 2013 Annual Town Meeting in the amount of \$94,176 and amend line 87 Pentucket Base Assessment.

**Hand Vote**  
**Motion Approved**

**Article 5.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the remaining balance in Article 2(b) of the April 30, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, 1 Ton Dump with Plow for the Highway Department, the amount of \$1,188 to Article 7 of the April 27, 2009 Special Town Meeting, Equipment Repairs for the Highway Department; or take any other action relative thereto.

**COPY OF THE VOTE**  
**October 21, 2013**

**Article 5.** The Town voted to transfer the remaining balance in Article 2(b) of the April 30, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, 1 Ton Dump with Plow for the Highway Department, the amount of \$1,188 to Article 7 of the April 27, 2009 Special Town Meeting, Equipment Repairs for the Highway Department.

**Hand Vote**  
**Motion Approved**

**Article 6.** To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 4 of the October 15, 2012 Special Town Meeting, Wallace Way Treatment Plant Project, to change the appropriating source from Water Retained Earnings to Water Privilege; or take any other action relative thereto

**COPY OF THE VOTE**  
**October 21, 2013**

**Article 6.** The Town voted to amend Article 4 of the October 15, 2012 Special Town Meeting, Wallace Way Treatment Plant Project, to change the appropriating source from Water Retained Earnings to Water Privilege

**Hand Vote**  
**Motion Approved**

**October 21, 2013**

**COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 7.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Merrimac General By-law, Article V: Sidewalks and Highway, sub section 10 to read as follows:  
The Board of Selectmen may cause repairs to unaccepted ways maintained by the Town, provided that the following conditions are met:

- A. There will be no change in the character of the way and no permanent expansion therein.
- B. Drainage may be included.
- C. A determination by majority vote of the board that the public convenience and necessity requires said repairs.
- D. The Town in making repairs under this section shall not be liable on account of any damages caused by such repairs.
- E. Said private way shall have been opened to the public for use for six years or more, and in such case section twenty-five (25) of chapter Eighty-Four (84) of the Massachusetts General Laws shall not apply.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

**COPY OF THE VOTE**  
**October 21, 2013**

**Article 7.** The Town voted to amend the Town of Merrimac General By-law, Article V: Sidewalks and Highway, sub section 10 to read as follows:  
The Board of Selectmen may cause repairs to unaccepted ways maintained by the Town, drainage may be included, provided that the following conditions are met:

- A. There will be no change in the character of the way and no permanent expansion therein.

- B. A determination by majority vote of the board that the public convenience and necessity requires said repairs.
- C. The Town in making repairs under this section shall not be liable on account of any damages caused by such repairs.
- D. Said ways shall have been opened to the public for use for six years or more, and in such case section twenty-five (25) of chapter Eighty-Four (84) of the Massachusetts General Laws shall not apply.

**2/3 Vote Required**

Yes 75

No 1

**Motion Approved As Amended**

**Article 8** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Merrimac General By-laws, Article VI: Vehicular Regulations, in its entirety and replace with Article VI as detailed in Exhibit A, available to view at the Town Clerk's Office; or take any other action relative thereto

**COPY OF THE VOTE**

**October 21, 2013**

**Article 8** The Town voted to amend the Town of Merrimac General By-laws, Article VI Vehicular Regulations, in its entirety and replace with Article VI as detailed in Exhibit A attached to this motion and on file at the Office of the Town Clerk.

**2/3 Vote Required**

**Unanimous**

**Motion Approved**

**Article 9.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Merrimac General By-laws, Article 3, Section 1, to change the number of members of the Finance Committee, as follows::

The Moderator shall, in accordance with Mass. General Laws, Chapter 39, Section 16, at the Annual Town Meeting appoint a Finance Committee, to consist of up to seven (7) citizens of the Town.  
or take any other action relative thereto.

**COPY OF THE VOTE**

**October 21, 2013**

**Article 9.** The Town Voted to table this Article

**2/3 Vote Required**

**Unanimous**

**Article 10.** To see if the Town will vote to accept Lakewoods Drive and all associated infrastructure as a public way in the Town of Merrimac as shown on a plan entitled Lakewoods Drive As-Built Plan on file at the office of the Town Clerk. Or take any other action relative thereto.

**COPY OF THE VOTE**  
**October 21, 2013**

**Article 10.** The Town voted to accept Lakewoods Drive and all associated infrastructure as a public way in the Town of Merrimac as shown on a plan entitled Lakewoods Drive As-Built Plan on file at the office of the Town Clerk.

**Unanimous**  
**Motion Approved**

**COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

**Article 11.** To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of MGL CH 59, Sec 38h to authorize the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Assessors to negotiate and enter into a payment in lieu of tax agreement (Pilot) with the lessee/operator of the solar photovoltaic energy generation facility to be developed at the Waterhouse Realty Trust property, located at 81 East Main Street and shown on Assessor's Map as Parcel 39-1-2, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Assessors shall deem to be in the best interest of the Town; or take any other action relative thereto

**COPY OF THE VOTE**  
**October 21, 2013**

**Article 11.** The Town voted, pursuant to the provisions of MGL CH 59, Sec 38h to authorize the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Assessors to negotiate and enter into a payment in lieu of tax agreement (Pilot) with the lessee/operator of the solar photovoltaic energy generation facility to be developed at the Waterhouse Realty Trust property, located at 81 East Main Street and shown on Assessor's Map as Parcel 39-1-2, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Assessors shall deem to be in the best interest of the Town.

**Hand Vote**  
**Unanimous**  
**Motion Approved**

**Article 12.** To see if the Town will vote to rescind the vote of the Board of Selectmen (BOS ) for the petition issued to Merrimack Valley Planning Commission by the BOS pursuant to M.G. L. Chapter 82, Section 2 for the discontinuance of a portion of River Road, formally known as Merrimac Street and Water Street, between the intersections of Middle Road and Skunk Road, located in the Town of Merrimac, Essex County, Commonwealth of Massachusetts; or take any other action relative thereto.

**COPY OF THE VOTE**  
**October 21, 2013**

**Article 12.** The Town voted to rescind the vote of the Board of Selectmen (BOS ) for the petition issued to Merrimack Valley Planning Commission by the BOS pursuant to M.G. L. Chapter 82, Section 2 for the discontinuance of a portion of River Road, formally known as

Merrimac Street and Water Street, between the intersections of Middle Road and Skunk Road, located in the Town of Merrimac, Essex County, Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

<b>Yes</b>	<b>126</b>
<b>No</b>	<b>58</b>



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