

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

For the Year Ending December 31, 2012



IN MEMORY

of those

Who Have Held

Public Office

In the

Town of Merrimac



Philip Hagopian
Building Commissioner 1999-2010

Dorothy Doughty
Merrimac School Nurse HRD

Arthur Deuplisea
Building Inspector 1978 - 1991

Alan Hassig
Planning Board 1989 -1993

DIRECTORY OF ELECTED OFFICERS

Moderator – One Year

Robert Bender

Term Expires 2013

Board of Selectmen – Three Years

W. Earl Baumgardner, Chairperson

Term Expires 2013

Ricky J. Pinciario

Term Expires 2014

Laura D. Mailman

Term Expires 2015

Board of Assessors – Three Years

Louise Lingeran

Term Expires 2013

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 2013

Sandy Venner, Chairperson

Term Expires 2014

Robert Atwood,

Term Expires 2015

Patricia True, Secretary

Constables – Three Years

Arthur Evans

Term Expires 2013

James Seymour

Term Expires 2013

Town Clerk – Three Years

Patricia True

Term Expires 2013

Board of Health – Three Years

Eileen Hurley, Chairperson

Term Expires 2014

Russell S. Hussey, Jr.

Term Expires 2015

Mark Sofia

Term Expires 2013

School Committee – Three Years

Brian Page

Term Expires 2014

Todd Treado

Term Expires 2015

Jane Broz

Term Expires 2013

Library Trustees – Three Years

Susan M. Coburn	Term Expires 2015
Yvonne Cosgrove	Term Expires 2014
Ellen Evans	Term Expires 2013
Linda Getz	Term Expires 2014
Jennifer Brown	Term Expires 2015
Jeffrey W. Hoyt, Chairman	Term Expires 2013

Parks & Recreation Commissioners – Five Years

Erick Kuchar	Term Expires 2014
Jay Soucy, Chairman	Term Expires 2013

Municipal Light Commissioners – Three Years

James Young	Term Expires 2015
Norman R. Denault	Term Expires 2014
Louis Bibeau	Term Expires 2013

Cemetery Trustees – Three Years

Patricia Casey	Term Expires 2015
Ricky A. Gould	Term Expires 2014
Carol Ranshaw	Term Expires 2013

Merrimac Housing Authority – Five Years

C. Shirley Jones	Term Expires 2013
Altha Ottman	Term Expires 2012
Stephen P. True, Vice Treasurer	Term Expires 2013
Vacant	Term Expires 2014
Vacant, State Appointee	Term Expires 2015

DIRECTORY OF APPOINTED OFFICERS

Finance Committee

Richard LeSavoy, Co-Chairman
Patricia Dillon, Secretary
Ann Crowell
Catherine Gabriel-Heusser, Co-Chairman

Eileen Deveau
Victor Quattrini
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

Timothy Simmons
Jon Pearson
Robert Prokop, Chairman
Ellis Katz

Jay Smith, Agent
Janet Terry
Arthur Yarranton
Joanna Blanchard

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
Ann Tucker
Nancy Perkins
Judy Flynn

Mary Gage Cogswell
Joyce Zarins
Eleanor Hope McCarthy

Veteran's Agent

Kevin Hunt

Historical Commission

J. Leonard Bachelder
Patricia Casey
Timothy Cavanaugh
Yvonne Cosgrove, Secretary

Jeffrey W. Hoyt, Chairman
Jason Sargent, Treasurer
Evelyn Calnan

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

Town Nurse
Charlotte Eileen Stepanian

Capital Planning Committee

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

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.

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MERRIMAC BOARD OF SELECTMEN
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 2012**

Dear Residents of Merrimac,

The year of 2012 was filled with projects and events regarding our Department of Public Works. The renovations to Cobbler's Brook Bridge were completed in early summer.

The Town Square project plans were completed and the project was given the go ahead by MassDOT and included on the list of approved TIP projects. The first phase of the project is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2013 and the majority of the project will be underway by fall. In addition, thanks to the work of Tom Barry and Bob Sinibaldi, sidewalks from Currier Avenue to the public library were approved as part of the square project.

The board voted to permanently close the section of River Road originally damaged during the Mother's Day storm of 2006. Deemed as too costly to repair for such a short section of road (over \$4M), the support of the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission was enlisted to begin the process to formally close the road.

The green repairs to Donaghue and Sweetsir Schools began and are scheduled to be completed in early 2013. When finished, the buildings should realize significant energy savings.

Several of the improvements to our water facilities mandated by Mass DEP were completed, including the rehabilitation of the Bear Hill well fields and the cleaning and repairs to the water tank.

We finalized building energy audits and plans with Ameresco for guaranteed savings to the town. This plan will be presented at the annual town meeting in April, 2013 for potential ratification.

Lastly, Bob Sinibaldi was hired as the Director of the DPW and has implemented several much needed policies and processes to drive efficiencies in the department.

In May we welcomed Laura Mailman as our newest member, replacing Carol Traynor who retired from the board after 9 years of dedicated service.

On the recommendation of Police Chief Eric Shears, the board approved the restructuring of the police department and promoted Officers Stephen Ringuette and David Vance to the rank of Sergeant. New Patrolmen Jeffery Boisvert and Robert Coppola joined to department to replace our newly promoted sergeants.

It has been a pleasure serving the residents of Merrimac.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merrimac Board of Selectmen

Earl Baumgardner, Chairman

Rick Pinciario

Laura Mailman

2012 REPORT OF THE BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS

To: The Honorable Board of Selectman & The Citizens of the town of Merrimac.

The Fire Department has had another busy year doing 824 calls.

It is with a heavy heart that we say good bye to 27 year Veteran Arthur Amirault, who is retiring and has served this Town with pride and dignity. Arthur is an exceptional driver who's talent will be dearly missed. Thanks Arthur for all you have done.

Deputy Fisher has worked very hard in trying to obtain a grant that will benefit all the communities in the Northern Essex County to upgrade the radio systems that are in bad shape and now that the FCC has mandated narrow banding our radios just don't have the zip they once did.

Deputy Habgood has been very busy also trying to up grade our ambulance to the Paramedic Level and had put in many hours to finish this project.

Our Engine 1 was sent out in December to be refurbished and is expected to return in March 2013. The Town of Salisbury has loaned us a spare Engine during this time.

Breakfast with the Chiefs held at the Senior Center has been a well received and the number residents attending has grown each month. The questions Chief Shears and Chief Spencer really make us put our thinking hats on.
Thanks To Director Laura Mailman for holding these meetings.

We wish to thank the Board of Selectman, The Residents and all the other departments for their assistance through this past year.

Board of Fire Engineers

Chief Ralph Spencer
Deputy Larry Fisher
Deputy Greg Habgood

FIREFIGHTERS

Chief Ralph W. Spencer* Deputy Larry Fisher Deputy Greg Habgood*

Captain Mike Sloban Lt Harry Ellis* Lt. Peter O'Loughlin

Captain James David Lt Robert Judson Jr

Captain Lester Smith Lt. Tim Bean

Captain Mark Soucy* Lt. Richard Holcroft

Arthur Amirault Albert Berard Steve Brown* Andrew Connor**

Brendon Corcoran Brandon Cox Ben Ferrandi* Corey Fisher

Jay Fournier Robert Heusser* Sidney Hilts* William Howard*

Thomas Jordan Mark Judson Robert Judson Sr. Brandon Lathrop*

Mike Maguire Corey Matherson Matt McGoldrick* Justin Mercier*

Gretchen Nolan* Patrick Noone Deb Podson* Nick Putnam*

Dennis Reilly Jim Sevigny Shane Sevigny Keith Sherman

David Sherwood* Kris Smith Kathy Spencer* Chris Stiles*

Gary Tuck* Lisa Young-Carey*

* denotes EMT

Merrimac Fire Department

Copy of Incident Type Report (Summary) *MONTHLY*

Alarm Date Between {01/01/2012} And {12/31/2012}

Incident Type	Count	Pct of Incidents
1 Fire		
100 Fire, Other	7	0.84%
111 Building fire	7	0.84%
113 Cooking fire, confined to container	17	2.06%
116 Fuel burner/boiler malfunction, fire	3	0.36%
131 Passenger vehicle fire	2	0.24%
134 Water vehicle fire	1	0.12%
140 Natural vegetation fire, Other	1	0.12%
142 Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	7	0.84%
151 Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	6	0.72%
153 Construction or demolition landfill fire	2	0.24%
154 Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle	1	0.12%
	54	6.55%
2 Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat(no fire)		
240 Explosion (no fire), Other	1	0.12%
251 Excessive heat, scorch burns with no	1	0.12%
	2	0.24%
3 Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident		
311 Medical assist, assist EMS crew	2	0.24%
321 EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with	479	58.13%
3211 EMS call, excluding MVA with injury - 2nd	1	0.12%
3213 EMS call, excluding MVA - Blood Glucose	2	0.24%
3216 EMS call, excluding MVA - CPR	1	0.12%
322 Motor vehicle accident with injuries	37	4.49%
323 Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)	2	0.24%
324 Motor Vehicle Accident with no injuries	20	2.42%
342 Search for person in water	2	0.24%
362 Ice rescue	1	0.12%
365 Watercraft rescue	1	0.12%
	548	66.50%
4 Hazardous Condition (No Fire)		
411 Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	1	0.12%
412 Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	8	0.97%
424 Carbon monoxide incident	3	0.36%
440 Electrical wiring/equipment problem, Other	1	0.12%
441 Heat from short circuit (wiring),	1	0.12%
444 Power line down	3	0.36%
445 Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	5	0.60%

Merrimac Fire Department

Copy of Incident Type Report (Summary) *MONTHLY*

Alarm Date Between {01/01/2012} And {12/31/2012}

Incident Type	Count	Pct of Incidents
	22	2.66%
5 Service Call		
500 Service Call, other	2	0.24%
510 Person in distress, Other	25	3.03%
511 Lock-out	7	0.84%
522 Water or steam leak	1	0.12%
531 Smoke or odor removal	3	0.36%
550 Public service assistance, Other	8	0.97%
551 Assist police or other governmental agency	1	0.12%
553 Public service	2	0.24%
554 Assist invalid	7	0.84%
561 Unauthorized burning	1	0.12%
571 Cover assignment, standby, moveup	15	1.82%
	72	8.73%
6 Good Intent Call		
600 Good intent call, Other	5	0.60%
611 Dispatched & cancelled en route	28	3.39%
622 No Incident found on arrival at dispatch	25	3.03%
631 Authorized controlled burning	1	0.12%
652 Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be	2	0.24%
	61	7.40%
7 False Alarm & False Call		
700 False alarm or false call, Other	2	0.24%
713 Telephone, malicious false alarm	1	0.12%
730 System malfunction, Other	3	0.36%
733 Smoke detector activation due to	26	3.15%
734 Heat detector activation due to malfunction	3	0.36%
735 Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	1	0.12%
736 CO detector activation due to malfunction	16	1.94%
740 Unintentional transmission of alarm, Other	1	0.12%
743 Smoke detector activation, no fire -	4	0.48%
744 Detector activation, no fire -	1	0.12%
745 Alarm system activation, no fire -	3	0.36%
746 Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	1	0.12%
	62	7.52%

Merrimac Fire Department

Copy of Incident Type Report (Summary) *MONTHLY*

Alarm Date Between {01/01/2012} And {12/31/2012}

Incident Type	Count	Pct of Incidents
8 Severe Weather & Natural Disaster		
814 Lightning strike (no fire)	2	0.24%
	2	0.24%
9 Special Incident Type		
900 Special type of incident, Other	1	0.12%
	1	0.12%

Total Incident Count: 824

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE



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 2012...First, we promoted two very deserving patrolman to the rank of Sergeant. I would like to commend Sgt. David Vance and Sgt. Stephen Ringuette for their hard work and dedication. In addition, we hired two full-time patrolmen to replace vacancies as a result of attrition. Congratulations to Officer Jeffrey Boisvert and Officer Robert Coppola.

We also expanded our dispatch services to include Emergency Medical Dispatch. Our dispatchers now provide pre-arrival medical care instructions to those who call 911. My staff trained extensively to make this happen. The Animal Control Officer, Lisa Young-Carey, now falls under the direction of the Merrimac Police Department. ACO Carey is always on-call to assist in handling animal concerns.

Further, we embraced social media by joining Facebook. With Hurricane Sandy about to hit, we started a Facebook page to better communicate with our community during the storm. I am pleased with the success of this page based upon the many positive comments we receive. I need to recognize Officer Richard Holcroft for its immediate success. If you haven't, please "like" us on Facebook.

Our community also experienced some sadness this year...Rest in Peace Emma Journey and Avalanna Routh. Our thoughts and prayers remain with your families and all those who were touched by these two beautiful young girls from Merrimac.

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 2012

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

Lori D. Steinel
Reserve Dispatcher

Heather Lefebvre
Reserve Dispatcher

Christopher Maguire
Reserve Dispatcher

Police Matrons

Bonnie J. Bishop
Matron

Kathy A. Spencer
Matron

Heather Lefebvre
Matron

Jennifer D. Marden
Matron

Lori D. Steinel
Matron

2012 POLICE ACTIVITIES BY DISPATCH REASON

Intelligence	125
Robbery	2
Assault & Battery	7
B & E (Attempted)	6
B&E Building	18
B&E Motor Vehicle	20
Larceny / Personal Property	23
Larceny by Check	1
Larceny of Motor Vehicle	2
Assault (Threats / No Battery)	2
Stalking	1
Receive / Possess Stolen Property	1
Vandalism Complaint	25
Prostitution	1
Drug Law Violations	2
Intoxicated Driver Complaint	8
Disorderly Conduct	1
209A Violation	6
209A Order Received	32
Officer Investigation	99
Warrant Arrest	5
Larceny of Bicycle	1
General Offenses	7
Trespass Complaint	10
Civil Complaint	8
Juvenile Offense	6
Recovered Stolen Property	1
Missing Person	28
Lost / Found Property	85
Disturbance (General)	23
Domestic Disturbance	42
Disturbance (Group)	40
Hazard / Youths in Street	26
Disturbance (Noise)	67
Annoying Harassing Phone Calls	21
Suspicious Activity	253
Boating Complaint	1
ATV / Dirt bike Complaint	17
General Services	1018
Welfare Check	53
Officer Wanted	941

Prisoner Transport	7
Assist Citizen	305
Building Check	1519
Message Delivery	67
Animal Incident (ACO)	285
Assist Municipal Agencies	398
Utility Alarm / Emergency	52
Medical Emergency	454
Mental Health Emergency	11
Reported Death	2
Intoxicated Person	1
FIRE ALARM - Street Box	37
FIRE ALARM - Brush Fire	12
FIRE ALARM - Car Fire	4
FIRE ALARM - Structure Fire	7
FIRE ALARM - Investigation	111
FIRE ALARM - Mutual Aid	58
Burglar Alarm	175
Assist Other Police Department	176
Motor Vehicle Stop	1494
Motor Vehicle Listing	153
Parking Violation	115
RADAR Assignment	592
Motor Vehicle Complaint (Speed)	59
Motor Vehicle Accidents	128
Traffic Control	3
Abandoned MV Complaint	1
Disabled MV Complaint	100
Inter - Department Services	5
Court (On Duty)	49
911 Calls	72
Servicing Cruiser	460
TOTAL	9947

ADULT ARRESTS

Male Arrests	77
Female Arrests	19

JUVENILE ARRESTS

Male Juvenile Arrests	5
Female Juvenile Arrests	2

PROTECTIVE CUSTODY

Male PC	8
Female PC	4

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT APPLICATIONS

Various Criminal Offenses	70
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MERRIMAC DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES

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. 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.

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, 2012

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 2012.

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 \$645,000 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

SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

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

Dr. Paul A. Livingston
Superintendent of Schools

Dr. William I. Hart
Assistant Superintendent

The Merrimac Annual Report of the School Department activities for FY12 has been developed by the Principals of the Helen R. Donaghue School, Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir School, Pentucket Regional Middle School and Pentucket Regional High School on behalf of the Superintendent of Schools and the Pentucket Regional School Committee.

Richard Perrotti, Chairman
Jill Eichhorst, Vice Chairman
Jayne Broz, Secretary
John Willett
Sandra Capo
Todd Treado
Christine Reading
Joseph D'Amore
Maureen Moran

**DR. FREDERICK N. SWEETSIR SCHOOL
HELEN R. DONAGHUE SCHOOL**

It is a pleasure to submit our annual report for the Dr. Fredrick N. Sweetsir School and the Helen R. Donaghue School for the 2011 - 2012 school year.

Our school year began with the eleventh 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 new to the community, in particular, have benefitted from this event.

The October 1, 2011 enrollment was 239 students in grades Preschool through grade 2 at the Dr. Sweetsir School and 384 in grades 3 through 6 at the Helen R. Donaghue School.

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 school and district continued its focus on refining literacy and mathematics instruction. To do so, teachers worked, again, with a Teaching & Learning Alliance consultant in grade-level teams and as individuals. The focus in 2011-2012 was on fine tuning instructional skills for Readers' Workshop and implementing Writers' Workshop as the core components of our balanced literacy program. The district further supported this work through the calendar by continuing to provide sixteen early release days for teachers to use for professional development as collaborative teams. In the area of mathematics, the district updated instructional materials to the latest edition of Everyday Mathematics, the core program used in all the Pentucket elementary schools. To maximize use of the program, which included a new technology component, teachers attended training and coaching sessions with a math consultant. At the Sweetsir School, Title I support was provided for both literacy and mathematics. In 2012-2013, Title One mathematics expanded to include eligible students at the Donaghue School.

Previously, the district worked to identify the habits or competencies successful learners possess and use, so the schools could help students develop them and be better prepared for the future. *Thinking; Communication; Collaboration; Independence, and Creative Exploration* were the five areas identified; they are transferrable skills essential for student's learning in all areas and important for success beyond school. In 2011-2012, teachers designed and taught lessons that focused on developing and elevating these skills, while also continuing to master the curriculum content outlined in the state curriculum frameworks. 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.

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 4 and Grade 3 English Language Arts, and in Grade 4 Mathematics. The number of students in Grade 5 scoring in the top two levels decreased in both English Language Arts and Science, Engineering, and Technology. 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 beginning use of structured phonics instruction using the Foundations program, which the students had experiences with in grades 1 and 2.

As part of the Massachusetts accountability system, all schools are expected to close gaps in student proficiency in English language arts and mathematics as measured by MCAS exam results. Based on the progress a school makes, they are assigned a level or ranking. The results for 2012 did not meet the goal set by the state, so the Donaghue School was assigned a ranking of level 2, with level 1 being the highest. In this first year of this accountability system, many schools in the state received level 2 rankings. In response, the staff members 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, mathematics instructional coaching, 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 below proficient in either area. Staff will also continue to modify units of study and individual lessons to meet students' learning needs.

In the 2011-2012 school year, the Town of Merrimac participated in the Massachusetts School Building Authority Green Repair program. Through this, the flat roof and insulation systems at the Donaghue School were replaced and minor structural repair was completed. More extensive work at the Sweetsir School was performed. The flat roof and insulation systems was replaced; all rooftop heating units and old duct work were replaced; and exterior doors and windows were replaced with energy efficient units. We appreciate the commitment the town made to participate in this program and make these upgrades to the school buildings.

Once again, the PTO purchased a variety of educational resources for the schools. These included: recess supplies, a *Reading A to Z* classroom subscription, books for classroom libraries,

musical instruments, technology equipment, 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, 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 Nature's Classroom in Ocean Park, Maine. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the PTO for their continued commitment to the children of Merrimac. With their help, we encourage and foster a strong home-school-community partnership, parent volunteer program, curriculum information nights, sponsor-a-classroom program, and the Holiday Helper Program.

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.

Last year, Susan Belmont retired after many years as a special education teacher for the Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir School. Dr. Paul Livingston also retired from his role as Superintendent of the Pentucket Regional School District and Dr. Jeffery Mulqueen was hired as the new leader for the school district effective July 1, 2012.

In closing, on behalf of all the Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir and Helen R. Donaghue staff members, we want to express our appreciation for the continued support shown to the schools by the Merrimac community. As educators, we highly value public education and believe it 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 2011-2012**

Demographic Information

The Pentucket Regional Middle School is located in the town of West Newbury, Massachusetts, and serves the students in grades 7 (256 students) and 8 (267 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 2011-2012 school year was 523 students, 22 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)
- 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, creative writing, yearbook, peer leaders, student council
- Dedicated and generous PTO

School Culture

- Second Step professional development was provided to all faculty in 2010/2011 by guidance counselors who were trained as trainers for the program
- Second Step was taught to both 7th and 8th grade in 2011
- Anti-bullying workshop was provided to parents in 2010
- (2) Peer Trainer's Program Advisors were trained in a 3-day workshop in VT during the summer of 2011
- A facilitator from the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) overviewed the Peer Trainer's Program with all students in 2010/2011
- A facilitator from the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) overviewed the anti-bullying law with all 7th grade students in 2010/2011
- Peer Trainer's Program was implemented in the fall of 2011 with a 4-day workshop held off-site
- A facilitator from the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) overviewed the anti-bullying law and Peer Trainer's Program with all faculty in 2011

- A NELMS Data-Team has been established with the purpose of building consensus and implementing the recommendations of the NELMS report – the larger group consists of teachers and parents (NELMS 2011)
- Advisory has been placed on the schedule 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.* (NELMS 2011)
- Report outs at faculty meetings by faculty help to “show and tell” what is happening at PRMS (NELMS - 2011)
- Weekly Parking Lot meetings for teachers by the Principal create a casual setting for conversation (NELMS - 2011)
- 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 (NELMS - 2011)
- Books and articles were provided to faculty on various topics under the Turning Points 2000 seven areas of effective middle schools (NELMS - 2011)
- Classroom visits have increased by administration (NELMS - 2011) with the Assistant Principal and Principal providing positive feedback to all faculty (via sticky note) by the end of November and ongoing sticky notes throughout the school year
- An electronic Events Calendar is prepared and distributed each week for faculty (NELMS - 2011)
- An Authentic Conversations board has been placed in the faculty lounge, introduced at the beginning of the school year and revisited at a faculty meeting in November (2011)
- In 2011 A *Destination Imagination* team from PRMS made it to the state finals and the initiative broadened and continued in 2012
- In the Spring of 2012 teachers visited King Middle School in Portland, ME to observe a spotlight middle school
- In the Summer of 2012 teachers gathered for 3 days to develop school-wide norms – these were brought back to the full faculty in August and the SACHEMS acronym was adopted
- In August 2012, KIEVE staff facilitated a parent information night and a team-building day for 7th grade students transitioning to PRMS
- In September, a consultant from Origins facilitated an Advisory Launch for the full faculty to better understand a model for Advisory
- Community Meetings were established during the 2012/2013 school year – every Monday the entire school community is welcome to attend the meeting to raise issues/concerns/and solutions

Curriculum

- Teachers explicitly taught the Habits of Learning in at least 10 lessons in 2010 and continued this practice into 2011
- Teachers assisted students in collecting work for their portfolios in 2010/2011 including 2 artifacts from each subject area and 8th grade portfolio presentations occurred in 2011/2012
- Given the survey results of students and parents, the HoL portfolio presentations were successful
- Parents were invited to the HoL portfolio presentations in 2010 – 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
- The Summer Academy (2011) and the HoL courses offered through the district were attended by a number of middle school teachers
- Two teachers (2010) participated in the Critical Skills course offered through Antioch University providing faculty with a research-based approach to experiential learning
- Connected Math Program (CMP²) professional development began in 2010 with alignment workshops, then moved onto inquiry-based tools with Carol Hynes, and during the 2011 school year includes embedded professional development on the foundations of CMP²
- Physical Education was increased in the 2011/2012 school year (NELMS): 7th grade went from every day for one quarter (45 days) to every other day for the entire year (90 days). 8th grade went from every other day in a trimester (30 days) and now every day for a quarter (45 days). This was possible because of an increase in PE personnel by 80%
- Technology Integration was created during the 2011/2012 school year to replace Silent Sustained Reading (SSR)
- During the 2012 Summer Academy many teachers from PRMS attended the Critical Skills course and others were trained in Critical Friends Group
- Foreign Language teachers re-organized their exploratory rotation so that all 7th graders have a sampling of each of the 3 languages (German, Latin and Spanish), with a choice of language moving into 8th grade - providing 5 quarters of a chosen language

Instruction

- In 2011/2012 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
- In 2010 Inquiry based professional development included Carol Hynes for mathematics teachers and Critical Skills through Antioch University
- PRMS maintained an ongoing relationship with Project Adventure (August 30, 2011 and 3 PLC days throughout the 2011 school year) in order to provide teachers with ideas for norm setting, goal setting, and experiential instruction (NELMS)
- Dr. Anne Collins from Lesley University provided mathematics teachers embedded professional development throughout the 2011/2012 school year – the focus was on using CMP materials to differentiate instruction and to become better aligned with the Common Core State Standards
- Universal Design for Learning (UDL) training was offered to 15 teachers from PRMS during the summer of 2012
- During the 2012/2013 school year, the supervision and evaluation process will focus 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 2010
- The Instructional Support Team process was posted to the PRMS website in 2010
- The Instructional Support Team process was revisited with faculty in 2011/2012
- 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 2011/2012 and 2012/2013 school year

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Debra Lay, Principal

**PENTUCKET REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
ANNUAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012**

The 2011-2012 school year was productive at Pentucket Regional High School. Student enrollment was 792 and comprised of 171 from West Newbury, 276 from Groveland, 306 from Merrimac, and 39 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 social studies teachers in collaboration with the art, music and video programs and created an interdisciplinary unit of study, capped off with an evening presentation to demonstrate their learning, called "Underground".

The math curriculum expanded their program and offered a full year course in statistics with an AP statistics in the planning for next year.

The popular video portion of the arts curriculum expanded to offer a new course called Pentucket TV. We continue to be a partner in the Virtual High School network (VHS).

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.

Assessment:

100% of the class of 2014 passed the ELA MCAS assessment and 98% scored Advanced or Proficient on their grade 10 ELA MCAS assessment, including 65% of the class scoring Advanced.

96% of the class of 2014 passed the Math MCAS and 92% scored Advanced or Proficient on their Grade 10 Math MCAS assessment, including 67% of the class scoring Advanced.

99% of the class of 2015 passed the Biology MCAS and 82% scored Advanced or Proficient.

Professional Development:

During the professional development time built into our Early Release days the high school staff began the lengthy process of our NEASC self-study. Staff were divided into membership on 7 different committees. Their task is to do an in-depth reflection on the degree to which our practices compare with the standard established by the agency. The study continues into the 2012-2013 school year culminating with a visiting committee on campus for 4 days in April of 2013.

Special educators at the high school coordinated the first Pentucket Special Education Summit to collaborate with and learn from educators across our region. The one day conference was a tremendous success.

Community:

School support organizations, The Pentucket Fine and Performing Arts Foundation, the Pentucket Athletic Association and the Pentucket Education Foundation provided great benefits to the high school throughout the school year, sponsoring teacher curriculum grants, improving athletic equipment and facilities and providing improved academic equipment.

Grade 9 team planned and led a first day of school for grade 9 students, which continues to be a successful transition for new students welcoming and orienting freshman to the high school.

Other:

The girls basketball team and the Jazz Combo both brought home a state championships.

Numerous students received awards for their talent and hard work through musical and artistic competitions.

More than 10 Interscholastic Athletic teams received coveted Team Sportsmanship Awards from their Cape Ann League peers.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan P. Seymour

MERRIMAC GRADUATES:

Antonelli, Simonne J.	McGinn, Marita K.
Barry, Matthew C.	McGrath, Carly A.
Beausoleil, Maxwell R.	McLaughlin, Mathew J.
Benjamin, Jessica L.	Migliozzi, Samantha
Bolden, Jordan S.	Ministeri, Alexander J.
Bowden, Melissa A.	Morrison, Mass W.
Brennan, Sean P.	O'Hearn, Timothy K.
Cashman, Allison M.	O'Neil, Cody O.
Chevalier, Nicole M.	O'Neil, Taylor M.
Conway, Ryan W.	Pacenka, Cassandra D.
Dacey, Melanie J.	Parry, Emily L.
Debenedetto, Bridget L.	Podsen, Sarah M.
Dickinson, Megan H.	Polcari, Gianna C.
Dow, Dana W.	Pratt, Kelsey M.
Dumas, Kaci T.	Randall, Katherine L.
Fowler, Cameron J.	Romanowski, Shannon L.
Francis, Bryan S.	Sanford, Molly C.
Gates, Nicholas M.	Sawicki, Michaela A.
Giusti, Joseph D.	Scott, Madison M.
Gordon, Jacob I.	Shaw, Abigail R.
Hardy, Jeffrey A.	Sherwood, Kyla R.
Hartman, Alexander W.	Simmons, Evan L.
Heusser, Alexandria N.	Snow, Brooke R.
Heywood, Kassidy R.	Sullivan, Daniel C.
Holloway, John S.	Sweeney, Meredith L.
Howell, David A.	Tarr, Duncan A.
Hunte, Michael C.	Tilden, Elise C.
Jewett, Kelsey A.	Tradd, Emily C.
Karalias, Caroline V.	Trottier, Christine
Kelly, Parker R.	Walker, Rachel A.
Larsen, Devin R.	Walsh, Matthew F.
Loos, Teresa M.	Waterhouse, Margaret D.
Lozier, Shannon C.	Webster, Meagan R.
Lulsdorf, Mark D.	Wilkins, Jacob M.
Malonson, Julia K.	Williams, Karyn M.
Mangodt, Paul S.	Woodward, Alexandra R.
McCarthy, Ryan P.	Zhong, Ying
McDonough, Molly R.	

WHITTIER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL ANNUAL OPERATIONAL REPORT

TO: The Honorable Board of Selectmen

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

Whittier offers 20 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 thirty-ninth year. To date we have graduated 9,780 students from the day school.

The enrollment for the Evening School from Merrimac: 25

The October 1, 2011 Day School Enrollment:

	Boys	Girls
Grade 9	8	7
Grade 10	4	2
Grade 11	10	4
Grade 12	9	12
Total		56

2012 Graduates – 21

The cost to Merrimac for the school year 2011-2012 was \$513,588.00.

Respectfully yours,

Paul Tucker
Merrimac Representative

William P. DeRosa
Superintendent

**ANNUAL REPORT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MERRIMAC PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2012**

To the citizens of Merrimac:

The trustees of Merrimac Public Library are pleased to report another year of excellent performance by our talented library staff in providing the ever-increasing array of patron services that are required of a modern library in today's world. The full range of library services, programs, and activities will be found in the director's report.

Some may be surprised to learn that books, both hard copy and audio, magazines, newspapers, DVD's, and similar materials, though yielding steadily to electronic devices, continue to be the backbone of patron usage. The staff, therefore, devotes a large part of their daily routine on ordering new and requested materials, performing searches, cataloging, exhibiting, checking-out, and checking-in the hundreds of circulating items.

The interest in downloadable books and e-readers such as the Nook, Kindle and iPad (which can be used as an e-reader) continues to grow and many of our patrons use them for most of their reading. The Merrimack Valley Library Consortium spends thousands of dollars each year to keep up with the demand for e-books as there are long waits for popular materials. Downloadable books from "Overdrive" can be accessed from the Merrimac Public Library website or from the MVLC online catalog.

Staff and patron computers and our IT facilities have been improved during the year in several ways. The new server purchased for the entire library system (replacing the 2004 original) has been a great improvement in speed and function. A program called "Deep Freeze" was installed on our 13 patron computers to protect them from viruses, unwanted downloads, etc. and has saved a significant amount of money in service and repair fees. Individual computer upgrades have been made possible by gifts from MITRE Corporation and the Merrimac branch of the Haverhill Bank. We sincerely thank them both for their community spirit and generosity.

The trustees are also pleased to report that during the year the library director and staff applied for and received a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Grant in the amount of **\$7,500**. Made possible through a federal grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences and administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, the purpose of the grant is to support a community effort to expand reading. The theme of the grant, which will run from March-September of 2013, is called "Merrimac Reads Local Mysteries." The trustees applaud the director and staff for their resourcefulness and hard work in achieving this outstanding accomplishment.

Regretfully, our first Exhibits Advisor, Ann Tucker, resigned her position during the year. In December the trustees appointed local artist and Merrimac resident Nancy Philo to fill the part-time job, which is funded entirely by local businesses and a grant from the Merrimac Cultural Council. Ms. Philo brings a wealth of talent and experience to the position and we look forward to working with her.

The last phase of painting the library building (back side) was completed this year. We remind taxpayers that all of the monies used to cover this expensive project were drawn from the accrued interest on the Thomas H. Hoyt trust fund. A new maintenance problem has emerged involving the main drainage pipe under the slab foundation. Settlement, low pitch, and reduced water flow (resulting from water saving flush toilets) have once or twice caused drainage backups. Several remedial measures and precautions have been implemented and so far there has not been a recurrence. We shall continue to carefully monitor the situation.

Happily, we are once again obliged to extend our sincerest appreciation to three important groups of helpers. First are our loyal supporters, the Friends of Merrimac Public Library, who generously provide enrichment funds beyond our regular means. Second is the devoted group of cheerful and eager volunteers that greatly lighten the load of the regular staff. Last, and not least, would be the Merrimac Highway Department that does such a good job each year with snow removal and 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

The library is full of activity and industry year round but is most noticeable during the summer reading program, this year called, "Dream Big Read," designed by author Brian Lies. Lies has written and illustrated many books such as *Bats at the Beach* and *Bats at the Library*, which he read for Merrimac residents as one of our summer author visits.

A sampling of popular, family-friendly programs at the library this past year has been:

- Curious Creatures Live Animal Program
- Boston Museum of Science - Sky Lab Planetarium
- Odds Bodkins Storyteller
- Toe Jam Puppet Band
- "Go for the Stars!" with Aerospace Educator and Robo the Robot
- Ann McCrea Photo Collages and Clay Workshop
- Nappy's Puppets

Did you know.....

- Residents signed up to use library computers over 6,000 times in 2012
- You can also bring your own laptop and easily use our wifi anytime

- We have two small study rooms which people use for quiet study, laptop use, small meetings, test taking or tutoring
- In the 2012 fiscal year, there were 72,080 library checkouts of hard copy items and an additional 1,500 downloads of books and audio items
- The library meeting room was used almost 500 times in the last year. It is busy almost every night of the week to satisfy all manner of people's needs: free library author and performer programs, scout meetings, softball and other sport sign-ups, Yoga and Zumba classes, town department meetings, training workshops, quilters' and weavers' meetings, Friends of the library Book Sale and Elections

The library is delighted to serve the residents of Merrimac. Thank you for your continued support and friendship.

Respectfully submitted,

Martina Follansbee
Library Director

TOWN OF MERRIMAC INSPECTIONAL SERVICE

2 School Street, Merrimac, MA 01860

Ph (978) 345-0525 Fax (978) 346-0522

2012 ANNUAL REPORT

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED	CALENDAR YEAR		+/-	
	2012	2011		
New 1+2 Family Dwellings (R4)	9	7	2	
Residential: Addition/Remodel (R4)	195	203	-8	
Accessory Building / Barn / Detached Garage	3	1	2	
Fireplace & Wood/Coal/Pellet Stove (independent)	3	8	-5	
Swimming Pools: In-ground + Above-ground	4	8	-4	
New/Replacement Manufactured Housing (M.H.)	4	2	2	
Permit for Temporary Housing Unit	1	0	1	
Trench Permits	13	19	-6	
Sheet Metal Permits	17	15	2	
Commercial: New / Addition / Remodel	10	13	-3	
Multi-family Dwelling: R3, R2, R1				
(Building, not dwelling units)	0	0	0	
Municipal Projects	1	6	-5	
Demolition Permit	4	2	2	% Change
NUMBER OF BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED	264	284	-20	-7%

Amount collected from building permits issued	\$62,093.00	\$70,372.30		
Addendum to open building permit, fees collected	\$1,195.00	\$1,623.50		
Trench permits, fees collected	\$420.00	\$570.00		
Plan review / building permit transfer, fees collected	\$452.00	\$200.00		
Municipal Projects, fees collected	\$10.00	\$15,240.00		
Copy and miscellaneous, fees collected	\$67.63	\$111.00		
Occupancy and Use certificate	\$1,130.00	\$800.00		
Inspections: 780CMR, §106 and MGL c.138, § 11E	\$120.00	\$280.00		
Total Building Permit Fees	\$66,037.63	\$88,516.80	-\$22,479.17	-25%
Total Wiring Permit Fees	\$20,900.00	\$21,505.00	-\$605.00	-3%
Total Plumbing Permit Fees	\$10,145.00	\$8,170.00	\$1,975.00	24%
Total Gas Permit Fees	\$7,450.00	\$6,910.00	\$540.00	8%
Total Enforcement Action Fees	\$440.00	\$680.00	-\$240.00	-35%

0

TOTAL DEPARTMENT FEES	\$104,972.63	\$125,781.80	-\$20,809.17	-17%
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0

Fees Waived by Selectmen	\$1,680.00	\$1,305.00
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TOTAL COLLECTED REVENUE	\$103,292.63	\$124,476.80	-\$21,184.17	-17%
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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, 2012

NEW CONNECTIONS: During FY2012 there were 6 new homes connected to the town's water system, bringing the total number of connections to 1,812.

PRIVILEGE FEE: \$10,400.00 was collected during FY2012 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 FY12 with a surplus of \$ 114,100.93. 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	129,006,600	a increase of 52,300 from FY11
Gallons sold to customers	108,721,890	an decrease of 7,102,106 from FY11
Gallons plant backwash	3,206,800	
Gallons unaccounted for	17,077,910	14% 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.

IN THE FUTURE: The town has been working on the improvements to the Sargent Pit Well field and is near completion. The town is also working in other areas of the town's water infrastructure to implement improvements. In FY12 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 West Main Street Water Storage Tank is scheduled for the spring of 2013. 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 these low water pressure issues. Installation of these booster pumps are scheduled to break ground in the spring of 2013.

The Town Square project is scheduled to start in the spring of 2013 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

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WATER DEPARTMENT
FISCAL YEAR 2012**

Operating beginning balance		\$ 197,684
REVENUES		
User fees		781,344
Liens		28,155
Miscellaneous		1,613
Interest income		<u>1,250</u>
Total revenues		<u>812,362</u>
EXPENDITURES		
Salaries	265,762	
Expenditures	403,314	
Capital projects	405,000	
Debt service	<u>29,185</u>	
Total expenditures	<u>1,103,261</u>	
Reserved for projects	140,000	
Unreserved from projects		<u>17,500</u>
Retained earnings		<u>\$ 189,285</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Sinibaldi
DPW Director

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SEWER DEPARTMENT FISCAL YEAR 2012

For 2012 projects included revisions of the sewer map systems for all pipes and manholes, continued search for I&I (inflow/infiltration) at Birch Meadow area through televising of systems and performing ongoing maintenance at all lift stations and at the main plant. As well as the start of the Attitash Wastewater Pump Station Rehabilitation Project.

The installation of a new UV system produced a 99% kill rate in pathogens.

Replacements of pump #1 at Long Pond lift station, upgraded West Shore lift station, upgraded West Shore lift station by replacing underground electrical lines, installed new control panels along with two new grinder pumps. The North Valley lift station's generator was replaced and additional advancement was made to the control panel, replacing the floats and all the electrical lines that control the two screw pump in the headworks.

Respectfully submitted

Barry Theriault,
Plant Superintendent

Operating beginning balance		\$ 233,147
REVENUES		
User fees		1,030,165
Liens		50,223
Betterments		55,459
Fees		1,733
Licenses & permits		600
Miscellaneous		676
Inflow & infiltration fees		45,000
State revenues		1,753
Interest income		1,577
Total revenues		<u>1,187,186</u>
EXPENDITURES		
Salaries	320,646	
Expenditures	417,483	
Capital projects	139,023	
Debt service	<u>312,239</u>	
Total expenditures	<u>1,189,391</u>	
Betterment transfer in		50,000

Reserve for projects	24,000	
Unreserved from projects		<u>287</u>
Operating ending balance		<u>340,793</u>
Inflow & infiltration	137,662	
Net retained earnings		<u>203,131</u>

SEWER CAPITAL FUND

Opening balance	\$ 117,424
Connection fees	20,100
Interest income	<u>357</u>
Capital ending balance	<u>\$ 137,881</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Sinibaldi
DPW Director

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MERRIMAC MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2012

The Board of Light Commissioners and Manager are pleased to submit the Annual Report of the Merrimac Municipal Light Department ("MMLD") for the year 2012.

NEW SERVICES: During 2012 there were a total of 14 new electrical services added to the town's electric distribution system. The total number of electric meters in service at year's end was 2,825.

SYSTEM OUTAGES: We experienced one significant weather event this year that exemplified one of the major benefits of having a Municipal Light Department. On October 29th Hurricane Sandy passed through Massachusetts. We had employees standing by and bracing for the worst. The distribution system experienced a lot of damages as did many other systems in the area. We experienced many downed limbs and some fallen trees. Power restoration for the entire system took about 24 hours. The next couple of days were spent cleaning up the residual debris. Due to the magnitude of this hurricane, assistance from neighboring municipalities was necessary to help with the restoration process.

There was second incident on December 2nd which caused outages and voltage disturbances to the distribution system. This second incident was caused by a phase down on the National Grid's 23 kV supply line that comes to the Town. National Grid was able to work on the problem and power was restored to the Town.

POWER SUPPLY: 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.

The MMLD was able to get together with the Board of Selectmen to discuss the possible use of town land for the implementation of such project. A number of factors were going to be considered and analyzed by both the Board of Selectmen and the MMLD to determine if project will become a realization in 2013.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TOWN:

Cash Payment:	\$10,000.00
Unbilled Streetlight Usage:	\$22,020.80
Total PILOT Payment	\$32,020.80

COMMUNITY: The Merrimac 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 Merrimac Light and Water Department are here to serve the community.

The people who make this utility work for you, the employees and Commissioners, are the people who made this year work for all of us. They deserve our praise and my gratitude.

Respectfully submitted,

Francisco A. Frias, General Manager

Board of Light Commissioners

Louis Bibeau

Term Expires 2013

Norman Denault

Term Expires 2014

Jim Young

Term Expires 2015

**MERRIMAC ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT
STATEMENT OF INCOME FOR THE YEAR 2012**

	Current Year	Increase or (Decrease) from Preceding Year
OPERATING INCOME		
400 Operating Revenue	4,565,542.26	(17,884.99)
OPERATING EXPENSES		
401 Operation Expense	3,919,201.74	(82,398.11)
402 Maintenance Expense	179,630.77	(94.07)
403 Depreciation Expense	269,799.34	13,369.94
Total Operating Expenses.	4,368,631.85	(69,122.24)
Operating Income	196,910.41	51,237.25
OTHER INCOME		
415 Income from Merchandising, Jobbing and Contract Work		
419 Interest Income	76,821.15	(2,093.59)
421 Miscellaneous Nonoperating Income		
Total Income	273,731.56	49,143.66
INTEREST CHARGES		
427 Interest on Bonds and Note	46,200.00	(2,250.00)
431 Other Interest Expense		
Total Interest Charges	<u>46,200.00</u>	<u>(2,250.00)</u>
NET INCOME	<u>227,531.56</u>	<u>51,393.66</u>

	Debits	Credits
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus (at beginning of period)		3,791,664.96
433 Balance Transferred from Income		227,531.56
434 Miscellaneous Credits to Surplus		28,655.69
435 Miscellaneous Debits to Surplus	75,000.00	
436 Appropriations of Surplus	31,119.62	
437 Surplus Applied to Depreciation		
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus (at end of period)	<u>3,941,732.59</u>	-
	<u>4,047,852.21</u>	<u>4,047,852.21</u>

**MERRIMAC ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT
COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET 2012**

	Balance Beginning of Year	Balance End of Year	Increase or (Decrease)
<u>ASSETS</u>			
UTILITY PLANT			
101 Utility Plant - Electric	4,787,461.17	4,814,976.83	27,515.66
FUND ACCOUNTS			
125 Sinking Funds	719.17	719.17	-
126 Depreciation Fund	2,001,670.86	2,219,679.18	218,008.32
126 Rate Stabilization Fund	270,825.99	272,864.74	2,038.75
126 Bond Fund	31,081.98	-	(31,081.98)
CURRENT AND ACCRUED ASSETS			
131 Cash	(112,367.76)	199,150.81)	(86,783.05)
132 Special Deposits	67,199.28	74,099.28	6,900.00
132 Working Funds	200.00	200.00	-
142 Customer Accounts Receivable	212,215.49	247,665.77	35,450.28
143 Other Accounts Receivable.			
146 Receivables from Municipality			
151 Materials and Supplies	15,001.94	15,001.94	-
165 Prepayments	21,614.00	21,614.00	-
165 Prepayments CTC charge	400,739.35	400,772.35	33.00
DEFERRED DEBITS			
183 Other Deferred Debits	<u>232.14</u>	<u>315.30</u>	<u>83.16</u>
Total Assets and Other Debits	<u>\$ 7,696,593.61</u>	<u>\$ 7,868,757.75</u>	<u>172,164.14</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>			
SURPLUS			
206 Loans Repayments	1,516,707.96	1,591,707.96	75,000.00
207 Appropriations for Construction Repayments	8,889.05	8,889.05	-
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus	3,791,664.93	3,941,732.59	150,067.66
LONG TERM DEBT			
221 Bonds	1,200,000.00	1,125,000.00	(75,000.00)
231 Notes Payable	-	-	-

CURRENT AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

232 Accounts Payable	252,632.81	249,637.46	(2,995.35)
235 Customer' Deposits	67,199.28	74,099.28	6,900.00
242 Miscellaneous Current and Accrued Liabilities	232.14	315.30	83.16
DEFERRED CREDITS			
252 Customer Advances for Construction	1,220.67	1,220.67	-
RESERVES			
260 Reserves for Uncollectable Accounts	13,586.20	13,586.20	-
CONTRIBUTIONS IN AID OF CONSTRUCTION			
271 Contributions in Aid of Construction	<u>844,460.54</u>	<u>862,569.24</u>	<u>18,108.70</u>
Total Liabilities and Other Credits	<u>\$ 7,696,593.58</u>	<u>\$ 7,868,757.75</u>	<u>172,164.17</u>

2012 MERRIMAC PLANNING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

In calendar year 2012, development activity continued to be steady and the Planning Board also attended to other aspects of its role of overseeing land use and development.

The Board completed and rendered a decision on the Site Plan Review (SPR) for a medical/office building at 17 Broad Street. An application for a SPR for a parking lot next to Merrimac Savings Bank has begun to be heard. An application for a one-lot sub-division for 105 Church Street was withdrawn. Five new Approval Not Required (ANRs) were granted by the Board. While the Board denied the Preliminary Plan for a new development, called Poplar Hill, review has begun on the Definitive Plan for this development that reflects changes recommended by the Board. Several sessions of the Public Hearings were held for this sub-division to be located at Middle Road and North Street which includes a Special Permit and SPR for an Open Space Residential Development. The Board collected \$9,436.40 in filing fees for its review activities.

There are three subdivisions in Merrimac that continue to be under construction and monitored by the Board: Madison Way, Quail Ridge, and Lakewoods Drive. Monitoring of the Madison Way development continues to focus on concerns of sediment clogging the catch basins and other erosion matters. Activity has resumed at Quail Ridge on Battis Road after several years of no work on the site and the Board's engineer is assisting in identifying what work needs to be at this point.

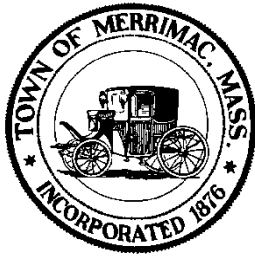
The Board held public hearings for by-law amendments to clarify language on Earth Removal and to update the section related to Flood Plain. These changes were approved. A public hearing was also held to amend the fees for engineering for the Sub-division Rules and Regulations. Approval was given to an amendment to the Housing Production Plan at the request of the Affordable Housing Board of Trustees. The Board engaged Ellie Baker at Horsley Whitten to review and advise the Board on preliminary language drafted by Board member, Robert Atwood, for zoning by-laws related to development of renewal energy facilities. The Board is cautiously proceeding on this.

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

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



**TOWN OF MERRIMAC
FINANCE DIRECTOR**

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

E-Mail: cmcleod@townofmerrimac.com

Honorable Selectmen,

In accordance with the requirements of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Annual Financial Report of the Town Accountant for the Town of Merrimac, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012 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 2012**

Issue	Issue Date	Interest Rate	Original Amount	Balance 7/1/11	Additions	Retired	Balance 6/30/12	Interest Paid 7/1/11-6/30/12
Title V	4/29/1999	0%	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 66,602.40	\$ -	\$ 11,100.40	\$ 55,502.00	-
River Road MWPAT	10/6/1999		\$ 149,856.00	\$ 85,000.00	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 80,000.00	1,463.26
Multi-Purpose Loan	4/5/2002	3.79%	\$ 356,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	568.50
Refunded	10/15/2002	2.5%-4.6%	\$ 4,820,000.00	\$ 910,000.00	\$ -	\$ 415,000.00	\$ 495,000.00	28,100.00
Town Hall	10/15/2002	2.5%-4.6%	\$ 2,850,000.00	\$ 1,690,000.00	\$ -	\$ 145,000.00	\$ 1,545,000.00	69,320.00
Sewer	10/15/2002	2.5%-4.6%	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 55,000.00	2,465.00
Multi-Purpose Loan	11/15/2003	2%-4.5%	\$ 4,231,000.00	\$ 2,670,000.00	\$ -	\$ 210,000.00	\$ 2,460,000.00	109,852.50
Multi-Purpose Loan	4/15/2007	4.95%	\$ 378,000.00	\$ 105,000.00	\$ -	\$ 55,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	5,197.50
Sewer	6/20/2007	4.90%	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 45,000.00	\$ -	\$ 45,000.00	\$ -	2,205.00
Multi-Purpose Loan	2/15/2008	3.56%	\$ 2,380,000.00	\$ 2,045,000.00	\$ -	\$ 175,000.00	\$ 1,870,000.00	74,200.00
Sewer Port Lift Station	6/3/2009	4.90%	\$ 183,000.00	\$ 109,800.00	\$ -	\$ 36,600.00	\$ 73,200.00	5,380.20
Sewer - Ridgefield Rd.	8/23/2010	3.97%	\$ 132,080.00	\$ 132,080.00	\$ -	\$ 17,080.00	\$ 115,000.00	4,736.40
Total All				\$ 7,933,482.40	\$ -	\$ 1,134,780.40	\$ 6,798,702.00	303,488.36
Less: Electric	2/15/2008	3.60%	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,275,000.00	\$ -	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 1,200,000.00	47,325.00
Total Excluding Electric				\$ 6,658,482.40	\$ -	\$ 1,059,780.40	\$ 5,598,702.00	256,163.36

TOWN OF MERRIMAC
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2012

	Original Budget	Final	Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues:				
Property taxes	\$ 9,936,454	\$ 9,936,454	\$ 10,025,101	\$ 88,647
Excise taxes	645,500	645,500	651,509	6,009
Payments in lieu of tax	1,300	1,300	1,291	(9)
Departmental charges for services	412,000	412,000	452,799	40,799
Licenses and permits	50,000	50,000	67,325	17,325
Intergovernmental	1,152,860	1,152,860	1,204,698	51,838
Fines	50,000	50,000	59,632	9,632
Investment income	8,000	8,000	11,377	3,377
Other			58,013	58,013
Transfers from other funds	26,599	26,599	28,165	1,566
Total Revenue	12,282,713	12,282,713	12,559,910	277,197
Expenditures:				
General government	641,685	624,955	583,791	41,164
Public safety	1,442,401	1,621,131	1,563,872	57,259
Education	6,955,701	6,955,701	6,850,691	105,010
Public works	814,890	884,890	830,525	54,365
Human services	304,924	323,124	307,067	16,057
Culture and recreation	238,538	244,238	242,513	1,725
Debt service	972,202	972,202	972,202	0
Intergovernmental	175,802	175,802	175,522	280
Employee benefits	586,270	586,270	518,027	68,243
Insurance	135,000	135,000	106,396	28,604
Transfers to other funds	20,000	72,109	72,109	0
Total Expenditures	12,287,413	12,595,422	12,222,715	372,707
Excess of revenue over expenditures	(4,700)	(312,709)	337,195	649,904
Fund balance allocation	\$ 4,700	\$ 312,709		

TOWN OF MERRIMAC
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2012

	Special Revenue		Capital Projects	Permanent	Total
	Grants	Other			
Revenues					
Department charges for services		245,319		6,400	251,719
Intergovernmental	107,480				107,480
Investment Income	14	43		29,960	30,017
Other		198,648			198,648
Total revenues	107,494	444,010	0	36,360	587,864
Expenditures					
Current					
General government	6,355	57,097	10,187	281	73,920
Public safety	45,354	181,628			226,982
Public works	49,948	0			49,948
Human services	7,621	74,687			82,308
Recreation and culture	19,453	2,849		3,000	25,302
Total expenditures	128,731	316,261	10,187	3,281	458,460
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(21,237)	127,749	(10,187)	33,079	129,404
Other financing sources (uses)					
Proceeds from bond issues					0
Operating transfers in					0
Operating transfers out	(1,566)	(17,500)			(19,066)
Total other financing sources (uses)	(1,566)	(17,500)	0	0	(19,066)

	Special Revenue		Capital Projects	Permanent	Total
	Grants	Other			
Net changes in fund balances	(22,803)	110,249	(10,187)	33,079	110,338
Fund balances, beginning of year	91,014	732,586	23,176	422,967	1,269,743
Fund balances, end of year	\$ 68,211	\$ 842,835	\$ 12,989	\$ 456,046	\$ 1,380,081

**TOWN OF MERRIMAC
COMBINING BALANCE SHEET
JUNE 30, 2012**

	<u>Special Revenue</u>		Capital		
	Grants	Other	Projects	Permanent	Totals
<u>Assets</u>					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 42,029	\$ 850,140	\$ 153,532	\$ 147,822	\$ 1,193,523
Investments				311,224	311,224
Receivables:					0
Departmental		44,358			44,358
Due from other governments	47,823				
Total assets	89,852	894,498	153,532	459,046	1,596,928
<u>Liabilities and Fund Balances</u>					
<u>Liabilities:</u>					
Warrants and accounts payable	21,641	7,305	543	3,000	32,489
Deferred revenue		44,358			44,358
Notes payable			140,000		140,000
Total liabilities	21,641	51,663	140,543	3,000	216,847
<u>Fund Balances</u>					
Nonspendable				318,517	318,517
Restricted	68,211	806,009	12,989	137,529	1,024,738
Committed					
Assigned		36,826			36,826
Unassigned					0
Total fund balances	68,211	842,835	12,989	456,046	1,380,081
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 89,852	\$ 894,498	\$ 153,532	\$ 459,046	\$ 1,596,928

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Board of Assessors respectfully submits the following report for the calendar year 2012.

The Board would like to thank the citizens of Merrimac for their continued cooperation during our cyclical and building permit inspections. Cyclical inspections are done over a 9 year period for data quality. Property cards may be obtained at any time by property owners to view the data the Assessors have. Permit inspections are done for the previous year's building permits. For cyclical inspection the Assessors will leave a tag on the door, if no one is home, announcing we were on the property and asking that the property owner call the office for an appointment to do an interior inspection. Please cooperate with the Assessors as the Department of Revenue requires the Assessors to do these inspections.

New construction seems to be increasing in town with several new subdivisions coming on line.

Board of Assessors

Edward R. Davis, Chairman	Term expires 2015
Joyce E. Clohecyc	Term expires 2014
Louise Lingerman	Term expires 2013

Joyce E. Clohecyc, Administrative Assistant

1. Tax Rate Summary
 - A. Total Amount to be Raised \$15,219,339.24
 - B. Total Estimated Receipts/Revenue 4,971,744.00
 - C. Net Amount to be Raised by Taxation (Levy) 10,247,595.24
 - D. Classified Tax Levies
 1. Residential 94.6349%
 2. Open Space 0
 3. Commercial 2.9663
 4. Industrial 1.1197
 5. Personal Prop. 1.2791
2. Amounts to be Raised
 - A. Appropriation \$14,928,021.00
 - B. Debt and Interest Charges 5,415.31
 - C. Prior Year Overlay Deficit 17,001.31
 - D. Total Cherry Sheet Offsets 7,065.00
 - E. State & County Cherry Sheet Charges 166,054.00
 - F. Allowance for Abatements/Exemptions 95,782.62
3. Total Amount to be Raised \$15,219,339.24

4. Estimated Receipts and other Revenue

A. State	\$ 1,210,711.00
B. Local	3,437,524.00
C. Revenue Sources Appropriated	323,509.00
Total Estimated Receipts	\$4,971,744.00

Number of Taxable Accounts

Residential Single Family	1596
Residential Two Family	105
Residential Three Family	9
Residential Apt. Bldg./Misc	16
Residential Condos	221
Residential Land	173
Commercial	51
Commercial other	56
Personal Property	140

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, 2012.

BIRTHS

Number of Births Recorded		34
Males	12	
Females	22	
Father Native Born		-
Mother Native Born		5
Both Parents Native Born		29
Both Parents Foreign Born		-
Mixed Parentage		4

MARRIAGES

Number of Marriages Recorded		20
First Marriage, Male		11
First Marriage, female		13
Male Native Born		20
Female Native Born		20
Average Age, Male		39 yrs
Average Age, Female		36 yrs

DEATHS

Number of Deaths Recorded		47
Males	25	
Females	22	
Under 5 years		--
Males, Native Born		25
Females, Native Born		22
Parents, Native Born		30
Parents, Foreign Born		9
Mixed Parentage		6
Average Age		73 yrs
Oldest Person		103yrs

LICENSES

Total Dog Licenses		653
Male	35	
Female	22	
Spade	284	
Neutered	312	
Kennel Licenses		--

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 2012 to December 2012.

The number of dogs licensed for the license year 2012, was 638. Under MA General Law CH 140 Sec 137 all dogs over six months are required to have rabies shot and licensing.

Fourteen dogs were picked up, or dropped at Police Department, six dogs were returned to owners promptly. Eight dogs were kenneled at Bed and Biscuit, six of these dogs were released upon current vaccinations and paying fines. Two dogs were never claimed they were fostered and placed in good homes. Several complaints concerning dogs running at large did not find. There was an issue on Orchard St ongoing about owners not being responsible for dogs defecating on lawns.

Eight lost cats only five found, two were dead only one claimed. Keeping cats indoors is the best avenue in keeping your pet alive and well.

Quarantine for animal bites, five dog bites five quarantined for ten days. Four of the dogs had all shots to date, one did not the animal was tested and came back negative after the quarantine. Rabies shots are required by MA General Law Ch140 Sec 145 for the protection of pets and people.

Barking complaints, nuisance, dogs running at large several warnings and fines given.

Always having your animal on a leash is the safest situation for everyone.

Wild life many calls on raccoons, skunks, squirrels, and other small wildlife that were found to be a nuisance suggested to leave them be, remove any food in your yard and keep garbage cans sheltered. One call concerning a bat in the house did not catch said bat. Removed two squirrels from residences. Released one possum from a hockey net animal was fine and went about its business. Had one porcupine out and about for several days on Brushhill Rd animal was okay. Had officers assist me in shooting a raccoon. Complaint of three swans on the lake concerned that they would freeze contacted EP, they came out and said swans would be fine.

Livestock complaint one mule was assisted back to its barn on Brandy brow Rd, by me and an officer. Ongoing issue with chickens on Locust St, had Martha Parkhurst out to investigate issue was resolved chickens were relocated.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Young-Carey, ACCO

MERRIMAC TELEVISION ANNUAL REPORT 2012

Merrimac's Public Access Television channel and capabilities made major progress in 2012. By the end of the year, we had upgraded our switcher to fully high-definition, secured and setup a studio space in the upstairs of town hall, and grown our paid staff to three while expanding our volunteer base. Some of the programming completed in 2012 included interviews with a panel of Merrimac Veterans, Native American Hoban Sanford, Merrimac Fire Safety professional Michael McLeieer, new Merrimac Light Department Manager Francisco Frias, and a program on the history of the Merrimac Minstrel Shows. The Merrimac Santa Parade aired live this year and we produced another Behind The Scenes Program, along with footage from the Merrimac-TV float. The Merrimac Public Access Television Channel #18 is always looking for more programming and volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, or getting involved in helping to produce more programming for the station, please email: CableAccess@TownofMerrimac.com

2012 ANNUAL REPORT OF CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

As in other years, departments were asked to submit forms documenting their capital requests for FY'13 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 30, 2012, the CPC recommended that \$220,000 be expended from Free Cash for capital items for Town departments. It was also recommended that \$20,000 from Free Cash be appropriated for the Ambulance Stabilization Account and \$32,109 be used to establish a Capital Stabilization Fund. The CPC also supported the Town borrowing \$250,000 for replacement of kitchen equipment at the Donaghue School. Other recommended expenditures were transfers from the Waste Water Treatment and Water Departments respective retained earnings for facility improvements and system upgrades, most significantly \$860,000 for replacement of the water main when the work in the Square is undertaken. Also, \$1,700,000 was recommended to be borrowed for replacement and upgrading of water pump stations and mains. All recommendations were voted affirmatively.

At the Special Town Meeting on October 15, 2012, the CPC recommended \$32,000 be expended from Water Privilege fund for completion of work on the water treatment plant and \$10,000 to be appropriated for purchase of voter repeater system for the Fire Department. All recommendations were voted affirmatively.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Venner, Chairperson
Janet Bruno, Vice Chairperson
Patricia Dillon, Representing the Finance Committee
Carol Traynor, Representing the Board of Selectmen, Jan.-June 2012
Earl Baumgartner, Representing the Board of Selectman, July-Dec. 2012
Vacancy/ Carol Traynor

MERRIMAC CONSERVATION COMMISSION 2012 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 first 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 eleven regular meetings were held, two executive sessions, and ten site visits were conducted. There were twelve 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 2011, four enforcement orders were issued to property owners regarding work undertaken in violation of the Act. Work also included Certificates of Compliance, beaver issues, invasive plants, trails, conservation land management, revised plans, docks and river maintenance.

This year the first formal challenge to the Town's Bylaws took place and was upheld the court system.

This year the Commission continued 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 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 Merrimac. They protect, filter, and provide the high quality of water in our wells. They protect and support fish and wildlife in Lake Attitash, the Merrimack River, and other water bodies in town. They provide habitat and food sources for the birds, reptiles, amphibians and other animals that make Merrimac a unique place to live. They provide large tracts of open and undeveloped land that make up the quality of life we all enjoy in Merrimac. The Commission is eager to assist landowners in their decisions about whether and how to proceed with a project near wetlands. We encourage all residents to contact us regarding any questions or concerns related to the Towns wetland resources. The Commission is always looking for interested citizens that may want to become involved in working to protect the valuable wetland resources we all share in Merrimac. The Commission is currently looking for other member, 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
Tim Simmons
Janet Terry
Arthur Yarranton
Joanna Blanchard

BOARD OF HEALTH, 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

The Board of Health meetings are usually held on the first or third Thursday of each month. We may be contacted at 978-346-4066 or at boh@townofmerrimac.com. The office is staffed on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 to 4:00.

During 2012, 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. She recently received her Bachelor of Arts Degree, majoring in Homeland Security and Emergency Management. This accomplishment was achieved through Ashford University, Clinton, Iowa by enlisting in their distance learning program for a period of 2-plus years.

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

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.

Dr. Mark Sofia has served on the Board since 2009, and was elected for a three-year term in May 2010. Dr. Sofia has an established chiropractor business and brings helpful health information to the table. He completed studies through the Federal Emergency Management Institute, Incident Command System, and was awarded completion Certificates of Achievement in ICS-100, ICS-200 and ICS-700. Dr. Sofia is a firm believer in private well water testing at regular intervals to rule out arsenic content. There are some areas of naturally occurring arsenic, and arsenic levels in the private wells could potentially become affected, especially where artesian wells are drilled through bedrock.

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. 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 2012:

BUSINESS LICENSES			WORK PERMITS		
Qty	Category	Fee	Qty.	Category	Fee
9	Restaurant	\$ 840	5	Disposal System	\$ 1,800
3	Non-PHF Food	200	2	System Repairs	100
6	Common	450	1	System	50
1	Victualler	50	4	Abandonment	1,400
1	Mobile Food	50	2	Deep Hole Test &	300
8	Service	100		Perc	
	Catering Service			Well & Pump	
12	Milk Products	1,770		Permit	
5		315			
1	Installers	50			
5	Haulers	300			
2	Tanning	100			
	Tobacco Sales				
	Mfrd. Homes				
	Park				
Total:		\$ 4,225	Total:		\$ 3,500

Respectfully submitted,
Merrimac Board of Health

Dr. Mark Sofia Term expires 2013

Eileen Hurley Term expires 2014

Russell S. Hussey, Jr. Term expires 2015

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. 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.

2012 TOWN OF MERRIMAC PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE REPORT

As I approach completing forty-two years of serving the town as the "Town/Public Health Nurse, I continue to feel like a walking history book as health care continues to re-invent itself on an almost daily basis. But I also continue to appreciate that the newer version may finally recognize the value of prevention at the grass roots level. It has already been proven that it is less costly to provide care in the home than in a hospital setting. And furthermore, it is safer with less chance of acquiring an unwanted infection.

There have been many shifts in the delivery of care over the past forty plus years; from the role of being the visiting nurse as an extension of the hospital nursing care on to the role as a home care agency nurse if your agency met a certain criteria. Few small town Boards of Health were qualified so care was provided to the indigent or the uninsured.

The present day focus of health promotion/ disease prevention/health education to a population-based or focused audience is proving to be much more effective. The recent public service announcement that I made for Merrimac's cable station which speaks to basic hand hygiene and cough etiquette has had wide visual exposure within the community. The plan is to address other health issues in a similar manner in the coming months. Lyme disease will be the next topic!

Year after year finds Lyme disease as the disease most frequently reported by the Department of Public Health for Merrimac residents. Lyme disease ignores all age boundaries by attacking both young and old. Sadly, all incidences are preventable by taking any or all of the personal protective measures to limit the potential for being bitten and becoming a victim of a tick-borne illness that can become debilitating and chronic.

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 270 doses were administered in the 2012-2013 Flu season. One public clinic was held at the Senior Center in October 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 94 blood pressure monitoring clinics were held during 2012.

Weekly home visits for medication administration and management continue coupled with assessment and education provided to the individual and family as needed. During 2012, a total of 176 home visits were conducted for residents.

I completed the refresher training program for the Department of Public Health's MAVEN (Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiologic Network) program in October which brought Merrimac to live participant status. MAVEN is the electronic infectious disease reporting system required by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) for all states.

During 2012, the Department of Public Health initiated a required Sharps Disposal mandate across the Commonwealth. Merrimac was years ahead of this mandate with a sharps disposal program in place since 1998 that continues. Used sharps collected in either a traditional Sharps container or a heavy gauge plastic detergent bottle may be brought to the Senior Center during regular business hours for disposal. The Board of Health contracts with a medical waste company to complete the regulated disposal process. Since July 2012, it is illegal to dispose of sharps in household trash within the Commonwealth.

Formal programs or methods for drug take-back or disposal are being considered but have not materialized as yet. Residents are urged not to dispose of outdated or unused medications by either flushing or pouring down the drain. Waste water systems are unable to extract medications during sewer and waste water treatment. As a result a high degree of environmental spillage enters both ground water and waterways causing genetic concerns for our wildlife.

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.

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.

The year, 2012, has been a memorable one for me. At the end of October in San Francisco, I received the Lillian Wald Service Award from the Public Health Nursing Section of the American Public Health Association at their 140th Annual Meeting. Lillian Wald, as the founder of Public Health Nursing, is this country's equivalent of Florence Nightingale. This in itself was a great honor but the reception upon my return home at the Senior Center luncheon was overwhelming. My thanks and gratitude to all who attended as well as for the many cards and well wishes I received from those unable to attend.

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

2012 MERRIMAC CULTURAL COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

The Merrimac Cultural Council granted a total of \$4,397 to the following applicants and their projects for 2012:

Merrimac Public Library Children's Room: Odds Bodkins presents "The Dream Time Show," \$729, and The Toe Jam Puppet Band Variety Show, \$500; Merrimac Public Library Events Coordinator Position, \$600; Pentucket Fine and Performing Arts Foundation Eighth Annual A Cappella Night, \$333; On Stage Inc. d/b/a Theater in the Open, Spring 2012 Panto Production, \$585; Open Air Sculpture Group, Outdoor Sculpture at Maudslay 2012, \$250; Newburyport Chamber Music Festival, Inc., Newburyport Chamber Music Festival, \$500; The Newburyport Literary Association, Inc., Newburyport Literary Festival, \$300; Richard W. Clark, "Atticus" from "To Kill a Mockingbird" at the Merrimac Senior Center, \$375 (postponed to 2013); Tommy Rull, A Musical Journey Through the Years at the Merrimac Senior Center, \$225.

Submitted by

Gage Cogswell
Chairman
Merrimac Cultural Council

MERRIMAC COUNCIL ON AGING ANNUAL REPORT FY12

This year continued to provide increased services to residents of all ages. 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 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), Elder Services of Merrimack Valley, Community Action, Our Neighbors' Table, and AARP.

The core programs of the Council on Aging offered through the senior center are Nutrition (congregate meal site); 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:

- Exercise (M/W/TH)
- TRIAD (2nd M/Month)
- Meal Site (M-F)
- Pool (M/F)
- Bingo (M)
- Wii (T)
- Cross Stitch
- Bridge (T)
- 45's Card Game (T)
- Poker (TH)
- Crochet & Knitting (T)
- Peggy's Senior Food Pantry
- Craft Shoppe (T/W/TH)
- Quilting (W)
- Yoga (W-4 pm)
- Chair Yoga (W)
- Bowling at Leo's (F)
- Painting Classes
- Line Dancing (F)
- Lunch Club
- Movies at the Center
- Host site for AA groups (W/TH)
- Newsletter Committee
- Tax Work Off
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Intergenerational Programs
- Tai Chi
- Cultural and Educational Events
- Blood Pressure Clinic
- Flu Clinics
- Podiatry Clinic
- Hearing Clinics
- Trips
- Zumba (evenings)
- Our Neighbors' Table Mobile Food Pantry Site(1st/3rd Sat. – Merrimac Residents, all ages)
- Seasonal Events
- Friends of COA
- Salvation Army Service Unit Contact
- Breakfast With the Chiefs
- Medical Equipment Lending Program

We cannot stress enough the importance of volunteers, without which the senior center would not be able to function as well as it does since the Director and Administrative are the only 2 full time staff members of a Director. Thanks to the volunteers who fill in the gaps, including all staffers who work many extra, unpaid hours, the Merrimac Senior Center is considered to be one of the best in the state. 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, and handy men & women. Over 100 people (an increase of 20%) provided nearly 5,775 hours of volunteer service to the Senior Center, which is an increase of over 44% from FY11. This does not take into account the countless volunteer hours from members of the Friends of the Council on Aging who have held many fundraisers to raise funds that help support programs and activities at the Senior Center. The Senior Center Crafters Showcase and annual Holiday Fair have provided local talented seniors with a way to sell their wares, and support the Senior Center by generously donating 10 per cent.

We would also like to thank the local businesses and churches who have helped support programs and activities at the Senior Center: Pilgrim Congregational Church, Merrimacport United Methodist Church, AARP Tax Assistance, Common Grounds, Merrimac Savings Bank, Haverhill Bank, West Newbury Food Mart, Dr. Steven St. Germain, Atty. Margot Birke, Merrimac Lions Club and the people of Merrimac.

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.

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

An amazing statistic is that in FY12, the COA served 1575 unduplicated elders and 457 non-elders. 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 wrapped with love. 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, 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.

FY12 Council on Aging Board of Directors:

Term Expires		Term Expires	
Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello, Chairwoman	(June, 2013)	David Dutton	(June, 2015)
		Betty Elliot	(June, 2014)**
Carol Ranshaw, Secretary	(June, 2013)	Dorothy Lumsden	(June, 2014)
Nancy Bachelder	(June, 2015)	James Murphy	(June, 2014)
Natalie Christie	(June, 2015)	Lucy St. Pierre	(June, 2013)
		David Vance	(June, 2013)

Alternate Members:

Muriel McNair

Respectfully Submitted,

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

**MERRIMAC HOUSING AUTHORITY
52 MERRI VILLAGE
MERRIMAC, MASSACHUSETTS 01860**

Annual Report of the Merrimac Housing Authority
To the Merrimac Board of Selectmen for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2012

To: The Honorable Members of the Merrimac Board of Selectmen:

The Merrimac Housing Authority owns and manages 52 units of housing in the Town of Merrimac. Occupied in 1973, the Merri-Village project located on Middle Street contains forty-eight units, of one bedroom housing funded under the Chapter 667 program. This program serves individuals and couples who are elderly or disabled. In addition to the 48 one-bedroom units, the MHA owns and manages two duplex units. These are multi-bedroom units, intended for families. Merrimac residents receive a priority for occupancy into these programs. The Merrimac Housing Authority collected \$215,677 in rental and other income during the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2011 for the 52 units under management. Annual expenses amounted to \$207,745.

Merrimac Housing Authority Income F/Y/E 09/30/2012		Merrimac Housing Authority Expenses F/Y/E 09/30/2012	
Rent	\$203,404	Admin	\$30,335
Other	\$411	Maintenance.	\$68,464
Subsidy	\$9,486	Utilities	\$89,948
Laundry	\$2,376	General	\$23,116

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts provided \$8,756 in operating subsidy during this 12 month operating period through the Department of Housing and Community Development. Average monthly rent for the Merrimac Authority Housing units is \$341. The average monthly cost of operation is \$340 per unit per month.

The Merrimac Housing Authority had five Vacancies during the 2012 calendar year. This is much higher than our average of 3. Those vacant units are filled by utilizing a waiting list that has been developed and managed using protocols established by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). The average waiting list time can vary from three months to three years for a one-bedroom unit. Merrimac Residents and veterans who reside in Merrimac receive the highest priority under the existing selection system. Under the selection system that we use, local residents over 60 have priority and veterans (or their widows/widowers) from Merrimac have super priority.

Changes to family program

The family unit's waiting list can range from 3 to 8 years. The MHA Board has decided to close the four family units, convert them and allow them to be managed for veterans' and their families in partnership with the Veteran's North East Opportunity Center in Haverhill. The MHA is developing a plan in close cooperation with the VNEOC of Haverhill to convert the

Green St. duplex with to 2BR units, to accessible housing for veteran's with special adaptations and two units with more bedrooms.

Merrimac Housing Authority Board of Commissioners as of September, 30. 2012.

Name	Position	Term Expires
Shirley Jones	Treasurer	2013
Stephen True	Vice Treasurer	2013
Althea E. Ottman	Member at Large	2012
Donald Bongiovi	Member at Large	2014 (recently resigned)
State Appointee	Vacant	Vacant since 2008

Partnership with Veteran's North East Opportunity Center (VNEOC) Prospers

For the current fiscal year which began on October 1, 2011, the MHA Board approved a Three-year Management Agreement between the Amesbury Housing Authority and Merrimac Housing Authority for 12.5 hours of maintenance assistance per week, with additional coverage for emergency calls after hours. Effective October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2014.

Narrative: This agreement outlines the relationship, duties and compensation for the contract maintenance services provided by the Amesbury Housing Authority. This relationship has been in place since October 2011. It has worked well for both parties, and has allowed the MHA to remain solvent, utilize trainees from the Vets Center of Haverhill and draw upon the many years of experience offered by the AHA maintenance staff. This agreement also outlines the administrative and financial support that MHA has been provided on a pro-rata basis since 1973.

This arrangement has benefited both agencies. The MHA gets good service from the Veteran-trainees and they get a job that helps them to develop new skills and build work knowledge. The MHA also benefits from having the many years of experience offered by AHA staff. Having even a part time employee with full benefits was no longer sustainable for the MHA. Changes were made in 2009 to address that which included partnership with the VNEOC.

Management Summary:

The Merrimac Housing: Authority operates a state-aided affordable housing programs, which provides or 52 units of affordable housing for Merrimac residents. In addition, the Authority staff administers 9 other separate housing programs, for the Amesbury Housing Authority for a combined total of 315 units of public housing and 108 units of federal subsidy. The staff also monitors all modernization work and is charged with applying for additional capital improvement funds when they become available.

The Merrimac Housing Authority has pledged to work closely with the Merrimac Board of Selectmen and The Town Planning Board in their attempts to bring more local control to affordable housing development in Merrimac and to be in compliance with the housing development goals contained in MGL Ch. 40B and Executive Order 418.

Under its existing by-laws, the Merrimac Housing Authority holds regular monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of every month at 52 Merri Village at 4:00pm. Merrimac Housing Authority's annual meeting schedule is posted annually at Merrimac Town Hall at Town Clerk's Office. Special meetings are announced and posted at least 48 Hours in advance. Agendas for all meetings are announced and also must be posted at least 48 Hours in advance. The Annual Meeting is held on the 3rd Wednesday in June. Housing Authorities in Massachusetts are incorporated under Massachusetts General Laws 121B.

Residents at the 48-unit State-Aided Merri-Village project on Middle Street pay 30% of their adjusted monthly income for rent; all utilities are included and the units are heated electrically and water is also heated electrically. Residents only pay for telephone, internet access, and any cable TV service.

Budget Woes Affect All Affordable Housing in the Commonwealth and Shrink Modernization Funds Available

In the past 40 months, and consistent with the economic downturn we have seen for the nation, we have also seen a steady reduction in financial support from the Commonwealth. This reduction is in the midst of increases in energy costs, water and sewer rate increases and the cost of materials. The MHA has been making changes and implementing austerity programs where it is able to do so in order to reduce our operating costs.

The eight most significant replacements were identified that will fit within the limitations imposed by the "formulas funding allocations" offered by the Commonwealth to local housing authorities. These are a small portion of the list that was developed in an engineering study completed in 2008. In that study, \$784,733 of needed modernization was identified for the MHA inventory, while DHCD could only provide funding of \$152,818 over the next 3 years. That is 19.47% of the total identified for replacement. Making the choices was not an easy task, as many important repairs and replacements must go unfunded. The most important and critical replacements were selected, that will have the greatest impact if not addressed. Unfortunately, we did not even have enough funding allocated to address all first priority items or systems requiring replacement. (The MHA Board selected the following priority items).

- A. Motion 2012-02-04 Board Approval of the final Modernization plan as Identified in the "Capital Planning System" (CPS) and the "Capital Improvements Management System

Merri-Village:

- Perform rehabilitation of mortar joints in brick veneer, where necessary,
- Provide ADA controls for front and rear entrances of Community Building
- Install non-electric emergency heater in Community building for power outages.
- Repair Bulkheads, as needed

180-705-02 (8-10 Green St.)

- Replace roofs (pitched and flat) , install rain gutters and down spouts
- 180-705-01 (Lincoln St.) - No replacements planned at this time (inadequate funding)

Massachusetts is unique. No other state in the union has made the commitment to create such an asset.

Unfortunately the zeal that allowed Massachusetts to become a leader in providing a myriad of affordable housing options to its citizens has waned over the past decade. That leadership is no longer evident. With many years of neglect and under-funding, this remarkable asset is rapidly becoming a liability.

It has been a challenge to manage these units, especially in these troubled financial times. The legal requirements, expectations and reporting requirements get more and more demanding with every passing year, as reserves and funding levels wane. There is little reason for optimism. The Commonwealth cannot find the funding available through taxation or bond financing to provide adequate funds for modernization. If the State does not have the resources or resolve to make up difference, we can expect no good outcome.

Energy Expenses, Water and Sewer

Our monthly average electric bill is almost \$5,200 for Merri-Village for the past year ending October 2010 totaled almost \$62,615. That means that each unit is using an average of \$109 worth of electricity every month. We rely heavily on electricity at Merri-Village as in addition to lighting, it is the primary heating source for unit heat and hot water. This electricity amount also includes site lighting and the electricity used in the Community Building For lighting and laundry machines.

Water and sewer cost \$26,207 for the reporting period. That is a total of \$88,822 for utilities for the fiscal year. This amounts to \$154 per unit per month for utilities, alone. With an average rent of \$326, \$172 per unit month remains for all other expenses.

Meanwhile, our annual consumption for Water & sewer is about 760,800 gallons per year. We have seen water and sewer costs grow to the present \$26,207 per year. That is about \$40 per unit per month. Once again the water used in the Community Building is considered as part of these totals. In 2004 we installed all new water saver toilets. These new toilets use 1.5 gallons per flush versus the 3.0 gallons that the older toilets used.

Part of the Community

Merri-village has been part of the Merrimac Community since 1973. In those 40 years, over 23,040 unit months of affordable housing have been provided to Merrimac residents. From their inception, state-aided public housing programs in Massachusetts (like Merri-village) rely on a close cooperation and support between the municipality and local housing authority. The MHA has always attempted to maintain a good working relationship with a vast majority of town officials, elected, appointed and employees. Many of which have consistently exhibited high

levels of professionalism and competency in the course fulfilling their duties for the Town of Merrimac.

Amesbury & Merrimac Housing Authority Personnel

Name	Position	Start Date
Mr. Robert J. Mazzone	Executive Director	employed 2/01/2000
Ms. Jeanne Koch	Administrative Assistant	employed 4/18/1995
Ms. Ruth Simon	Leased Housing Admin.	employed 5/01/2004
Ms. Mary Beth Damon	Leasing Clerk (part-time)	employed 11/05/2005
Angelo Colella	Veteran Trainee - Maintenance	December 2011
Mark Lambert	Maintenance Foreman	
Michael McBride	Maintenance Support Staff	
Matthew Lavalley	Maintenance Support Staff	
Thomas Everson	Maintenance Support Staff	

Respectfully Submitted.

Robert J. Mazzone
Executive Secretary to the
Merrimac Housing Authority Board

2012 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Affordable Housing Board of Trustees (AHBT) was established in June 2009 in accordance with the Town By-Law voted in May 2008. The Board's primary responsibility is to implement the Town's Housing Production Plan (HPP). The current plan will expire effective December 11, 2015. It is available at the Town website.

After further investigation, it was determined that there are no parcels of land owned by the Town of Merrimac appropriate for the size of affordable housing development that Emmaus, Inc. of Haverhill is interested in developing at this time. The Board hopes to have the opportunity to work with Emmaus, Inc. in the future.

In the past year, efforts have been initiated to explore the feasibility of re-developing the former site of Coastal Metals off of Little's Court as affordable housing. Representatives of the AHBT have met with the other Town officials, the MVPC, Mass Development and others to identify the steps necessary to move forward with development. The Board has sought the approval of the Department of Housing and Community Development for an amendment to the HPP to more explicitly recommend this action. The AHBT will continue to work with other Boards and Committees in Town to explore this and other affordable housing opportunities.

Respectively submitted by:

Sandra Venner, Chairperson
Ray Gingras, Vice-Chairperson
Earl Baumgardner, Representative of the Board of
Selectmen
Laura Dillingham-Mailman
Phillip Parry
Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello

TRUSTEES OF CEMETERIES 2012 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. A senior volunteer working under the tax write-off program provided additional support.

During the year Dodge's Tree Service provided continued monitoring of all of the trees in the Church Street and Locust Grove Cemeteries, and provided remedial services where needed.

Two diseased spruce trees near the Veterans' Lot were removed and replaced with rhododendrons, with the hope they will flower on or near Memorial Day each year.

The roads at the Church Street Cemetery were repaired and coated with a layer of recycled asphalt for stability.

A new lawn mower and a leaf and grass vacuum were purchased for the Department.

The Trustees replaced the old copier with an all-in-one printer/copier/fax machine. Because there is no internet access at the office and therefore no way to upgrade the existing computer, it was removed and data transferred to the Clerk's personal laptop computer. "Sue" continues the process of transferring all cemetery records to an electronic database.

Research continued on the repair/replacement of the stone wall at the Church Street Cemetery. The costs will far exceed the \$20,000.00 set aside by a previous town meeting, mainly due to the bidding process required by State Law. It is hoped that the project will go to bid in the spring of 2013 and it can finally be completed.

Winter freeze/thaw/freeze damage to the wall at the corner of the Cemetery Office/garage was repaired. Thank you to the Highway Department for doing the parts of the job that they could and thereby keeping costs down.

The Trustees wish to thank Harold White II and the Highway Department for their support and cooperation throughout the year.

Members:	Carol "Sue" Ranshaw	Term Expires 2013
	Rick Gould	Term Expires 2014
	Patricia Casey	Term Expires 2015

Respectfully submitted,

Carol S. Ranshaw, Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, APRIL 30, 2012

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 1. To see if the Town will vote to transfer various sums of money from the line items to other line items in Article 1 of the April 25, 2011 Annual Town Meeting, to supplement various department expense accounts, in the FY2012 Omnibus Budget; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

April 30, 2012

Article 1. The Town voted to Table this Article

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

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, a sum of money in the amount of \$308,009 for the following specific purposes outlined below; or take any other action relative thereto.

- a. \$20,000 – To be transferred to the Ambulance Stabilization Account **(Requires 2/3 vote)**
- b. \$50,000 - To purchase a new 1 Ton 4x4 Dump Truck with Plow for the Highway Dept.
- c. \$100,000 – To make repairs to the pumper and other fire apparatus as needed.
- d. \$35,000 - To purchase a new police cruiser and all associated equipment necessary. To be used as a marked front line police patrol vehicle.
- e. \$35,000 - To purchase a new police cruiser and all associated equipment necessary. To be used as an un-marked administrative law enforcement sedan to be utilized by the Chief of Police.
- f. \$5,700 – To purchase and install a new server at the Library.
- g. \$5,200 – To purchase and install tiles in 2nd floor bathrooms, and purchase and install carpeting and/ or tiles in the pool/game room and adjoining kitchenette at the COA, to include removal of existing floor coverings.

- h. \$20,000 – To appropriate funds to eradicate invasive weeds and to monitor and improve water quality in Lake Attitash, costs to be apportioned and reimbursed at 16% of the approved project costs developed by the Lake Attitash Association of \$125,000, not to exceed \$20,000.
- i. \$5,000 – To provide funds to have an actuarial study done to comply with the regulations of GASB 45. (Other Post Retirement Benefit analysis).
- j. \$32,109 – To appropriate the balance of Free Cash and establish a “Capital Stabilization Fund” **(Requires 2/3 vote)**.

COPY OF THE VOTE
April 30, 2012

Article 2. The Town voted to appropriate from Free Cash a sum of money in the amount of 308,009 **(Three hundred eight thousand nine dollars)** for the specific purposes outlined above.

2/3 Vote Required
Items a and j
Unanimous:
Motion approved
Hand Vote
Items b-i
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 \$69,000 for the following specific purposes outlined below; or take any other action relative thereto.

- a. \$20,000 – To make necessary repairs to the W. Shore Road Pumping Station.
- b. \$45,000 – To purchase a 1 Ton 4x4 Dump truck with Plow for the Wastewater Dept.
- c. \$4,000 - To purchase an 8’x 20’ storage container for the storage of yard equipment at the Wastewater Dept.

COPY OF THE VOTE
April 30, 2012

Article 3. The Town voted to appropriate from Wastewater Retained Earnings a sum of money in the amount of \$24,000 (Twenty four thousand) for the following specific purposes outlined below:

- a. \$20,000 – To make necessary repairs to the W. Shore Road Pumping Station.

- b. \$4,000 - To purchase an 8' x 20' storage container for the storage of yard equipment at the Wastewater Department only if the School Storage Container is not satisfactory.

Hand Vote

Motion Approved As Amended

COPY OF ARTICLE ON THE WARRANT

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Water Retained Earnings a sum of money in the amount of \$ \$150,000 for the following specific purposes outlined below; or take any other action relative thereto.

- a. \$125,000 – To make necessary upgrades to sections of the Town's Water Mains.
- b. \$ 15,000 – To replace the roof at the Water Filtration Plant.
- c. \$ 10,000 – To prepare an operations and maintenance Manual, As Built Construction Plans and start-up provisions for the Sargent Well Field facility.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 4. The Town voted to appropriate from Water Retained Earnings a sum of money in the amount of \$140,000 (One hundred forty thousand) for the following specific purposes below:

- a. \$125,000. – To make necessary upgrades to sections of Town's Water Mains.
- b. \$ 15,000. – To replace roof at the Water Filtration Plant.

Hand Vote

Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift, purchase, or eminent domain, the fee simple interest in a parcel of land located at 25 School Street and identified on Assessors Map 7, Block 1 as parcel 23, containing approximately 0.32 acres, for general municipal purposes, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall deem appropriate; determine whether the Town will appropriate a sum of money to pay costs of acquiring this property; determine whether any such appropriation shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, borrowing or otherwise, and, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for any grants or loans, enter into all agreements and execute and deliver on behalf of the Town any and all instruments as may be necessary or convenient to effectuate the purpose of this article; or take any other action relevant thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 5. The Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift, purchase, or eminent domain, the fee simple interest in a parcel of land located at 25 School Street and identified on Assessors Map 7, Block 1 as Parcel 23, containing approximately 0.32 acres, for general municipal purposes, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall deem appropriate; that \$140,000 is appropriated to pay costs of acquiring this property; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(3) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and, further, that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to apply for any grants or loans, enter into all agreements and execute and deliver on behalf of the Town any and all instruments as may be necessary or convenient to effectuate the purpose of this article.

2/3 Vote Required **YES - 124**
 NO - 40

Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and or borrow a sum of money in the amount of \$860,000 for the engineering and construction of water mains replacement within the confines of the Town Center Project and the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to borrow \$860,000 under MGL Chapter 44, Section 8 (5), or any other enabling authority; and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project; although any borrowing in accordance with this vote shall be a general obligation of the Town as required by the General Laws, it is the intent of the Town that 95% of the debt service associated with any borrowing for this project shall be raised through water rates, and the balance shall be raised through general taxation; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 6. The Town voted to appropriate \$860,000 (Eight hundred sixty thousand) to pay the costs for the engineering and construction of water mains replacement within the confines of the Town Center Project, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44 Section 8 (5) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority; and to issue bonds or notes of the Town thereof, and that the Selectmen are authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project; although any borrowing in accordance with this vote shall be a general obligation of the Town as required by General Laws, it is the intent of the Town that 95% of the debt service associated with any borrowing for this project shall be raised through water rates, and the balance shall be raised through general taxation.

2/3 Vote Required
Unanimous
Motion Approved

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, APRIL 30. 2012
MAY 14, 2012**

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 1. To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town as provided by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108 as amended: Moderator, Town Clerk, Three Assessors, Three Commissioner of Municipal Light, and raise, 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, 2012 and make appropriations for the same, said sums of money so raised, appropriated or transferred to be expended for specific purposes to be voted; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 1. The Town voted to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town as provided by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108 as amended: Town Clerk, Three Assessors, Three Commissioners of Municipal Light; and raise, appropriate or transfer sums of money therefore and to determine sums of money to be raised or transferred to defray the necessary and usual charges and expenses of the Town for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2012 and make appropriations for the same, said sums of money so raised, appropriated or transferred to be expended for specific purposes as follows:

Maturing Debt	\$ 730,322
Interest on Debt	157,590
Unclassified	903,263
General Government	519,746
Public Safety	1,480,174
Health & Sanitation	86,778
Highway	578,379
Public Assistance	234,294
Whittier	587,129
Pentucket	6,541,122
Library	231,755
Cemetery	48,586
Total Omnibus	12,072,139

The sum of money will be raised as follows:

Raise & Appropriate	\$12,061,039
Appropriate from Water Pollution Abatement Trust	\$ 11,100

Hand Vote/ Motion Carried

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:	\$ 378,944
Expenses:	\$ 523,951
<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>\$149,511</u>

Total **\$ 1,137,278**

COPY OF THE VOTE

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

Salaries:	\$ 378,944
Expense:	523,951
<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>234,288</u>

Total **\$ 1,137,278**

And that **\$1,137,278** (One million one hundred thirty seven thousand two hundred seventy eight) be raised as follows:

Departmental Receipts:	\$ 1,087,278
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:	\$ 276,298
Expenses:	\$ 403,646
<u>Debt Service:</u>	<u>\$ 149,511</u>

Total **\$ 829,455**

COPY OF THE VOTE

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

Salaries:	\$ 276,298
Expenses:	403,646
<u>Debt Service:</u>	<u>149,511</u>

Total	829,455
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And that **\$829,455** (Eight hundred twenty nine thousand four hundred fifty five) be raised as follows:

Departmental Receipts: \$829,455

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 the Fiscal year commencing July 1, 2012; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

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 Assessors to reduce the Tax Rate for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2012.

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 a consultant to perform an independent revaluation; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

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 WARRANT

April 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 \$4,400 from available funds known as "Sale of Cemetery Lots", such sum or part thereof, to be expended under the direction of the Cemetery Trustees for the care, improvement and embellishment of said cemeteries, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 114, Section 15 and Section 25; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 6. The Town voted to transfer from available funds, known as "Sale of Cemetery Lots", a sum of money in the amount of **\$4,400** (Four thousand four 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 grants; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

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 grant.

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 Recycling and Disposal and Leaf Collection; or take any other action relative thereto.

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

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

COPY OF THE VOTE

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 Recycling and Disposal 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 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013.; 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 department needs, said expenditures to be approved by the Police Chief; and no to exceed \$5,000 during the Fiscal Year 2013.
- b. **Zoning Board of Appeals Revolving Funds** 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 Fiscal Year 2013.
- 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 Bard of Health; not to exceed \$10,000 during Fiscal Year 2013.
- d. **Parks and 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 2013.
- 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 related to Zoning By-law and Building Code compliance enforcement actions; said expenditures to be approved by the Building Commissioner, not to exceed \$15,000 during Fiscal Year 2013.
- f. **Board of Health Project Revolving Fund** 50% of all permit fees received for the Bear Hill 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 Fiscal Year 2013.

- g. **Assessor's Map Update Revolving Fund** Fees received from the creation of new lots to be used by the Assessors to pay for updates of the Town maps; said expenditures to be approved by the Board of Assessors; not to exceed \$1,000 during Fiscal Year 2013
- 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 Fiscal year 2013.
- 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 2013.
- 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, not to exceed \$80,000 for the Fiscal Year 2013.

COPY OF THE VOTE

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 purpose outlined above for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013.

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 \$90,000, for additional closure activities at the Battis Rd. Landfill; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 10. The Town voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of **\$90,000** (Ninety 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 appropriate \$5000,000 to pay costs of reconstructing Spring Hill Road, a 24-foot wide, 3,800-foot long paved road in the Little Pond Subdivision, 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; all of which shall be contingent upon the successful passage of a proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion question on May 7, 2012 under Mass. General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(k); or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 11. The Town voted to appropriate **\$500,000** (Five hundred thousand) to pay costs of reconstructing Spring Hill Road, a 24-foot wide, 3,800 foot long paved road in the Little Pond Subdivision, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Sec 7 (6) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor, and that the Selectmen are authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project; all of which shall be contingent upon the successful passage of a proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion question on May 7, 2012 under Mass General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21 C(k).

2/3 Vote Required

Yes 72
No 30
Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$375,000 to pay costs of rehabilitating the Attitash Wastewater Pump Station, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, borrowing or otherwise, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any other action necessary to carry out this project; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 12. The Town voted to appropriate **\$375,000** (Three hundred seventy five thousand) to pay costs of rehabilitating the Attitash Wastewater Pump Station, including the payment of

all costs incidental and related thereto; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7 (1) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor, and further, that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project.

2/3 Vote Required
Unanimous
Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 13. To see if the Town will appropriate \$1,700,000 to pay costs of constructing three water booster pump stations and the associated water main improvements; to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, borrowing or otherwise, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any other action necessary to carry out this project; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 13. The Town voted to appropriate **\$1,700,000** (One million seven hundred thousand) to pay costs of constructing three water booster pump stations and the associated water main improvements; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 8(4) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor, and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project.

2/3 Vote Required
Yes 56
No 2
Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$195,000 to fund a portion of its share of the Pentucket Regional School District Budget for Fiscal Year 2013, contingent upon the successful passage of a levy limit override question in the amount of \$195,000 on May 7, 2012 under Mass General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(g); or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 14. The Town voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of **\$195,000** (One hundred ninety five thousand) to fund a portion of its share of the Pentucket Regional School District Budget for Fiscal Year 2013, contingent upon the successful passage of a levy limit override question in the amount of \$195,000 on May 7, 2012 under Mass. General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C (g)

Hand Vote
Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to approve the \$250,000 borrowing authorized by vote of the Pentucket Regional School District School Committee on April 3, 2012, for the purpose of paying costs of the replacement of kitchen equipment and related renovation at the District's Helen R. Donaghue Elementary School in Merrimac, Massachusetts (the project), including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto; and to acknowledge that pursuant to the District Agreement, all costs of the Project, including the debt service on the bonds or notes issued by the District to finance the Project, shall be allocable solely to the Town of Merrimac; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 15. The Town voted to approve the **\$250,000** (Two hundred fifty thousand) borrowing authorized by vote of the Pentucket Regional School District School Committee on April 3, 2012, for the purpose of paying costs of the replacement of kitchen equipment and related renovation at the District's Helen R. Donaghue Elementary School in Merrimac, Massachusetts (the "Project"), including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto; and to acknowledge that pursuant to the District Agreement, all costs of the Project, including the debt service on the bonds or notes issued by the District to finance the Project, shall be allocable solely to the Town of Merrimac.

2/3 Vote Required

Yes 70

No 2

Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to approve the \$8000, 000 borrowing authorized by vote of the Pentucket Regional School District for the purpose of paying costs of projects for the repair of deficient building and grounds, including the payments of all costs incidental or related to, as follows:

- Repair or replace the Middle School Track (not to exceed \$500,000).
- Repair or replace the High School Tennis Courts (not to exceed \$100,000)
- Repair or replace the High School Exterior Bleachers (not to exceed \$100,000)
- Upgrade or replace the High School Theatre rigging, lighting, choral risers and platforms instrument storage, and any other safety related items (not to exceed \$100,000).

Or take any other action relative thereto

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 16. The Town voted to approve the **\$8000,000** (Eight hundred thousand) borrowing authorized by vote of the Pentucket Regional School District for the purpose of paying costs of projects for the repair of deficient building and grounds, including the payments of all costs incidental or related to, as follows:

- Repair or replace Middle School Track (not to exceed \$5000,000),
- Repair or replace High School Tennis Courts (not to exceed \$100,000),
- Repair or replace High School Exterior Bleachers (not to exceed \$100,000),

Upgrade or replace High School Theatre rigging, lighting, choral risers and platforms, instrument storage, and any other safety related items (not to exceed \$100,000).

2/3 Vote Required

Unanimous/ Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Regional Agreement of the Pentucket Regional School District to replace the Regional Agreement as most recently amended on July 1, 2009 and replace it with the document entitled "Pentucket Regional School District Regional Agreement, PK-12 Regional Agreement of April 30, 2012", attachment "B"; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 17. The Town voted to amend the Regional Agreement of the Pentucket Regional School District to replace the Regional Agreement as most recently amended on July 1, 2009 and replace it with the document entitled "Pentucket Regional School District Regional Agreement, PK-12 Regional Agreement of April 30, 2012", attachment "B"

Hand Vote

Unanimous

Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 1 Section II of the Town By-laws, concerning the Quorum for town meeting, to provide as follows:

"Quorum"

1. **Town Meeting on Dates Certain** Those registered voters of the Town who are present at 7:30 PM on the following dates shall constitute the quorum to conduct town meeting otherwise posted as provided by state law: the last Monday of April,

the second or third Mondays of May, or the third Monday of October. Sessions of town meeting must adjourn for lack of a quorum at 10:00PM or at the conclusion of action on any main motion on the article then being considered, unless the 100 registered voters remain present.

2. **Town Meeting to Act on Regional School Assessment** Sessions of town meeting conducted to act on a regional school assessment submitted pursuant to G.L. c 71, Section 16B, shall proceed under the quorum and time provisions of subsection (1). No other article may be considered as part of such session. The date of such sessions shall be set either by motion of the town meeting or by warrant for a special town meeting.
3. **Town Meetings On Other Dates** Except as provided in subsection (1) and (2). 150 voters of the Town of Merrimac must be present to open Annual Town Meeting and all Special Town Meetings, should a warrant be posted as provided by state law. Sessions of town meeting conducted under this **subsection (3)** must be scheduled for 7:30 PM and must adjourn for lack of a quorum at 10:00PM or at the conclusion of action on any main motion on the article then being considered, unless 100 registered voters remain present. Resumption of town meeting conducted under **subsection (3)** after adjournment shall be no less than seven days later, at 7:30PM. Sessions of town meeting conducted under this **subsection (3)** shall not resume unless 100 registered voters are present

Or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 18. The Town voted to amend Article I, Section II of the Town By-law, concerning the quorum for Town Meeting, as above.

2/3 Vote Required

Unanimous

Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to file a petition with the Great and General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in compliance with the Constitution of the Commonwealth for enactment of an act relative to affordable housing in the Town of Merrimac; provided that the Legislation may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition; or take any other action relative thereto.

An Act Relative to Affordable Housing in the Town of Merrimac

Section 1. Notwithstanding section 20 through 23, inclusive, of Chapter 40B of the General Laws and any regulations promulgated thereunder, any manufactured home as defined in section 32Q of chapter 140 of the General Laws, or any other dwelling unit built on a chassis and containing complete electrical, plumbing and sanitary facilities, and designed to be installed on a temporary or permanent foundation for permanent living quarters, having been situated continuously on the same parcel in the Town of Merrimac for twenty years or more as of January 1, 2012, shall be considered "low or moderate income housing", as defined in section 20 of Chapter 40B of the General Laws.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 19. The Town voted to authorize the Selectmen to file a petition with the Great and General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in compliance with the Constitution of the Commonwealth for enactment of an act relative to affordable housing in the Town of Merrimac; provided that the Legislation may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition, as above.

2/3 Vote Required

Yes 68 No 1

MOTION APPROVED

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of M.G.L.c. 83 Sec 16A-16F, inclusive, relative to the collection of sewer rates and charges and the establishment of liens for delinquent charges, and to direct the Town Clerk to file a certificate of such acceptance in the Essex South Registry of Deeds; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 20. The Town voted to accept the provisions of M.G.L. c.83, Sec 16A-16F, inclusive, relative to the collection of sewer rates and charges and the establishment of liens for delinquent charges, and to direct the Town Clerk to file a certificate of such acceptance in the Essex South District Registry of Deeds.

Hand Vote

Unanimous

Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of M.G.L. c. 40, sec 42J, inclusive, relative to a property owner that receives a real property tax exemption under G.L. c.59, Sec 5, cl.41A to defer water use charges for service supplied to that property; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 21. The Town voted to accept the provisions of M.G.L c. 40, sec 42J, inclusive, relative to a property owner that receives a real property tax exemption under G.L. c.59, Sec5,cl. 41A to defer water charges for service supplied to that property.

Hand Vote
Unanimous
Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to accept provisions of M.G.L.c. 83 sec 16G, inclusive, relative to a property owner that receives a real property tax exemption from real property taxes under G.L. c. 59,sec5,cl.41A to defer sewer use charges related to service supplied to that property; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 22. The Town voted to accept the provisions of M.G.L. C. 83, S. 16G, inclusive, relative to a property owner that receives a real property tax exemption from real property taxes under G.L. c.59, s.5,cl.41A to defer sewer use charges related to service supplied to that property.

Hand Vote
Unanimous
Motion Approved.

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 40 sec58, to impose a “municipal charges lien” on real property for unpaid ambulance fees owed the Town, in the manner provided by M.G.L. c.40 sec 58, which lien may include any related charges, penalties, or fees, including interest relating to the unpaid fees, and all costs to record said lien(s) in the appropriate Registry of Deeds; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 23. The Town voted, pursuant to M.G.L. c.40 s.58, to impose a “municipal charges lien” on real property for unpaid ambulance fees owed the Town, in the manner provided by M.G.L. c. 40, s. 58, which lien may include any related charges, penalties, or fees, including interest relating to the unpaid fees, and all costs to record said lien(s) in the appropriate Registry of Deeds.

Hand Vote
Unanimous
Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L. c. 40 sec. 58 to impose a “municipal charges lien” on real property for unpaid zoning by-law fines owed the Town, in the manner provided for by M.G.L. c. 40 sec 58, which lien may include any related charges, penalties, or fees, including interest relating to the unpaid fees, and all costs to record said lien(s) in the appropriate Registry of Deeds; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 24. The Town voted pursuant to M.G.L. c.40 s. 58, to impose a “municipal charges lien” on real property for unpaid zoning by-law fines owed the Town, in the manner provided for by M.G.L. c.40 s.58, which lien may include any related charges, penalties, or fees, including interest relating to the unpaid fees, and all costs to record said lien(s) in the appropriate Registry of Deeds.

Hand Vote
Unanimous
Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to accept M.G.L. c. 32B sec 20, inclusive, and establish an Other Post Employment Benefit Liability Trust Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 25. The Town voted to accept M.G.L. c.32B s.20, inclusive, and establish an Other Post Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund.

Hand Vote
Unanimous
Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **Article 13 FLOODPLAIN DISTRICT** as follows:

Section **13.1.3** striking all wording after special permit and replace with “must be in compliance with Chapter 13.1, Section 40 of the Massachusetts General Laws and with the following Sections of the Massachusetts State Building Code (780)CMR) which address floodplains and coastal high hazard areas; Wetland Protection Regulations, department of Environmental Protection DEP (currently 310 CMR 10.00); Inland Wetland Restrictions, DEP (currently 310 CMR 13.00) and Minimum Requirements for Subsurface Disposal of Sanitary Sewage, DEP (currently 310 CMR 15 Title 5).

Striking all of section **13.2.1** and replacing with the following **13.2.1**; “The floodplain District is herein established as an overlay district. The District includes all special flood hazard within the Town of Merrimac designated as Zone A and AE on the Essex County Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) issued by the Federal Emergency management Agency (FEMA) for the administration of the National Flood Insurance Program. The map panels of the Essex County FIRM that are wholly or partially within the Town of Merrimac are panel numbers 25009C0081F, 25009C0082F, 25009C0083F, 25009C0084F, 25009C0101F, 25009C0103F, 25009C0111F and 25009C0092F dated July 3, 2012. The exact boundaries of the District may be defined by the 100-year base flood elevations shown on the FIRM and further defined by the Essex County Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report dated July 3, 2012. The FIRM and FIS report are incorporated herein by reference and are on file with the Town Clerk, Planning Board, Building Official, Conservation Commission and Building Commissioner.

In Section **13.2.2** removing reference to A1-A30 zone designations, keeping A and AE reference. Adding the following to Section **13.7.3**:

13.7.3.4 To read as follows: “All subdivision proposals must be designed to assure that:

- A. Such proposals minimize flood damage;
- B. All public utilities and facilities are located and constructed to minimize or eliminate damage; and
- C. Adequate drainage is provided to reduce exposure to flood hazards.”

13.7.3.5 To read as follows: “Base flood elevation data is required for subdivision proposals or other developments greater than 50 lots or 5 acres, whichever is the lesser, within unnumbered A Zones.”

13.7.3.6 To read as follows: “ In a riverine situation the Harbor Master shall notify the following of any alteration or relocation of a watercourse:

- a. Adjacent communities
- b. Bordering States
- c. NFIP State Coordinator

Massachusetts dept. of Conservation and Recreation
251 Causeway St. , Suite 600-700
Boston, MA 02114-2104

- d. NFIP Program Specialist

Federal Emergency Management Agency, region 1
99 High St., 6th floor
Boston, MA 02110

Or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 26. The Town voted to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law Article 13 Floodplain District as above, with the inclusion of Map Panel 25009C0092F.

2/3 Vote Required

Unanimous

Motion Approved.

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning Bylaw **Article 23 SUPPLEMENTAL REGULATIONS, in Section 23.7.1 Earth Removal, as follows:**
In Section 23.7.1.1 strike the wording “topsoil or sod is not removed from the LOT” and replace with “topsoil or sod is not removed from town”, and in **Section 23.7.2.1** striking the last word “LOT” and replacing with “town” ; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 27. The Town voted to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law Article 23 Supplemental Regulations, Section 23.7.1 Earth Removal, as follows:

In Section 23.7.1.1 strike the wording “topsoil or sod is not removed from the LOT” and replace with “topsoil or sod is not removed from town”, and

In Section 23.7.2.1 striking the last word “LOT” and replacing it with “town”.

2/3 Vote Required

Unanimous

Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to accept the addition of the Cemetery By-laws, Exhibit A, inclusive; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 28. The Town voted to accept the addition of the Cemetery By-laws, exhibit A, inclusive.

2/3 Vote Required

Unanimous

Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote authorizing the provisions of the Open Space Account to delete “All funds received by the Town from roll-back taxes paid on

land removed from Chapter 61A or 61B; from the sale of Town owned land” “All funds received by the Town from roll-back taxes paid on land removed from Chapter 61A or 61B; 50% of funds received from the sale of Town owned land; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 29. The Town did not vote to amend the vote authorizing the provisions of the Open Space Account to delete “All funds received by the Town from roll-back taxes paid on land removed from Chapter 61A or 61B; from the sale of Town owned land”. “All funds received by the Town from roll-back taxes paid on land removed from Chapter 61A or 61B; 50% of funds received from the sale of Town owned land”.

Hand Vote
Motion Defeated

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 30. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire the perpetual right and easement to use, maintain, improve, repair and replace for the purposes of a street or roadway, which right and easement includes without limitation any related erection of a bridge or other structure over Cobbler’s Brook adjacent to the easement area, and for the location of any utility services thereon or thereunder, that portion owned by the Grantor located at Broad and Mill. Further that the Selectmen may acquire this parcel or modification of this parcel through any legal means. This includes donation, purchase or eminent domain; or takes any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 30. The Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire the perpetual right and easement to use, maintain, improve, repair and replace for the purpose of a street or roadway, which right and easement includes without limitation any related erection of a bridge or other structure over Cobbler’s Brook adjacent to the easement area, and for the location of any utility services thereon or thereunder, that portion by the Grantor located at Broad and Mill. Furthermore, that the Selectmen may acquire this parcel or modification of this parcel through any legal means. This includes donations, purchase or eminent domain.

2/3 Vote Required
Unanimous
Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 31. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant the perpetual right and easement to use, maintain, improve, repair and replace for the purposes of planting and landscaping and for the location of any utility services thereon or thereunder, that portion owned by the Grantor located at Broad and Mill. Furthermore, that the Selectmen may grant this parcel or modification of this parcel through any legal means; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 31. The Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant the perpetual right and easement to use maintain, improve, repair and replace for the purposes of planting and landscaping, and for the location of any utility services thereon or thereunder, that portion owned by the Grantor located at Broad and Mill. Further, that the Selectmen may grant this parcel or modification of this parcel through any legal means.

2/3 Vote Required

Unanimous

Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 32. To see if the Town will vote to make the Commissioners of Park and Recreation, aka "Playground Commission" an appointed position, this five (5) member board would be removed from the ballot for the election of 2013, current members of the board would serve until the expiration of their terms. The board would then be appointed for terms allowing one member to exit the board each year; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE

Article 32. The Town voted to make the Commissioners of Park and Recreation, aka "Playground Commission" an appointed position, this five (5) member board would be removed from the ballot for the election of 3013, current members of the board would serve until the expiration of their terms. The board would then be appointed for terms allowing one member to exit the board each year.

Hand Vote

Unanimous

Motion Approved

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, OCTOBER 15, 2012
OCTOBER 15, 2012**

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 1. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$65,000, for possible salary adjustments based on the completed compensation study, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action relative thereto.

**COPY OF THE VOTE
October 15, 2012**

Article 1. The Town voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$65,000 (sixty five thousand), for possible salary adjustments based on the recommendations from the subcommittee consisting of a Selectmen, a Finance Committee Member and the Finance Director, and that any funds remaining at the completion of the adjustments will be closed to the general fund at the end of the year

Hand Vote
Yes 45
No 1
Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 2 To see if the Town will vote to increase the amount raised and appropriated in Article 1 of the April 30, 2012 Annual Town Meeting in the amount of \$20,000 and amend line #85, Veteran's Expense, the amount of \$20,000; or take any other action relative thereto.

**COPY OF THE VOTE
October 15, 2012**

Article 2. The Town voted to increase the amount raised and appropriated in Article 1 of the April 30, 2012 Annual Town Meeting in the amount of \$20,000 and increase line #85, Veterans Expense, in the amount of \$20,000 (Twenty thousand)

Hand Vote
Unanimous
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 in the amount of \$10,000, for the purchase and installation of a Voter Repeater System for the Fire Department; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE
October 15, 2012

Article 3. The Town voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$10,000 (Ten thousand) for the purchase and installation of a Voter Repeater System for the Fire Department.

Hand Vote
Unanimous
Motion Approved

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer a sum of money in the amount of \$32,000 for completion of the Wallace Way Water Treatment Plant Pressure Filter Cleaning, Painting, and Rehabilitation Project and to fund said appropriation; appropriate from Water Privilege the amount of \$32,000; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE
October 15, 2012

Article 4. The Town voted to appropriate from Water Retained Earnings a sum of money in the amount of \$32,000 (Thirty two thousand) for completion of the Wallace Way Water Treatment Plant Pressure Filter Cleaning, Painting and Rehabilitation Project.

Hand Vote
Unanimous
Motion Approved.

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