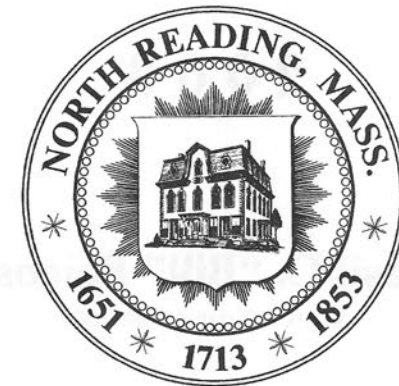


ANNUAL REPORT



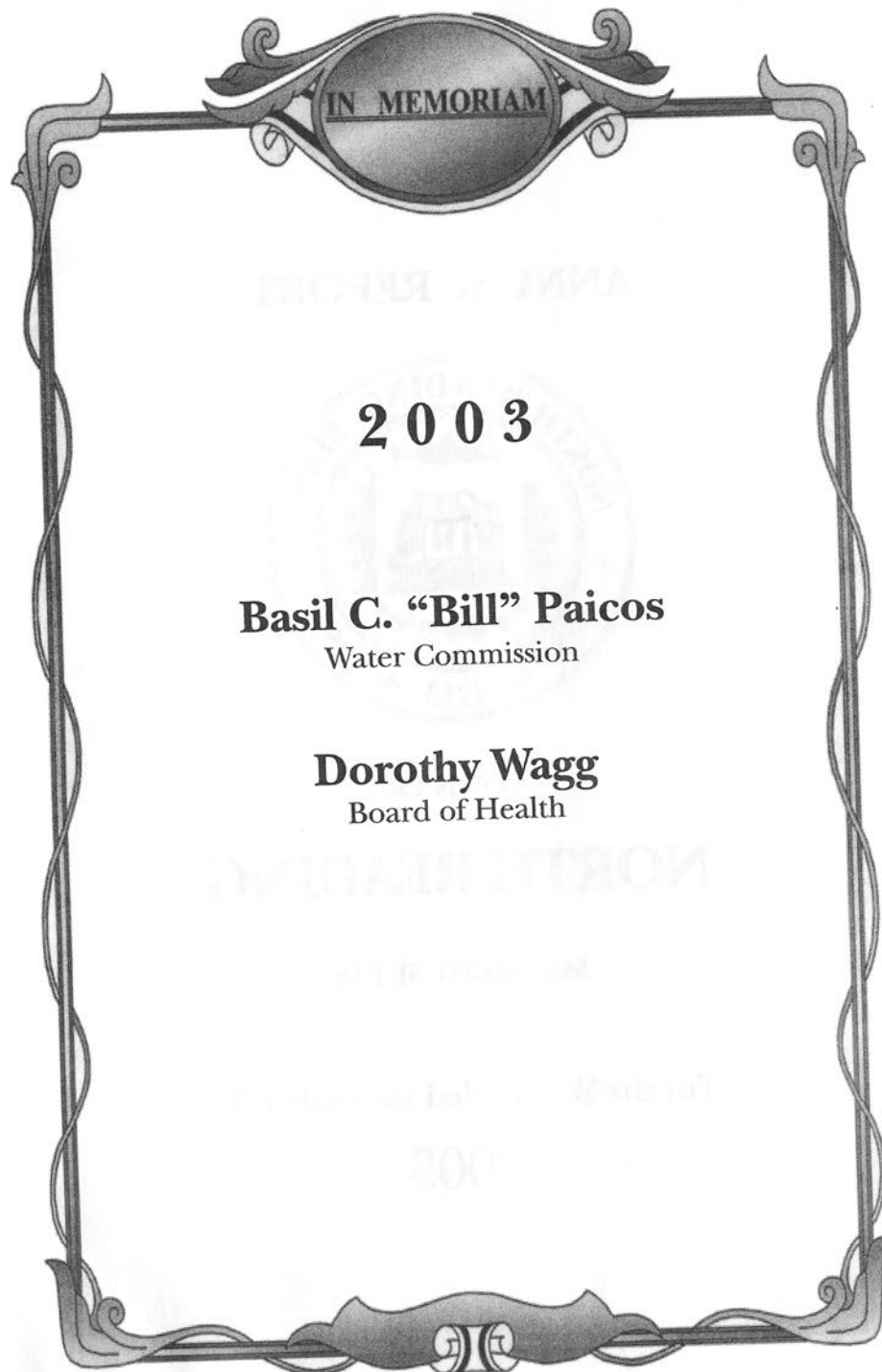
TOWN OF

NORTH READING

MASSACHUSETTS

For the Year Ended December 31

2003



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Of General Interest – North Reading

Date Incorporated: March 22, 1853

Home Rule Charter effective July 1, 1970

Location: Middlesex County, Northeastern Massachusetts; bordered by Wilmington on the west, Andover and North Andover on the north, Middleton and Lynnfield on the east, and Reading on the south; 16 miles from Boston, 10 miles from Lawrence, 15 miles from Salem, and 234 miles from New York City.

Population: Federal Census – 13,837 (2000)
Town Census – 13,832

Registered Voters December 31, 2003, 8,407
 Democrats – 2,331 Republicans – 1,531 Green-Rainbow – 7
 Libertarian – 56 Unenrolled – 4,471 Others – 11

Elevation: approximately 100 feet above sea level

Area: 13.26 Square miles

Type of Government: Open Town Meeting, 5-man Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator.

Annual Town Election: Tuesday following first Monday in May each year.

Annual Town Meetings: (no quorum) first Monday in April (financial), first Monday in October (zoning and other business).

Total Assessed Valuations: Please see Assessor's Report in this book.

Tax Rate: Residential property: \$12.09 per thousand dollar valuation.
Commercial property: \$12.09 per thousand dollar valuation.

Senators in Congress: Edward M. Kennedy (D), Boston
John F. Kerry (D), Boston

Representatives in Congress: John Tierney (D)
(Sixth Massachusetts Congressional District)

Councillor: Mary-Ellen Manning (D), Peabody (Fifth District)

State Senator: Bruce E. Tarr (R), Gloucester (1st Essex & Middlesex)

State Representative: Bradley H. Jones, Jr. (R), North Reading
(20th Middlesex)

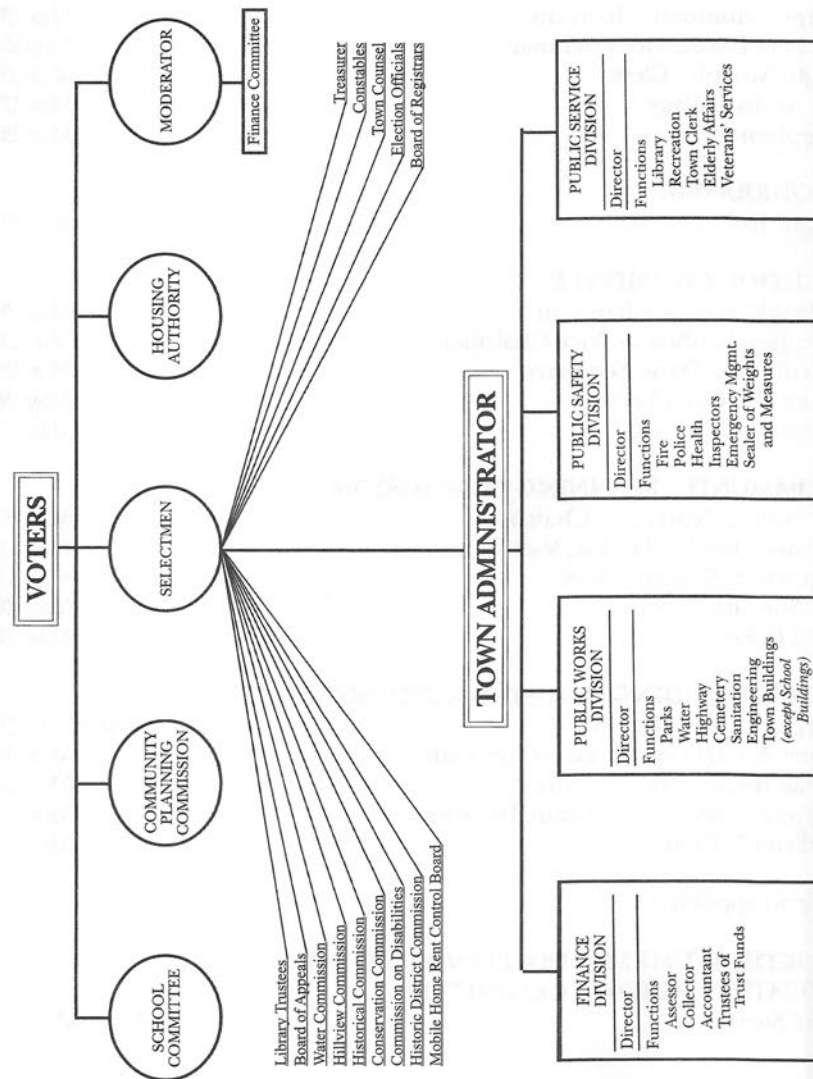
Qualifications for registration as a voter: Must be 18 years of age, American born or fully naturalized citizen, and a resident of North Reading. Registration in Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, preceding elections and town meetings on dates announced by the Town Clerk. No pre-existing residency requirement. Mail-in registrations available in the Library and Town Hall.

Absentee Voting: All Elections: Primaries, National, State and Town.

Dog Licenses: Licenses expire May 31 of each year. Late fee beginning July 1 – \$5.00. All dogs must be licensed at 3 months. Proof of spaying or neutering and rabies vaccination certificate must be shown at time of licensing. Fees: Spayed Females & Neutered Males – \$5.00; Females & Males – \$10.00.

Tax Bills: Real Estate Taxes are payable quarterly; August 1, November 1, February 1 and May 1. Interest at 140/0 if unpaid by the above dates. Motor excise bills are due thirty days from date of issue. Water bills are due thirty days from date of issue.

TOWN OF NORTH READING ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Town Officers

ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

James Muldoon, Chairman	Term Expires May 2004
Marcia Bailey, Vice-Chairman	May 2006
John Murphy, Clerk	May 2004
G. Kevin Callagy	May 2005
Stephen O'Leary	May 2006

MODERATOR

Klaus Kubierschky	May 2004
-------------------	----------

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Gerald Venezia, Chairman	May 2006
Stephen VanBeaver, Vice-Chairman	May 2004
Nicole A.R. Davis, Secretary	May 2006
Maureen Harty-Vacca	May 2004
Stephen D. Jervey	May 2005

COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMISSION

Warren R. Pearce, Jr., Chairman	May 2004
Christopher B. Hayden, Vice-Chairman	May 2005
Patricia E. Romeo, Clerk	May 2006
M. Shepard Spear	May 2006
Neil E. Rooney	May 2004

NORTH READING HOUSING AUTHORITY

Stephen Daly, Chairman*	April 30, 2005
Peter A. Carriere, Jr., Vice-Chairman	May 2004
Brian Blackwood, Treasurer	May 2008
James L. Carriere, Assistant Treasurer	May 2007
William A. Palladino	May 2005

* State Appointee

NORTHEAST METROPOLITAN REGIONAL VOCATION SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Paul Sweeney	November 2004
--------------	---------------

APPOINTMENTS BY TOWN MODERATOR

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Michael Mastascusa, Chairman	Term Expires April 2006
Sarah Ralph, Vice Chairman	April 2004
Mark Sturdevant	April 2006
Bradley H. Jones, Sr.	April 2005
Abigail Hurlbut	April 2004
Stephen A. Casazza	April 2005
Peter Forcellese	April 2005
Donald Kelliher	April 2006
Noel Kelly	April 2004
Daniel Feng, associate member	
Phillip Anderson, associate member (Resigned 7/03)	

APPOINTMENTS BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Thomas G. Younger	Term Expires June 30, 2005
-------------------	-------------------------------

TOWN TREASURER

Elizabeth Craveiro	June 30, 2004
--------------------	---------------

TOWN COUNSEL

Kopelman and Paige	June 30, 2004
--------------------	---------------

DETAIL CONSTABLES

Karl Berg	December 31, 2004
Jerry Berg	December 31, 2004

CONSTABLES (Process-Servers)

Paul Dorsey	December 31, 2004
Harold B. Reynolds	December 31, 2004
John Firriello	December 31, 2004
Joseph Puglisi	December 31, 2003
Thomas Dupuis	December 31, 2004

BOARD OF APPEALS

Paul O'Leary, Chairman	December 31, 2004
James Demetri	December 31, 2004
Joseph Murphy	December 31, 2006
Joseph Keyes, associate	December 31, 2004
John D. Nelson, associate	December 31, 2004
James DePaolo, associate	December 31, 2005

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Barbara Stats, Town Clerk
 Frances Connors
 Eleanor T. Jean
 Charles Faneuff
 Gail Parker

Term Expires

Indefinite
 April 1, 2003
 April 1, 2005
 April 1, 2004
 April 1, 2006

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

William Berry
 Timothy Corcoran
 Ted Ede
 Richard Snyder

Indefinite
 Indefinite
 Indefinite
 Indefinite

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

William Reed, Chairman
 Paul Dick
 Martin Weiss
 Martha Cregan
 Lenore Ministeri
 David Long, associate

December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2006
 December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2005

COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

Michael C. Scannell
 Margaret Robertson
 Laurence McCarthy
 Jean Brennan
 Bruce Clark
 Mary Murphy Raymond

December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2006
 December 31, 2006
 December 31, 2003
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2006

CULTURAL COUNCIL

C. Robert String, Chairman
 Brett Johnson (State term expired)
 Sherrill Moda (State term expired)
 David McSweeney (State term expired)
 Ralph Hannan (State term expired)
 Mary Street
 Lisa Fox
 Grace Curley
 Andrew String
 Jillian Reed

December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2003
 December 31, 2003
 December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2006
 December 31, 2006
 December 31, 2006
 December 31, 2006

FAIR HOUSING COMMITTEE

Thomas G. Younger, Director

Indefinite

FOREST COMMITTEE

Lyman Fancy
 Steven Nathan
 James Dale

December 31, 2003
 December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2004

HILLVIEW COMMISSION

Robert Mauceri, Chairman
 George Stack, Vice-Chairman
 Stephen O'Leary
 John Collins
 Henry Purnell
 Charles Carucci
 Lawrence Dymont
 Stephen Burton (Resigned 7/03)

December 31, 2006
 December 31, 2006
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2004

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Howard Solomon, Chairman
 Thomas Parker, alternate member
 Joseph Saia, Jr.
 Patricia Romeo
 John Davis
 Mabel DiFranza
 Marie Keane
 Carole Dingman
 Ellen Glew, alternate member

December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2006
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2006
 December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2004

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Patricia Romeo
 Thomas Parker
 John Davis
 Christopher Hayden
 David Osgood
 Mabel DiFranza
 Carole Dingman

December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2006
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2005

HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

Frank Delaney
 Daniel Solomon
 M. Shepard Spear

December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2005

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Diane M. Norris, Chairperson
 Lorraine Sheehan
 John S. Tobin (Resigned 4/03)
 Elizabeth Habich
 Mary Rubenstein
 David Cores
 Aurora Morse
 Karen Vitale

December 31, 2003
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2006
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2006

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Edward O'Brien, Chairman (Ex-Officio member)
 Leonard Tremblay (Ex-Officio member)
 Henry Purnell (Ex-Officio member)
 Edith O'Leary (Ex-Officio member)
 Gary Hunt (Ex-Officio member)
 Wayne Hardacker (Ex-Officio member)
 David Hanlon (Ex-Officio member)

Term Expires

Indefinite
 Indefinite
 Indefinite
 Indefinite
 Indefinite
 Indefinite
 Indefinite

MARTINS POND RECLAMATION STUDY COMMITTEE

Lida Jenney
 Missy Correlle
 Scott Ronco
 Janet Nicosia
 Anne O'Hearn

December 31, 2006
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2004

MOBILE HOME RENT CONTROL BOARD

Penny Richards
 Daniel Solomon

December 31, 2006
 December 31, 2004

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Anthony M. LoRe, Jr. (Resigned 1/04)
 Lucille Pothier
 Greta Barresi
 Laurie Boyd

Indefinite
 Indefinite
 Indefinite
 Indefinite

TAXATION AID COMMITTEE

Elizabeth Craveiro
 Allen Caproni
 Edith O'Leary
 Thomas O'Hare
 Gloria Mastro

December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2006
 December 31, 2006
 December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2004

WATER COMMISSION

James Pothier, Chairman
 Dorothy Paicos
 Joseph Marotta
 Carol Bourque
 Karl Touet
 Vincent Ragucci

December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2006
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2006
 December 31, 2005

APPOINTMENTS TO STATE & REGIONAL COMMITTEES & ORGANIZATIONS BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**EAST MIDDLESEX MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT****Term Expires**

Michael Soraghan

December 31, 2004

IPSWICH RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

Mark Clark

Indefinite

IPSWICH RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Mark Clark

Indefinite

MBTA ADVISORY BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Anthony Petrillo

Indefinite

METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Position Vacant

NORTHEAST SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE

David Hanlon

December 31, 2004

LIAISON TO THE NATIONAL OFFICE ON DISABILITY

Position Vacant

LOCAL CENSUS LIAISON TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Barbara Stats

Indefinite

NORTH READING'S AGENT TO FEMA (FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY)

Thomas G. Younger

Indefinite

MAPC REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY PROTECTION STUDY COMMITTEE

CPC Chairman or designee
 DPW Chairman or designee

Indefinite
 Indefinite

READING MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT CITIZEN'S ADVISORY BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

John Norton

December 31, 2004

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S AD HOC COMMITTEES

J.T. BERRY REGIONAL CENTER REUSE COMMITTEE*	Term Expires
Charles Carucci	Indefinite
Kenneth Jones	Indefinite
Frank Delaney	Indefinite
Joseph Murphy	Indefinite
Ted Neals	Indefinite
Arthur Giangrande	Indefinite
John J. Hashem, Jr. (Business Association Appointee)	Indefinite
Robert Rodgers (Community Planning Appointee)	Indefinite
Warren Pearce, Jr. (Community Planning Appointee)	Indefinite
Thomas G. Younger	Indefinite
Michael Newhouse	Indefinite
Robert P. Palmer	Indefinite

* Committee appointed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE**

Gerald Venezia (School Committee Appointee)	Indefinite
Richard Lasdin	Indefinite
Fred Clark	Indefinite
Jonathan DeSimone	Indefinite
Scott Stimpson	Indefinite
M. Shepherd Spear	Indefinite
Thomas M. O'Connor (Resigned)	Indefinite
Ellen Glew, associate member (Resigned 1/03)	Indefinite
Kristen Ellis	Indefinite
Jayne Swart	Indefinite
Robert Armacoat, associate member	Indefinite
Frank Brachanow, associate member	Indefinite

SECONDARY SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE **

Charles Carucci, Chairman	Indefinite
Victor Hernandez, Vice-Chairman	Indefinite
Mark Westervelt	Indefinite
Lauren Warren	Indefinite
Laurie Witts	Indefinite
Stephen Jervey (School Committee Appointee)	Indefinite

POLICE STATION BUILDING COMMITTEE

	Term Expires
Kenneth Jones	Indefinite
Harold B. Reynolds	Indefinite
Robert Stone	Indefinite
Joseph Sadlow	Indefinite
Robert Colella	Indefinite
Robert Berg	Indefinite
Richard MacHugh	Indefinite
Mark Manzelli	Indefinite
Patricia Romeo (Historic District Commission)	Indefinite
Christopher Hayden (Community Planning Commission)	Indefinite
Edward O'Brien (Fire Department)	Indefinite
Edward Nolan (Police Department)	Indefinite

** Appointed jointly by the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee.

VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Tim Callahan	Indefinite
Gordon Hall	Indefinite
John Watson	Indefinite
Lyman Fancy	Indefinite
James E. MacLauchlan	Indefinite
John Kandres	Indefinite
Theodore Lawson	Indefinite

WASTEWATER PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Philip H. O'Brien	Indefinite
Scott Haynes	Indefinite
Denise Conry	Indefinite
James Muldoon (Board of Selectmen)	Indefinite
Bradley Jones, Sr. (Finance Committee)	Indefinite
Warren Pearce (Community Planning Commission)	Indefinite
Martin Weiss (Conservation Committee)	Indefinite
Gary Hunt (Board of Health)	Indefinite
Shepard Spear (Ipswich River Watershed Assoc)	Indefinite
Karl Touet (Water Commission)	Indefinite
Ted Neals (Chamber of Commerce)	Indefinite
Michael Scannell (Martin's Pond Committee)	Indefinite
April Bowling (Ipswich River Watershed Assoc)	Indefinite
David Hanlon (Department of Public Works)	Indefinite
Mark Clark (Department of Public Works)	Indefinite
Weston & Sampson, ex-officio (consultant engineer)	Indefinite

APPOINTMENTS BY THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

TOWN CLERK Barbara Stats	Term Expires Indefinite
TOWN COLLECTOR Elizabeth Craveiro	Indefinite
TOWN ACCOUNTANT George E. Dow, Sr.	Indefinite
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE George E. Dow, Sr.	Indefinite
VETERANS, AGENT AND DIRECTOR OF VETERANS' SERVICES Timothy J. Callahan	Indefinite
BUILDING INSPECTOR James DeCola	Indefinite
WIRE INSPECTOR Joseph J. Gigante	Indefinite
GAS INSPECTOR James Diozzi	Indefinite
DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT Leonard Tremblay (Resigned 6/03) Edward O'Brien	December 31, 2003 December 31, 2004
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER Karl Berg Jerry Berg, assistant	December 31, 2004 December 31, 2004
SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES Melvin D. Peck	Indefinite
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS David Hanlon	Indefinite
INSECT AND PEST CONTROL SUPERINTENDENT David Hanlon	Indefinite
TREE WARDEN David Hanlon	December 31, 2004
CUSTODIAN OF SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' GRAVES Lieutenant, North Reading Company of Minit and Militia	

FIRE CHIEF Edward O'Brien	Term Expires Indefinite
POLICE CHIEF Henry J. Purnell	Indefinite
PARKING CLERK Elizabeth Craverio	December 31, 2003
LIBRARY DIRECTOR Helena Mitton	Indefinite
BOARD OF HEALTH Gary Hunt Michael Ricci Pamela Vath	December 31, 2004 December 31, 2004 December 31, 2004
BOARD OF ASSESSORS Allen Caproni Gregory Smith Sebastian Tine	December 31, 2004 December 31, 2004 December 31, 2004
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE Jean Moubhij Michael McGrane David Putney Andrew Deskur Theophilos Kuliopulos Charles Madden Robert Mauceri Wil Birkmaier	December 31, 2006 December 31, 2005 December 31, 2005 December 31, 2005 December 31, 2004 December 31, 2004 December 31, 2006 December 31, 2006
LAND UTILIZATION COMMITTEE Margie Salt Richard Lasdin Ken Tarr Richard Dellovo Joseph Davis William Zani Patrica Colella	December 31, 2004 December 31, 2003 December 31, 2004 December 31, 2003 December 31, 2003 December 31, 2003 December 31, 2005
TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS Patricia Romeo Barbara O'Brien Barry Allen	December 31, 2003 December 31, 2004 December 31, 2005

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Wendy Werner, Recreation Director
 Rita Mullin, Chairperson
 Edward Downing
 Elaine Daszkiewicz
 William Colbert
 Steve Hartwell

Term Expires

Indefinite
 December 31, 2003
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2003
 December 31, 2003

DIRECTOR OF ELDER AFFAIRS

Edith O'Leary (Retired 12/31/04)

Indefinite

COUNCIL ON AGING

Edith O'Leary, Chairman (Resigned 1/04)
 Thomas J. O'Hare
 Gloria Mastro
 Janet Berry
 Mary Norris
 Mary Rollins
 Andrea Dithomas

December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2005
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2004
 December 31, 2005

APPOINTMENTS BY BOARD OF HEALTH**DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH AGENT**

Martin Fair, R.S., C.H.O.

Indefinite

INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS

Karl Berg
 Jerry Berg, assistant

Indefinite
 Indefinite

AGENT FOR ISSUING AND RECORDING BURIAL PERMITS

Barbara Stats, Town Clerk Indefinite

APPOINTMENTS BY TOWN COLLECTOR

Peter Ryan, Deputy Collector of Taxes
 MaryAnn MacKay, Assistant Treasurer/Collector

December 31, 2004
 September 24, 2004

APPOINTMENTS BY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**CENTRAL PLACE (40B) SUBCOMMITTEE**

Stephen O'Leary
 Warren Pearce
 James DeCola
 Christine Cusack
 Jim Watman
 Matt DeChristopher
 Richard Tiberii
 Mark Dager
 Frank Delaney

Until ZBA Decision
 Until ZBA Decision
 Until ZBA Decision
 Until ZBA Decision
 Until ZBA Decision
 Until ZBA Decision
 Until ZBA Decision
 Until ZBA Decision
 Until ZBA Decision

General Government**BOARD OF SELECTMAN**

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts suffered with a three billion-dollar deficit to overcome in July 2003. Despite the many cuts in state government and state aid to cities and towns, the town of North Reading came through the period surprisingly well. Conservative planning, efficient management and employee sacrifice resulted in a smooth transition through the harsh fiscal realities of the economy. Continued long range planning is necessary to combat the continued growth of the community and the effective use of the services provided to the residents of North Reading.

The Board of Selectmen worked cooperatively with all departments in town government to provide reasonable levels of service within the limitations of the revenue available. The fiscal year 2004 budget presented to the voters at the Annual Town Meeting in April 2003 was a product of continued attention and scrutiny of departmental requests for operating funds. The final budget was prepared and presented to the voters and passed without any request for a Proposition 2-1/2 override. Town government has lived up to its desire to remain within the budgets requested and did not seek any further funding at October Town Meeting. Free cash was utilized to fund capital expenditure requests of over \$250,000, postponed from April 2003. An additional amount of free cash was transferred to the stabilization fund raising that fund to over 1.5 million dollars. An additional \$522,000 in free cash was left unspent in order to make it available at April Town Meeting in 2004. Continued vigilance to the revenue vs. expenses bottom line is necessary to ensure that hard earned taxpayer money is spent properly and wisely.

The major capital projects envisioned for the town achieved some success in 2003. Route 62 reconstruction is swinging into high gear. Although getting a late start in June 2003, the road construction approached town center before being shut down for the winter season. Work has also begun on the replacement of the Park Street bridge. Barring obstacles, significant progress should be accomplished in 2004. The Police Station Building Committee is currently working diligently on a renovation and re-construction of the existing station in town center. The construction date is on schedule to begin in the spring of 2004. October Town Meeting passed an article authorizing the replacement of the Batchelder Elementary School. The voters approved a debt exclusion question to construct a new school in a special election held in November. The Elementary School Building Committee is hoping to begin construction in 2004 with an expected opening in September 2006.

October Town Meeting saw the passage of a betterment by-law. This is a significant step that provides a mechanism for infrastructure improvements to the town without a significant burden being placed on the taxpayers. The betterment by-law provides for improvements to water mains and street projects on unaccepted streets as well as wastewater planning impacting the business community and environmentally sensitive areas of town. In addition, an article

was passed allowing for the sale of conservation land to the highest bidder. The proceeds from the sale of this land are intended for the purchase of land for the proposed Eisenhaure Park.

The election in May 2003 returned two members to the Board. Marci Bailey was re-elected to a new three-year term after serving out the unexpired term of a former selectman. Steve O'Leary was elected and re-joined the Board after an eighteen-month hiatus from elected office. Incumbent, Joseph Veno returned to private life and the Board wishes him well and thanks him for his many years of service.

The Board wishes to thank the employees of the town. The pride they exhibit in their work is shown through the reputation of North Reading as a safe, clean and desirable community in which to live. The Board would also like to thank all the boards, committees and volunteers who give so freely of their time in order to make this a better place to live.

North Reading is a great place to live and the Board of Selectmen thanks you for giving us the opportunity to serve in your behalf.

Respectfully submitted,

James P. Muldoon, Chairman
Marcia Bailey, Vice-Chairman
John J. Murphy, Clerk
Kevin Callagy
Steve O'Leary

TOWN COUNSEL

During 2003, Town Counsel provided significant legal services to the Town, including the rendering of numerous legal opinions, representing the Town at collective bargaining and mediation sessions, approving contracts as to form, attending Town Meetings, and meeting with the Board of Selectmen and various other Boards. There are currently nineteen cases listed in the litigation report pending in various state and federal courts and before administrative agencies. The majority of these cases involve appeals from decisions of the various land use boards, including the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Community Planning Commission, and the Conservation Commission, as well as a number of Civil Service Commission appeals and Labor Relations Commission disputes. Ten cases were closed in 2003.

We extend our appreciation to the Board of Selectmen for their confidence in retaining the firm, and for the assistance and cooperation received on all matters from the Board of Selectmen, Town Meeting, the Town Administrator, department heads, and the Boards and Committees with whom we have worked. We look forward to working with the members of the Town Government in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Kopelman and Paige, P.C.
Town Counsel

TOWN OF NORTH READING LITIGATION STATUS REPORT February 5, 2004

1. Bornstein v. Town of North Reading (II)
Land Court Misc. No. 240310

This is an action against the Town and the Building Inspector, among others, alleging trespass, failure to perform lawful duties, and a taking arising out of the decision of the Building Inspector not to take enforcement action with respect to the construction of a residential structure at 4 Third Street. This case is being handled by insurance counsel. In a decision dated July 6, 2000, the Court denied the Town's motion for summary judgment finding that the landowners did not establish as an undisputed fact that they had prescriptive rights over Old Gravel Road for the required twenty (20) year period. The Court ordered the Building Inspector to issue a written decision on the plaintiffs request for enforcement within thirty days of the decision. The Building Inspector issued a decision denying enforcement and plaintiff appealed to the Zoning Board of Appeals, which upheld the Building Inspector. The plaintiff has filed a new case appealing the Zoning Board of Appeals decision, which is also being handled by insurance counsel. The new appeal has been filed under a case entitled Bornstein v. Carucci, et al. Land Court No. 268004, which is still pending in Land Court. This lawsuit is related to the Cheever and Flynn litigation (See Below).

2. Cheever v. Town of North Reading
Land Court Misc. No. 240308

This case involves the same claims set forth in Bornstein v. Town of North Reading (II), but the complaint has been brought by other interested landowners. This case is also being handled by insurance counsel. This case is related to the Bornstein and Flynn litigation.

3. In Re: CVEO Corporation, Debtor
United States Bankruptcy Court, Delaware District, Case No. 01-223

This is an action to recover taxes and water and sewer charges paid to the Town by Converse, Inc., which has filed a petition in bankruptcy. The Court has dismissed the Trustee's claim for return of tax payments made to the Town. The Court has not yet ruled on whether the claim for the return of water sewer payments should be dismissed.

4. Dunnett v. North Reading Zoning Board of Appeals
Land Court Misc. Case No. 294221

This is an appeal under c. 40A from the Board's decision to uphold the Building Inspector's denial of a building permit for property located at

29 Maple Road, and to uphold the Community Planning Commission's determination that Maple Road, which is an unaccepted street, does not provide safe and adequate access to the property, as required by the Zoning By-Law. Town Counsel has filed an appearance on behalf of the Board.

5. Fransen v. North Reading Zoning Board of Appeals
Land Court Misc. No. 264772

This is an appeal of a decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals which upheld the Building Inspector's issuance of a building permit to construct a residence at One Third Street. The complaint was served on June 23, 2000. Because this case is related to Bornstein v. Town of North Reading (II), it was referred to the Town's insurance company which has appointed counsel to represent the Town. Town Counsel has been monitoring the negotiations and consulting with insurance counsel.

6. Flynn v. Town of North Reading
Land Court Misc. No. 240309

This case involves the same claims set forth in Bornstein v. Town of North Reading (II) and Cheever v. Town of North Reading, but the complaint has been brought by other interested landowners. This case is also being handled by insurance counsel. The parties have engaged in numerous settlement discussions, which would allow judgment to enter in favor of the Town. Town Counsel has been monitoring the negotiations and consulting with insurance counsel.

7. Moran, et al. v. North Reading Community Planning Commission
Land Court Misc. No. 185690

This case involves an abutter's appeal of the Community Planning Commission's approval of Parm Development Inc.'s ("Parm") subdivision plan to improve a portion of Cameron Road. In March of 1997, Parm filed a motion for summary judgment asserting that the plaintiff lacked standing to appeal the Commission's decision. A hearing on such motion was scheduled for June 27, 1997, but the motion was removed from the hearing list by agreement of the parties. The plaintiff has not taken any action to advance this case.

8. Petrosino v. North Reading Community Planning Commission
Land Court Misc. No. 276935

This is an appeal of the Community Planning Commission's approval of a subdivision for Pine Forest Park located in Andover and North Reading. The appeal was filed on December 2, 2001. The plaintiff is alleging that certain conditions imposed by the Community Planning Commission are beyond the Commission's authority. There has been no further action in this case.

9. Presidential Development Corporation v. North Reading Community Planning Commission
Land Court Misc. No. 253217

This is an action for damages in which the developer of Woodland Estates Subdivision is seeking the return of previously escrowed funds, which the Community Planning Commission seized in order to complete required subdivision roadway and related infrastructure improvements. The complaint was served on December 29, 1998. Although the case was turned over to insurance counsel, it was referred back to Town Counsel after the plaintiff voluntarily dismissed civil rights claims that had initially triggered insurance coverage. Prior to trial, Town Counsel filed a motion for summary judgment arguing that the Commission had acted correctly and that the plaintiff was not entitled to the return of the funds in question. After a hearing, the motion was granted and judgment entered in favor of the Town. In July, 2002, however, the plaintiff appealed the decision. Briefs have been filed by both sides and the parties are waiting for oral argument to be scheduled in the Massachusetts Appeals Court.

10. Sanara Realty Trust v. North Reading Community Planning Commission
Land Court Misc. No. 270819

This is an action by an abutter appealing the decision of the Community Planning Commission, which granted subdivision approval for Charles Street. The complaint was served on April 2, 2001. The Town is not taking an active role in this case. The private parties have pursued summary judgment and are awaiting the court's decision.

11. Southland Corporation v. North Reading Board of Appeals
Land Court Misc. No. 257516

This is an action seeking declaratory relief regarding the extent of the applicability of the Zoning Bylaw to the proposed replacement of fuel tanks at a nonconforming service station located at 237 Main Street. The complaint was served on August 2, 1999 and an answer was filed on August 20, 1999. There has been no action taken by the plaintiffs since the filing of the complaint. With the settlement reached in DB Companies v. Board of Appeals, this case is likely moot. Town Counsel has requested a voluntary dismissal of the action.

12. Viking Tree v. O'Leary (ZBA)
Middlesex Superior Court C.A. No. 03-4921

This is an appeal under C.40A from the decision of the Board of Appeals upholding the order of the zoning enforcement officer that Viking Tree was violating a special permit condition requiring vehicles to be parked inside at night on property at 3 Washington Street. Town Counsel has filed an appearance on behalf of the Board.

13. Viking Tree v. O'Leary (ZBA)
Middlesex Superior Court C.A. No. 03-5070D

This is an appeal under C.40A from the conditional grant of a special permit regarding the use of property at 3 Washington Street. Town Counsel has filed an appearance on behalf of the Board.

14. In the Matter of Town of North Reading (Water Withdrawal Permit Appeal)
Department of Environmental Protection,
Water Withdrawal Permit No. AP-3-17-213.01

The Town is appealing the imposition of certain conditions on the Town's water withdrawal permit for the Ipswich River Basin issued by the Department of Environmental Protection. Town Counsel has filed a partial motion for summary disposition as to two of the three issues on appeal and is in the process of responding to and propounding discovery as to the third issue. This matter is currently scheduled for final hearing on May 11-14, 2004.

LABOR LITIGATION

1. AFSCME, Council 93 and the Town of North Reading
Labor Relations Commission, MUP-03-3895

This case involves an alleged unfair labor practice charge that was filed on October 9, 2003, concerning the processing of money turned into the treasurer's office. After several discussions with Union Counsel the Union withdrew this matter on November 6, 2003. The parties are awaiting formal dismissal by the Labor Relations Commission.

2. David DiFraia and the Town of North Reading (Bypass Appeal)
Civil Service Commission, GI-03-327

This is a civil service bypass appeal for a permanent full-time patrol officer position. Mr. DiFraia was bypassed in 2002 for an appointment partially as a result of an incorrectly ordered civil service list that was issued by the Massachusetts Human Resources Division. The parties have filed a joint petition for 310 relief in this case, which would place Mr. DiFraia at the top of the current civil service list. A pre-hearing conference was held on January 21, 2004, and the parties are currently waiting for the Civil Service Commission to act on their joint petition.

3. North Reading Police Association and the Town of North Reading
Labor Relations Commission, MCR-04-5076

The North Reading Police Association filed a petition with the Labor Relations Commission seeking to represent the patrol officers and police

sergeants on January 12, 2004. On January 29, 2004, the Town filed with the Commission a request that the petition be dismissed, since the petition is barred under Massachusetts law by virtue of the existing contract that was ratified between the Town and the Teamsters on January 5, 2004.

4. North Reading Superior Officers Association and the Town of North Reading
Joint Labor - Management Committee, JLMC-03-31PS

The Superior Officers Union filed a petition with Joint Labor - Management Committee in May of 2003 regarding negotiations for a successor collective bargaining agreement. Numerous mediation sessions have been held to this point, but an agreement has not yet been reached. Consequently, a conference is currently scheduled for February 24, 2004 to establish the parameters for an arbitration hearing. After the conference, an arbitration hearing will be scheduled.

5. North Reading Superior Officers Association and the Town of North Reading
Labor Relations Commission, MUP-04-4020

The Superior Officers Union filed an unfair labor practice charge with the Labor Relations Commission on January 15, 2004, alleging that the Town had illegally bargained in bad faith regarding negotiations for a successor collective bargaining agreement. The Town has to file a written submission in response to the Union's charge by February 17, 2004.

GENERAL LITIGATION CASES CLOSED IN 2003

1. Bornstein v. Town of North Reading
Middlesex Superior Court, C.A. No. 2002-4854

This was an action seeking damages for the eminent domain taking of a wall easement at One Childs Road in connection with the Route 62 project. The complaint was served on January 6, 2003. A Stipulation of Dismissal was issued on July 16, 2003.

2. Cameron v. North Reading Zoning Board of Appeals, et al.
Middlesex Superior Court, C.A. No. 01-02864

This was an appeal of the Zoning Board of Appeals' decision to uphold the Building Inspector's issuance of a building permit for the construction of a single-family residence at 66 Oakdale Road. The plaintiff has also named the Community Planning Commission as a defendant in this case. On August 7, 2001, the Town filed an answer to the amended complaint. On October 28, 2003, a Stipulation of Dismissal was filed in this case with the Court.

3. Curtis v. Gonzalez, et al.
Middlesex Superior Court., C.A. No. 2003-03443

In this action, the plaintiff sought specific performance/declaratory judgment as to property owned by the Town's co-defendants. The Town disclaimed any right or interest in the subject property in a Land Court, Misc. No. 290143. Accordingly, the Plaintiff filed a notice dismissing the Town from this Superior Court action on or about August 25, 2003.

4. Deer Run Developers v. Conte, et al.
Land Court Misc. Case No. 290143

In this action, the Plaintiff sought to extinguish the defendants' respective rights, titles, and/or interests in certain property. The Town was named as a defendant because some of the property at issue included a portion of Valley Road, which is a paper street. The Town determined that it neither held nor wanted any right, title, or interest in the subject property. Accordingly, the Plaintiff and the Town filed an agreement for judgment on or about July 23, 2003 wherein the Town affirmatively disclaimed any and all such rights.

5. DiGiovanni v. Tower and Zoning Board of Appeals (I)
Land Court Misc. No. 271897

This was an appeal by residents of 348 Haverhill Street from the Zoning Board of Appeals' April 25, 2001 decision to grant a driveway special permit for property located at 346 Haverhill Street. A Notice of Appearance was filed on behalf of the Board on May 21, 2001. Since this matter concerned the grant of zoning relief to a private party, the Board did not actively defend the litigation. This case has subsequently been voluntarily dismissed.

6. DiGiovanni v. Tower and Zoning Board of Appeals (II)
Land Court Misc. No. 273941

This was an appeal by residents of 348 Haverhill Street from the Zoning Board of Appeals' August 8, 2001 decision to reverse the Building Inspector's March 23, 2001 cease and desist order regarding a building permit issued to Mr. Dana Tower for property located at 346 Haverhill Street. A Notice of Appeal was filed on behalf of the Board on August 16, 2001. Since this matter concerned the grant of zoning relief to a private party, the Board did not actively defend the litigation. This case has subsequently been voluntarily dismissed.

7. Smith v. North Reading Board of Appeals
Land Court Misc. No. 213468

This was an appeal of a renewal of a variance for an undersized lot. The complaint was filed on December 21, 1994. The Town did not actively defending this matter. Co-defendant's motion for summary judgment in a related case was allowed in part by the Court in May, 1998, which found that the lot was subject to grandfathering protection. Partial summary judgment was granted to the plaintiff in June, 2000, deciding that the defendant has not exercised rights under a variance granted in 1982. The parties arrived at a settlement and a stipulation of dismissal was ultimately signed and filed in November of 2003.

8. Smith v. North Reading Zoning Board of Appeals and Russell Tryder
Land Court Misc. No. 223440

This was an appeal from a decision of the Board of Appeals overturning a decision by the Inspector of Buildings who had denied a building permit for a single-family dwelling at 6 Cedar Street. In January, 2002, the private parties reached a settlement and this case was subsequently dismissed.

LABOR LITIGATION CLOSED IN 2003

1. Teamsters Local 25 and Town of North Reading
AAA No. 11 390 001332 (Rowe Grievance)

On January 17, 2002, the Union filed a demand for arbitration alleging that the Town violated the collective bargaining agreement by failing to properly compensate a police officer for the period during which he was on military leave. A mediation session was held in September 2003, and the parties reached a full and final settlement.

2. Teamsters Local 25 and the Town of North Reading
JLMC-03-27P

The Teamsters Union (patrol officers and sergeants) filed a petition with Joint Labor - Management Committee in April of 2003 regarding negotiations for a successor collective bargaining agreement. After numerous mediation sessions were held, the parties reached an agreement and a successor contract was ratified on January 5, 2004.

TOWN-OWNED LAND For Your Information

Map & Parcel Refers to Assessors Map & parcel pages and numbers.

Location Street on which parcel is mentioned.

Approximate Area Roughly the square footage or acreage of parcel mentioned.

Primary Use If parcel is being used for town purposes, it is mentioned here.

Tax Land by Possession** Designated by asterisks in report – land which is taken by the town due to default of property taxes – taken after land has been in tax title for a period of not less than 2 years.

Controlled/Supervision Designated Committee, Commission, or department who has control or priority of mentioned parcel.

Date Acquired The date which mentioned parcel came into town ownership.

TOWN OWNED LAND

Map	Parcel	Location	Approx. Area Sq.Ft.	Primary Use	Tax Land by Possession**	Controlled Supervision	Date Acquired	Wetlands	Flood Zone	APD Zone
3	23	Redmond Ave.	21,440		**	Gen. Gov.	5-4-71			I
3	44	Off Redmond Ave.	257,004	Pumping Station		Water Dept.	9-29-64	3/4W	F	I
3	45	Off Redmond Ave./Concord	350,658			Conserv. 10-77	3-21-64		F	I
3	47	Kristyn Lane	547,114		Gift	Gen. Gov.	7-9-96	1/4 W		
3	67	Jill Circle	14,233		Gift	Gen. Gov.	7-9-96			
3	78	Jill Circle	21,336		Gift	Gen. Gov.	7-9-96			
4	110	Raridan St.	82,764		**	Conserv. 10-80	10-14-69	3/4W		
4	111	Shenandoah Rd.	14,000		**	Gen. Gov.	11-23-94	1/2W		
4	112	Shenandoah St.	14,000		**	Conservation	10-16-61	1/2W		
4	113	Shenandoah St.	10,500		**	Conservation	7-1-53	1/2W		
4	114	Shenandoah St.	10,500		**	Conservation	2-7-78	1/2W		
5	54	Off Cold Spring Rd.	35,500		Gift	Conserv. 4-88	4-1-88			
5	55	Cold Spring	39,600		**	Gen. Gov.	12-31-53	1/4W	F	I
5	65	MacArthur Rd.	25,277		**	Gen. Gov.	12-27-50	3/4W	F	I
5	74	High St.	7,500		**	Gen. Gov.	6-15-83			
5	90	Off Cold Spring Rd.	118,919	Pumping Station	Gift	Water Dept.		1/4W	F	I
5	91	Off Cold Spring Rd.	25,500		**	Gen. Gov.	5-26-76	W	F	I
5	98	Off Carriage Way	102,500		Gift	Conservation	2-2-76			I
6	1	Back River Lot	383,328	Water Treatment Plant	Gift	Gen. Gov.	0/0/88			
6	3	Lowell Rd.	130,680	Watershed Protection	Gift	Gen. Gov.	11-20-96	W		
8	6	Hollywood Terrace	9,120		**	Gen. Gov.	10-8-86			II
8	18	Algonquin Rd.	3,820		**	Gen. Gov.	8-17-56		F	II
8	19	Algonquin Rd.	9,500		**	Gen. Gov.	10-16-61	3/4W	F	II
8	20	Algonquin Rd.	9,100		**	Gen. Gov.	10-17-61		F	II
8	30	Brooksdale Rd.	6,400		**	Gen. Gov.	1-2-90	1/2W	F	
8	31	Brooksdale Rd.	15,750		**	Gen. Gov.	5-5-54	W		II
8	32	Brooksdale Rd.	18,000		**	Gen. Gov.	12-30-98	3/4W		II
8	33	Brooksdale Rd.	24,000		**	Gen. Gov.	5-4-71			II
8	34	Brooksdale Rd.	6,000		**	Gen. Gov.	10-7-68			II
8	35	Brooksdale Rd.	4,000		**	Gen. Gov.	5-4-71			II
8	36	Fieldcrest Terrace	12,450		**	Gen. Gov.	10-19-61			II
8	45	Evergreen Terrace	6,160		**	Gen. Gov.	12-3-92			II
8	54	Old Andover Rd.	6,800		**	Gen. Gov.	12-23-53			II
8	56	Old Andover Rd.	74,052		**	Gen. Gov.	9-9-81			I
8	58	Brentwood Rd.	13,600		**	Gen. Gov.	8-17-56	1/4W	F	I
8	65	Laurelton Rd.	22,500		**	Gen. Gov.	10-16-61			I
8	66	Laurelton Rd.	15,600		**	Gen. Gov.	10-16-61	1/3W		I
8	68	Laurelton Rd.	6,400		**	Gen. Gov.	12-27-50	1/2W		I
8	78	Belleflower Rd.	3,200		**	Gen. Gov.	7-15-57			I
8	79	Belleflower Rd.	14,400		**	Gen. Gov.	10-16-61	3/4W	F	I
8	93	Hawthorne Terr.	11,200		**	Gen. Gov.	10-16-61	1/2W	F	I
8	99	Evergreen Terr.	15,400		**	Gen. Gov.	9-21-59	1/2W	F	I

TOWN OWNED LAND (cont'd)

Map	Parcel	Location	Approx. Area Sq.Ft.	Primary Use	Tax Land by Possession**	Controlled Supervision	Date Acquired	Wetlands	Flood Zone	APD Zone
8	100	Evergreen Terr.	1,400		**	Gen. Gov.	6-6-75	1/2W	F	I
8	101	Evergreen Terr.	4,400		**	Gen. Gov.	10-16-61		F	I
8	108	Burroughs Rd.	4,750		**	Conserv. 10-94	3-18-83			II
8	109	Burroughs Rd.	5,000		**	Conserv. 10-94	4-12-85			II
8	110	Burroughs Rd.	10,000		**	Conserv. 10-80	10-16-61		F	II
8	111	Brooksdale Rd.	8,000		**	Conserv. 10-94	10-16-61	W	F	II
8	112	Algonquin Rd.	11,200		**	Conserv. 10-80	10-16-61	W	F	II
8	113	Fieldcrest Terr.	35,200		**	Conserv. 10-80	7-16-57	1/2W	F	II
8	114	Algonquin Rd.	3,624		**	Conserv. 10-75		1/2W	F	II
8	115	Hollywood Terr.	18,000		**	Conserv. 10-75	10-16-61			II
8	116	Hollywood Terr.	3,466		**	Conserv. 10-75	11-4-60		F	II
8	119	Hollywood Terr.	11,600		**	Conserv. 10-74	10-16-61	1/2W	F	II
8	120	Hollywood Terr.	20,100		**	Conserv. 10-74	10-16-61		F	II
8	121	Plainfield Rd.	17,900		**	Conserv. 10-74	10-17-61	W	F	II
8	123	Plainfield Rd.	38,400		**	Conserv. 10-74	10-19-61	1/2W	F	II
8	124	Plainfield Rd.	6,266		**	Conserv. 10-74	10-16-61	W	F	II
8	125	Atwater Rd.	20,800		**	Conserv. 10-74	10-19-61	W	F	II
8	126	River Rd.	10,000		**	Conserv. 10-74	10-16-61	W	F	II
8	127	River Rd.	4,800		**	Conserv. 10-74	10-19-61	W	F	II
8	128	Plainfield Rd.	15,800		**	Conserv. 10-74	10-16-61	W	F	II
8	129	Plainfield Rd.	4,800		**	Conserv. 10-74	7-16-57	W	F	II
8	130	Hollywood Terr.	25,200		**	Conserv. 10-74	10-16-61	W	F	II
8	131	Hollywood Terr.	4,000		**	Conserv. 10-74	10-19-61	W	F	II
8	132	Hollywood Terr.	4,000		**	Conserv. 10-74	11-4-60	W	F	II
8	134	Algonquin Rd.	3,600		**	Gen. Gov.				
8	135	Hollywood Terr.	36,800		**	Conserv. 10-74	10-16-61	W	F	II
8	137	Algonquin Rd.	19,600		**	Conserv. 10-74	10-16-61	W	F	II
8	138	Garden Rd.	3,450		**	Conserv. 10-74	10-16-61	W	F	II
8	139	Garden Rd.	14,000		**	Conserv. 10-74	10-16-61	W	F	II
8	140	Burroughs Rd.	10,800		**	Conserv. 10-74	8-17-56	1/2W	F	II
8	144	Burroughs Rd.	270,072		**	Gen. Gov.	5-8-00	W	F	II
8	145	Burroughs Rd.	35,962		**	Gen. Gov.	5-8-00	W	F	II
8	188	Audubon Rd.	9,600		**	Gen. Gov.	7-16-57			II
8	191	Audubon Rd.	3,200		**	Gen. Gov.	10-3-68		F	II
8	193	Audubon Rd.	1,500		**	Gen. Gov.	6-6-75	W	F	I
8	194	Burroughs Rd.	1,000		**	Gen. Gov.	7-16-57	W	F	I
8	195	Burroughs Rd.	3,600		**	Gen. Gov.	6-21-83		F	I
8	197	Audubon Rd.	3,200		**	Gen. Gov.	12-28-59			II
8	204	Parkview Terr.	1,600		**	Gen. Gov.	10-17-61			II
8	209	Audubon Rd.	69,696		**	Gen. Gov.	12-23-53	1/2W	F	I
8	221	Edgewood Terr.	8,000		**	Gen. Gov.	7-16-57	1/4W	F	I
8	224	Edgewood Terr.	3,200		**	Gen. Gov.	4-2-93			I
8	230	Edgewood Terr.	1,600		**	Gen. Gov.	12-23-53			I
8	234	Homestead Terr.	4,800		**	Gen. Gov.			F	I
8	235	Homestead Terr.	3,200		**	Gen. Gov.	6-10-88			I

TOWN OWNED LAND (cont'd)

Map	Parcel	Location	Approx. Area Sq.Ft.	Primary Use	Tax Land by Possession**	Controlled Supervision	Date Acquired	Wetlands	Flood Zone	APD Zone
8	237	Homestead Terr.	3,200		**	Gen. Gov.	12-23-53			I
8	238	Homestead Terr.	4,800		**	Gen. Gov.	12-1-59			I
8	239	Homestead Terr.	3,200		**	Gen. Gov.	11-19-62	1/2W	F	I
8	240	Homestead Terr.	13,600		**	Gen. Gov.	8-17-56	1/4W	F	I
8	241	Homestead Terr.	43,560		**	Gen. Gov.	8-24-62	3/4W	F	I
8	242	Homestead Terr.	1,600		**	Gen. Gov.	6-10-88			I
8	243	Homestead Terr.	1,600		**	Gen. Gov.	12-4-63	W	F	I
8	245	Pleasant View Terr.	15,200		**	Gen. Gov.	10-1-69	W	F	I
8	257	Oakhurst Terr.	2,470		**	Gen. Gov.	12-19-58		F	I
8	258	Oakhurst Terr.	6,275		**	Gen. Gov.		1/2W	F	II
8	260	Pinecrest Rd.	24,000		**	Conserv. 10-93	12-23-53	W	F	II
8	261	Pinecrest Rd.	6,400		**	Conserv. 10-93	11-26-65	W	F	II
8	266	Lakeside Blvd.	4,400		**	Conservation	10-1-68		F	II
8	267	Wildflower Terr.	1,600		**	Conserv. 10-93	6-6-75	W	F	II
8	268	Wildflower Terr.	8,000		**	Conserv. 10-93		W	F	II
8	271	Oakhurst Terr.	2,100		**	Gen. Gov.	10-31-2000	W	F	II
8	272	Oakhurst Terr.	3,200		**	Gen. Gov.	10-31-2000	1/2W	F	II
8	274	Oakhurst Terr.	1,600		**	Gen. Gov.	6-6-75		F	II
9	1	Old Andover Rd.	32,000		**	Gen. Gov.		W	F	I
9	4	Wolf Rd.	9,337		**	Gen. Gov.				II
9	5	Wolf Rd.	29,100		**	Gen. Gov.	3-23-46	1/2W	F	I
9	13	Old Andover Rd.	31,707		Gift	Water Dept.	9-6-84	3/4W	F	I
9	19	Old Andover Rd.	18,443		**	Gen. Gov.	10-17-67	1/4W	F	I
9	21	Phyllis Terr.	7,279		**	Gen. Gov.	2-25-00			I
9	35	Nuska Trail	3,500		**	Gen. Gov.				I
9	36	Nuska Trail	6,100		**	Gen. Gov.	11-4-60			I
9	37	Nuska Trail	6,100		**	Gen. Gov.	6-6-75	1/4W		I
9	45	Livingston Rd.	2,423		**	Gen. Gov.	7-16-57			I
9	57	Old Andover Rd.	4,550		**	Gen. Gov.	12-23-53			I
9	58	Old Andover Rd.	2,500		**	Gen. Gov.	10-16-61			I
9	64	Highland Terr.	43,560		**	Gen. Gov.	8-17-56	1/4W	F	I
9	65	Lakeside Blvd.	627,264	Pumping Station		Water Dept.		W		I
9	79	Lakeside Blvd.	13,500		**	Water Dept.				I
9	103	Pleasant View Terr.	3,200		**	Gen. Gov.	6-6-75			I
9	109	Lakeside Blvd.	3,100	w/bldg.	**	Gen. Gov.	1-26-87			I
9	110	Highland Terr.	3,200		**	Gen. Gov.	11-10-59			I
9	111	Highland Terr.	8,000	cabin/shed	**	Gen. Gov.	11-19-62			I
9	129	Rahnden	91,375	Prot. of water supply	Emin. Dom.	Gen. Gov.	8-31-72	W		I
9	130	Rahnden	2,369	Prot. of water supply	Emin. Dom.	Gen. Gov.	8-31-72			I
9	131	Old Andover Rd.	1,463		**	Gen. Gov.				I
11	5	Andover Town Line	7,500		**	Gen. Gov.	5-11-94	W		I
11	6	Main Street	52,272		Gift	Conservation	11-15-96	W	F	I
12	38	Off Hillside Rd.	16,000		**	Conserv. 3-70	5-22-61			II
12	44	Travelled Way	1,050		**	Conserv. 3-70	1-18-65		F	II
12	45	Travelled Way	1,400		**	Conserv. 3-70	8-1-63		F	II

TOWN OWNED LAND (cont'd)

Map	Parcel	Location	Approx. Area Sq.Ft.	Primary Use	Tax Land by Possession**	Controlled Supervision	Date Acquired	Wetlands	Flood Zone	APD Zone
12	46	Travelled Way	2,000	Common Land	**	Conserv. 3-70	1-18-65		F	II
12	47	Batchelder Ave.	11,350			Conserv. 3-63	6-27-62		F	II
12	52	Batchelder & Travelled Way	1,000			Gen. Gov.				II
12	55	Batchelder Ave.	7,650			Conserv. 3-63	6-27-62			II
12	66	Brooks Road	5,000			Gen. Gov.	3-30-98			
12	107	Chester St.	5,044			Gen. Gov.	9-26-02			
12	142	Travelled Way	8,500			Conserv. 4-74	7-26-74		F	II
12	149	Main St.	1,500			Gen. Gov.	10-17-67			II
12	150	Main St.	1,500			Gen. Gov.	10-17-67			II
12	151	Main St.	1,500			Gen. Gov.	10-17-67			II
12	152	Main St.	3,000	Playground	**	Gen. Gov.	10-17-67			II
12	153	Main St.	1,500			Gen. Gov.	10-17-67			II
13	51	Burroughs Rd.	7,500			Conservation		1/2W		II
13	55	Burroughs Rd.	117,612			Recreation		W		I
13	57	Wildflower Terr.	19,200			Conservation	9-21-59	W	F	II
13	58	Wildflower Terr.	37,600			Conservation	7-16-57	W	F	II
13	59	Pincrest Terr.	3,200			Conserv. 10-93	10-17-67	3/4W	F	II
13	60	Burroughs Rd.	204,372			Conservation			F	II
13	61	Burroughs Rd.	16,960			Conservation	6-5-58	1/2W		II
13	65	Birch Rd.	8,000			Conservation	6-5-58	3/4W	F	II
13	68	Burroughs Rd.	37,200	Town Hall	**	Conservation		W	F	II
13	70	Burroughs Rd.	14,900			Conserv. 10-93	12-4-68		F	II
0	71	Burroughs Rd.	348,480			Conservation	6-1-95			
13	81	Burroughs Rd.	10,500			Gen. Gov.	2-29-88			
13	85	Elma Rd.	5,000			Gen. Gov.	10-12-82			II
13	86	Elma Rd.	5,000			Gen. Gov.	10-14-69			II
13	93	Elma Rd.	7,500			Gen. Gov.	5-30-75	W		II
13	99	Wilma Rd.	6,000			Gen. Gov.	6-6-75			II
13	100	St. Theresa St.	130,680			Conserv. 10-94	11-20-44		F	II
13	101	St. Theresa St.	52,272			Gen. Gov.	8-26-99			
13	121	Sullivan Rd.	21,350	Walkway	**	Gen. Gov.	6-6-75	W		II
13	127	Off St. Theresa St.	108,900			Conservation	3-14-74	W	F	II
13	131	Wilma Rd.	6,875			Gen. Gov.	10-7-69	1/4W		II
14	12	North St.	457,380			Gen. Gov.				II
14	88	Patley Rd.	10,238			Gen. Gov.	10-7-64			
14	119	Main St.	27,000			Gen. Gov.	2-13-98		F	
14	131	North St. to Rogers Cir.	1,702			Gen. Gov.	1-24-64	3/4W		II
14	132	Oak Ave.	16,500			Gen. Gov.	11-3-80			
14	140	Main St.	1,500			Gen. Gov.	10-17-67			
14	141	Main St.	4,750			Gen. Gov.	10-17-67			
14	142	Lowell Rd.	457,380	Rita Mullin Rec. Park	**	Recreation	11-20-96	1/2W		
15	57	Off Abbott Rd.	209,088	Little School	**	Gen. Gov.	5-26-76		F	
17	1	Oak St.	3,963			Gen. Gov.	11-4-60			
17	16	Barberry Rd.	583,704			School Dept.		W		
17	28	Southwick Rd.	8,000			Gen. Gov.	8-28-59	W		
17	29	Southwick Rd.	5,000			Gen. Gov.	8-28-59			

TOWN OWNED LAND (cont'd)

Map	Parcel	Location	Approx. Area Sq.Ft.	Primary Use	Tax Land by Possession**	Controlled Supervision	Date Acquired	Wetlands	Flood Zone	APD Zone
17	53	Nutter Rd.	14,400	w/bldg.	**	Gen. Gov.	5-3-89			
18	30	Park St.	5,216			Gen. Gov.	6-26-76			
18	32	Fairview Ave.	2,100			Gen. Gov.	5-26-76			
18	33	Fairview Ave.	2,100			Gen. Gov.				II
18	34	Fairview Ave.	8,400			Gen. Gov.				II
18	35	West St.	4,200			Gen. Gov.	3-25-97			II
18	36	West St.	4,200			Gen. Gov.	4-3-01			II
18	37	Fairview Ave.	29,540			Gen. Gov.		1/4W		II
18	38	Fairview Ave.	65,340			Gen. Gov.		1/4W		II
18	39	Fairview Ave.	1,960			Gen. Gov.	3-30-98			II
18	40	Bellevue Ave.	36,885	Parking - Hillview	**	Gen. Gov.	8-17-56	1/4W		II
18	44	Bellevue Ave.	60,984			Gen. Gov.		1/2W		II
18	47	Off Sandspur Lane	874,685			Conserv. 10-74		W	F	
18	71	Park & South	2,650			Gen. Gov.				
23	33	Main St.	718,740			Conserv.				
23	69	Off Park St.	87,120			Conserv. 10-93	10-14-70	W	F	
23	71	Park St.	56,628			Conserv. 10-75		W	F	
23	73	Main St.	41,191			Conserv.	3-7-84			
25	98	Main St.	1,250			Gen. Gov.	10-17-67			
26	14	Plymouth St.	31,338			Gen. Gov.	12-1-94	3/4W		
26	77	Off Francis St.	12,600	Water Tower	**	Gen. Gov.	2-1-83			
26	80	Off North Street	47,916			Gen. Gov.	9-11-97			II
26	97	Main St.	500			Gen. Gov.	10-17-67			
27	14	Off North St.	13,500			Water Dept.				
27	49	North St.	6,150,672			Gen. Gov.	2-25-88			
27	60	North St.	40,001			Gen. Gov.				
28	50	Shady Hill Dr.	92,783			Gen. Gov.	4-26-96	W	F	II
28	51	Shady Hill Dr.	40,100			Gen. Gov.	3-11-85	3/4W	F	II
28	55	Central St.	21,630			Gen. Gov.	1-31-01	1/2W	F	II
29	1	Central St. Rear	1,154,340			Conserv.	2-1-82	1/4W	F	I,II
29	2	Central St.	570,636	Pumping Station	Gift	Water Dept.		W	F	I
29	4	Central St.	71,003	Little Lg. Field	Gift	Conserv. 10-75		1/4W		I
29	5	Central St.	505,296			Recreation	10-78	1/2W		I,II
30	47	Anthony Rd.	200,376			Conserv. 10-93	12-15-58	W	F	II
31	59	Westward Circle	202,554			Conserv. 11-68	6-6-68	W	F	II
31	78	Westward Circle	223,898			Gen. Gov.	3-11-85	W	F	II
31	84	Westward Circle	1,924			School Dept.				II
32	32	Appian Way	20,900			Gen. Gov.				II
32	35	North St.	2,000			Gen. Gov.	5-26-76	W		II
33	33	Garden Rd.	39,000			Gen. Gov.				
33	34	Garden Rd.	52,272			Gen. Gov.		1/2W		
33	49	Cherry St. & Brdwy.	152,460	Access Hood Schl.	**	Conserv. 10-94		1/2W		
33	51	Cherry St.	95,832			Conserv. 10-94	12-28-59	1/2W		
33	52	Cherry St.	19,200			Conserv. 10-94	10-1-68			
33	53	Cherry St.	41,600			Gen. Gov.	8-8-95			

TOWN OWNED LAND (cont'd)

Map	Parcel	Location	Approx. Area Sq.Ft.	Primary Use	Tax Land by Possession**	Controlled Supervision	Date Acquired	Wetlands	Flood Zone	APD Zone
33	54	Fourth St.	19,200		Gift	Gen. Gov.	8-18-00	1/2W		
33	55	Fourth St.	169,884		**	Conserv. 10-94	12-28-59	1/4W		
33	58	Broadway St.	34,100		**	Conserv. 10-94	10-1-61	1/2W		
33	59	Third St.	78,408		**	Conserv. 10-94	10-1-61	3/4W		
33	61	Fourth St.	19,600		Gift	Gen. Gov.	8-18-00	1/2W		
33	63	Third St.	20,200		**	Gen. Gov.	12-28-59	1/2W		
33	74	Second St.	18,700		**	Conserv. 10-94	2-29-88			
33	75	Appian Way	87,120		**	Conserv. 10-75	12-31-53	W		
33	76	Appian Way	22,400		**	Conserv. 10-75				
33	77	Second St.	22,400		**	Conserv. 10-94	10-19-62			
33	80	Second St.	32,200		**	Conserv. 10-94				
33	81	Second St.	18,200		**	Conserv. 10-94	2-29-88			
33	83	Second St.	17,050		**	Conserv. 10-94		W		
33	88	Appian Way & First St.	18,200			Conserv. 10-75				
33	92	Forest St.	19,000			Gen. Gov.	5-5-54			II
33	93	Forest St.	9,600		**	Gen. Gov.	2-29-88			
33	108	First St.	17,050		**	Conserv. 10-94	2-16-82	1/4W		
34	26	Cameron Rd.	10,500		**	Gen. Gov.	11-4-60			
34	27	Cameron Rd.	5,500		**	Gen. Gov.	9-26-02			
34	28	Cameron Rd.	15,000		Gift	Conservation	9-29-95			
34	30	Cameron Rd.	10,756		Gift	Conservation	9-29-95			
34	32	Cameron Rd.	5,000		**	Gen. Gov.				
34	33	Cameron Rd.	5,000		**	Gen. Gov.	5-30-75			
34	34	Cameron Rd.	5,000		**	Gen. Gov.	10-15-56			
34	39	Pilgrim Rd.	34,865		Gift	Gen. Gov.		1/2W		
35	13	Harris Rd.	10,500		Gift	Conservation	9-29-95			
35	15	Harris Rd.	5,000		**	Gen. Gov.	12-4-63	3/4W		
35	16	Harris Rd.	35,215		**	Gen. Gov.	8-17-56	1/4W		
35	18	Harris Rd.	5,000		**	Gen. Gov.	8-17-56			
35	19	Harris Rd.	7,500		**	Gen. Gov.	11-23-64			
35	20	Harris Rd.	2,500		**	Gen. Gov.	9-21-59			
35	22	Harris Rd.	5,000		**	Gen. Gov.	9-22-49			
35	23	Harris Rd.	10,000	w/bldgs.	**	Gen. Gov.	3-18-83			
35	28	Quimby Rd.	21,000		Gift	Gen. Gov.	12-28-82			
35	29	Quimby Rd.	10,000		**	Gen. Gov.	6-6-75			
35	30	Quimby Rd.	10,000		**	Gen. Gov.	7-16-57			
35	31	Quimby Rd.	10,625		**	Gen. Gov.	9-20-73			
35	33	Quimby Rd.	5,000		**	Gen. Gov.	10-17-61			
35	37	Stevens Rd.	10,000		**	Gen. Gov.	6-6-75			
36	33	Park St.	21,917	No. Parish Park		Gen. Gov.				
36	34	Park St.	36,777	Rt. 62 Reconst.	DPW Purchase	Gen. Gov.	7-24-98	W	F	
36	35	Chestnut & Central Sts.	161,172			Conservation	10-31-41		F	
36	60	Park St.	130,680			Conserv. 3-67		W	F	
36	61	Chestnut St.	3,388,968	Soccer/Conserv.		Conserv. 4-69	1-31-69	W	F	
36	65	Chestnut St.	530,561	Pub.Wks. Garage		DPW		3/4W	F	
36	66	Chestnut St.	2,025,104	Pub.Wks. Garage		DPW	1-3-69	1/4W	F	

TOWN OWNED LAND (cont'd)

Map	Parcel	Location	Approx. Area Sq.Ft.	Primary Use	Tax Land by Possession**	Controlled Supervision	Date Acquired	Wetlands	Flood Zone	APD Zone
37	1	Cedar St.	640,332		**	Gen. Gov.	10-19-61	W	F	
39	11	Cedar St.	696,960		Gift	Conserv. 10-75	3-31-77	1/4W	F	
39	12	So. Chestnut St.	518,364		Gift	Conserv. 11-63	12-16-68	1/2W	F	
39	13	Off Haverhill St.	679,536		Gift	Conserv. 4-66	3-13-67	W	F	
40	56	Chestnut St.	41,600	Harmony Vale		DPW				
40	67	Haverhill St.	235,224	Land swap with RMLD		Gen. Gov.	12-1-99	1/4W		
41	25	Central St.	107,240		**	Gen. Gov.	10-7-68	1/4W		
41	26	Central St.	42,600			Recreation	10-27-93		F	
41	27	Central St.	20,005			Recreation	10-27-93		F	
41	28	Central St.	20,000			Recreation	10-27-93		F	
41	29	Central St.	1,717,261			Recreation	10-27-93	1/2W	F	
41	30	Central St.	20,002			Recreation	10-27-93		F	
41	31	Central St.	20,000			Recreation	10-27-93		F	
41	32	Central St.	20,000			Recreation	10-27-93		F	
41	33	Central St.	20,000			Recreation	10-27-93		F	
41	35	Central St.	210,548	Former Wheeler Prop.		Recreation	12-2-97	5%W		
41	52	Off Haverhill St.	74,052	Part of Ipswich Riv. Pk.		Recreation		W	F	
41	53	Off Haverhill St.	182,952			Conserv. 12-63	9-22-64	W	F	
41	69	Central St.	16,258			Recreation	10-27-93			
42	3	Park St.	32,100			Conservation	1-7-59		F	
42	8	Park St.	235,660			Conservation	8-14-79		F	
42	10	Central St.	13,750			Conserv. 3-63			F	
42	12	Park St.	41,541		**	Gen. Gov.	5-2-97	W	F	
42	23	Off Central St.	28,798		**	Gen. Gov.	10-7-68			
42	35	Park St.	36,900			DPW				
42	63	Bliss Rd.	12,825		Gift	Gen. Gov.	11-21-00	1/4W		
42	64	Bliss Rd.	5,000			Gen. Gov.	10-1-69			
42	66	Bliss Rd.	10,000		**	Gen. Gov.	3-21-88			
42	72	Sherman Rd.	20,266		**	Gen. Gov.	10-29-87			
42	76	Ivy St.	12,500		**	Gen. Gov.	2-29-87			
42	80	Ivy St.	6,250		**	Gen. Gov.	10-29-87			
42	86	Meade Rd.	3,375		**	Gen. Gov.	6-6-75			
42	107	Bliss Rd.	5,000		**	Gen. Gov.				
42	123	Dodge Rd.	7,500		**	Gen. Gov.	6-1-79			
42	125	Devons Rd.	7,500		Gift	Gen. Gov.	1-28-98			
42	128	Devons Rd.	5,000		**	Gen. Gov.	3-18-83			
42	140	Park St.	1,851,300	Jr-Sr High School		School Dept.				
42	144	Off Tower Hill Rd.	58,137	Trans. to School 10/94	**	School Dept.				
42	145	Park St.	185,130		Gift	Conservation	8-25-82	W	F	
42	152	Dodge Rd.	5,000		**	Gen. Gov.	8-17-56			
43	2	Maple Rd.	15,500		**	Gen. Gov.	6-6-75	1/4W		
43	7	Lee Rd.	9,375		**	Gen. Gov.	8-26-99			
43	8	Lee Rd.	6,250		Gift	Gen. Gov.	10-1-69			
43	9	Lee Rd.	9,375		**	Gen. Gov.	10-28-66	1/2W		
43	13	Juniper Rd.	6,250		**	Gen. Gov.	8-26-99			

TOWN OWNED LAND (cont'd)

Map	Parcel	Location	Approx. Area Sq.Ft.	Primary Use	Tax Land by Possession**	Controlled Supervision	Date Acquired	Wetlands	Flood Zone	APD Zone
43	31	Oakdale Rd.	17,000			Gen. Gov.				
43	32	Oakdale Rd.	3,000			Gen. Gov.	12-4-63			
43	33	Oakdale Rd.	4,375		Gift	Conservation	5-1-75			
43	34	Oakdale Rd.	3,000			Gen. Gov.	12-24-54			
43	35	Oakdale Rd.	3,522		Gift	Conservation	5-30-75			
43	39	Oakdale Rd.	14,250			Gen. Gov.		1/4W		
43	46	Oakdale Rd.	42,425		**	Gen. Gov.	2-1-82			
43	47	Oakdale Rd.	82,764		**	Conservation	11-19-62			
43	53	Juniper Rd.	27,409		**	Gen. Gov.	3-30-98	1/8W		
43	78	Tower Hill Rd.	30,000	Water Tower		Water Dept.				
44	1	Oakdale Rd.	23,004		**	Gen. Gov.	2-1-82			
44	2	Oakdale Rd.	4,250		**	Gen. Gov.				
44	3	Oakdale Rd.	22,920		**	Conserv. 10-94	3-1-82			
44	6	Maple Rd.	78,408		**	Conserv. 10-94	11-19-62	3/4W		
44	8	Cherry St.	20,700			Gen. Gov.				
44	11	Cherry St.	20,400		**	Conserv. 10-94	12-24-54			
44	13	Cherry St.	15,400		**	Conserv. 10-94	12-23-53			
44	15	Brean Ave.	17,500		**	Gen. Gov.				
44	16	Cotter Ave.	34,800		**	Conservation	12-23-53			
44	18	Cherry St.	19,200		**	Conservation	4-26-71			
44	19	Fourth St.	56,628		**	Conserv. 10-94	10-16-61	1/2W		
44	21	Magnolia St.	69,696		**	Conserv. 10-94	8-17-56	W		
44	23	Third St.	33,300		**	Conserv. 10-75	12-8-53			
44	24	Lloyd Rd.	348,480		**	Conserv. 10-94	1-15-88			
44	50	Cherry St.	38,400			Conserv. 10-94				
44	98	Off Towerhill Rd.	182,952		Gift	Conservation	5-25-95			
45	7	Janice Ave.	20,090		**	Gen. Gov.	4-13-74	1/2W	F	II
45	37	Haverhill Street	135,907		Gift	Conservation	5-30-95			
45	90	Colonial Hill Dr.	20,634	Future Road Exp.	Gift	Gen. Gov.	4-11-85			
46	5	Haverhill St.	668,411	Hood School		School Dept.		1/4W		II
46	55	Westward Cir.	9,564	Access - Hood Schl.		School Dept.			F	II
46	67	Haverhill St.	116,741	Trans. to School 10/94	**	School Dept.	3-30-84		F	II
49	5	Cottage St.	152,460		**	Conservation	10-14-70	3/4W		II
49	8	Cottage St.	32,000		Gift	Conservation	4-24-92			
50	9	Off Marblehead St.	78,408		**	Gen. Gov.	5-11-94			
50	10	Off Marblehead St.	191,664		Gift	Conservation	4-23-81			
51	2	Off Haverhill St.	209,088	Ives Mem. Park		Conserv. 10-70				
51	3	Off Haverhill St.	230,868	Ives Mem. Park		Conserv. 3-69				
51	5	Off Darrell Dr.	270,072		**	Conservation	8-11-93	1/2W	F	
51	18	Arlene Dr.	10,334		Gift	Conservation				
52	32	Off Haverhill St.	121,968	Ives Mem. Park		Conserv. 3-69				
52	53	Foley Dr.	93,645		**	Conservation	5-8-00	3/4W	F	
52	74	Lillian Dr.	2,735	Access - Straw. Acres		Conserv. 6-67				
52	80	Foley Dr.	2,500	Strawberry Acres		Conserv. 6-67				
52	81	Foley Dr.	40,000		**	Gen. Gov.	11-1-95			

TOWN OWNED LAND (cont'd)

Map	Parcel	Location	Approx. Area Sq.Ft.	Primary Use	Tax Land by Possession**	Controlled Supervision	Date Acquired	Wetlands	Flood Zone	APD Zone
52	86	Off Duane Dr.	158,994	Strawberry Acres		Conserv. 6-67		1/4W		
52	91	Strawberry Ln.	97,580		Gift	Gen. Gov.	7-21-89			
52	93	Lindor Rd.	22,840		**	Gen. Gov.	6-19-96	1/2 W	F	
53	37	Off Haverhill St.	12,800		**	Gen. Gov.	10-16-61	W		
54	3	Park & Haverhill St.	148,104	Third Mtg. House		Gen. Gov.	10-29-1857			
54	4	Park St.	370,260	Batchelder School		School Dept.				
54	33	Willow St.	121,968			Conserv.	7-27-84	W	F	
54	34	Willow St.	169,884			Conserv. 4-66	7-20-66	W	F	
54	35	Willow St.	10,000		**	Conservation	10-17-67	W	F	
54	39	Willow St.	222,156		Emin. Dom.	Gen. Gov.	12-14-71	W	F	
54	40	Willow St.	15,700		**	Gen. Gov.	4-26-71	W	F	
54	41	Willow St.	69,696		**	Gen. Gov.	10-7-68	1/2W	F	
54	42	Willow St.	13,600		**	Gen. Gov.	5-8-74	W	F	
54	43	Willow St.	36,879		**	Gen. Gov.	3-18-77	W		
54	44	Willow St.	20,034		**	Gen. Gov.	3-18-77	W		
54	52	Elm St.	21,848			Conservation	2-9-95			
54	53	Elm St.	23,499		Gift	Conservation	2-9-95			
54	54	Elm St.	24,792		Gift	Conservation	2-9-95			
54	55	Elm St.	21,360		Gift	Conservation	2-9-95			
54	63	Bow St.	100,188	Putnam Hse./Barn		Gen. Gov.				
54	65	Bow St.	15,077	Weeks Bldg.		Gen. Gov.				
54	67	Park St.	12,150	Flint Library		Gen. Gov.				
54	68	Park St.	10,146	Library Parking		Gen. Gov.				
54	126	Park St.	104,544	Police & Fire Sta.		Gen. Gov.				
54	135	Peabody St.	131,116	Elderly Housing		Housing Auth.				
54	139	Park St.	1,970	Isl. in front of Lib.		Gen. Gov.				
55	15	Off Parsonage Ln.	226,512		**	Gen. Gov.	11-8-91			
55	23	Off Railroad Ave.	40,655		**	Gen. Gov.	3-30-98	1/2W		
55	24	Railroad Ave.	7,013		**	Gen. Gov.	9-21-59			
55	74	Railroad Ave.	7,500		**	Gen. Gov.	2-13-90	W		
56	62	Off Chestnut St.	457,380	Trans. from Sch.-10/97		Gen. Gov.	7-29-57			
57	12	Off Crestwood Cir.	278,784		**	Conservation	4-26-63	W	F	
57	15	Off Crestwood Cir.	261,360		**	Conserv. '80	10-23-70	W	F	
57	16	Off Crestwood Cir.	261,360		**	Conserv. 3-62	6-27-62	W	F	
57	71	Off Hickory Ln.	47,916		**	Gen. Gov.	11-22-82	1/2W	F	
57	93	Off Hickory Ln.	87,120		**	Gen. Gov.	5-26-76	W	F	
60	17	Park St.	117,612	Playing Field		Recreation				
60	42	Rust Ln.	274,428	Reserved Open Space	**	Gen. Gov.	8-25-2000	1/3W		I
61	69	Williams Rd.	10,900		**	Gen. Gov.	3-18-83			
62	37	Off Elm St.	15,000		**	Conserv. 10-75	10-23-70	W	F	
68	10	Malm Rd.	4,950		**	Gen. Gov.	6-10-88			
68	13	Malm Rd.	10,405		**	Gen. Gov.	3-18-83			
68	17	Forest St.	2,550		**	Gen. Gov.	12-24-54		F	
69	2	Forest St.	5,375		**	Gen. Gov.	1-31-01			I
69	5	Forest St.	11,600		**	Gen. Gov.	10-19-61	1/2W	F	

TOWN OWNED LAND (cont'd)

Map	Parcel	Location	Approx. Area Sq.Ft.	Primary Use	Tax Land by Possession**	Controlled Supervision	Date Acquired	Wetlands	Flood Zone	APD Zone
70	1	Essex St.	649,044		**	Gen. Gov.	8-5-74	W	F	
70	8	Lincoln St.	5,500		**	Gen. Gov.	12-24-59			
70	14	Lincoln St.	12,000		**	Gen. Gov.	7-15-57			
70	24	Wood St.	13,500		**	Gen. Gov.	10-17-61	1/2W	F	
70	27	Essex St.	5,000		**	Gen. Gov.	5-30-75	W	F	
70	28	Essex St.	277,784		**	Gen. Gov.	5-7-80	W	F	
70	29	Middleton Town Line	3,200		**	Gen. Gov.	5-30-75	1/2W	F	
70	30	Essex St.	2,500		**	Gen. Gov.	4-30-75		F	
70	32	Swan Pond	31,500		**	Gen. Gov.	11-1-95	1/2W		
72	3	Adams St.	14,000		**	Conserv. 10-75	5-30-75		F	
72	20	Swan Pond	17,500			Conserv. '80				
72	23	Swan Pond Rd.	43,560			Conserv. 9-84				
72	33	Near Swan Pond	209,088		**	Conservation	5-12-71	3/4W		
72	35	Swan Pond	2,918,520			Gen. Gov.				
73	1	Swan Pond	1,960,200			Conserv. 4-75	2-27-76	1/4W		
73	2	Swan Pond	522,720			Conservation	12-1-71	1/2W		
73	3	Swan Pond	400,752			Conserv. 4-71	2-27-64	W		
73	4	Swan Pond Rd.	1,367,784			Conservation		3/4W		
73	16	Swan Pond Rd.	43,560	(orig. part of 72/12)		Conservation	8-19-76			
74	69	Swan Pond Rd.	1,651,000	Poss. School Site		School Dept.	2-6-59	1/4W		
74	90	Swan Pond Rd.	96,268			Housing Auth.				
74	93	Shasta Dr.	82,764			Gen. Gov.	12-12-89	1/2W		
75	2	Elm St.	10,000		**	Gen. Gov.	5-26-76		F	
75	3	Elm St.	74,052		**	Gen. Gov.	10-19-67	1/2W	F	
75	37	Elm St.	1,285,688	Cemetery		Gen. Gov.				
75	50	Off Elm St.	3,150		**	Gen. Gov.	5-26-76		F	
75	53	Off Bigham Rd.	34,000		**	Gen. Gov.	5-30-75	W		
75	72	Elm St.	4.6 A		Gift	Conservation	5-6-02			
77	4	Nahant St.	28,000			Conserv. 3-67	11-29-67	W	F	
77	8	Riverside Dr.	12,500		**	Gen. Gov.		W	F	
77	11	Off Nahant St.	8,750		**	Conserv. 10-93		W	F	
78	6	Riverside Dr.	4,650			Conservation			F	
78	9	Riverside Dr.	11,850		**	Gen. Gov.		W	F	
78	10	Riverside Dr.	8,650			Conservation		W	F	
78	19	Riverside Dr.	9,250		**	Gen. Gov.	3-18-77	W	F	
78	22	Riverside Dr.	8,650		**	Gen. Gov.	1-18-95			
78	26	Lynn St.	19,650		**	Gen. Gov.	12-24-59			
78	27	Lynn St.	4,500		**	Gen. Gov.	1967		F	
78	54	Elm St.	63,598			Gen. Gov.		3/4W		
80	3	Swan Pond	1,840,410			Conserv. 5-71	9-1-72	1/4W		
80	5	Adams St.	13,373							
81	1	Adams St.	30,187		**	Conservation				
81	4	Adams St.	56,628			Conserv. '80				
81	12	Swan Pond	522,720			Conserv. '80		1/4W		
81	15	Swan Pond Rd.	392,040		Gift	Gen. Gov.	9-1-72	1/4W		

TOWN OWNED LAND (cont'd)

Map	Parcel	Location	Approx. Area Sq.Ft.	Primary Use	Tax Land by Possession**	Controlled Supervision	Date Acquired	Wetlands	Flood Zone	APD Zone
82	1	Swan Pond	74,052		**	Gen. Gov.	6-9-94	3/4 W		
85	11	Off Green Meadow	346,738			Conserv. 10-74		W		
85	17	Off Green Meadow	7,500		Gift	Conservation	10-28-82	W		
85	18	Middleton Town Line	3,375		Gift	Conservation	10-18-82			
85	57	Gillis Drive	6,554		**	Gen. Gov.	4-1-96			
86	1	Middleton Town Line	11,000		Gift	Gen. Gov.	10-17-67			

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

The Board of Registrars, in conjunction with the Town Clerk's Office, continued their work throughout this past year in preparation and readiness for all election and town meeting activity.

Registrar Frances M. Connors chose not to seek re-appointment to the Board at the conclusion of her term in April. Mrs. Connors has served the Town in this capacity for 25 years – since 1978. She has always proven to be accessible to the Board and an asset to the Clerk's Office in this capacity. I personally have known and worked with Mrs. Connors for over twenty-two years, and her "retirement" from the board will certainly leave a void. We would like to acknowledge her commitment during her many years of dedicated service to the Town. Gail A. Parker was appointed to the Board in April to fill this vacancy.

Census, election and town meeting registration and activity continues to be managed through the State-mandated Voter Registration Information System (VRIS), including certifying signatures of registered voters for town election nomination papers, as well as citizens petitions for local town meetings. Administrative Assistant Gail A. Parker and Carol A. Ducrow of the Town Clerk's Office work diligently in conjunction with the Board of Registrars in their continued efforts towards maintaining all aspects of voter/census activity under this system.

Election activity for 2003 included the Town Election on May 6th (which had 46% voter participation), and a special election on November 18th (which had 26% voter participation) for a Proposition 2-1/2 debt-exclusion question regarding renovations and an addition to the L. D. Batchelder School.

Regular Town Meetings were held in April and October, both of which concluded in one session. The April Town Meeting included an eminent domain taking to create a park at Eisenhaures Pond. The October Town Meeting included an article authorizing the sale of town-owned land to fund this eminent domain taking, as well as an article for an addition and renovations to the L.D. Batchelder School, which then necessitated the special election.. Complete text of Town Meeting Minutes and Election results appear in the Town Clerk's Records section elsewhere within this Annual Report.

Once again we would like to recognize the diligence, dedication and reliability of our election workers as a key factor in the election process. The election workers unsparingly give of their time and abilities when called upon, and are tireless in their efforts on behalf of the election process and the Town. This office is truly appreciative of and dependent on them, and acknowledges their great contribution to the Town.

There are still four political "PARTIES" however the Massachusetts Green Party has changed its name to the Green-Rainbow Party. The American First Party has been added to the list of political "designations" having been established in April of this year, increasing the number of political "designations" to fifteen. The current political parties and designations are as follows: DEMOCRATIC, REPUBLICAN, LIBERTARIAN and GREEN-RAINBOW PARTY are

the political "PARTIES," and America First Party, American Independent Party, Conservative Party, Constitution Party, Green Party USA, Interdependent 3rd Party, Natural Law Party, New Alliance Party, New World Council, Prohibition Party, Rainbow Coalition, Reform Party, Socialist Party, Timesizing-Not-Downsizing and We The People are the fifteen political "Designations."

At this time, "active" voter enrollment in North Reading indicates a slight decrease of registered voters from this same time last year. This is expected to increase in the coming year as the Presidential Election nears when many new voters are inclined to register for this election in particular, and when many of the 904 "inactive" voters will be re-activated. A break-down of "active" registered voters in North Reading as of December 31, 2003 follows:

DEMOCRATS:	2,331
REPUBLICANS:	1,531
LIBERTARIAN:	56
GREEN-RAINBOW PARTY:	7
Interdependent 3 rd Party:	5
Rainbow Coalition:	2
Reform:	2
Green Party USA:	2
Unenrolled:	<u>4,471</u>
TOTAL "Active" Voters:	8,407

As always, the Board of Registrars wishes to express their appreciation to Carr's Stationers as they continue to allow us to use their establishment as a drop-off location for the annual Town Census. Residents continue to utilize this location, as well as the Town Library and the Town Hall as census drop-off locations.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Stats, Town Clerk, CMC/MMCA/CMMC
for the Board of Registrars:

Eleanor T. Jean

Charles T. Faneuff

Frances M. Connors (*retired 4/03*)

Gail A. Parker (*a/o 4/03*)

COUNCIL ON AGING

The Council on Aging in the year 2003 has gone through many changes. First as Director of Elder Affairs and Chairman of the C.O.A. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our long-serving member Brigitte Kubierschky for her 25 years of dedicated service as Secretary. Brigitte a quiet, gentle lady with patience, understanding, and commitment has served with great dignity and always considered a privilege to serve on a committee that was dedicated to the elders of North Reading. Having served 25 of my 40 years on this committee, I wish her good health, happiness and good luck in all her future endeavors.

In January 2003, we were very fortunate to employ a new staff member, Mark Meehl who is doing a wonderful job at the center and he has a very professional way with information and assistance to our elderly.

The Edith O'Leary Senior Center is open to all 60 years of age and older for information and referral, tax assistance, hot lunch program, meals on wheels, beano, card games, exercise classes, day trips, along with regular van transportation to doctor's appointments, shopping, and many other assistances are provided. Meals on Wheels are delivered in all kinds of weather to home-bound shut-ins with a friendly greeting by Brenda Bugden. Our tax abatement program continues to go along very well with Senior Citizens working in every department throughout the Town.

Our health clinics with V.N.A. with Kathy Hayes, R.N. in service and Dr. Bart Kellerman were very well attended and greatly appreciated.

Our new van was a great addition to the department driven by Walter Ladd who took early retirement after 17 years of service to the elderly. We all wish him good health, good luck, and happiness for many years to come. His position has been filled by Robert Noseworthy who has been the substitute driver for many years and is doing a great job.

In August, the sudden death of Georgette (GiGi) Benjamin our Nutrition Manager shocked us all. She is sadly missed. Her friendly smile, kind assistance to the elderly shall long be remembered. May she rest in peace. Her position has been filled by Mary Rollins who volunteered daily at the Center helping GiGi with the lunch program.

In the middle of August, North Reading Residents are invited to a cookout in Wakefield annually by the Loyal Order of Elks and enjoyed and appreciated by our Senior Citizens.

November is always a memorable month because of the annual Thanksgiving Dinner with national, State, and local dignitaries in attendance. This year we are especially grateful to the Honorable Representative Brad Jones Jr. and his wife Linda, Honorable Senator Bruce Tarr who sponsored the event along with Co-Sponsors Comcast, Michael Phillips and James Demetri. Master of Ceremonies, Brad Jones Jr. and Mistress of Ceremonies Linda Jones gave such a wonderful stellar performance in coming forward at no expense to the Taxpayer or the Town in order for this event to continue after 31 years of enjoyment for all North Reading Seniors. Words of gratitude are very difficult to express especially for the wonderful tribute they extended to me for my 31 years of Chairing this event in the past.

My sincere appreciation to all the council members for the wonderful retirement party given for me at my "home way from home," the Senior Center. Hosting all seniors made this such a special and memorable occasion of which

I am most grateful. Thank you for your support your thoughtfulness, and all the wonderful memories.

Respectfully submitted,

Edith A. O'Leary
Director of Elder Affairs

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Historical Commission continues on its mission to identify, record, and maintain a current inventory of historic assets of North Reading and to develop and implement a program for the preservation of these assets. With the North Reading Cultural Resources Survey recently completed and copies distributed, action is underway on a Demolition Delay Bylaw to preserve these assets. Restoration upgrade and maintenance work on the Damon Tavern continues. An agreement is being prepared by the Town Administrator for a five year lease of two first floor rooms by the North Reading Historical and Antiquarian Society. The Society had an open house in the Tavern on Saturday, September 20th with a number of invitees including Town Officials and local historians. A student exhibit with data on the Historic Damon Tavern and North Reading Historical information was prepared by the North Reading Eighth Grade Honors Class for display in the Tavern for public viewing. Effort remains underway to install a non-water fire suppression system for the ballroom so that it can be opened to the public.

An original diary by David Damon, dated August 10, 1840, outlining a trip he was taking to Vermont with a stop in North Reading was purchased and is being kept in a secured environment until a safe copy procedure is determined to provide for a public display.

Information was received that a canteen and a diary from December 1776 to May 1777 by Daniel Graves a former resident of 221 Elm Street and a soldier during the revolutionary war was recently evaluated at \$35,000 to \$45,000.

The Commission is working with the Department Of Public Works to ensure that the reconstruction work on Chestnut Street between Central Street and Haverhill Street be undertaken with sensitivity to the Historic nature of the existing neighborhood with its late seventeenth to nineteenth century architecturally distinguished residences. This cooperation and discussion is also on going with the Rt. 62 reconstruction work.

The Commission remains interactive with the Historic District Commission concerning proposed renovations and additions to both the Batchelder School and the Public Safety Building.

Respectfully submitted,

John Davis, Secretary
Christopher Hayden & Patricia Romeo,
Co-Chairmen
Carole Dingman, Vice-Chairman
Mabel DiFranza
Thomas W. Parker
David Osgood

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

This has been another busy year for the HDC. Again, three primary projects continued to command the bulk of the commission's time: the Route 62 project and the proposed renovations and additions to both the Batchelder School and the Public Safety Building, specifically the Police Station.

The Route 62 project surprised the HDC in a few areas. First, we had thought and hoped that depressed wiring would extend across more of the district. Also, we had not expected the poles would be replaced with taller ones. Second, we were caught unaware when the junction boxes on the Common turned out to be much taller than anyone had expected. Dave Hanlon and his department are to be commended for bringing the latter issue immediately to our attention.

We were introduced to a new architectural firm for the Batchelder project early in the year, Tappe Associates. We held many meetings throughout the year with the Elementary School Building Committee. The HDC members hold a broad range of opinions regarding the proposed design and various specific elements of the project. We were in the process of collecting information as the year came to a close. We expect a formal application in January and will likely hold a public hearing before the spring.

We were introduced to a new architectural firm for the police station project as well, TBA Architects. Toward the end of the year, they presented a pleasing design and the HDC has asked for minor modifications. A formal application is expected in early 2004 with a public hearing to follow.

The membership of the HDC was expanded to include two alternate members. This will enable more people to share the load as we address the varied needs of our charge. Also, alternate membership is a good way for new members to become familiar with our processes.

Basic rules and regulations were drafted and approved. These will be added to as needed. The basic design guidelines in our bylaw will also be expanded as needed. The chair established a process to determine voting by alternate members when full members are absent. This will be reviewed annually as needed. Chris Skelly, Director of Local Government Programs of the Massachusetts Historical Commission led a workshop to help us get started. This work will continue in 2004.

We approved a sign to grace the Putnam House similar to the one at the Damon Tavern. The sign was not constructed in 2003. We hope, however, to have it made and installed in 2004. The HDC also anticipates a final application regarding the McLane Building additions initially proposed in 2002.

Certificates of Appropriateness were issued as follows:

Batchelder School playground equipment

Extension of approval for the modular classrooms

Updated approval for the Route 62 project

Replacement of roof on Third Meetinghouse

Respectfully submitted,

Howard Solomon, Chairman
Mane Keane, Vice Chairman
Happy DiFranza, Clerk
John Davis
Carole Dingman
Thomas Parker
Joe Saia
Ellen Glew, Alternate
Pat Romeo, Alternate

CULTURAL COUNCIL

The North Reading Cultural Council (NRCC) had a successful year, thanks to the dedication and commitment of its volunteers,

For calendar year 2003, the appointed Members and Officers were:

Chair	Robert String, 18 Marblehead Street
Treasurer	Sherri Moda, 45 Spruce Road (term expired Aug. 2003)
	Grace Curley, 10 Laurel Road (began Nov. 2003)
	Lisa Fox, 125 Chestnut Street (began Nov. 2003)
	Ralph Hannan, 77 Haverhill Street (term expired Aug. 2003)
	Brett Johnson, 66 Lowell Road (term expired Apr. 2003)
	David McSweeney, 66 Lowell Road (term expired Aug. 2003)
	Jillian Reed, 3 Pleasant Street (began Nov. 2003)
	Mary Street, 379 Park Street (began Nov. 2003)
	Andrew String, 18 Marblehead Street (began Nov. 2003)

There were two official administrative meetings of the NRCC during 2003.

Grants Awarded for FY2004

The primary purpose of the NRCC is to function as the Local Cultural Council (LCC) that makes grant recommendations to the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC). For FY2004, North Reading was appropriated \$2,000 by the MCC. This money was granted to individuals and organizations participating in cultural activities in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences. The final grants for calendar year 2003, approved and funded by the MCC for FY2004, were:

- \$150 to the Flint Memorial Library for the concert and storytelling event "Under One Sky: Stories and Songs"
- \$400 to the J.T. Hood Parents Association for an in-school presentation of "Poetry Alive"
- \$350 to the North Shore Youth Symphony for a spring concert at the O'Leary Senior Center
- \$300 PASS grant to the J.T. Hood School to attend the Tsongas Industrial History Center

- \$350 PASS grant to the J.T. Hood School to attend the Museum of Our National Heritage
- \$200 PASS grant to the Batchelder School to attend the Peabody Essex Museum
- \$250 PASS grant to the Batchelder School to attend the North Shore Music Theatre.

Scholarship Fund

The NRCC Scholarship Fund, in memory of Peter Colford, administered through the Trustees of the Trust, awarded one scholarship of \$250 to North Reading High School Senior Nicole Mayne.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert String
Chair, North Reading Cultural Council

FOURTH OF JULY COMMITTEE

Due to the Fourth of July Committee being a non-profit organization and is not funded by the town, the funding for the July 4th Fair comes from donations and fundraising conducted by the Fourth of July Committee.

Because the Fourth of July Committee could not get the funding it needed to have the July 4th event, the Committee regretfully had to cancel the July 4th 2003 event.

The Fourth of July Committee is still meeting and planning on the July 4th event for the year 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

Warren Pearce, Chairman
Jo-Anna Purnell, Vice Chairman
Yvonne Sorensen, Treasurer
Gail Feeley, Corresponding Secretary
Bette Pearce, Recording Secretary
Edith O'Leary
Gloria Mastro
Ellen Manning
Kathy Aresco
Mario Aloisi

FLINT MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The library is a member of the Merrimack Valley Library Consortium (MVLCC), which provides the online catalog that allows patrons to search for materials and request items from home, school or office. Budget constraints prevent the library from being fully staffed. We are currently operating with a part-time Children's Librarian, a part-time Head of Circulation, and reduced support staff hours.

Highlights of the Year:

- One of the library's ongoing goals is to promote community. The town-wide book discussion, North Reading Reads, was the result of a partnership between the Flint Memorial Library and the North Reading High School Library. Residents read and met to discuss *Travels with Charley in Search of America* by John Steinbeck. The project concluded with "The Last Chapter," an evening of readings and musical interludes performed by Agatha Marano and high school students.
- Other library events included author visits, a magic show, a concert of children's folk songs, a puppet show, a holiday floral design demonstration, a carol sing by the North Reading Chorale, and a quilt exhibit and talk presented by Library Trustee, Elizabeth Habich.
- The annual children's summer reading program, "Read! Think! Create!" concluded with a well-attended art show, which had over 80 submissions. Awards were given in three categories.
- The Bookworms changed its name to the Friends of the Flint Memorial Library. The new board members elected in June are making an effort to increase participation. The Friends provide ongoing advocacy as well as financial support.
- The library received a grant of \$7,500 for Customer Service from the Library Service and Technology Act, under the Institute of Museums and Libraries, administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. The funds will go towards staff development, marketing, and web site re-design. A grant from the Northeast Massachusetts Regional Library System (NMRLS) allowed the library to update its collection of job-seeking materials, and a grant from the Childcare Circuit, Community Partnerships funded a children's performer and new books for the Parents' Shelf in the Children's Room.
- Two long-time Trustees stepped down this year. John A. Tobin, whose term began in 1985, was honored by a table, made possible by the Gift Fund, presented to the library in his name. Diane Norris served for 32 years, beginning in 1971. Both Trustees contributed a great deal during their years on the board. They led the effort to move the library to this historic building and they oversaw its re-opening in 1991.
- It takes many people to operate a library. We are grateful for the daily support of volunteers, many of whom participate in the Senior Citizen

Tax Rebate Program. High school students and other interested residents also volunteered their time this year.

- I thank the Trustees and the staff for their ongoing efforts on the library's behalf.

www.flintmemoriallibrary.org

Collection Development:

Items Added: 1/03-12/03 Total: 7,169
 Print: 6,067
 Audio/Visual: 706
 Total of All Materials as of 12/03: 72,761

Materials Circulated:	FY'01	FY'02	FY'03
Adult/YA:	28,870	30,134	28,503
Children:	43,436	43,254	38,223
Audio/Visual:	16,901	24,152	25,431
Museum Passes:	138	156	133

Interlibrary Loans:	FY'01	FY'02	FY'03
Borrowed:	2,772	4,247	4,566
Loaned:	2,667	5,761	8,648

Registered Borrowers, as of 6/30/03: 13,015

Hours of Operation

Monday 1 p.m. to 8 p.m.
 Tuesday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
 Wednesday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
 Thursday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
 Friday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (September – Mid-June)
 Closed Sundays

Respectfully submitted,
 Helena Minton, Library Director

Library Trustees

Diane Norris, Chairman
 David Cores, Vice Chairman
 Lorraine Sheehan, Secretary

Elizabeth Habich
 Aurora Morse
 Mary Rubenstein

Protection of Persons and Property

NORTH READING FIRE DEPARTMENT

PERSONNEL

Chief of Department
 Edward O'Brien

Deputy Chief
 James Brady

Secretary
 Helen Gray

Captains

David Harlow	Richard Nash
William "Bill" Warnock	Richard Harris

Firefighters

William "Bud" Warnock	Donald Cooke
Joseph Marotta	Thomas Harris
Andrew Nichols	Kevin Carter
David Lee	Barry Galvin
Jonathan Burt	Herbert Batchelder
Michael Tannian	Donald Stats

Public Safety Mechanic/Call Firefighter
 Mark Fransen

Call Department

Robert Noseworthy	Paul Hardiman
James Pothier	Jeff Strong
Hartnell Bartlett	Andrew Shaw
Brian Deshaies	Jerry Ouellette
Eric Pepper	Christopher Lynch
Vincent Zarella	Jeffrey Graves

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

North Reading Fire Department provides for the protection of life, property, the environment plus other community resources and/or assets from harm by means of natural and/or manmade hazards through prevention, mitigation, preparation, response and recovery.

OUR RISK MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

1. We will begin our response on the assumption that we can protect lives and property.

2. We will risk our lives a lot, if necessary, to protect savable lives.
3. We will risk our lives a little, and in a calculated manner, to protect savable property.
4. We will not risk our lives at all to protect lives or property that are already lost.

NEW EQUIPMENT

The department placed into service through purchases, donation and or Federal Reallocation Programs several pieces of apparatus and trailers. Also, department members spent hundreds of hours in strategic planning sessions to design what is now our pumper template.

To that end the Department took delivery in the fall of 2002, of the first newly designed engine. It has incorporated design features that include, the same cab, engine, transmission, and chassis as the recently purchased ladder truck. It was placed into service in January of this past year.

Two additional trailers were received by the department via donations, one will be used for hazardous materials mitigation and a larger heavy duty one will be used for technical rescue services. This will include, but not limited to, confined space, rope, trench and structural collapse. This trailer and recently received training will provide the capacity for our members to respond to and safely resolve rescues and/or recoveries in situations that otherwise would have put our members into a position of standing by until properly trained personnel from an other community arrived or placing themselves into unnecessary danger, without the benefit of proper equipment and or training. Both of those trailers were placed into full service this past winter.

A 1976 military "deuce and a half" has been retrofitted for off-road firefighting. This vehicle was provided through the federal reallocation program and other than parts and labor was of no cost to the Town. This "new" vehicle was placed into service over this past spring and summer.

The newly purchased ambulance, known as Rescue 2, was placed into service this past fall as was a new chief officer's car.

SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT & TRAINING

With the department having placed into service three new trailers which carry special rescue and Hazardous Materials response equipment. All of the members of the Department have continued training in the deployment and use of these trailers through State, Federal and Military sponsored programs.

ACTIVITIES 2002

This past year the department responded to 1,916 calls for assistance from the department. This department responded to a reported 300 fires or explosions of some size and/or alarms sounding in buildings last year.

Of those 300 were 121 were actual fires of buildings, room and contents, heating equipment, electrical appliances, etc. inside buildings. An additional

554 responses were made to alarms sounding in buildings, or hazardous conditions that needed immediate attention by the fire department. Also, included in these 554 incidents were 24 hazardous materials incidents that required fire department intervention.

Emergency Medical calls totaled 1,062 of our responses. Of that 743 produced a transporting situation to a hospital.

PUBLIC FIRE EDUCATION AND SAFE (STUDENTS AWARENESS OF FIRE EDUCATION) GRANT PROGRAMS

The department, as always, continues to be active with children in the school K-eighth grade, in an effort to instill fire safe behavior in our next generation. This is accomplished through the cooperation of the school system and participation of several local businesses. We encourage prearranged Fire House visits by the various community groups, such as Boy and Girl Scout organizations.

I am pleased to report that, primarily through the efforts of Captain Richard Harris a grant of \$1,400, down from \$4,390 last year, was awarded through the Fire SAFE (Student Awareness & Fire Education) program. Although drastically less than last year the award of this grant will allow our fire safety educators to train our children in fire safe behaviors

Several times a year an outreach program is delivered to our elder population in cooperation with Elder Affairs Director Edith O'Leary and North Reading Fire Department. Mrs. O'Leary was paramount in securing funding through a grant from Reading Municipal Light Company. The program provides continuing efforts in updating smoke and carbon monoxide detectors through the grant and the installation of the same, by the firefighters, in those households that apply through Elder Affairs. Within the parameters of this program several fire safety programs, designed for elders, has been delivered. Again, through a collaborative effort with Elder Affairs Director Edith O'Leary.

JUVENILE FIRE SETTERS INTERVENTION PROGRAM

Through Middlesex County District Attorney Martha Coakley's Office this Department participated with the Middlesex Juvenile Fire Setters Intervention Program for children up through age 16. Each year, several children are referred into the program. This program includes screening interviews and fire safety educational interventions. Also available is access to referral services for further treatment when necessary. This is a proven and effective collaborative program that both the Fire Department and Police Detective Unit works within.

TRAINING

The last of the training from Duke Energy and Marinetimes Gas Company regarding the new high pressure transmission line has been received. Through funding specialized training in areas of Confined Space, Trench, and Technical Rope Rescue. Also, gas emergencies specific to this and other major gas transmission lines has been received.

Through funding from both the State and the US Postal Facility continued to participate in programs that provide specialized training and equipment which supplement area Hazardous Material Response Teams and local fire department members in responses from the everyday threat to Weapons of Mass Destruction.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TRAINING

The other aspect of our training is the continued education and re-certification of the Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT). The training and continuing education is coordinated by Captain Dave Harlow and OEMS instructor Captain Bill Warnock. This process provides the firefighters with an extremely high level of training which directly translates to the highest quality of service. The community can be confident that those who need the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system are served by one of the best in the Commonwealth.

In closing, as always, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the community support this department has always enjoyed. It is important that the community understand that their support is crucial to the morale of the members of this department. On their behalf, I would like to thank the public for this support.

I would also like to thank all the various departments that help us to meet our mission and make our daily work load a bit easier to carry. Included are the Town Administrator, DPW, Financial Division, and as always special thanks to the North Reading Police Department.

I respectfully submit this report,

Edward A. O'Brien
Chief of Department

NORTH READING POLICE DEPARTMENT

PERSONNEL

Administration

Henry J. Purnell, Chief of Police
Lieutenant Edward W. Nolan, Executive Officer and Commander
of the N.E.M.L.E.C. S.T.A.R.S. Unit
Lieutenant Edward J. Hayes, Night Shift Commander
Ms. Laura Parow, Secretary

Sergeants

Ernest Henry, Day Shift
Daniel Jones, Day Shift
Lawrence Tremblay, Night shift
Joseph Thibodeau, Night Shift
Sergeant Mark Zimmerman, Night Shift
Sergeant Kevin Brennan, Night Shift

Patrol Officers

Bruce Donle, ret. 3/03	Roger Wulleman
Bruce Heerter	John Morrison
James McCormack	Anthony Morlani
Scott Tilton	Michael McAuliffe
Paul Dorsey, Jr.	Derek Howe
Joseph Encarnacao	Michael LeBlanc
Thomas Hatch	Sean O'Leary
Keith Lamont	Dana Rowe
Thomas Encarnacao	Kevin Donle
David DiFraia	

Detectives

Thomas Romeo	Michael Murphy
Jodi Gerardi	

Crimes Committed and/or Reported and Calls For Service January 1 through December 31, 2003

Crimes Against People

This category includes, but is not limited to, the following crimes:

Anthrax Scares	5
Assault	23
Child Abuse and Neglect	4
Child Custody Disputes	6
Civil Law Disputes	21
Domestic Abuse Offenses	201

Missing Persons, Child	16
Missing Persons, Adult	7
Overdoses/Suicides	12
Harassing Telephone Calls	40
Harassment	17
School Threats	5
Threats	24
Threats, Bomb	2
Trespass	13
Weapons, Assault	6
Stalking	1
Sexual Violence Assaults	2
Rape	1
Robbery	3

Note: C.I.U. is investigating on the "heroin epidemic" that has directly and/or indirectly negatively impacted many families and businesses in North Reading.

Crimes General, Includes violations of State Law and Town By-law

This category includes, but is not limited to, the following:

Arson	1
Breaking & Entering	66
Home Invasions	5
Larcenies	193
Larceny – Identity Theft	33
Counterfeiting – Frauds	9
Disturbances	1,184
Robbery	2
Stalking	2
Suspicious Activity	408
Alarms Total	698

Break Down:

Gun Law Violations	3
Illegal Dumping	21
Hazards	146
Narcotics	55
Cyber-Crimes	4
Animal Control Calls	391
Town By-laws	14
Warrants, WMS	56
Terror Related Crimes	11
Municipal Property	5
School Buildings	29
Commercial	292
Residential	367
Vehicles	5

estimated to be the "tip of the iceberg"

Miscellaneous Calls For Service

This category includes, but is not limited to, the following:

Assists To NRFD	772
Mutual Aid	92
NEMLEC	28
911 calls	1,889*

544 Transferred to Fire/EMS, the remainder handled by the Police. This figure doesn't reflect other emergency calls made to seven digit lines. '02 figures.

911 hang-ups	155
Assists Town Hall	229
Assists School Dept.	40
Assists DPW	59
Assists Post Offices	24
Intelligence Gathering	455

Motor Vehicle Traffic

Stops	1,575
Selective Enforcement	93
Motor Vehicle Accidents	676
Disabled Vehicles	198
Repossessions	17

TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE 10,796

Note: Does not include officer-initiated activities.

Arrests/Station Adjustments for 2002

Adults	995
Hearings/Summons	424
Adjustments, youth	152
Protective Custody	17

REVENUES GENERATED BY POLICE ACTIVITY/PROGRAMS 2003

GRANTS RECEIVED TO DATE	\$ 2,148,590.00
Education Incentive Reimbursement to date ...	1,416,747.00
Accident & Crime Reports	1,800.00 7/1-12/31/03
Administrative Fees	3,888.00 7/1-12/31/03
False Alarms Fines	1,450.00 7/1-12/31/03
Woburn District Court	
Probation Program	N/A
Fines, criminal offenses	N/A
Fines, motor vehicle	N/A
Permits & Firearms Licenses	18,480.00
228 Permits & Licenses	
Auctions/Work Permits	100.00 7/1-12/31/03

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION UNIT

Functions: Investigation of major crime and accidents, preparation and prosecution of minor crime, by-law violations and traffic infractions. Also, police intelligence gathering and analysis and active participation in drug task forces are major unit activities.

<u>Case Type</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Cleared</u>	<u>Open</u>
Assault & battery	10	7	3
Breaking and entering	21	9	14
Forgery	6	6	0
ID Theft	4	4	0
Drugs, general	10	10	4
Marijuana	15	15	0
Cocaine	7	7	0
Heroin	12	12	50
Harassment	6	4	2
Fraud	4	3	1
Firearms	1	0	1
Larceny	35	25	10
Suspicious Actions	4	4	0
Shoplifting	4	4	0
Stolen MV	10	9	1
Hate Crimes	2	1	1
Arson	3	1	2
Assist FD	12	10	2
Robbery	3	3	0
Threats	5	3	2
Warrants	7	7	0
Sudden Deaths	11	11	0
Vandalism	2	2	0
School Investigations	15	6	4

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

This year, the Building Department issued a total of 648 building permits, 28 more than last year. There were 50 new home permits, 7 more than last year.

	<u>Permits</u>	<u>Fees</u>
New Homes	50	\$ 139,594.00
Other Permits	598	<u>137,183.00</u>
Total Building		\$ 276,777.00
Total Department		\$411,859.00

The Building Department fees were adjusted upward on March 3, 2003, as a result, the Building Department collected \$89,953.00 in fees over last year's total.

Respectfully submitted,

James DeCola
Inspector of Buildings
Zoning Enforcement Officer

GAS INSPECTOR

There were two hundred and thirty-two (232) gas permits issued by this department in 2003. \$10,692.00 was turned over to the Town Treasurer.

Approximately 412 inspections and re-inspections were made by me and my assistant, Essam Kader, during the year. I responded to 9 carbon monoxide complaints and 4 fire related calls.

Call hours for inspections or information are from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Monday-Friday at (781) 233-8675. Permits will be issued at the Building Inspection Office, Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

James Diozzi
Gas Inspector

PLUMBING INSPECTOR

There were two hundred and fifty (250) plumbing permits issued for work being done this year. \$42,203.00 was turned over to the Town Treasurer.

Approximately 487 inspections and re-inspections were made by me and my assistant, Essam Kader during the year.

Call hours for inspections or information are from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Monday-Friday at (781) 233-8675. Permits will be issued at the Building Inspection Office Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

James Diozzi
Plumbing Inspector

ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR

The Electrical Inspection Department had its busiest year ever in 2003. A total of 520 permits were issued.

A total of \$77,836.00 was collected for these permits and turned over to the Town Treasurer.

As the Electrical Inspector I performed a total of approximately 1570 inspections. We issued 55 permits for new houses, 10 permits for new commercial/industrial buildings. Permits were included for new services, service upgrades, home additions, garages, security systems, swimming pools, Jacuzzi, septic systems, school modular, and many other electrical related issues.

I was called to assist the North Reading Fire Department on 36 occasions for emergency services and fire related problems. I also responded to 14 weather related electrical breakdowns.

Applications for electrical permits are available at the building department inspectional office which is located in town hall. I am available to be contacted for inspections by calling evenings between 6:00 and 7:00 p.m. at 978-664-4828 and on Saturday mornings. Michele Mawn is available at the inspection office to discuss permits and fees, call 978-664-6040.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph G. Gigante
Electrical Inspector

SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES

I hereby submit my report as Sealer of Weights and Measures for the Town of North Reading from January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2003. I have inspected, sealed, adjusted, or condemned a total of three hundred and forty two (342) measuring units. Fees totaling \$4,351.00 were turned over to the Town Treasurer and receipts were received for same.

Respectfully submitted,

Mel Peck
Inspector of Weights & Measures

BOARD OF HEALTH

Gary T. Hunt continued as Chairman of the Board, with Michael Ricci and Pamela Vath, as members. Martin Fair, RS, C.H.O., continued as Health Agent/Director of Public Health, and Susan Doherty, Administrative Assistant.

Karl Berg was nominated by the Board as Animal Inspector and appointed by the Department of Food and Agriculture. Jerry Berg was appointed as his assistant. The Inspector of Animals conducted inspections of animals and their living conditions at 31 sites.

The Board contracted with Ernest Vieira, RS, for semi-annual inspections of 75 food establishments.

The Visiting Nurse Association of Middlesex East continued to provide community health services which include follow up on communicable diseases, blood pressure clinics for the elderly, Mantoux Testing for retired citizens working in the schools, immunization of students, as well as Flu Clinics. The Board also provides any necessary VNA assistance and supplies to the school for clinics, and testing.

The Board of Health passed a Smoking Regulation prohibiting smoking in restaurants.

The East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project performed larval mosquito control by helicopter Bti Application in the spring, of approximately 378 acres. There were further adult mosquito control aerosol applications throughout the summer.

There were eleven cases of Lyme Disease reported.

West Nile Virus surveillance continued this year. In June, approximately fifteen hundred catch basins were baited with larvacide by DPW personnel.

The following number of animals were permitted:

Ducks	11	Geese	28	Dairy Cattle	3	Horses	155
Ponies	1	Goats	4	Chickens	1,700	Ferrets	35
Sheep	5	Turkeys	2,650	Pea & Guinea Hens			60

The Board received several requests for emergency permits to trap beavers/breach dams two were granted.

The following numbers of doses of biologics were distributed during the year:

DTAP	IPV	MMR	TD	DT	HIB	HEP-B	HEPA	FLU	PPV-23	PCV-7
300	200	120	375	30	195	120	0	360	90	200

During the year, the Board performed the following reviews and issued the types and number of licenses and permits listed below:

New Sewage Systems	47
Food Service	79
Sewage System Repairs	68
Soil Tests	117
Total Plans Reviewed	175
Semi-Public Pools	4
Massage Therapist	15
Installers	62
Mobile Home Parks	2
Septage Haulers	15
Animal	31
Rubbish Haulers	7
Burial	54
Title V Certifications	26 Failed/124 Passed
Tanning	3
Recreation Camps for Children	2
Tobacco Permits	16
Well Permits	15

Total fees collected during the year were \$55,553.70.

Education

NORTH READING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OVERVIEW

The School Committee is charged with the responsibility to develop policies and a budget to support the quality of education provided to the children within the public schools of North Reading. Toward that end, the Committee is committed to the implementation of the School Department's Strategic Plan 2000 and the mission of the public schools.

The Mission of the North Reading Public Schools is to educate all students by providing a safe learning environment which challenges and encourages them to be thinking, creative and responsible individuals who are confident and committed to excellence, service, and life-long learning.

GOALS

The School Committee established four major goal areas to direct its work in 2003: Policy, Budget, Communication, and Strategic Planning. Each of these goals is supported by one or more objectives which provide direction for the attainment of each goal.

Goal I Policy: The School Committee will establish and maintain clearly written, student-centered policies which are consistent with our philosophy as well as state and federal mandates.

1. To continue with the process of systematic policy review with a focus on policies related to school safety and school budget and finance
2. To develop and implement policies which are student-centered and consistent with Education Reform
3. To ensure that School Committee policies and regulations are communicated effectively to students and parents.

Results: One of the fundamental responsibilities of the School Committee is to establish sound policies and regulations that govern the educational practices in our schools. During the past year, work continued with the review of policies related to school finance and the conversion of the Policy Manual to an electronic format. A new policy on "Medications" was developed with the assistance of the Nurses and School Physician, Dr. Leann Lesperance. The Middle School Handbook was reviewed and revised.

Goal II Budget: The School Committee will develop a budget which allows the school system to meet its educational goals.

1. To update the Capital Budget Plan
2. To successfully fund the FY04 Budget
3. To review the budgetary long-term needs and resources to support school facilities.

Results: The School Committee worked closely with the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee in the development of the FY04 Budget and Capital Improvement Plan. The original budget proposed by the School Committee was designed to meet the Committee's Budget Goals including: *Implement*

the strategic plan insofar as possible, Maintain commitment to school building needs plan; Consider all potential revenue sources. Complete negotiations. Identify program improvement or extraordinary cost items that have long-term budget implications, Attempt to restore reasonable class sizes, Continue to keep pace with enrollment growth, Support improvements to the core curriculum, technology and staff development. Enhance services to students, parents and the community and Support inadequately funded education reform mandates as possible.

Unfortunately, the severe limitations in revenue at both the state and local level resulted in the approval of a budget that fell far short of the funds needed to support quality education.

The FY04 Budget of \$16,294,622 represented a 0.3% increase over FY03. Consequently, the School Department was unable to restore positions cut previously or to add needed positions to address enrollment increases. Staff reductions in teaching (2.6), custodial (1.0) and secretarial (0.4) areas along with reductions in curriculum support and professional development were made. Additionally, increases were seen in the athletic and bus user fees and a student activity fee was implemented in grades 6-12. The budget was also supported through full day kindergarten tuitions. Increases in class sizes were witnessed at all grades throughout the district and many classes exceeded thirty at the High School. The FY04 Budget will support negotiated contracts for all employee groups.

Voters approved the following capital budget projects for the School Department in FY04: Technology Plan (\$100,000), Furniture Replacement (\$20,000). Voters also approved funding for the renovation and addition to the Batchelder School (\$15,738,810) and for the purchase and installation of modular classrooms at the Middle and High Schools (\$1,750,000).

While the School Department's budget is in compliance with state-mandated funding under Education Reform, the per pupil expenditures continue to fall well below the state average. The lack of financial resources was cited as a significant concern in the NEASC Accreditation Report. Coupled with uncertainties of Chapter 70 funding from the state and continued increases in student enrollment, the School Committee remains concerned about the ability to continue to provide quality education in North Reading. To prepare for the FY05 Budget, the Committee authorized the organization of a School Finance Strategies Committee to assist in the communication of budget needs.

Goal III Communication The School Committee will work to enhance communication with the various customers which it serves.

1. To more actively involve the School Councils within the school system
2. To increase communication with parents, residents and various community groups

Results: The School Committee continued to work cooperatively with all segments of Town Government. The School Committee continued to encourage the work of the School Councils, Athletic Boosters, Music Boosters, Parent

Associations and the Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) in the support of our schools. Each of the School Councils presented the annual School Improvement Plan at a School Committee Meeting. The Technology Plan was reviewed and presented to the Finance Committee and the Police Department participated in the newly formed At Risk Behaviors Task Force. Parents also were active participants in the Principal Search Committees at the Hood and High Schools.

Goal IV Strategic Planning The School Committee will establish an overall educational plan and provide the framework and environment which will support the success of this plan.

1. To develop a comprehensive system of district accountability including benchmarks
2. To review the Middle School philosophy, practices, programs and scheduling
3. To enhance the use of technology in the schools
4. To implement curriculum and instructional practices which are consistent with Education Reform, the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks and sound educational practices

Results: The School Committee continues to support the implementation of the School Department's *Strategic Plan 2000*. A format for benchmarking the Strategic Plan was developed and the Strategic Plan Progress Reports were added to the School Committee agendas. The Committee continued to work closely with the Elementary Schools Building Committee to address the Batchelder School. The schematic designs for the renovations and additions were completed and voters approved the \$15.7 million project. Batchelder students will be relocated to the Central School in Stoneham during the two year building project. Modular classrooms (4) were installed at the Hood School and work is underway in the installation of modular classrooms at the Middle (4) and High School (6). The Committee also continued to support improvements in curriculum, technology, special education, and professional development and approved new textbooks (Middle School math and science). Three year contracts were finalized with all employee groups. The Technology Plan was updated and a Middle School Review Task Force was organized. Finally, the High School NEASC accreditation visit occurred in May and the High School received the highest rating of "continued accreditation."

Town Meeting Action and Special Elections

Annual Town Meeting At the Annual Town Meeting the Committee requested and the voters approved the FY04 Budget of \$16,294,622. Voters also appropriated \$1,750,000 for the purchase and installation of modular classrooms for the Middle and High School.

October Town Meeting Voters approved the funding of the renovations and additions to the Batchelder School (\$15,738,810) as well as capital projects for technology (\$100,000) and furniture (\$20,000).

Special Election (November): Voters approved the debt exclusion vote for the renovations and additions to the Batchelder School.

School Committee Recognition

The School Committee recognized the participation of Kathryn McCarthy (Class of 2003) who served as Student Representative to the School Committee and to Mrs. Patricia Colella who completed her term as School Committee member.

School Committee Membership and Special Projects:

In May 2003, Mr. Gerald Venezia was re-elected to a three year term and Mrs. Nicole Davis was elected to her first term on the School Committee. School Committee officers included: Gerald Venezia, Chair; Stephen Van Beaver, Vice-Chair; Nicole Davis, Secretary; Stephen Jervey, Legislative Representative; and Maureen Vacca, Liaison to Support Groups. Mr. Venezia was reappointed to the Elementary School Building Committee and Mr. Jervey was reappointed to the Secondary Schools Building Committee. In June, Sabrina Giannattasio was re-elected to a two year term as the Class of 2004 Student Representative to the School Committee and in September, Stephanie Colella was elected as Student Representative (Class of 2006) to the School Committee joining Andrew Lee (Class of 2005 Representative), Sarah Switchenko (Class of 2004, Member-at-Large), Steve Stafford (Class of 2004, Member-at-Large).

School Committee Members actively participated in the following special projects:

- Elementary Schools Building Committee (Mr. Venezia)
- Policy Sub-Committee (Mrs. Vacca, Mr. Venezia, Mrs. Davis)
- School Safety / At Risk Behavior Committee (Mr. Van Beaver, Mrs. Vacca)
- High School Principal Search Committee (Mr. Jervey, Mrs. Colella)
- Finance Planning Team (Mrs. Colella, Mr. Jervey, Mrs. Vacca)
- School Finance Strategies Committee (Mr. Van Beaver, Mr. Jervey)
- Athletics Sub-Committee (Mrs. Colella, Mr. Venezia, Mrs. Vacca)
- Special Education Parent Advisory Council (Mr. Jervey)
- Contract Negotiations (Mrs. Colella - teachers, Mr. Jervey - teachers, Mr. Venezia - paraprofessionals, Mrs. Vacca - custodians, Mr. Van Beaver - administration)

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald Venezia, Chairperson
Stephen Van Beaver, Vice-chairperson
Nicole Davis
Stephen D. Jervey
Maureen H. Vacca

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

OVERVIEW

The Superintendent of Schools implements the programs, policies, and budget developed by the School Committee and is responsible for the leadership and management of the School Department. The Annual Report provides an opportunity to note the major district and school accomplishments and events of the year. Despite the significant reductions to funding, the central theme for the past year has been to continue to maintain quality in our schools. At the same time, the federal legislation, *No Child Left Behind*, continues to hold all schools to high standards for performance. All students are expected to demonstrate proficiency in math and reading and educators are held to high standards for quality performance. In North Reading, our staff and students are to be commended for their efforts to reach these goals.

BENCHMARK RESULTS

Student Accountability

- North Reading students continued to perform at a high level on the MCAS tests and our schools are ranked among the top performing school districts
- The district met the mid-cycle "Adequate Yearly Progress" goals in English Language Arts and Mathematics as established under the "No Child Left Behind" Act and the Mass. Dept. of Education.
- The number of students who took Advanced Placement tests increased (41 students and 71 AP exams)
- SAT results remained strong and above state and national levels: average Verbal score of 532 (516 for Mass. and 507 national) and average Math score of 551 (522 for Mass. and 518 for national)
- Percentage of students attending colleges and universities remained high (90%)

Teacher Quality

- Teachers new to the district (32) participated in a series of "New Teacher Forums" and are supported through a Mentor Program
- All teachers met or exceeded state standards for high performance on the "No Child Left Behind" Act and the Mass. DOE

Technology

- North Reading received a substantial donation of computers (35) from Fidelity
- Continued progress made toward the state benchmarks of a 5/1 ratio of students to type A/B computers (North Reading: 6.6 students to 1 computer) and 100% of classrooms connected to the Internet (North Reading: 79% of classrooms with Internet access or 91% access with wireless)
- Full-time Network Engineer appointed

Curriculum and Instruction

- New math program implemented in grades 7-8
- New science program implemented in grades 6-8 with CD-based text
- New standards-based report card developed for grades K-5
- Curriculum guides published at High School
- High School NEASC accreditation visit and report completed
- Full day kindergarten program (tuition-based) implemented

Professional Development

- On-going professional development programs provided to all staff
- District-wide training programs continued in the Collins writing
- Elementary teachers trained in standards-based reporting
- Middle School staff participated in Middle School review using the "Turning Points 2000 / Carnegie Foundation" Model
- Curriculum Chairs trained in teacher observation techniques
- Pupil Personnel Staff trained in new IEP format
- Administrative staff trained in inclusion strategies

Administration

- Carolyn Harris, Interim Director of Curriculum, retired
- Pamela Beaudoin appointed as Director of Curriculum and Technology
- Paul Perry, Hood School Principal retired
- Dr. Thaiadora Katsos appointed as Hood School Principal
- Jon Bernard appointed as High School Principal
- Mary Frances Sawyer retired as Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent
- Anne Lundell appointed as Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

Facilities

- Schematic designs for the renovation and additions to the L.D. Batchelder School completed
- Debt exclusion vote approved (\$15.7 million) for the Batchelder School project
- Batchelder School Relocation Plan approved (to Central School in Stoneham)
- Modular classrooms installed at the Hood (4 classrooms) and Middle (4 classrooms) Schools and site work underway for installation of 6 modular classrooms at the High School
- Sixteen Batchelder and Little School kindergarten students redistricted to the Hood School

Pupil Personnel Services

- Action Plan for the Compliance Audit approved by the Dept of Education
- The Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) completed an active year
- North Reading joined the Northshore Education Consortium for special education

Budget

- The FY03 Budget is managed successfully and a small surplus is used to off-set the deficit in food services
- The FY04 Budget resulted in a decrease in staffing (3.3 positions) with impacts in class size, music, school psychologist, guidance secretary and curriculum support
- Increased user fees were assessed in athletics, bus transportation and student activities
- High School Accreditation Report cited "lack of financial resources" as a significant concern

School Safety

- A new Memorandum of Agreement was signed with the Police and Fire Departments
- A joint task force was initiated to study at risk behaviors in youth
- The DARE program was reinstated in the Middle and High Schools

Communication

- School Committee sub-committees organized in the following areas: policy, school safety, athletics, finance planning team, elementary building committee, and school finance strategies committee
- School Improvement Plans were completed and presented to the School Committee
- Community members participated on School Councils, Parent Organizations, Elementary Building Committee, SEPAC, Principal Search Teams and High School Accreditation Sub-committees
- Staff members were kept informed of district policies and practices through faculty meetings, *Superintendent's Newsletter*, the district web page, staff orientation programs, and the annual distribution of the personnel manual
- Strategic Plan Progress Reports completed
- A Superintendent's Advisory Council developed to improve public relations
- A district-wide Parents' Advisory Council developed to enhance communication between parent groups

Policy

- Policies related to "Medications" were reviewed by the School Physician and nurses and approved by the School Committee
- The formal review of the School Committee's Policy Manual continued with a focus on school finance and budget

SYSTEM-WIDE HIGHLIGHTS OF 2003

- North Reading students showed strong performance on MCAS tests
- 100% of the Class of 2003 passed Math and English MCAS Tests
- Adequate Yearly Progress goals are on-target
- New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) completed high school accreditation and awarded "continuing accreditation" to North Reading High School

- New math and science programs implemented at the Middle School
- Exchange program with the American Nicaraguan School held for the seventh year
- Funding for the Batchelder School project approved
- Staff involved in on-going professional development
- Parent / community participated in new opportunities in schools (finance, communication, public relations and administrative searches)

FUTURE CHALLENGES

- Restore program cuts made during last three years
- Address compliance issues cited in the NEASC report and in special education
- Maximize student competencies with enhanced curriculum and staffing
- Manage the FY04 Budget
- Approve FY05 Budget to meet standards
- Initiate Batchelder School construction project
- Relocate Batchelder School to Stoneham
- Increase funding for education
- Recruit and retain professional staff
- Improve resources for technology and support technology plan
- Implement inclusion strategies in all schools
- Reduce reliance on "User Fees"
- Address the facility needs at the Middle and High Schools

SCHOOL STAFF

The following individuals retired from the School Department in 2003. We recognize and thank these individuals for the outstanding contributions each has made to our students and the North Reading Public Schools.

Ruth J. Begley	Guidance Counselor, High School
Janice M. Butler	Title I Instructor, Hood School
Armelia Cameron	Food Service, Hood School
Ellen M. Casey	Paraprofessional, Middle School
Barbara P. Enos	Head Custodian, Middle School
Elaine L. Finnegan	Paraprofessional, Hood School
Carolyn R. Harris	Social Studies Teacher/Dept. Head, Middle School
	Interim Curriculum Director
Edwina V. Kornechuk	Physical Education Teacher, High School
Janet B. Libby	Paraprofessional, Hood School
Ann L. McTeague	Secretary, Pupil Personnel Services
Joseph E. Perez	Science Teacher, High School
M. Judy Perez	Foreign Language Curriculum Chair, High School
Paul M. Perry	Principal, Hood School
Mary Frances Sawyer	Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent
Barbara A. Scibilia	Paraprofessional, Middle School
Donna S. Shockley	Guidance Counselor, Middle School

As Superintendent, it is a pleasure to work in a school district and community that places such a high value on education. I have the opportunity to work closely with a dedicated and caring staff. As teachers, paraprofessionals, custodians, secretaries, cafeteria workers and administrators, each staff member strives to provide the best for each child.

Respectfully submitted,

David S. Troughton
Superintendent

**NORTH READING
MCAS TESTS OF SPRING 2003
PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS AT EACH PERFORMANCE LEVEL**

	<u>Advanced</u>	<u>Proficient</u>	<u>Needs Improvement</u>	<u>Warning/ Failing (Tested)</u>	<u>Warning/ Failing (Absent)</u>	<u>Proficiency Index</u>	<u>Number of Students Included</u>
ALL STUDENTS							
Grade 3							
Reading	NA	91	8	1	0	97.1	214
Grade 4							
English Language Arts	19	61	19	1	0	93.4	231
Mathematics	26	42	30	2	0	87.2	231
Grade 5							
Science and Technology/ Engineering	35	51	13	1	0	95.2	226
Grade 6							
Mathematics	34	31	24	11	0	82.3	218
Grade 7							
English Language Arts	18	69	12	2	0	95.2	198
Grade 8							
Mathematics	23	33	28	15	0	78.1	183
Science and Technology/ Engineering	8	51	35	8	0	83.5	183
Grade 10							
English Language Arts	25	57	17	2	0	93.1	138
Mathematics	38	40	18	4	0	90.5	137

**NORTH READING PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ENROLLMENT
2003-2004**

	<u>Batchelder</u>	<u>Hood</u>	<u>Little</u>	<u>Elementary</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pre-Kindergarten	-	2*	48**	51	
Ungraded	-	7	10	17	
Kindergarten					
Grade 1	61	100	62	223	
Grade 2	63	91	57	211	
Grade 3	81	87	72	240	
Grade 4	78	84	55	217	
Grade 5	74	76	52	202	
	88	68	73	229	
TOTAL:	445	515	430	1,390	
* Hood School: 2 IEP Students (Full-Day Program)					
** Little School: 13 IEP Students / 36 Typical Students					
Ungraded					
Grade 6	-				
Grade 7	210				
Grade 8	214				
	195				
TOTAL:	619				
Grade 9					
Grade 10					
Grade 11					
Grade 12					
	165				
	197				
	139				
	153				
TOTAL:	654				
Elementary					
Middle School					
High School					
	1,390				
	619				
	654				
TOTAL	2,663				

**NORTH READING
TEN-YEAR ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS**

<u>Grade</u>	<u>2002-03</u>	<u>2003-04</u>	<u>2004-05</u>	<u>2005-06</u>	<u>2006-07</u>	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>	<u>2009-10</u>	<u>2010-11</u>	<u>2011-12</u>
K-5	1,393	1,390	1,394	1,429	1,441	1,403	1,443	1,415	1,423	1,403
6-8	606	619	660	649	655	669	689	725	658	673
9-12	593	654	673	722	716	762	767	767	793	785
TOTAL	2,592	2,663	2,727	2,800	2,812	2,834	2,899	2,907	2,874	2,861

CURRICULUM AND TECHNOLOGY

The Curriculum and Technology Department of the North Reading Public Schools endeavors to engage professionals from each of its learning communities in a collaborative effort to evaluate, revise and redefine curriculum and instruction throughout our district. In order to achieve this we must dedicate time and resources to bring professionals from all levels together to pursue collaborative investigation of best practices and current trends in teaching and learning in order to continue to provide a quality education experience and access for all.

Curriculum & Instruction

North Reading continues to score well on the annual Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS). Results showed that North Reading students are achieving considerably above state standards in the performance levels on each of these assessments.

	<u>District Passing</u>	<u>State Passing</u>
Grade 3 Reading	99%	93%
Grade 4 ELA	99%	90%
Grade 4 Mathematics	98%	84%
Grade 5 Science & Technology/ Engineering	99%	85%
Grade 6 Mathematics	89%	74%
Grade 7 ELA	98%	93%
Grade 8 Mathematics	85%	67%
Grade 8 Science & Technology/ Engineering	95%	69%
Grade 10 ELA	98%	88%
Grade 10 Mathematics	96%	79%

Students who do not pass MCAS in their initial attempt are provided remediation through school year and summer tutorials funded by the Academic Support Services Grant. Students are provided small group instruction driven by student success plans. Additionally, Middle School students identified as "at risk" for failure on the tenth grade exam, also receive tutorial services through the MCAS Academy. Students are identified for this program through our annual review of MCAS results. These programs have proven to be successful. Evidence of this success can be found in the North Reading High School MCAS results of a 98% (ELA) and 96% (Mathematics) for the initial test and a 100% passing rate in both ELA and Mathematics for graduates.

In the fall of 2003 North Reading Elementary Schools began a two-year pilot program for the Standards-Based Report Card. Over a two year period representatives from each elementary school served on the Standards-Based Report Card committee. Their work resulted in a card format and teacher reference manual. Teacher implementation was supported by grant supported

professional development conducted after-school and during early release days. The focus of professional development was driven by teacher requests gathered through surveys. Community support was provided through Fall Parent Forums held at each school and a Guide to Understanding the Report Card that went home as a report card insert. A parent survey is scheduled for January 2004.

Professional Development

Professional development provides learning opportunities for teachers to improve their skills in pedagogy and their knowledge in the content areas. North Reading continues to provide a comprehensive in-house program for all staff. There were over twenty-two courses offered this year such as Special Educator's Book Study, Microsoft Publisher 2000, Grade Quick, Mentor Training, Playground Management, Middle School Social Studies Department History & Social Science Frameworks Impact Study, Cumulative MCAS Analysis and Remediation, Teaching Strategies for a Student-Centered Classroom and Full Day Kindergarten Program Design. Administrators and staff also attended off-site workshops and conferences in order to expand their knowledge base to improve teaching and learning in our schools. New teachers participate in both the Mentoring and New Teacher Forum programs.

The Curriculum Office continues to maintain district-wide initiatives such as the John Collins Writing Program and Differentiated Instruction by providing training to new faculty. In-service release days have provided time for special project work at all levels. The high school focus has been the NEASC evaluation. Middle School has begun its own self-evaluation. And the elementary schools have been focused on preparing and implementing the standards-based report card.

Technology

Integrating technology into teaching and learning is the primary goal of the technology department. In order to achieve this goal, current and reliable hardware needs to be accessible to all students and faculty. This requires a sound infrastructure. In an attempt to improve the quality of the end-user's experience, North Reading Public Schools hired a full-time on-site Network Engineer. Since the addition of the Network Engineer connectivity issues have been resolved in a more timely fashion when they have been local networking issues, thus increasing "up time." In addition to adding a Network Engineer, the Technology Team has been reformed and meets weekly to address hardware, software and networking concerns as well as service and repair issues. The team is comprised of the Network Engineer, the Lead Technology Integration Specialist, the Middle School/Administrative Technology Specialist and the Technicians. In its first four months, the team has accomplished the following:

1. Completed a comprehensive hardware inventory in which quality control numbers were assigned to machines.

2. Established a protocol for reporting and logging technology work requests. Thus allowing us to track the maintenance records of individual machines.
3. Developed a current set of hardware standards to be used when purchasing new computers.
4. Analyzed bids for most cost efficient yet quality based product to be purchased with Technology Warrant funds.

The primary source of funding for the Technology Department is through the Technology Warrant. In addition to the support provided through the Technology Warrant, the school system has received donations from Fidelity and Mitre which provided classroom computers for the high school and allowed for the expansion of the C++ computer lab. Additionally the donation was used to upgrade machines that were designated "C" level by the Department of Education. The replacement of these machines continues to be a priority of the Technology Department.

The Office of Technology continues to support the integration of technology into classroom practice. Under the guidance of the Technology Integration Specialist, we continue to measure our progress in using technology to support learning by the standards set by the Massachusetts Department of Education in the Local Technology Plan and the Recommended Pre K-12 Instructional Technology Standards.

The North Reading School District continues to provide a high quality education for students. It is the role of the Curriculum and Technology Director to provide the leadership that enables the district to maintain this solid foundation currently in place and to expand and extend rigorous and engaging learning experiences for all students. The administration, faculty, and support staff in our schools appreciate the support of the community in our collective and continuous work towards this goal.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela A. Beaudoin
Director of Curriculum and Technology

NORTH READING HIGH SCHOOL

The 2002-2003 school year at North Reading High School continued to be one of many successes. The school continued its partnership with the "Breaking Ranks" program at Brown University and was recognized as a Vanguard School for high achievement in mathematics.

An additional hallmark of North Reading High School is the involvement that students have had in community projects both through senior Government classes and through volunteer participation in school clubs such as "Interact" and the National Honor Society.

In the fall of 2003, students in the School-to-Career program at North Reading High School entered into a mentor/mentee program with employees at IBM located in North Reading. This partnership pairs students and adults in the workplace with the goals of strengthening school and community ties and providing students with practical skills that may help them to perform well in a work environment.

North Reading High School continued its cultural exchange program in 2003 with students at the American School in Nicaragua. The cultural experience and the travel itself were positive educational experiences. In May, members of the class of 2003 traveled with school chaperones to Disney World in Orlando, Florida to participate in Disney's "Grad Night" festivities. Senior students enjoyed the four-day excursion and represented both their school and community admirably.

Our students continue to score well on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) exam. The scores were extremely successful for both the classes of 2003 and 2004. North Reading High School students' MCAS performance ratings continue to meet the standards as established by the Massachusetts Department of Education, an accomplishment of which we are very proud.

In May of 2003, North Reading High School hosted a Visiting Committee of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). The Visiting Committee conducted a thorough review of the educational programs and practices in place at North Reading High School. Their final report, issued in October of 2003, emphasized the very high number of educational successes in place at North Reading High School, and continued the accreditation of the school. Recommendations outlined in the final report highlight the need for continued support in the area of financial resources and facility improvement. Increased support in these areas will help to ensure that students at North Reading High School continue to receive a quality education in a contemporary learning environment.

In June of 2003, ninety-one students in the Class of 2003 received their diplomas. The total percentage of students in the Class of 2003 choosing to further their education was ninety percent.

North Reading High School remains committed to providing the very best educational opportunities for all students. Highlights of individual academic departments through 2003 are as follows:

English/Language Arts

- Students continue to participate in and score well on the Advanced Placement examination
- Students participated in prose and poetry competitions including a celebration of Jack Kerouac

Mathematics

- NRHS has been named a Vanguard Model school for excellence in mathematics
- Students continue to participate successfully in the Massachusetts Association of Mathematics Leagues examinations

Science

- Community representatives, including a physical therapist and a registered nurse, were invited in to classrooms as guest speakers
- Students participated in a Semiconductor Chip Camp sponsored by Teradyne

Social Studies

- Teachers participated in a workshop exploring curriculum options that will provide students with the skills that they will need to participate in the MCAS Social Studies examination
- Students received high recognition for their participation in the annual "Voice of Democracy Contest" sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars
- Students participated in an election of two delegates to represent NRHS in the annual "Student Government Day"
- Students participated in the "Bill of Rights Forum" at the Boston Public Library

Foreign Languages

- Students in the French 4 class participated in an International research and writing project
- Students traveled to Managua, Nicaragua in February to participate in a cultural exchange program and students from Nicaragua visited NRHS in March

Library/Media

- Students and faculty participated in the town-sponsored "North Reading Reads" program
- The library obtained federal grant funds to upgrade the computerized circulation system

School-to Career

- Students participated in a "Job Shadow Day" at Wal-Mart
- The articulation agreement with North Shore Community College continues to be successful for students enrolled in Keyboarding and Microsoft Office courses
- Students participated in the MVOTEV Student Leadership Academy
- Students competed in the Life Smarts Competition, placing first in the state competition and fifth in the nationwide competition

Music/Theater

- Students continue to participate in local; state; and national band and choral competitions
- Masquers presented *42nd Street* as the spring musical and *The Shadow Box* in the fall

Visual Arts

- Students submitted artwork to the *Boston Globe* Scholastic Arts Award competition
- Students continue to display their talent by contributing artwork to: the School Committee budget book, the NRHS "Program of Studies," Little School beach towel fundraiser, Superintendent's conference room, NRHS yearbook, and the NRHS student literary magazine, "*The Popsicle*."

Athletics and Physical Education

- Senior student Blair Canan received "Player of the Year Honors" in 2003 for her excellent performance in volleyball
- Cheerleading squad earned Cape Ann League championship and North Sectional honors
- Girls soccer, volleyball, cross country, golf, and cheerleading all participated in the fall 2003 state tournaments for their respective sports
- Baseball, boys track, girls track, boys tennis, and girls tennis all participated in the spring 2003 state tournaments for their respective sports
- Boys basketball, girls basketball, ice hockey, indoor track, swimming, and cheerleading all participated in the winter (2002-2003) state tournaments for their respective sports
- The NRHS baseball team was the Cape Ann League champion in 2003
- Boys basketball coach Joe Casey was named the "Coach of the Year" for Division 4 North

Respectfully submitted,

Jon C. Bernard, Principal
North Reading High School

NORTH READING HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2003

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| * Joy Aldrich | ** Patrick King Hang Leung |
| * Peter Wilson Allen | Brian P. Lewis |
| Christiana Marie Angelini | Melissa Jeanne LoVetere |
| Amy Leigh Bachman | Alison MacEachern |
| Michael E. Bamard | Joshua R. Manning |
| ** Emily Elizabeth Blake | ** Nicole Marie Mayne |
| Carmen Anthony Bonfiglio | Andrew George McAuley |
| Kurt Richard Braun, Jr. | ** Kerin Marie McAuliffe |
| Colleen Therese Brown | * Kathryn Helen McCarthy |
| Megan Marie Brown | Meredith McGrail |
| Sean Edward Burke | Amanda Lee Mullen |
| ** Katelyn Callinan | John F. Murphy |
| Jessica Anne Campbell | Timothy O'Connell |
| Samantha Marie Carney | ** Jennifer Elizabeth O'Leary |
| ** Daniel Jonathan Carter | ** Alex L. Papanicholas |
| Laura Kathleen Casazza | Shivani Kanu Patel |
| Philip Michael Cataldo | ** Edward Prokop Pawlowski |
| Gregory B. Cecchini | Domenic Anthony Pellegrino |
| Paulo J. Cerqueira | Mark Gerard Pelletier |
| Matthew John Chase | Michael A. Perry |
| Justin J. Ciciarella | Georgette V. Pierce |
| Christopher Joseph Cody | ** Hannah Elizabeth Potter |
| ** Michelle Corliss | Tiana Danielle Puckerin |
| Jamie Marie Curry | ** Matthew Michael Reed |
| Elizabeth Marie D'Angelo | ** Andrew Joseph Richardson |
| Dana William Daly | Vanessa Jean Rodgers |
| Michelle Ann Dardeno | Krisla Lee Roy |
| Lindsay Rae DiSanto | Jennifer Ann Sgroi |
| Katherine L. Doherty | Nichole Elizabeth Shedd |
| * Jared Edward Dolan | Michael Sherwood |
| Stephanie Lynn Ellis | ** Jennifer Ann Silvestro |
| ** Sayedeh Pooneh Fassihi | * Shane Francis Boris Slocum |
| Langroodi | James A. Spinos |
| * Stephen J. Finocchiaro | Nathan M. Spry |
| Michael Richard Forgione | Jennifer Joy Sullivan |
| ** Karen Janine Furlong | Jason Toothaker |
| ** Jeanette Gentile | Susan Marie Tringali |
| Joshua Goddard | Casey Vadala |
| Kerrie Lynne Haladay | ** Thomas Anthony Ventullo |
| Michael Richard Harris | William J. Welsh |
| ** Christopher Charles Hayter | ** Danielle Whicher |
| Danielle Simone Elizabeth Hicks | Justin Thomas Williamson |
| ** Alicia Marie Imperato | Crystal Marie Wood |
| ** Melissa Jenkins | * Laura Zabele |
| Caililin M. Joly | |
| * Peter Kalafatas | |
| ** Andrea Grady Keeffe | |
| ** Brian D. Letzeisen | |
-
- * Graduating with Honors
** Graduating with Honors
Member of National Honor Society

**CITIZENS SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP
CLASS OF 2003**

Emily Blake	Alex Papanicholas
Katelyn Callinan	Shivani Patel
Daniel Carter	Edward Pawlowski
Karen Furlong	Mark Pelletier
Jeanette Gentile	Matthew Reed
Michael Harris	Jennifer Sgroi
Melissa Jenkins	Michael Sherwood
Brian Letzeisen	Jennifer Silvestro
Nicole Mayne	James Spinos
Kerin McAuliffe	Nathan Spry
Kathryn McCarthy	William Welsh
Amanda Mullen	Danielle Whicher
Robert Murgia III	Laura Zabele
John Murphy	

POST GRADUATE AWARDS

Jeffrey Bien	Lauren McAuliffe
Kristen Boentgen	Rachel McKinney
Katelyn Carter	Kimberly Roberts
Bryan DiMare	Nicole Russo
Heather Gregoire	Vanessa Russo
Kimberly Johnson	Brandon Schrenker
Jennifer Kern	Michael Silvestro
Christina Lucci	Tyson Vasapoli
Nicole MacRae	Elizabeth Vaughan
Kristyn Marasca	Matthew Venezia

**CLASS OF 2003
SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS**

James & Barbara Aylward	\$500	Daniel Carter
Nedio E. Barrasso & Mary Barrasso	\$1000	Matthew Reed
	\$1000	Nicole Mayne
North Reading Education Association	\$500	Michelle Corliss
North Reading Rotary Club	\$1000	Melissa Jenkins
Skinner Memorial Scholarship	\$1000	Matthew Reed
Ellsworth Croswell Memorial	\$1000	Brian Letziesen (Law)
Steven Burt Memorial Scholarship	\$500	Andrea Keeffe
Steven Gregory	\$200	Greg Cecchini
James Gregory Hannon	\$500	Danielle Whicher
Edith F. Holt	\$200	Peter Allen
Hunt Memorial Scholarship	\$500	Christopher Hayter
Honorable Francis P. Cullen Scholarship	\$1000	Laura Zabele
North Reading Music Boosters	\$500	Michael Barnard
		Alex Papanicholas
		Matthew Reed
		Emily Blake
North Reading Youth Softball		Kerin McAuliffe
North Reading Youth Basketball		Matthew Reed
		Hannah Potter
North Reading Youth Soccer		Edward Pawlowski
North Reading League of Woman Voters	\$150	Alicia Imperato
North Reading Community YMCA	\$250	Jennifer Silvestro
Edward Sapienza Memorial	\$200	Michael Sherwood
Bonnie Simes Memorial	\$300	Jeanette Gentile
N.R. Golden Age Scholarship	\$200	Jennifer O'Leary
Nicholas Marano Memorial	\$100	Nicole Mayne
Frank W. & Glen A. Kenrick Scholarship	\$500	Shane Slocum
Catherine Welsch Memorial Scholarship	\$500	Emily Blake
Knights of Columbus	\$500	Colleen Brown
Michael Mitton Memorial Scholarship	\$2000	Brian Lewis
Walter Miller Scholarship	\$200	Matthew Reed
Moynihan Lumber Company	\$1000	Edward Pawlowski
Nicholas Martinho Memorial	\$300	Chris Hayter
	\$300	Hannah Potter
Hunt Memorial Scholarship	\$500	Chris Hayter
Peter Bruno Memorial	\$500	Timothy O'Connell
National Choral Award		Megan Brown
Elks Scholarship		Kerin McAuliffe
Best Buy Scholarship		Edward Pawlowski
CW Post Recognition Award		Vanessa Rogers
Suffolk University Trustees Scholarship		Krista Roy
Cultural Council Scholarship		Nicole Mayne
National Merit Scholarship		Nicole Mayne
Lester Levy Memorial Scholarship		Matthew Reed
Haystack Award		Melissa Jenkins

NORTH READING MIDDLE SCHOOL

The North Reading Middle School embraces a community of students, parents and staff whose purpose is to create an environment to assist the adolescent in the transition from dependent to independent learner. The staff provides a balance of nurturing, support, and direction to enable the students to cope with the complex emotional, physical, social and academic changes specific to their developmental needs. This middle school environment encourages students to increase academic competencies and skills, discover their own self-worth and potential, begin taking responsibility for the decisions they make, and respect the individual rights and values of others. It is the goal of the entire Middle School community to prepare students to function in today's socially and technologically challenging world and to promote life-long learning.

Students at the Middle School participate in an academic program composed of Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Science and World Language. In addition, all students are involved in a General Arts program composed of Computer, Art, International Cultures, Music, and Physical Education. Organizational, decision-making, writing, reading and critical thinking skills permeate the curricula. Team participation and interdisciplinary projects bind together the individual subject areas.

Student enrollment at the Middle School for the 2003-2004 school year is 619 youngsters. As of October 1, 2003 the student population by grade was 210 students in sixth grade, 214 in seventh grade, 195 in 8th grade. The organization of the Middle School is designed to meet the developmental and academic needs of adolescents. Grade 6 students are grouped heterogeneously and are taught in teams. Grade 7 students are grouped by performance and organized into teams. Grade 8 students are also performance grouped and a modified departmental approach is utilized to provide a smooth transition for entering high school. Furthermore, one SEEM class for special education students is maintained with 8 students. There are 96 6th, 7th and 8th graders with Special Education Plans and 18 students with 504 Plans this year.

In addition to our Academic and General Arts programs, eighth grade students elect either French or Spanish as their World Language choice.

Time and learning guidelines continue as required by the Department of Education. Classes begin at 7:55 a.m. and end at 2:16 p.m. School began on September 3 this year for sixth grade students. These students received a comprehensive full-day orientation. Team teachers, guidance personnel and the principal met with sixth graders to acquaint them with the Middle School and explain programs and protocols. Seventh and eighth graders began the following day.

We welcomed five new staff to the Middle School this year as a result of a one-year maternity leave and retirement options.

Over the summer, a number of facility improvements occurred. Extensive painting, repair and adjustment of heating and ventilation systems, general repairs and significant maintenance were included. The middle school administration also did some annual landscaping to enhance the overall entrance of the school. This fall, the middle school modular classrooms were installed. We are pleased and excited about the possibilities of taking faculty and students out of closets and storage rooms and actually providing them with classroom space.

The School Council, composed of parents, teachers and community members, continued its work on behalf of student learning. In order to develop the annual education plan, the Council reviews the budget, meets with school personnel, and discusses curricula development and professional workshops. The Council also meets with all department chairs, who provide input regarding budget and curriculum. A subcommittee of the Council is working and meeting to establish a career experience for middle school children called, "Project Dream."

In order to provide students with the best current educational practices, the Middle School staff vigorously participates in a variety of professional development courses, conferences and workshops.

A variety of clubs, sports and activities are offered to students as extracurricular opportunities. Intramural sports include field hockey, cross country skiing, volleyball, basketball, wrestling, floor hockey, ultimate Frisbee, and softball. Our 8th graders enjoyed a hiking trip to Mt. Wachusett in the fall and all students were offered the opportunity to enjoy an evening of roller-skating. We had a Night of the Fine Arts last May with student artists and musicians and because of its enormous success, we will be doing it again this coming May. School clubs available to students include Student Council, Peer Leaders, Memory Book, Newspaper, Science, World Affairs, Math and Geography Club, and the Bradford Ski program. Our Student Council and Peer Leaders continue to organize students and staff to rally around relief efforts for needy people.

Last June, 136 8th graders went to Washington D.C., Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and Williamsburg, Virginia for five days. It was an extraordinary experience and we are hoping to take even more 8th grade students this coming June. We have also added a three-day trip for 6th graders, called Nature's Classroom sometime this coming spring.

The emphasis on communication between parents and school continues to be very important. A middle school newsletter is sent home each of the four quarters, Our Back to School Night in October for all parents and an Orientation evening in March for incoming 6th grade parents, provided valuable information concerning middle school organization and curriculum. Our parent/teacher conferences (held in November), interim academic progress reports, report cards and countless phone calls and notes to parents continue to

make communication a high priority in dealing effectively with parents and guardians.

The Middle School Parents' Association continues to be one of the hardest working parent organizations in our Middle School. Our Magazine Drive was a successful venture once again. Proceeds from this fundraiser benefited the students by providing equipment, supplies and a variety of enrichment field trips and assemblies. The association meets each month and takes on several responsibilities: greeting parents on Back To School Night and at conferences, assisting at the Jogathon, and providing opportunities and funds for enrichment programs and informative speakers. The faculty enjoyed a December holiday luncheon catered by the Parents' Association and will enjoy another teacher appreciation luncheon planned later in the spring.

MCAS Results: The state continues to praise North Reading for its high MCAS scores. Even the *Globe* is amazed at how well we do as a school community with such a low state average per pupil cost. Fine students and excellent teachers are also keys to our success.

Each middle school department created an approach to best deal with the needs of students. Program descriptions from each area are included in the following sections:

Language Arts

The Language Arts Department at North Reading Middle School continued our primary purpose which is to focus on skills in the areas of writing, reading, vocabulary building, spelling, grammar and literary analysis in each of the Language Arts classes in grades six, seven and eight as outlined in the twenty-seven learning standards of the Massachusetts English Language Arts Curriculum Framework.

We maintained the Basic Language Arts class of sixth, seventh, and eighth graders who were on educational plans through Chapter 766 because of their weakness in critical areas of Language Arts. The purpose of this class has been to help these students reach a level of skills in Language Arts that would allow them to leave the class and be mainstreamed into a regular education setting.

We continued to use the Reading Counts program, formerly known as Electronic Bookshelf, to foster reading among the students at the middle school. We now have over seven hundred different titles available to the students that they can read and follow up with tests on the library computer.

At the All-School Fair, which was held in June, there were examples of student projects from grades six, seven and eight on display from the various elements of the language arts curriculum. This was an excellent chance for the students to exhibit their skills and take pride in work well done. It also continued to be an opportunity for the people of North Reading to view the quality of work that the students at the middle school produced in the course of their education.

Through the support of the school administration and the continued efforts of the faculty, the Language Arts Department has endeavored to offer an effective and proper education to the middle school children of North Reading.

Mathematics Department

The department's course offerings included heterogeneous grouping in grade six, two levels of curriculum in grade seven, and four levels of curriculum in grade eight. Honors Algebra I continued to be taught in the eighth grade along with Level 1 Algebra. For those students with educational plans, an individualized mathematics course, Basic Math, is provided.

The goal of the mathematics department is to foster a mathematically literate society by teaching youngsters to think mathematically. Logical thinking and reasoning skills are strategies that are emphasized throughout the department. Throughout the last several years, there has been and continues to be a strong focus on open-response questions within the curriculum. This kind of question exposes the students to "real-world" situations that must be solved. It is through these types of questions that students make a personal connection with mathematics through which a meaningful learning experience is created. These questions also encourage students to generate answers that are individual in nature and mature in reasoning. In addition, students are given long term projects that address critical thinking and problem solving techniques.

In the fall, the mathematics department continued with its practice of individual math portfolios. The portfolios contained a complete collection of a student's homework, class notes, tests, quizzes, projects, and open-response questions, which comprises their work throughout the school year. This portfolio is a tool that allows students the luxury of revisiting their work to refresh their knowledge throughout the school year and future years. This portfolio was also used to aid the mathematics teacher in evaluating students' growth and progress throughout the school year.

During the last several years, the mathematics department has made and continues to make changes in the order and substance of mathematics topics presented. Topics that are now taught earlier in the school year include geometry, percent, probability, and statistics. These are a few of the topics that must be part of an individual's working knowledge in many fields of endeavor. In addition, the students are introduced to and work with questions that allow the student to "investigate" the field of mathematics and its applications.

Members of the mathematics department continued to participate in conferences, curriculum workshops, and in-service professional development courses. The mathematics department purchased a new textbook series for the middle school. As a result, the sequencing of the curriculum in coordination with the frameworks was reviewed and updated for the current academic year. The mathematics department continually evaluates its curriculum content, emphasis, and methods so as to offer the best possible mathematics education to all students.

Science Department

The science program for NRMS students represents an integrated science curriculum correlated to the Massachusetts Curriculum Framework in Science and Technology / Engineering. The science curriculum is a coordinated, integrated program drawing upon students' own life experiences to engage them and to challenge their preconceptions. The program stresses the interconnectedness of the sciences and other subject areas. The program reflects careful sequencing of content from the major science disciplines: life, physical and earth/space science. Emphasis involves hands-on activities and a decrease in factual content. Students continue to complete an individual science project.

The past year marked the end of an era, as well as the beginning of a new era for the NRMS Science Department. With the adoption of the Glencoe Science series students are now issued a text in the version of an interactive CD-ROM, rather than a hard cover book. This not only represents a savings in initial cost, but also greater longevity of the media. The student text can also be accessed on-line for those students at a computer, but not at home. Sets of textbooks are available in each science room for class use.

The faculty of the NRMS Science Department remained the same this year. Staffing included Mr. Scanzani and Mr. Towse teaching grade six science, Mr. Schanck and Mr. Davis teaching grade seven science, and Mr. Gorgenyi and Mr. Elliott teaching grade eight science.

The science staff continued implementing performance based investigations within the science program. Students continued to explore science using inquiry as a technique. Groups of students brainstorm problems, develop hypotheses, develop tests for their hypotheses and collect data during experimentation. Groups then break apart and individuals formulate conclusions based on data collected and demonstrate their understanding in answering open response questions related to the topic.

Progress also continued in the use of technology. Upgrading hardware is an ongoing process. Each science teacher has a desktop PC in his classroom plus seven desktop PC's in the science labs. The science lab desktops are augmented with four laptop computers. The laptops provide the flexibility to be moved where they are needed most. All computers in the department are networked for internet access by either hardwire or wireless technology. Other technology purchases included five LogIt and seven CBL computer probe systems to be used in conjunction with student investigations.

Social Studies

The North Reading Middle School Social Studies Department provides our students with Social Studies education in Geography, World History, and United States History. The curriculum is Geography in grade six. World History in grade seven and United States History (Pre-history to the Civil War) in grade eight. The Social Studies Curriculum is in compliance with the Massachusetts

Social Studies and History Frameworks. Social Studies skills emphasized throughout the department included critical thinking simulations, map skills, outlines, note-taking, research skills, time lines, graphs, performance based units, interdisciplinary and multi-sensory projects.

The Social Studies Department participated in many educational programs throughout the year. The National Geographic Society sponsors the National Geography Awareness Week annually. Geography Awareness Week was held at North Reading Middle School during the week of November 18-22, 2002. The theme was "National Parks 2002". Students participated through a series of multi-sensory class activities, and historic/geographic displays. The Social Studies Department participated in the National Geography Bee. Mr. Alex Quadros, a seventh grade student, was the North Reading Middle School champion for the preliminary round of the 2003 National Geography Bee. Alex was administered a written exam in an effort to participate in the Massachusetts State Geography Bee at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts. Seventh and Eighth grade students participated in the Veteran's of Foreign Wars essay contest. The 2002 topic was "My Pledge to America." Mr. Nicholas Giordano won first place in the school and local competition.

The department's active participation in the annual North Reading Middle School Fair continued with our students' many new and unique exhibits. Students submitted a variety of geographical and historical models, posters, research reports, projects, dioramas, videos and maps.

The Social Studies Department was pleased to announce that the result of the History and Social Science MCAS Test placed the Middle School Social Studies Department in first place in Massachusetts. The North Reading Middle School Social Studies Department was the only public school in Massachusetts to score on the Proficient Level on the 2002 MCAS Test. Students and faculty were congratulated for their hard work on this very difficult test which encompassed World History, American History, Geography, Civics and Government and Economics.

All members of the Social Studies Department participated in numerous professional development programs and conferences throughout the year. These included curriculum design projects, technology programs, and attendance at major Social Studies Conferences.

World Language

French and Spanish courses deal primarily with the basics of the language and include grammar studies, vocabulary building, reasonable exposure to aural and speaking skills, ability to read the language, reading comprehension skills and the development of writing skills. The basic texts used at this level reflect the latest pedagogical thinking in the teaching of foreign languages. We are also hoping to expand our world language program by initiating an introductory course in grade seven.

Both areas of study use varied support materials such as films, cassettes, basic readers, student foreign language magazines and other pertinent materials tied to the basic texts. Students have also been exposed to cultural materials relating to nations where the languages are spoken.

The Reading program at the Middle School is divided into four areas: developmental reading, remedial reading, critical reading and sustained silent reading. The reading consultant assisted the staff with all four components of the program.

Developmental Reading is actually part of the total Language Arts program. The English teachers and the reading consultant cover Reading skills in the literature aspect of the curriculum.

Remedial readers were tested using the Stanford Diagnostic Reading Test and the Wilson Reading Test (WADE). The students who were in need of a multi-sensory phonemic approach to reading, were seen by the reading specialist in the reading room. Students in need of comprehension assistance, were seen by another reading teacher in a separate location.

In keeping with the emphasis on reading and testing across the state, the reading specialist consulted with content area classroom teachers to assist in the planning of critical reading, reasoning, and problem solving materials and lessons.

The fourth aspect of the Reading program at the Middle School was sustained silent reading (SSR). This program provided uninterrupted reading of books or periodicals for every student and teacher in the school.

The purpose of this program was to provide drill and practice in sustaining concentration. Another purpose was to create a lifelong habit of reading for information and enjoyment. This program involved the entire school and took place four times a week.

Assisting with the selection of books for students were the reading consultant, the librarian and Language Arts teachers. These same members of the school staff along with other classroom teachers helped students to select books for book reports and research.

In addition to the four aspects of the Reading program already discussed, reading material was provided for our program entitled Academic Seminar. These materials include books on tape, reading comprehension kits, workbooks, "USA Today" and a variety of periodicals in all four academic areas and the arts. In addition, students followed a serial story each week in both *The Lowell Sun* and *The Lawrence Eagle Tribune*. The reading consultant acted as supervisor and conduit for this program. The focus of this program was enrichment, and was directly linked to the regular classroom.

General Arts

The General Arts curriculum continued to give all students an opportunity for hands-on experience in most of the following areas: music, fine arts, ceramics, international cultures, physical education and computers.

Students learned to work cooperatively with others and to share materials and ideas. Because of the wide range of activities offered, most students felt a sense of creativity and accomplishment in the exploratory arts area. Our All School Fair each year is a wonderful time to celebrate and display these experiences and efforts.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard C. Hodges, Principal
North Reading Middle School

L.D. BATCHELDER SCHOOL

In September the L.D. Batchelder School opened its doors to 456 students. The Batchelder School community is strong and always works together to provide the best for our students. Due to grade consolidations to meet budgetary needs, physical space was made available to welcome back the majority of our kindergarten students. In addition to the return of kindergarten students, the Batchelder School offers a full day kindergarten program for families and students. This is the first year the Town of North Reading has been able to offer such a program and the results are all positive. The Batchelder School currently services three classrooms each of grades kindergarten, one, three, four and four sections of grades two and five.

The Town of North Reading's support and approval of the Batchelder School's renovation and addition project has brought a new sense of excitement among the Batchelder School community to update and improve the conditions for the future of all Batchelder School students. The emphasis for the remainder of the school year will be to coordinate an active Transition Committee to ensure a productive and secure relocation to the Central School in Stoneham for the two-year building project. Although a lot of work remains, we are looking forward to the reopening of the Batchelder School in September 2006.

The Program

The Batchelder School prides itself on the commitment to the academic and social development of every student. The core academic program was based on the standards outlined in the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. It included language arts, mathematics, history and social science, and science and technology all taught by homeroom teachers, and art, music, and physical education classes taught by specialists. In addition, weekly computer classes taught by homeroom teachers extended classroom learning.

To help meet special learning needs, the school engaged the full-time services of two learning disabilities specialists, a reading specialist, school psychologist and a special education paraprofessional. The part-time services of a speech and language therapist and an occupational therapist were also available. Special education services continue to support the development of all students with various learning styles. Together the faculty and staff work hard to provide instructional and student support to improve teaching and learning at the Batchelder School.

As of September 2003, all eighteen classroom teachers at the Batchelder School have been trained in *The Reach Out to Schools: Social Competency Program*, also known as Open Circle. In addition, training was provided to specialists, paraprofessionals, and support personnel. The program is centered on problem solving, responsibility, communication, peer relations, and social awareness. Therefore the Batchelder Community shares a common vision and vocabulary to support the social development of each child. Open Circle promotes the understanding and appreciation of each other, and stresses the importance of community.

The Literacy Committee, made up of teachers from every grade level, was busy

throughout the year. In March, they led the school in joining students across the country in "Read Across America." To celebrate "Read Across America," author Stephen Krensky visited the Batchelder School students to share his experience and sign every student's new book (compliments of the Batchelder Parents' Organization). In May, students turned off their televisions during the nation's "TV Turn-off Week," and in November, Batchelder School families celebrated Literacy Month by reading books aloud together, and donating over 400 gently worn books to North Reading resident Frank Moda to support his pursuit of becoming an Eagle Scout. The donations supported two local charities out of Lawrence, Massachusetts. The Literacy Committee works to promote the appreciation and importance of reading to Batchelder School students and families.

To further supplement the program, the Batchelder School students were involved with a variety of community service projects. Mrs. Kathy Sanders and the fourth grade conducted a "Toys for Tots" program. The Batchelder students brought in non-perishable items to contribute to the North Reading Food Pantry and participated in a coat drive to provide for less fortunate families. In addition to community service, the fourth and fifth grades were offered the options of joining the school chorus, and learning to play a musical instrument. Studio Art was offered to fifth graders on a rotating basis. A Spring Concert, Field Day extravaganza, Veteran's Day Program, and Winter Concert added more meaning and harmony to our community.

The Parents' Organization

This year, the Batchelder Parents' Organization supported grade level field trips, and funded several enrichment programs. The "Discovery Van" visited the kindergarten students, second grade students spent a day at *Plimoth Plantation*, first and third graders will enjoy the program *High Touch, High Tech*, and fourth and fifth grade students visited the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Whole school performances continue to be a challenge at the Batchelder School due the lack of space to facilitate such assemblies, but the BPO continues to support our efforts to coordinate community-building performances. The Parents' Organization supports our efforts to enrich the curriculum for the students at the Batchelder School.

As Principal, I am continually impressed by the financial support and services donated to help the Batchelder School. Volunteers work in our classrooms to support student learning. Parents, too, played an integral part in organizing and supporting social and school events. They sponsored our Batchelder School picnic, organized family dances, held an ice-cream social and pancake breakfast, and provided the resources needed to hold Field Day at Ipswich River Park. The Parents' Organization supports the efforts of the Batchelder School faculty and students, and helps bridge the necessary working relationship of the school, families, and the community.

To the faculty and staff, the children, the parents, and the community, thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean T. Killeen, Principal
L.D. Batchelder School

J. TURNER HOOD SCHOOL

The J. Turner Hood School opened up its doors to 510 students in grades preschool through five in September of 2003. We welcomed a new preschool program, a new full day kindergarten program, a returning language based classroom, four half day kindergarten sections, four grade one classes, four grade two classes, four grade three classes, and three classrooms each of grades four and five. The average class size at J.T. Hood stood at 22.

The district embraced a change in reporting systems for the elementary schools. This increase in focus on standardized instruction challenged our teachers to diversify their instructional methodology, their assessment practices, and their data gathering. The implementation of a new report card set a high standard for teachers in assessing each individual student's growth over a continuum of time and mastery of skills as compared to state standards.

Our teachers were committed to professional development. Teachers were inspired to adapt their instruction and their ways of thinking and planning in order to best meet the needs of all students, this being most evident in the teacher evaluation process. Teachers were involved in John Collins Writing, Guided Reading, Behavior Management, and individual coursework. Because of the emphasis on this new report card, all faculty members participated in extensive training, collaborative planning and dialogue about how to best represent individual student learning. The district provided high frequency for collaboration to take place at inservices and trainings held on early release days. In addition to time provided by the district, at the J.T. Hood School it was a continuous goal to provide teachers with common planning time and for teachers to use this time planning and making materials together.

The district's technology coordinator, Ed Biggs, created workshops held specifically at the J.T. Hood School in order to address our teaching staffs specific needs so that they could continue to better integrate technology into their daily curriculum. Workshops inclusive of all basic skills and advanced skills were offered with the support of paraprofessionals and parents so that this could take place.

One particular successful movement towards the goal of increased staff development was an implementation of the peer observation model, allowing for collegiality, peer support and assistance, mentoring, and teachers talking to one another about the practice of teaching. During my first year here at the J.T. Hood School, I was impressed with the sincere commitment our staff had to student learning! The J.T. Hood School is fortunate to have a staff so dedicated to student success and so willing to go the extra mile for their students.

In addition to the academic focus and commitment to state standards, our students were enriched with a lively musical and arts curriculum. Parents enjoyed the several performances students performed for them throughout the year as well as our annual art show and several art enrichment projects through-

out the year, showcasing our students' talents and multiple intelligences. In the library students learned to access resources and were able to enjoy several resources purchased after a successful book sale. School-wide efforts to promote literacy continue throughout the year, and students continue to participate in *Drop Everything and Read* each week as well as read with their reading buddies at school.

A School Council met monthly in order to review the goals set for the J.T. Hood School. This Council was active in advocating for the needs of the school and publicly gaining feedback and support for the School Improvement Plan. The School Council generated the After School Activities Program which was coordinated by a staff member at the school and attended by hundreds of students.

In addition to the School Council a Student Advisory Council was created this year at the J.T. Hood School. The purpose of the Student Advisory Council was to help the principal come up with ideas for J.T. Hood School to be the best environment for learning. After class elections were held, two students (a girl and boy) were elected from each fourth grade and each fifth grade. The role of the representative was to represent each and every student in the school by sharing and investigating the ideas of their classmates and peers. Together the representatives continued to come up with ways to build the school community so that it remained a safe, smart and happy place to learn. Students were empowered to make decisions about school practices. The council initiated homework passes to be given to students who earned Community and Kindness Awards, took active roles during fire drills, acted as Guides during parent conferences, implemented School Spirit ideas such as *Wacky Wednesdays*, wrote communications on the school white board, and provided student-run morning announcements.

The J.T. Hood School remained dedicated to its student-centered focus. Not only was this evident in the focus on professional development, but also in the character of our school.

No longer did visitors hear the principal over the PA. Students at the J.T. Hood School ran the morning announcements. Students recited the Pledge of Allegiance over the intercom. They attended Parents' Association meetings, became part of an Advisory Council, made school deliveries and raised our flag. Teachers were invested in empowering students and giving them some ownership and pride in their school.

Students (as well as adults) at the J.T. Hood School were also recognized with Community and Kindness Awards. Community and Kindness Rewards are recognized over the intercom where students are thanked for their contributions to a positive school culture.

The outside community was welcomed into the school this year, as senior volunteers were encouraged to and actively accepted posts at the J.T. Hood

School. Community members volunteered to visit with students to talk about career choices, social choices, reading and working in the library, and even working with students on projects.

The Parents' Association coordinated enrichment programs for students and were truly committed this year to establishing a close connection between the Association and Education. Parents, through the Association, were visible within the school on a daily basis, creating a true partnership with staff and students at the J.T. Hood School. They were volunteering in classrooms, working with students, helping teachers, working on projects. A master list of parents who were available to assist during recess, lunch or office duty was generated and this list was helpful when teachers needed coverage to attend their own children's school functions, or when there were absences that could not be covered, or when the principal wanted to call an office staff meeting and needed assistance in the lunchroom. In addition to this time partnership, the Parents' Association was responsive to the school needs. They provided funding for enrichment activities that supplemented each grade level's curriculum. They provided funding for several teacher requests in order to supplement student activities in the classroom. They coordinated community building events for families that encouraged family/school interaction and team building. The Parents' Association began to welcome students to their monthly meetings held in the school cafeteria, recognizing classrooms during their "classroom showcase" when one classroom per grade level was invited to each meeting. Our Parents' Association was 100% supportive of the J.T. Hood School's teachers and our goals for students, demonstrating a common vision for student well-being, safety, joy of learning and success in school.

The 2003-2004 school year was truly the year for Community and Partnership at the J.T. Hood! I am thankful to the staff, children, parents, and community, and proud to say I am part of the community of the J.T. Hood School.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Thaiadora Katsos, Principal
J. Turner Hood School

E. ETHEL LITTLE SCHOOL

Wednesday, September 3, 2003, marked the start of the 2003-2004 school year. The 9th anniversary of the reopening of the Little School began with fifty-three staff and 431 children, preschool through grade five. Staff and children were welcomed back from their summer vacation to freshly painted walls and a thoroughly cleaned school. Twenty classrooms and one portable unit house a language-based program, two preschool programs, two kindergarten classes and three classes each of grade levels 1-5.

We continue to make progress towards our goal of infusing technology across the curriculum through technology projects. There are approximately 40 computers in the classrooms, specialist stations and in the library. In addition, there are 28 computers in the technology lab that are used to support students in their classroom curriculum and areas of assessment. Software and internet sites are selected for the computer lab based on the ability to aid in the development of classroom skills such as multimedia presentations, research, keyboarding and word processing, as well as the rudimentary skills such as language arts, mathematics, reading and social studies. Our Little School web page, www.northreadingmass.com/little/little.htm, is now maintained by a group of 5th grade students, and keeps our community informed of school happenings. We continue to look for future opportunities to bring new technology to the students. The town technology warrant article continues to help us achieve our goal.

Our school library is a focal point of our students' learning experiences at the Little School. In addition to weekly read alouds and library skills classes, the school staff attempts to connect research projects and pleasurable literature to each grade's curriculum. Throughout the year students participate in programs including Read Across America, National Children's Book Week and the Salem State College Book Award program. Our library paraprofessional and the reading incentive committee plan and organize several programs throughout the school year and summer. The spring reading incentive program traditionally features an author, illustrator or poet organized by the school librarian and PTO with the possibility of a grant by the Massachusetts Cultural Council to assist with funding. Support for our library from the school budget, the parent teacher association, birthday book club and book fairs has enabled us to replace some well loved classics and enlarge our collection of books, videos and software. Emphasis this year has been on updating titles on science, biography and early readers. Participation by our skilled group of volunteers is an important component of our library program. The dedicated volunteers, including the parents of our students and senior volunteers, enable us to provide students and staff with efficient and extended services.

The Little School PTO is a vibrant part of our school community. The PTO board and its members plan activities throughout the year that support the goals of our school. These activities assist in raising funds and also providing opportunities to build community through social activities for families and

staff. Monies that have been raised through fundraising and A+ America have supported grade level and whole school cultural enrichment field trips, technology purchases and other school and classroom needs. We appreciate these dedicated volunteers who are on the PTO board, the many parents who are PTO members and all the parents and friends who support the work of the organization by their participation in the events that the PTO plans.

The Little School recognizes the importance of involving the North Reading community in our school. Senior citizens and parent volunteers are utilized in our library, lunch program, science fair, childcare program and art program. We are also grateful to the many North Reading businesses that contribute food and services that are used at our various events throughout the school year.

In return, Little School students are actively involved in developing an appreciation of others' needs within the community as well as beyond North Reading. Through our community outreach program students continue to be afforded the experience of participating in a school wide piggy bank for the Make-A-Wish Foundation (Wheels for Wednesdays), donating, packing and delivering food to the North Reading Food Pantry, sending letters, cards and projects to the McLaughlin House for head injured adults, visiting Sunbridge Health Center, collecting Coats for Kids to be distributed to those in need in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, making a quilt for those in combat in Afghanistan and donating plantings to the North Reading Recreation Committee.

There is a strong commitment of our staff to their professional development and active involvement of district wide initiatives including the study and implementation of a full day kindergarten program, a new pre school class, standards-based reporting and a focus on the science curriculum with a recommendation of materials that will support current units of study as well as address other topics of study. Teachers serve on other committees involving mentoring, professional standards and curriculum standards committees. Many of our staff serve on two school improvement plan committees that focus on the goals stated in our school improvement plan. Others are engaged in completing requirements for their Master's degrees, recertification and/or professional growth plans. Their willingness to pursue opportunities that continually upgrade their knowledge around current research, materials and pedagogy is reflected in the exceptional quality of instruction demonstrated by our school's 2003 statewide testing results. Performance and improvement ratings for Massachusetts public schools and districts are issued every two years. Ratings are used to track schools' progress toward meeting the goal of all students achieving proficiency in English Language Arts and Mathematics. The Little School's most recent performance rating for Cycle II was "Very High" in English Language Arts and "High" in Mathematics. Congratulations to students, parents and staff!

The Little School Council meets on a monthly basis during the school year.

Some of the topics discussed during the past school year include updates of school programs/activities, the development of the school budget, professional development activities, school safety, the state testing program and curriculum updates. The council developed a school plan for the 2003-2004 school year that incorporates school goals recommended by the staff. The school committee approved the plan in the spring of 2003.

Students, parents and staff have enjoyed a successful and enjoyable year.

Respectfully submitted,

William P. Leccese, Principal
E. Ethel Little School

PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES

Pupil Personnel Services is the component of our School Department with the mission of providing support services for students in concert with the day-to-day efforts of our regular education staff. These supports encompass three major areas, each of significant importance. These three areas are special education services for students with disabilities, health services and guidance/psychological services for all students.

Services in these areas must always be in compliance with state and federal laws and must be provided in the least restrictive manner. In Spring 2002, the School system underwent a program audit that evaluated compliance with all state and federal laws. As a result of this audit, the school system was required to respond to those areas where it was out of compliance and develop a plan to bring all programs and policies into compliance in a state approved time span. Our compliance plan was reviewed and approved in September 2003. We have achieved compliance in the majority of identified areas for improvement.

Health, guidance and psychological services are provided to all our students. These components address an array of services ranging from educational testing and evaluation, supervision of medicinal regiments, home and hospital tutoring, acute medical intervention, psychological and social skills support, to college planning and application. In September 2003, we achieved the goal of having a School Psychologist assigned to each school through a reorganization plan. In conjunction with our school physician, Leann Lesperance, M.D., Ph.D., we reviewed and updated our medical policies and received approval from the MA Department of Public Health.

During the 2003 school year, there are 385 North Reading students requiring special education services. Students may receive these services from their third to their twenty-second birthday. The services may range from regular classroom accommodations to highly specialized programs provided in settings outside of the public schools. Currently, North Reading is providing 37 students with full academic programs outside of their neighborhood school. In September 2003 we opened a class for Pre-school children with Autism. This class allows the students to remain in our school system and receive services in the most cost effective manner possible. To meet the needs of our other more complex learners. North Reading is a member of both the SEEM Collaborative and North Shore Consortium. North Reading has been a member of the SEEM Collaborative for over ten years. North Reading joined the North Shore Consortium during the 2003 school year. These are partnerships of 17 Northwest and North Shore cities and towns providing specialized programs for low incidence populations.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine E. D'Anjou
Director, Pupil Personnel Services

NORTHEAST METROPOLITAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

100 Hemlock Road – Wakefield, Massachusetts 01880-3597

OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARD

Daniel Mistretta from Woburn, a senior in the Electrical Program, was chosen as Northeast's nominee at the State Awards Dinner for Outstanding Vocational Technical Students. The event is co-sponsored by the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators and the Massachusetts Vocational Association.

VOCATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The Northeast Chapter of the National Vocational Technical Honor Society held its annual Induction Ceremony in May. At the ceremony, 12 seniors and 34 juniors were inducted. These students joined the previously inducted members to bring the Vocational Technical Honor Society Chapter to 81 members for the 2002-2003 school year.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The Fifth Annual Induction Ceremony to the Northeast Chapter of the National Honor Society "Artisans" was held in May. 6 seniors, 6 juniors, and 3 sophomores were inducted for the 2002-2003 school year bringing the total membership to 33.

SKILLS USA VICA AWARDS

At State VICA Competition, Northeast winners were Samnang Bou of Revere who finished first in Accounting, Colleen Callahan of Winchester who finished 3 in Culinary Arts. Northeast finished 3rd in Chapter Display and the members of the team were Sheena Dixon of Maiden, Patrick Colantuoni of Saugus, Brian Spinella of Maiden, and Marc McVicker of Woburn. State Officers Elect from Northeast are Chris Allender of Woburn and Billy Parsons of Maiden.

STUDENT ADVISORY REP TO THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Sabrina Testa, a senior from Revere, was elected as the Student Representative to the School Committee for the 2002-03 school year.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Northeast Scholarship Committee awarded individual scholarships to 66 deserving students at the Third Annual Senior Recognition Night. The total of \$356,000 was given in scholarships. The average award was \$4,100 with 72% of the scholarship aid going to students furthering their education at four-year schools.

Northeast students beginning work in their vocational field or entering trade apprenticeship programs garnered 28% of the scholarship assistance to enable them to purchase costly tools and equipment as well as entry level expenses toward trade education programs.

SCORE PEER MEDIATION PROGRAM

In September, Northeast began its eighth year affiliated with SCORE, a Peer Mediation Program. The SCORE Program was developed by the Office of the Attorney General of Massachusetts to help reduce the violence in schools. The Mediation process is successful in resolving conflicts of all types. Northeast has a full-time coordinator, 28 trained students and six trained staff members. A trained mediator is a neutral person not involved in the dispute and through the mediation process, helps people come to their own agreement about how they want to resolve their conflict.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Professional Development in 2002-03 focused on: Improving Achievement of Special Needs Learners through the development of Individualized Education Plans, Strategies for Actively Engaging Students in Learning, Developing Senior Projects, Strategies for Improving Achievement for English Language Learner, OSHA training, Leadership Training for Department Heads, and Leadership Training for Administrators.

MCAS ACADEMIC SUPPORT

AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

The after school program termed "Project Success" focused on 11th grade students who were not successful in the previous spring's MCAS testing. Approximately 40 students participated in a technology-driven MCAS tutorial review. This program was supplemented by small-group instruction in the areas of Mathematics and Language Arts. ELA MCAS prep was conducted after school for Limited English Proficient students.

SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

One hundred sixty-five students were enrolled in three categories:

- Seventy incoming freshmen concentrated on Mathematics with the Graphing Calculator, Reading, and Language Arts/Writing Skills. In addition, these students explored the vocational fields of: Automotive Technology, Graphic Arts, Computer Applications, Cosmetology, Drafting, and Plumbing. New to the program this summer were robotics and content reading.
- Sophomore students engaged in team building activities through Physical Education, Mathematics, Language Arts and a study of Metropolitan Boston enhanced with field trips.
- Twenty-six bilingual students participated in an English Immersion Program. These students collaborated with their 9th and 10th grade peers in the appropriate activities and focused on English language skills as well.

SUPPORT SERVICES

The Northeast Guidance Department staff offers support counseling through individual and group counseling and specialized workshops and presentations.

Support groups are established each year based on student needs. A teen issues group is established in each grade to support students who have difficulties with peer issues. An anger management group that is linked to the discipline system is offered after school in an effort to provide students with an

understanding of their own anger and an opportunity to develop new tools to use to manage anger more appropriately.

An after school substance abuse intervention group provides students with a second chance when they have entered the discipline system with a substance abuse offense.

Support groups for pregnant and parenting teens, grieving students. Latino students, Asian students, gay students, and others have all been offered at different times depending on need and student interest.

The Peer Mentoring program provides educational assistance to students having difficulty with one or more academic subjects.

Career counseling and the college application process are a large part of all of the counselors' roles but specialized support is provided by a career counselor and a part-time non-traditional support counselor.

GRANTS

Title I - Economically Disadvantaged Districts – Funding from this grant provided for six grade 9 and six grade 10 English Language Arts classes for 180 students that exhibited reading comprehension difficulty based on their Stanford 9 diagnostic testing and Algebra/Geometry classes designed to address the needs of 180 students identified as "at risk" or not passing the state assessment test.

Instruction in both the English Language Arts and mathematics curricula in Title I were enhanced by the use of technology in the Title I rooms, as well as by support provided by the teaching assistants in these classes.

Title 2A - Teacher Quality – This grant provided for the hiring of an MCAS Preparation instructor.

Title 3 - English Language Learner Support – This grant is used to institute a summer English Immersion program for our English Language Learning students.

Title 5 - New and Innovative Programs – This grant funded training for our TestWiz program as well as supplying software for the Drafting and Design department.

Comprehensive School Reform Grant – This source of funding allowed us to participate in our second year of affiliation with the Southern Regional Education Board's "High Schools That Work" program.

Class of 2003 Academic Support Grant – This funding enabled the administration to employ seven tutors who worked with student from the class of 2003 that had not met the graduation competency by September 2002.

English Language Learning Support – This grant provided funds for three instructors to research strategies to present to other teacher on the concept of improving achievement for English Language Learning students.

Perkins Occupational Education Grant – This funding provided for instructors in the areas of HVAC and Plumbing.

SUMMER PROGRAMS

The summer of 2003 was a busy time at Northeast with a full-scale academic and vocational summer school in operation. More than 337 students in grades 9 through 12 participated.

ADULT EDUCATION

Our goal is to provide as many educational services as possible to the 350,000 residents of the Northeast Metropolitan Regional Vocational School District. In pursuing this goal, the Adult Education staff maximizes utilization of the Northeast facilities, offering an extensive selection of stimulating and practical programs Monday through Saturday during the school year and Monday through Friday during the summer months.

2003 GRADUATES

The 2002-03 school year represents the thirty-third class to matriculate at Northeast Metropolitan Regional Vocational School. Northeast graduated 219 students in the class of 2003. Breakdown of graduates' status after graduation is as follows:

Employed	114
Attending 4 year college	35 *
Attending 2 year college	40 *
Apprentice school	11 *
Entering Military Service	14
Status unknown	4
Other	1

* It should be noted that 39% of the graduating class went on to further their education either in a two or four year college or in an apprentice program. 214 members of the graduating class either entered military service, are employed or seeking further education that figure represents 98% of the class of 2003.

SPECIAL NEEDS ENROLLMENT

Special Needs enrollment for the 2002-03 school year continued to represent a fair share of the total school enrollment with students.

ATHLETIC RECORDS

The Northeast Girls' Softball team won the Lower Division Commonwealth Athletic League Championship and advanced to the state tournament.

The Northeast Co-ed Swim team won the State Vocational Tournament.

The Northeast Boys' Soccer team qualified for the M.I.A.A. State Tournament.

The Northeast Girls' Volleyball team were the Commonwealth Athletic Conference Champions and qualified for the State Tournament.

SHINING KNIGHTS

Once again, the Shining Knights, a motivational program to encourage students, had a very successful year. The winners this year were Alex DiPietro who won a Gift Certificate to Dockside, and Nathalie Satguero who won a Bath & Body Works Bag.

DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE ELECTION OF OFFICERS

At the Annual Organizational Meeting of the District School Committee on January 9, 2003 the following members were elected Officers of the District

School Committee:

Chairman	William C. Mahoney of Melrose
Vice Chairman	Michael T. Wall of Chelsea
Secretary	Deborah P. Davis of Woburn
Treasurer	Paul L. Sweeney of North Reading
Asst. Treasurer	Anthony E. DeTeso of Stoneham

CONCLUSION

As Northeast celebrates its thirty-third year of Vocational/Technical Excellence to its twelve member communities, its aim is to continue to offer the latest in vocational/technical and academic education by maintaining a high level of performance.

Evidence of our past success is reflected in the students that have graduated from Northeast Metro Tech.

Once again, I am proud to have represented North Reading as a member of the Northeast Metropolitan Regional Vocational District School Committee not only to serve as the guardian of funds allocated from the community to this educational institution, but also to assist in and provide counsel to the school in maintaining the highest standards of educational excellence possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul L. Sweeney
Northeast School Committee
North Reading Representative

**NORTHEAST METROPOLITAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL
COMPARISON OF ASSESSMENTS – JUNE 27, 2002**

	Budget FY2002	Budget FY2003	Variance \$	Variance %
GROSS BUDGET	\$14,575,797	\$15,290,011	\$714,214	4.9000%
LESS REVENUES	\$6,426,270	\$6,502,464	\$76,194	1.19%
Sch. Aid Ch. 70	(\$300,462)	(\$200,000)	\$100,462	-33.44%
School Choice	\$550,000	\$475,000	(\$75,000)	-13.64%
Transportation	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0	0.00%
Investment Earnings				
TOTAL REVENUES	\$6,700,808	\$6,802,464	\$101,656	1.52%
NET ASSESSMENTS	\$7,874,989	\$8,487,547	\$612,558	7.78%
CHELSEA	\$1,476,628	\$1,445,553	(\$31,075)	-2.10%
MALDEN	\$1,086,996	\$1,067,187	(\$19,809)	-1.82%
MELROSE	\$68,399	\$206,769	\$138,370	202.30%
NO. READING	\$124,929	\$188,099	\$63,170	50.56%
READING	\$154,287	\$156,946	\$2,659	1.72%
REVERE	\$1,997,352	\$2,197,282	\$199,930	10.01%
SAUGUS	\$964,672	\$1,130,486	\$165,814	17.19%
STONEHAM	\$329,568	\$338,445	\$8,877	2.69%
WAKEFIELD	\$295,137	\$316,386	\$21,249	7.20%
WINCHESTER	\$65,965	\$85,104	\$19,139	29.01%
WINTHROP	\$180,801	\$187,973	\$7,172	3.97%
WOBURN	\$1,130,255	\$1,167,317	\$37,062	3.28%
TOTAL	\$7,874,989	\$8,487,547	\$612,558	7.78%

	Students FY2002	Students FY2003	Variance	Percent of Contribution
CHELSEA	276	240	-36	22.89781%
MALDEN	172	150	-22	13.68613%
MELROSE	19	30	11	2.73723%
NO. READING	21	27	6	2.46350%
READING	23	22	-1	2.00730%
REVERE	270	277	7	25.27372%
SAUGUS	129	139	10	12.68248%
STONEHAM	40	36	-4	3.28467%
WAKEFIELD	41	39	-2	3.55839%
WINCHESTER	8	9	1	0.82117%
WINTHROP	35	40	5	3.64964%
WOBURN	74	87	13	7.93796%
TOTAL	1,108	1,096	-12	100.00000%

**NORTHEAST METROPOLITAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET –
ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUPS – JUNE 30, 2003**

	Governmental Fund Types	Fiduciary Fund Types	Proprietary Fund Type	Account Group Long-Term Debt
	General	Special Revenue	Enterprise	General
Assets				
Cash	\$372,416	\$1,177,625	\$105,271	
Assessments Receivable	\$601,934	-	-	
Accounts Receivable	\$202,458	-	-	
Prepaid Expenses	\$352,447	-	-	
Inventory Commodities	-	\$3,932	-	
General Long-Term Debt	-	-	-	\$280,000
Total Assets	\$1,529,255	\$1,181,557	\$105,271	\$280,000
Liabilities				
Accounts Payable	\$95,931	-	-	
Payroll Withholdings	-	\$173,594	-	
Accrued Salary	\$233,403	-	-	
Accrued Sick and Vacation	\$204,591	-	-	
General Obligation Bonds	\$533,925	\$173,594	-	\$280,000
Total Liabilities				
Fund Equity				
Retained Earnings	-	-	\$105,271	
Fund Balances:				
Reserve for Encumbrances	\$75,781	-	-	
Reserve for Waterline	-	-	-	
Reserve for Insurance	-	\$949,455	-	
Undesignated	\$919,549	\$147,414	-	
Total Fund Equity	\$995,330	\$1,096,869	\$105,271	
Total Assets	\$1,529,255	\$1,181,557	\$105,271	\$280,000

**NORTHEAST METROPOLITAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS – JUNE 30, 2003**

<i>Undesignated Fund Balance</i>	<u><i>Amount</i></u>
Medicaid	\$435,345
Adult Education	\$251,442
Building Usage	\$31,933
Athletics	\$18,474
School Choice	\$495,604
Grants	(\$392,217)
State Wards	\$18,753
Cafeteria	(\$3,127)
 Total	 <u>\$856,207</u>

**NORTHEAST METROPOLITAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT
TRUST AND AGENCY FUND – JUNE 30, 2003**

<i>Undesignated Fund Balance</i>	<u><i>Amount</i></u>
Student Activity	\$82,161
Cafeteria	<u>\$65,253</u>
 Total	 <u>\$147,414</u>

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

2003 was an important year for the town's elementary school construction program.

The Batchelder School

After receiving funds to pursue schematic designs for an addition and renovation at the Batchelder School in October 2002, the committee chose Tappe Associates of Boston as its architect for the project. Over the first nine months of 2003, the committee worked with Tappe to develop a plan that would meet the educational needs while being historically appropriate and within the town's budget. During this process, we worked extensively with various town boards. The committee would especially like to thank the Historic District Commission for its feedback and involvement during this time.

At the October 2003 town meeting, a \$15.7 million appropriation for a renovation and addition at the Batchelder site was approved and subsequently ratified by the voters in November. The committee is now proceeding with the next phase of design, known as design development. While there are still approvals to be obtained from the town and details to be fleshed out, the committee is optimistic that we will begin construction in the fall of 2004 and complete the project by September 2006.

Membership

During 2003, the membership of the ESBC changed significantly. Rich Lasdin and Tom O'Connor left the committee after several years of hard work and dedication. Both these members contributed a great deal of their time, especially in the design and construction of the Hood School renovation and addition. Ellen Glew also left her Associate position after working to advance a solution at the Batchelder School. Kristen Ellis and Jayne Swart were appointed as full members of the committee having served as Associates. Finally, Frank Brachanow joined as an Associate member.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan DeSimone, Chairman
 Scott Stimpson, Vice Chairman
 Jayne Swart, Secretary
 Fred Clark
 Kristin Ellis
 Shep Spear
 Gerald Venezia, School Committee Representative
 Bob Armacost, Associate
 Frank Brachanow, Associate

Public Works

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

In finishing my twelfth year as Director, I would like to thank the Community of North Reading for the continued support and courtesy extended to me throughout this period. The following represents the Public Works activities accomplished during the calendar year 2003.

ADMINISTRATION

Administration provides the managerial and clerical support for the Department. It also coordinates the policies and procedures established by Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator along with setting long term goals and annual objectives for the DPW. Operating expenditures during 2003 were approximately \$5,114,488.00. These costs addressed all Public Works disciplines including Snow and Ice, Fleet Maintenance, Cemetery and Public Grounds, Public Buildings, Engineering, Sanitation, Highway and Water.

ENGINEERING

In addition to Public Works projects, contracts and providing services to Ancillary Boards, Engineering has been involved with the development team on site plan reviews, building permit applications for determination of aquifer, wetlands and street opening permits.

This past year Engineering reviewed the following subdivision projects:

Lawrence Road	New Campbellton Estates
---------------	-------------------------

Site plans reviewed:

95 Concord Street	Rowe Farm - Elm Street
Gifford Way	Central Place
Proposed Dunkin Donuts (Pluff & Main)	

Streets accepted at April Town Meeting were:

Bridle Way	Ladyslipper Lane
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Storm Water Program:

Completed first and second phases of the Storm Water Management Plan as required under the US Environmental Protection Agencies Clean Water Act. Initiated Phase 3 of this plan which includes outfall locations and sampling and incorporation into the town's GIS System.

Martins Pond:

Coordinated with the Army Corps of Engineers to provide a hydraulic study of Martins Brook. Funding for this work is through the Corps' Flood Plain Management services for local communities (federal).

Obtained environmental permits to initiate a demonstration project which would harvest nuisance plants from a reach of Martins Brook adjacent to Burroughs Road.

Completed environmental assessment of Martins Pond and surrounding wetlands area.

Hazard Mitigation:

Existing drainage along Bigham Road was replaced and upgraded utilizing funds made available through a hazard mitigation grant from FEMA and local funding.

CEMETERY

There were 59 internments in 2003. In addition, there were 32 grave sites sold and 28 foundations installed for stone monuments. All three Cemeteries were treated with weed control and fertilizer.

STREET AND ROAD MAINTENANCE

Currently there are 90 miles of road. No bituminous concrete paving was done this year on local roads. Micro surfacing was applied to Haverhill Street from Town Center to the Reading Town Line. Granite curbing was installed on Chestnut Street from Haverhill Street to Moynihan Lumber. A bituminous concrete walk (90% completed) was also installed on the easterly side. Bituminous concrete paving was placed from Haverhill Street to Rt. 62, and micro surfacing was applied to Central Street from Rt. 62 to Chestnut Street.

SNOW AND ICE

During the year 2003 we received 95.5 inches of snow.

GROUND, PARKLANDS & PLAYGROUNDS

Coordination and scheduling of maintenance programs continues with recreation, DPW and School Department to optimize personnel, equipment and material to improve recreational facilities.

TREES

Trimming and removal continued during the year as well as clean up from storm damage. The large oak tree on the Common had a high pressure deep root fertilizing to elevate the health of the tree and to ward off insect infestation.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Annual service and inspections were accomplished on the following:

- Alarm devices
- Fire suppression Systems
- Fire extinguishers
- Emergency lighting
- Elevator Certification
- Security systems

Septic systems were pumped and inspected at:

- Building of the Common
- DPW Garage
- Police/Fire/Library
- Town Hall
- Back flow devices/all buildings

- Roofs, electrical, heating, ventilating, air conditioning and plumbing on all buildings continue to be maintained.
- Carpeting was completed in the Department of Public Works and Building offices.

SOLID WASTE

The Solid Waste Contract is in its eighteenth year of a twenty year contract with the Northeast Solid Waste Committee (NESWC). Our guaranteed annual tonnage is 5,246 tons per year.

WATER

The water system went through its first summer season with the new Swan Pond storage tower in service. The tower was sized to meet the peak summer water demands and fire protection needs of North Reading when the town is completely developed. The tower helped minimize pressure fluctuations within the water distribution system during periods of high water demand, especially on the easterly half of town.

Water use restrictions were in place for the entire year. Despite above average rainfall through the summer months, the Ipswich River again experienced periods of extremely low flows. The river has been cited as the third most endangered river in America. Residents and businesses were asked to comply with an odd/even outdoor watering schedule. The Water Department offered to conduct water audits to the largest residential and commercial/industrial water users, with a goal of reducing water use at those businesses. The Water Department – through a grant – also implemented a program to sell rain barrels at a reduced price to residents of North Reading, again with the goal of reducing water demands.

October Town Meeting approved the reallocation of funds remaining in the Swan Pond storage tank appropriation for water distribution system improvements. By the end of 2003, a portion of this money had been used to install an interconnection with the Middleton/Danvers water distribution system in Forrest Street, to replace a section of water main in Winter Street, and to install a number of additional isolation valves at critical locations in the water distribution system.

RECOGNITION

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the women and men of the North Reading Department of Public Works. It is through their efforts, the services provided are performed with such a level of dedication and commitment.

Respectfully submitted,

David P. Hanlon, Director

WASTEWATER PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Wastewater Planning Advisory Committee (WPAC) was established to assist in the formation of a Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP) for North Reading. The purpose of the CWMP is to develop a plan that can be implemented to meet the sanitary wastewater needs of the town for the foreseeable future. With the exception of Riverpark Drive, all of the town's residential, commercial and industrial wastewater currently relies on private septic systems located on the wastewater generator's individual lot. A Plan of Study was developed by the Department of Public Works and our wastewater engineering consultant Weston & Sampson Engineers, Inc. (WSE). The Town Meeting and the State Revolving Fund loan program have approved funding of \$400,000 for the CWMP. The town is currently in Phase 4 of the five-phase CWMP.

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection will not allow the town to discharge treated wastewater to surface water or outside of the Ipswich River basin unless no other alternatives exist. Phase 1 selected two sites, the former Berry Rehabilitation Center and the DPW Garage property, for hydrogeologic investigations to determine if the sites were suitable for subsurface disposal of treated wastewater. Both sites were found to be good candidates for subsurface wastewater disposal and warranted further investigation, which was completed in Phase 3.

During Phase 2, a public participation program was launched, the town's wastewater needs were analyzed, and a preliminary screening of wastewater collection and treatment alternatives was performed. Public participation has included: *North Reading Transcript* articles, a town-wide public outreach questionnaire, a town meeting report, and over a dozen meetings of the WPAC. The WPAC membership consists of representatives from various elected and appointed boards and committees, as well as a cross-section of North Reading citizens.

In 2004, the WPAC will continue to review information and alternatives presented by the DPW and the town's consultant and make recommendations relative to the CWMP. The WPAC will hold public informational meetings to inform North Reading residents and business owners.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Hunt, Chairman
Scott Haynes, Vice Chairman
Denise Conry
Bradley Jones
James Muldoon
Theodore Neals

Nick O'Brien
Warren Pearce
Michael Scallnell
Shepard Spear
Karl Touet
Martin Weiss

Planning and Development

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals consists of three regular members and three associate members who meet bi-monthly to hear requests for variances, special permits and appeals of the decision of the Building Inspector. The decisions of the Board help regulate and/or grant relief from the zoning bylaws and protect the small town character of North Reading.

This year, the Board was very busy with over eighty hearings for variances, special permits, home occupations and appeals. Also, the Board is the permitting authority for Chapter 40B projects in town. This will keep the Board very busy in the upcoming years.

In June, the Board welcomed Jodi Kader as Secretary. She is available Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. The Board would like to thank Corrine Castrini for her dedication to the Board and wish her well in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul O'Leary, Chairman
James Demetri, Member
Joseph Murphy, Member
Joseph Keyes, Associate
John D. Nelson, Associate
James DePaolo, Associate

COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMISSION

The Community Planning Commission ("CPC") is constituted under Chapter 41 of the Massachusetts General Laws ("The Subdivision Control Law") and consists of five members elected to three-year terms of office. Vacancies are filled by the Community Planning Commission and the Board of Selectmen acting jointly to appoint a replacement until the next election. The Community Planning Commission presently consists of:

Warren Pearce, Chairperson
Chris Hayden, Vice Chairperson
Patricia Romeo, Clerk
M. Shepard Spear, Member
Neal Rooney, Member

The Community Planning Commission staff consists of Robert J. Rodgers, Planning Administrator; Debra Savarese, Administrative Assistant; and Kim Honetschlager, GIS Coordinator. M. Shepard Spear currently serves as the Town's Representative to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council.

Subdivision Control

The Community Planning Commission devoted a great deal of its time to subdivision activity. In fulfilling its responsibilities under Chapter 41 of the Massachusetts General Laws. The Community Planning Commission worked throughout 2003 on eleven Approval-Not-Required plans, and five definitive subdivision plans in one stage or another.

New Definitive Plan Activity

Ten Rod Road	7 lots	Pending
New Campbellton Estates	11 lots	Approved
Pine Forest Park	10 lots	Pending
Lawrence Road	2 lots	Approved
3 Gifford Way	1 lot	Denied

Subdivisions Previously Approved and Under Construction

The following subdivisions were approved by the Community Planning Commission prior to 2003 and remain uncompleted:

Adrian Drive	7 lots
Deerfield Place	12 lots
Demetri Lane	9 lots
Pine Estates	6 lots
Bridle Way	11 lots
Forest Hill Estates	8 lots
MacIntyre Crossing	63 lots
MacIntyre Woods	9 lots
Walnut Corners	8 lots
Charles Street/Deerfield Place	11 lots
Deer Run	25 lots

Country Edge Phase III	6 lots
Blueberry Woods	4 lots
Fairbanks Estates	10 lots
Mentus Farm Lane	7 lots

Approval Not Required Activity

Eleven Approval Not Required ("Form A") plans were submitted to the Community Planning Commission. Ten were endorsed. One was denied.

Unaccepted Street Determinations of Access and Improvement Plan Activity

5 Summit Road	Approved
5 Juniper Road	Approved
18 MacArthur Road	Approved
29 Maple Road	Denied

Site Plan Review Activity

The following is a list of the eight Site Plan Reviews that were reviewed in 2003 by the Community Planning Commission:

72 Main Street	Approved
291-295 Main Street	Approved
31 Main Street	Approved
237 Main Street	Approved (modification)
77 Concord Street	Approved
63 Central Street	Approved
9 Main Street	Approved
1 Washington Street	Approved

Street Acceptances

Construction of the ways and services in the following subdivisions were completed in 2003. The April Town Meeting accepted the following streets as public ways:

Bridle Way	Ladyslipper Lane
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Other

Eisenhaure Pond Park – The Community Planning Commission worked to gather information and proposed a Town Meeting Article to create Eisenhaure Pond Park. Work is on-going in cooperation with the Board of Selectmen.

The Community Planning Commission and its staff rendered assistance and made recommendations on numerous requests from other Town Boards, Commissions and Departments throughout the year.

The Geographic Information System (GIS) Coordinator continues to work on revising the town's maps and land data into an integrated computer system. In 1996, the Community Planning Commission in cooperation with the Assessing Department established the GIS Program in conjunction with a grant.

Community Planning Commission Meetings

Community Planning Commission meetings are open to the public. Citizens are welcome and encouraged to attend. Meetings are held Tuesday eve-

nings at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall, 235 North Street-Murphy Center, unless otherwise posted. Requests for agenda time may be made through the Community Planning Department.

The Community Planning Commission gratefully acknowledges the hard work of its staff as well as the staff of other Town Departments, and all other Boards and Commissions whose assistance was invaluable during the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Warren Pearce, Chairperson
Chris Hayden, Vice Chairperson
Patricia Romeo, Clerk
Neal Rooney, Member
M. Shepard Spear, Member

COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

The North Reading Commission on Disabilities (NRCD) is an appointed citizen group. The mission of the NRCD is to work as liaison to the business community, Town government/departments and Town committees and with any person with a disability living or working in North Reading. The NRCD is committed to developing solutions for improving access for persons with disabilities within the town, by working with business or property owners. In addition the NRCD will serve as resource to the public on the laws and rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

During 2003, the Committee has been monitoring the Route 62 project regarding access issues. Some Committee members have also attended regional ADA meetings with the Mass. Office on Disabilities.

The Committee is always looking for new members who have a disability, have a family member with a disability or are just interested in improving access in North Reading, for persons with disabilities.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Robertson,
Chairman

Natural Resources

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Enforcing the Wetlands Protection Act and the North Reading General Wetlands Protection Bylaw is the primary function of the Conservation Commission. The Commission is required to review any work within one hundred feet of a wetland, or two hundred feet from a perennial stream or river, such as the Ipswich River. Although many of the Commissions permitting activities involve new home construction and subdivisions, there are a large number of items on the Commission agenda that deal with additions to existing homes, installation of swimming pools and other property improvements and landscaping alterations. During 2003, the Commission reviewed over 65 Notice of Intent applications, and approximately 35 Requests for Determination of Applicability. Each filing requires a site visit by the Commission, at least one public hearing, and the issuance of a permit or decision.

Another function of the Commission is to manage and protect Town owned Conservation Land. Currently, approximately 140 parcels containing over 550 acres are under the controlled supervision of the Commission. Lands owned by the Commission include Ives Memorial Park, land along the Ipswich River and numerous large and small parcels throughout the Town. These lands are set aside to preserve their function to protect our watershed resources. Presently the Commission does not have adequate assets to purchase property, but it does encourage gifts and donations of land to the Town for conservation purposes.

The North Reading Conservation Commission is comprised of five voting members and any number of associate members appointed as the need arises. Residents of North Reading are encouraged to accept associate member appointments both to learn more about the Town's wetlands and water resources and to become an active member of the community. The Commission meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at the Town office on North Street. Site visits and inspections are made for each agenda item on the Saturday morning prior to the meetings.

The Commission shares space with the Community Planning Commission in Room 9 at the Town Hall. The Commission has a part-time agent, Mary Trudeau, and a part-time administrative assistant, Kathy Morgan. Mary is available to meet with residents and real estate developers to help interpret the applicability of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the North Reading General Wetlands Protection Bylaw. Mary and Kathy are also available to help with permit applications and to schedule agenda time.

The Commission members are unpaid volunteers who give of their time and effort to benefit the Town of North Reading. The Commission endeavors to work in cooperation with residents, applicants, other town boards, local state and federal agencies for the protection of our natural resources. We are hopeful that the service of the members are recognized and appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
North Reading Conservation Commission

Bill Reed, Chairman
Paul Dick, Vice Chairman
Martha Cregan, Member
Lenore Ministeri, Member
Martin Weiss, Member
David Long, Associate
Tracy Novak, Associate

MARTINS POND RECLAMATION STUDY COMMITTEE AND THE MARTINS POND ASSOCIATION

The Martins Pond Reclamation Study Committee (MPRSC) and Martins Pond Association (MPA) spent 2003 working on many important local issues with cooperation and assistance from state and local officials. Merrimack College, and private consultants.

These issues included:

- Water levels and Water Quality/Flooding and Beaver activity
- Completion of an Assessment Study of Martins Pond
- Identifying and applying for funds for future studies and actions

The committee held two public meetings (April 9 and December 10) where we reviewed ongoing projects. We attended workshops to improve our knowledge of lake and pond issues.

Water Levels/Flooding

- 1) A final draft of the Flood Emergency Plan for the Martins Pond area is being written.
- 2) Volunteers continue to monitor nine USGS water level gauges weekly to check water levels upstream, downstream and in Martins Pond to try and prevent future flooding and track seasonal changes.
- 3) We have had to request a special permit to breach the beaver dam at the end of Fieldcrest Road. Our goal is a town-wide beaver management program.
- 4) In the spring, the Army Corps of Engineers Flood Plain Management Service Program began studying the flooding problems of Martins Brook from Rt. 62 in Wilmington to Burroughs Rd. in North Reading.
- 5) In addition, the Army Corps plans to hydro-rake Martins Brook from the bridge on Burroughs Road approximately 500 feet down the river and 10-20 feet wide.

Assessment Study of Martins Pond

Merrimack College and Malcolm Pirnie Engineers completed the final Assessment Study of Martins Pond in March. The report includes a watershed management plan for the Martins Pond area that assesses the current condi-

tion of the watershed, including water quality, flooding, wildlife issues, and invasive plant species, and supplements efforts currently being accomplished under the Town's Storm Water Management Plan. An assessment of the hydraulic conditions of the pond, including the Skug River and Martins Brook is included. In addition, the grant covered a pilot study for the release of the Galerucella Beetle to control an invasive plant species, Purple Loosestrife.

The cost of this study was shared equally by the Town (April 2002 Town Meeting) and the state (Lakes and Ponds Grant from DEM). Copies of the report are available at Flint Memorial Library and from the Town Engineer Mike Soraghan. This report has a summary of recommendations for the following categories:

- 1) Loosestrife and wetland assessment
- 2) Martins Pond assessment
- 3) Water quality assessment

Identifying and Applying for Funds

- 1) We were awarded a \$2,000 grant from the New England Grassroots Environmental Fund to fund watershed initiatives.
- 2) In partnership with the Town and Merrimack College, we applied for a grant for METs Ecosystem Health and Biological Diversity Program.
- 3) The town, in partnership with Merrimack College and our group, applied for a volunteer water monitoring assistance grant (8Kmax) to keep our studies going at Merrimack College. The grant program was cancelled so we can, hopefully, try again next year.
- 4) We applied for the PEP 319 Nonpoint Source Competitive Grants Program (nearly 100K) to help combat the invasive weed Fanwort in the pond and other pollutants.
- 5) We applied for help from Antioch University Graduate School of Environmental Science and Conservation. We were not selected.
- 6) We are still slated to tap into the Environmental Bond Fund created August 30, 2002. We have \$300,000 earmarked for projects that will benefit Martins Pond and/or Martins Brook. The Army Corps of Engineers' report will be used to apply for funding under this bill to continue the raking and opening the river downstream in an effort to alleviate flooding.

Members

As of the end of the year, there were four regular members of the Martins Pond Reclamation Study Committee: Missy Correlle (37 Lakeside Blvd.), Lida Jenney (6 Shore Road), Janet Nicosia (2 Poplar Terrace), and Scott Ronco (4 Poplar Terrace). We have room for one more full member and two associate members. The Martins Pond Association can have an unlimited number of members. Mike Scannell of the MPA continues to serve on the Wastewater Planning Advisory Committee as the Martins Pond Association representative.

Workshops/Conferences Attended

In January, Janet Nicosia, Missy Correlle, and Lida Jenney attended COLAP's Annual Lake and Pond Management Workshop in Leicester.

MPA Events/Fundraisers

This year's fundraisers profited close to \$4,700.

- 1) Saturday, February 8th – MPA had their 11th Annual Winter Festival at Clarke Park that raised about \$332.
- 2) Monday, May 27 – The MPA prepared a “float” for the Memorial Day parade from a canoe on a trailer pulled by two Indians on a tandem bicycle.
- 3) Drop-in Volleyball at Clarke Park, 6 PM - dusk, Thursday nights
- 4) Saturday, July 12 – MPA had their 6th Annual Fishing Derby and 9th Annual Summer Festival at Clarke Park that profited \$2,074.
- 5) Saturday, September 6 – Over a dozen members of the MPA and friends, along with Brian Wood, Parks Director volunteered their day to install the new playground equipment at Clarke Park saving us \$10,000 in installation charges. The \$21,000 cost to purchase the play equipment was shared by the MPA (\$11,500) and the Parks Dept. (\$9,500).
- 6) Saturday, October 25 – We had our 9th Annual Children's Haunted Playground that raised about \$3,000.
- 7) Bottle deposits to benefit MPA – Drop off your returnable bottles and cans to N.E. Beverage and Redemption Center any time and request the money go to the Martins Pond account.

To learn more about the Martins Pond Reclamation Study Committee and the Martins Pond Association, visit our web site: www.martinspond.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Lida Jenney and Janet Nicosia

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Parks and Recreation Department is committed to enhancing the quality of life for all North Reading Residents, by striving to provide the best recreational programming and park facilities possible.

The Parks and Recreation Department is a service-based department. We work interactively with local and regional sports associations, school departments, other Town departments, individual Town residents, other Park and Recreation departments, churches and private organizations. Each year over 4,000 people benefit from Parks and Recreation Department programs and park infrastructure. Our clientele base continues to increase each year. Parks and Recreation is responsible for 4 soccer fields, 11 ball fields, 2 tennis courts, 3 basketball courts, a volleyball court, 2 beaches, a street hockey rink, skateboard park, picnic areas, irrigation infrastructure, 3 children's play areas, summer playground programs. Children's Art Center, after school events, special events, a summer BBQ/Concert series, a wine and food tasting event, and many other recreation and park programs.

The department revenues are generated through user fees and program fees. The revenues are used for park and equipment maintenance, recreational program development, and seasonal staff salaries. Most programs run by the department are self-supporting and prices are set to maintain a responsible and reasonable budget. User fees and program fees are set at a level that encourages participation from all residents.

The Parks and Recreation Department had another very busy year in 2003. Parks and Recreation, in conjunction with other departments, was subject to a second year of additional budget cuts, this second year of reduced funding placed a large burden on the department's Revolving Fund.

Recreation

Looking back on 2003, the department was witness to several new programs and offerings including Summer Girls Lacrosse, Body Shaping, Golf, Martial Arts, Creative Minds, Discount Movie Tickets, Cardio Kickboxing, Junior Boxing, Karate, Skyhawks Lacrosse, Skyhawks Flag Football, a trip to Bailey's Island, and more.

A big addition to the department was the approval of a Recreation Programmer position. The part-time position was filled in October 2003. We are looking forward to the new programs that we will be able to offer with the expanded help. This position will be focusing on night and weekend programming for the winter, spring and summer seasons.

Special events for 2003 included the 3rd Annual Parent Child Valentines Dance, children's vacation performers Dan Grady's Marvelous Marionette Med-

ley and Bubble Mania, Fourth of July Road Race & children's races and the 7th Annual Harvest Festival.

Similar to the BBQ series, our summer programs were hit a little harder with quite a rainy season. However, the kids at the Playground program were visited by the Lowell Lockmonsters, Boston Breakers, Have a Ball Game Show, and Animal Adventures. Field trips this year included, Cedarland Family Fun Center, Kids Playground, Museum of Science, Lynn Spirit baseball, and Chunky's Theatre. It was another busy and successful summer.

As a department we continue to be members of the Massachusetts Recreation and Park Association, for which we host regional meetings once a year and attend the annual state conference. Our department is also involved with the association at the Executive Board level. One of the greatest benefits of being members is that it allows us access to over 300 park and recreation professionals in Massachusetts. This is a wonderful resource as it allows us to have a legislative voice, share ideas, discuss policies and help spread the word about the benefits of parks and recreation.

Parks System

The weather dampened the 2003 Concert /BBQ series, causing the cancellation of three weeks of events. Maintenance continues to be a key component for Parks. In 2003, vandalism was at it's highest level to date. On a brighter note, Parks and Recreation sponsored the 150th celebration for the incorporation of North Reading in 1853. The event featured emcee Parks Director Brian Wood, Town speakers, Selectman John Murphy, Police Chief Hank Purnell, Fire Chief Ed O'Brien, State Representative Brad Jones, State Senator Bruce Tarr, Town Historian Tom Parker, a children's performer, a classic rock band, with a spectacular fireworks finale designed and choreographed by local resident Warren Pierce. The event was well attended by over 1,200 residents.

P&R co-sponsored the purchase of playground equipment with the Martin's Pond Association. With the help of community build volunteers, coordinated by Janet Nicosia, MPA co-chair, we build a wonderful play equipment system at Clarke Park on Martin's Pond. The department constructed a 7,200 square foot skatepark in the fall of 2003. Construction was made possible by a large donation from Franklin (Stan) Davis, contributions from Town Meeting, Charlie Benevento, and many other local residents and businesses.

Parks and Recreation sponsored a very successful second annual "Wine and Food Tasting" at the Thomson Country Club in May.

As we move into 2004, we strive to uphold our mission by offering high quality recreational programs and park resources. We are also interested in educating our residents about the importance of adopting healthy lifestyles through participation in our programs and at our facilities.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Mullin, Chairperson
Ed Downing, Vice Chair
William Colbert
Elaine Daszkiewicz
Steve Hartwell
Ed Pawlowski
Maureen Stevens, Administrative Assistant
Wendy Werner, Recreation Administrator
Brian Wood, Parks Director, Dept. Head

THE HILLVIEW COMMISSION

State of the Enterprise

The Hillview Enterprise remains healthy, Golf revenues for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003 were below plan in part because of a sluggish economy but mostly due to an early winter, late spring and wet month of June. The revenue shortfall has been covered by our adequate cash reserves.

We are in the seventh year of our course improvement plan with a goal to improve play and course safety. We have also continued to make improvements to the inside and outside of the Function Hall aimed at improving its marketability for functions, meetings and parties.

Management

After 15 years with the Commission Urilla Cheverie retired in July. In her role as Operations Manager Urilla, reporting to the Commissioners, was responsible for the day to day operations of the Enterprise. Her enthusiasm, professionalism and efforts will be missed.

The Commission welcomes Fiona Maxwell who has replaced Rilla as Operations Manager. In the short time that Fiona has been on board she has demonstrated the ability to quickly learn, execute and contribute to the operations of the Hillview Enterprise.

The Commissioners continue to share the management responsibility of the Enterprise with individual Commissioners charged with overseeing specific segments of the Enterprise. This approach continues to assure that the Golf Course, Function Hall and Business Operations get appropriate focus while balancing the workload of each Commissioner.

The day-to-day operation of the Course and Function Hall remain contracted out to GFMI, Inc. and B&D Golf Enterprises Inc. respectively. Our practice of monthly meetings with their representatives to review financial reports, operations and issues assure that the Commission's objectives are openly communicated and understood.

Communication continues to be excellent between the Commissioners, Town Administrator, Town Finance Director, Board of Selectman and other Town Committees.

Golf Course

The golf course remains the main source of revenue of the Enterprise. To assure revenues will meet the needs of the Enterprise we have continued to invest in equipment, capital improvement and maintenance.

A new 8th Green was opened in the spring. Work was also done to improve drainage on the 3rd and 5th fairways. The management team also increased the size of the nursery for future developing of the remaining greens. Wiring in the main pump house was also redone.

The golf cart lease expires in March and the Commission has taken initial steps to purchase the carts for further use or trade on a new golf cart lease.

The GFMI Management Team of Steve Murphy, Mike Foster, Superintendent Matt Grady, Golf Pro Chris Carter, Assistant Pro Dick Baker and staff continue to do an outstanding job of managing the golf course and keeping the grounds in pristine shape. We are grateful for their efforts in making the Hillview Golf Course one of the best in the area.

Function Hall

Improvements were made to both the inside and the outside of the Function Hall.

Outside projects included the repair of piping feeding the septic system aimed at eliminating odors in the downstairs men's and ladies rooms.

Inside projects included the replacement of the main boiler with a four boiler array configured to improve overall reliability and efficiency. Additionally new venting was installed in the pub kitchen and Function Hall bathrooms.

Our Function Hall business remains stable under the capable leadership of Burton Page and his staff. We gratefully acknowledge their dedication and enthusiasm.

Ipswich River Park

The Commission continues to service the debt for the acquisition and construction of Ipswich River Park. We are able to continue our policy of maintaining at arms length the management of Ipswich River Park because of the outstanding job that the LUC and Recreation Department have done in management and maintenance of the Park. We commend them for their continued effort and diligence.

Wheeler Property

The Recreation Department is utilizing the building on the property to store

the Park's maintenance equipment. The land continues to be banked for future development after some of the original Hillview Enterprise debt has been retired.

Payment in Lieu of Taxes

The payment in lieu of taxes was increased to \$140,000 that includes the current year's assessment and a final payment for past year's assessments on the Ipswich River Park properties. The Commission voted the increase to help offset the Town's budget woes with hope that some of the additional funds be allocated to the recreation budget.

Commission Membership

Larry Dymont was appointed to the Commission to replace Steve Burton who resigned in July. Bob Mauceri and George Stack were reappointed to Commission.

Acknowledgments

Rilla Cheverie retired in July after 15 years dedicated service as Administrator and Operations Manager of the Hillview Enterprise. We wish her good health and success in her new endeavors.

We also are grateful to Mary Turcotte for helping us through the period between Rilla's leaving and the hiring of a new Operations Manager.

We are also indebted to citizen volunteers, town officials, town employees and the individual efforts of the commissioners to assure that the operation of the Hillview Enterprise continues to be run efficiently.

We are pleased again to report that the Hillview Enterprise remains viable with the ability to meet all of its financial, contractual and community obligations.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Mauceri, Chairman
George Stack, Vice Chairman
Larry Dymont, Treasurer
Steve O'Leary
Chuck Carucci
Jack Collins
Hank Purnell

WATER COMMISSION

In 2003, The North Reading Water Commission continued its work with the North Reading Water Department on several major goals and projects.

The Commission continually monitors and reviews water rates to be sure that the Water Department can provide services needed by North Reading residents and businesses. Our goal is to supply the citizens and businesses in Town with quality water at a reasonable price.

We also work with the Water Department on a continuing public education program to inform North Reading's townspeople about water conservation and how each household can help by conserving water.

The Commission also continued its work with the Water Department on the department's capital plan for the improvement and upgrade of the town's water system.

Again, we would like to thank Water Superintendent Mark Clark for his professionalism and guidance. We feel his contributions to the Town are invaluable, and we thank him for his help.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Pothier, Chairman
Carol Bourque, Vice Chairlady
Karl Touet, Secretary
Joseph Marotta
Dorothy Paicos
Vincent Ragucci

Town Clerk's Records

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS TOWN OF NORTH READING ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT APRIL 7, 2003 7:00 P.M.

Middlesex, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of North Reading in the County of Middlesex, GREETING.

IN THE NAME OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Daniel H. Shay Auditorium, North Reading High School, Park Street in said North Reading, on **MONDAY, the SEVENTH DAY OF APRIL, 2003**, at **seven o'clock** in the evening, then and there to act on the following articles:-

* * * * *

And you are directed to serve this Warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof at two conspicuous places in each of the four precincts in said Town, fourteen days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of meeting, as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this tenth day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and three.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

John J. Murphy, Chairman
Joseph Veno, Vice Chairman
James P. Muldoon, Clerk
Marcia L. Bailey
G. Kevin Callagy

A True Copy
ATTEST:

John J. Firriello, Constable

JOHN J. FIRRIELLO
ONE SULLIVAN ROAD
NORTH READING, MA 01864

March 17th, 2003

I have notified the inhabitants of the Town of North Reading 24 days before April Town Election on April 7th, 2003 by posting the warrant in two places in each of the four precincts:

- Precinct #1** Viking Tree
Washington Street, North Reading
- Precinct #2** Carpet Craft
Washington Street, North Reading
- Precinct #3** Carousel Cleaners
265 Main Street, North Reading
- Precinct #4** Town Hall
235 North Street, North Reading
- Precinct #1** Reading Lumber
Main Street, North Reading
- Precinct #2** Eastgate Liquors
Main Street, North Reading
- Precinct #3** U.S. Post Office
Park Street, North Reading
- Precinct #4** Ryers Store
Park Street, North Reading

ATTEST:

John J. Firriello, Constable

TOWN OF NORTH READING
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
APRIL 7, 2003
DANIEL SHAY AUDITORIUM
NORTH READING HIGH SCHOOL
7:00 P.M.

The April 7, 2003 Annual Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator Klaus Kubierschky at 7:00 p.m. Police Detective Jodi Gerardi and Firefighter Donald Stats were on duty. Tellers appointed by the Moderator were Kenneth Jones, Lauren McMullen and Robert Mauceri. Registrar Barbara Stats was present.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, John Murphy. The Moderator then proceeded with a moment of silence to honor all of our armed forces personnel who are serving our country abroad with our hope for their safe return.

The Moderator announced various appointments to the Finance Committee: Mark Sturdevant and Michael Mastacusa (re-appointments to 3-year terms each); Donald Kelliher (to fill vacancy of Brad Jones, Jr. and new term of 3-years expiring April 2006); and Noel Kelly (1-year appointment to fill vacancy of Robert Visconti until April 2004).

Mr. Moderator – I move that the following persons be admitted to the meeting: George E. Dow, Sr., Finance Director; David S. Troughton, School Superintendent; Robert Rodgers, Planning Administrator; Robert Turosz, North Reading Transcript (freedom of the floor); James Fassie, BSC Group; Seth Albaum, Comcast Cable (freedom of the floor); David Hanlon, Director of Public Works; Harold S. Miller, Jr., School Department (freedom of the floor); Carl Nelson, School Department Business Manager; Helena Minton, Library Director; Elizabeth Craveiro, Treasurer/Collector; Charlene Johnston, Weston & Sampson; Darren Klein, Town Counsel; Thomas Younger, Town Administrator; Richard Simmons, Assessing Manager; William DiTullio, Malcolm Pirnie, Inc.; Bob Winn, Malcolm Pirnie, Inc.; Michael Soraghan, Town Engineer; Martin Fair, Health Agent; Mark Clark, Water Superintendent; Donald Stats, Firefighter; John Welsh, DPW. *[J. Murphy]* **UNANIMOUS**

I move to dispense with the reading of the Warrant and to refer to the Articles by number and further to dispense with the reading of the return of service by the Constable. **UNANIMOUS**

Article 1 Select Town Officers

To choose all necessary Town officers not elected by ballot, and determine what instructions shall be given to them.

ARTICLE 1 – SELECT TOWN OFFICERS

I move to authorize the Board of Selectmen to choose all necessary Town officers not elected by ballot and to determine what instructions shall be given. *[J. Murphy]* **UNANIMOUS**

Article 2 Hear and Act on Reports of Town Officers and Committees
To hear and act upon the reports of Town Officers and Committees.

ARTICLE 2 – HEAR AND ACT ON REPORTS OF TOWN OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

I move to accept the printed Town Report for the year 2002 as the report of Town Officers and Committees and to hear other reports as may be presented at this meeting. *[J. Murphy]*

Oral reports were presented by the following: Wastewater Planning Advisory Committee by Denise Conroy; Police Station Building Committee by Kenneth Jones; and Elementary School Building Committee by Jonathan DeSimone.
UNANIMOUS

Mr. Moderator – I move that the following persons be admitted to the meeting: Michelle Spurr, 38 Park Street, North Reading; and Jeanette Gentile, 8 Gillis Drive, North Reading. **UNANIMOUS**

Article 3 Authorize Director of Public Works to Accept Easements

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Director of Public Works to accept, on behalf of the Town, easements in perpetuity from owners of record in cases where such easements are deemed necessary or desirable for the installation and maintenance of drainage and water mains, or for other construction, which easements are in the interests of public health, welfare, safety, or convenience to the motoring public; or what it will do in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 3 – AUTHORIZE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS TO ACCEPT EASEMENTS

I move to authorize the Department of Public Works to accept easements on behalf of the town as specified in Article 3 as printed in the warrant. *[J. Murphy]*

Finance Committee recommends.
Board of Selectmen recommends.
UNANIMOUS

Article 4 Authorize Treasurer to Enter into Compensating Balance Agreements

To see if the Town will vote to authorize its Treasurer/Collector to enter into a compensating balance agreement or agreements for fiscal year 2004 pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53F of the General Laws; or what it will do in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 4 – AUTHORIZE COMPENSATING BALANCE AGREEMENTS

I move to authorize the Treasurer to enter into compensating balance agreements as specified in Article 4 as printed in the warrant. *[J. Murphy]*

Finance Committee recommends.
Board of Selectmen recommends.
UNANIMOUS

Mr. Moderator – I move that the following persons be admitted to the meeting: Peter Kalafatas, 483 Park Street; Mike Harris, 4 Meade Road; Alison MacEachern, 3 Memory Lane. *[J. Murphy]* **UNANIMOUS**

Article 5 Accept Chapter 369 of the Acts of 2002

To see if the Town will vote to accept Chapter 369 of the Acts of 2002, an act relative to dog license fees for senior citizens; or what it will do in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 5 – ACCEPT CHAPTER 369 OF THE ACTS OF 2002

I move to accept Chapter 369 of the Acts of 2002, an act relative to dog license fees for senior citizens, as specified in Article 5, as printed in the Warrant. *[J. Murphy]*

Finance Committee recommends.
Board of Selectmen recommends.
UNANIMOUS

Article 6 Accept MGL Chapter 40, Section 22F

To see if the Town will vote to accept MGL Chapter 40, section 22F; or what it will do in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 6 – ACCEPT MGL CHAPTER 40, SECTION 22F

I move to accept MGL Chapter 40, Section 22F, as specified in Article 6 as printed in the Warrant. *[J. Murphy]*

Finance Committee recommends.
Board of Selectmen recommends by a vote of 3-2. [Selectmen Callagy and Veno spoke against the article.]
CARRIED

Article 7 Accept MGL Chapter 184, Section 51 of the Acts of 2002

To see if the Town will vote to accept, beginning in fiscal year 2004, the provisions of MGL Chapter 184, section 51 of the Acts of 2002, which amends Chapter 59, section 5(41c), and to make the following adjustments for qualifying for a property tax exemption under this law; or what it will do in relation thereto:

Exempt Amount:	Increase by 100 percent to \$1,000
Eligibility Age:	Reduce from 70 to 65
Gross Receipts Limits:	Increase to \$20,000 if single, \$30,000 if married
Whole Estate Limit:	Increase to \$40,000 if single, \$55,000 if married
Whole Estate Exclusion:	Increase to no more than three additional units.

ARTICLE 7 – ACCEPT MGL CHAPTER 184, SECTION 51 OF THE ACTS OF 2002

I move to accept, beginning in fiscal year 2004, the provisions of MGL Chapter 184, Section 51 of the Acts of 2002, which amends Chapter 59, section 5(41c), and to make the following adjustments for qualifying for a property tax exemption under this law - increase the Exemption amount to \$750, and lower the Eligibility Age to 65, as specified in Article 7 as printed in the Warrant.

Finance Committee recommends.
UNANIMOUS

Mr. Moderator – I move that the following person be admitted to the meeting: Nelia Jennings, 60 Park Street, North Reading. **UNANIMOUS**

Article 8 Amend Code of the Town of North Reading- General By-Law Chapter 11 Alarm Systems, Section 11-4 Installation

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Code of the Town of North Reading by amending Chapter 11 Alarm Systems, section 11-4 Installation by increasing the amount in section E. from two hundred dollars (\$200) to three hundred dollars (\$300); or what it will do in relation thereto.

- E. Fire alarm users shall, on or before July 1st of each year, remit to the Town Treasurer a connection fee of three hundred dollars (\$300) for each master box connection to the North Reading Fire Department receiving equipment.

ARTICLE 8 – AMEND CODE OF THE TOWN OF NORTH READING - GENERAL BYLAWS CHAPTER 11 ALARM SYSTEMS SECTION 11-4 INSTALLATION

I move to amend the Code of the Town of North Reading by amending Chapter 11 Alarm Systems, Section 11-4 Installation, as specified in Article 8 as printed in the Warrant. *[J. Murphy]*

Finance Committee recommends.
Board of Selectmen recommends.
UNANIMOUS

Article 9 Amend Code of the Town of North Reading - General By-Laws Chapter 139 Recreational Vehicles

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Code of the Town of North Reading by amending Chapter 139 Recreational Vehicles, section 139.1 Restrictions on Use, by adding the following; or what it will do in relation thereto:

“No person shall operate a recreational vehicle that emits an unusual or excessive amount of noise. A recreational vehicle shall be deemed to emit an unusual or excessive amount of noise if:

1. It produces a sound pressure level of more than seventy-eight decibels, as measured at maximum speed at fifty feet;
2. It increases the broadband sound level by more than 10ddB(A) above ambient; or
3. It produces a “pure tone” condition - when any octave band center frequency sound pressure level exceeds the two adjacent center frequency sound pressure level by 3 decibels or more.”

ARTICLE 9 – AMEND CODE OF THE TOWN OF NORTH READING - GENERAL BY-LAWS – CHAPTER 139 RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

I move to amend the Code of the Town of North Reading by amending Chapter 139 Recreational Vehicles, section 139.1 Restrictions on Use, as specified in Article 9 as printed in the Warrant with the following changes - to substitute the numbers 1., 2. and 3. with the letter designations A., B. and C. *[J. Murphy]*

Finance Committee stated that no action was required by them.
Board of Selectmen recommends.
CARRIED

Article 10 Amend Code of the Town of North Reading - Zoning By-Laws – Section 200-30 Zoning Map

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Code of the Town of North Reading Zoning By-Laws as follows; or what it will do in relation thereto:

\$200-30 Zoning Map

Replace the phrase “(The current revision date is October 4, 1999)” with “(The current revision date is October 10, 2002)”.

ARTICLE 10 – AMEND CODE OF THE TOWN OF NORTH READING - ZONING BY-LAWS – SECTION 200-30 ZONING MAP

I move to amend the Code of the Town of North Reading, Section 200-30 Zoning Map, as specified in Article 10 as printed in the Warrant. *[W. Pearce]* *[Requires 2/3 vote]*

Finance Committee stated that no action was required by them.
Board of Selectmen recommends.

Warren Pearce, Chairman of the Community Planning Commission, gave an oral report and presentation on the article.

UNANIMOUS

Article 11 Authorize Chapter 90 Highway Construction Funds (Pending authorization of the Department of Revenue)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from the Chapter 90 Bond Issue Apportionment, a sum of money received from the State for the construction, reconstruction or maintenance of roadways in Town; or what it will do in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 11 – AUTHORIZE CHAPTER 90 HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION FUNDS

I move to appropriate such sum as may be allotted from the Chapter 90 Apportionment for the purpose of constructing, reconstructing or maintaining roadways within the Town of North Reading, as specified in Article 11 as printed in the Warrant. *[J. Murphy]*

Finance Committee recommends.
Board of Selectmen recommends.
UNANIMOUS

Article 12 Fund Storm Water Management Program

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate by transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to implement the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System, Phase II, Storm Water Permit Program as required by the United States Environmental Protection Agency; or what it will do in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 12 – FUND STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

I move to appropriate the sum of \$400,000.00 for the purpose of funding

Phase 2 of the Town's Storm Water Management Plan and that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said sum from the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust, as specified in Article 12 as printed in the Warrant. [J. Murphy] [Requires 2/3 vote]

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

David Hanlon, Director of Public Works, made a presentation under the Article.

UNANIMOUS

Article 13 Fund A Full Measure and List of All Properties in North Reading

To see if the Town will vote to raise by taxation or appropriation by transfer from available funds, or borrow, a sum of money to perform a full measure and list of all properties in North Reading; or what it will do in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 13 – FUND A FULL MEASURE AND LIST OF ALL PROPERTIES IN NORTH READING

I move to appropriate the sum of \$190,000.00 from the Overlay Reserve for the purpose of funding a full measure and list of all properties in the Town of North Reading, as specified in Article 13 as printed in the Warrant. [J. Murphy]

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

Move the question [Carl Johnson] **CARRIED**

Hand count on the main motion: YES – 144 NO – 48
CARRIED

Article 14 Fund Retirement Obligations

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate a sum of money and/or transfer a sum of money from available funds for the purpose of funding FY04 retirement obligations; or what it will do in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 14 – FUND RETIREMENT OBLIGATIONS

I move to raise and appropriate the sum of \$112,661 and transfer \$152,339 from the Overlay Reserve, for a total of \$265,000 for the purpose of funding retirement obligations for Town employees, as specified in Article 14 as printed in the Warrant. [J. Murphy]

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

Article 15 Fund Modular Classrooms

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to purchase or lease modular classrooms (including design specifications, installation and equipping) for the Middle and High Schools; or what it will do in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 15 – FUND MODULAR CLASSROOMS

I move to appropriate the sum of \$1,400,000.00 for the purpose of purchasing or leasing modular classrooms (including design specifications, installation and equipping) and that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow said sum in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, Section 7, as specified in Article 15 as printed in the Warrant. [M. Vacca] [Requires 2/3 vote]

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends by a 4-1 vote.

School Committee recommends.

Carl Nelson, School Dept Business Manager made a presentation under the article.

UNANIMOUS

Article 16 Conservation Revolving Fund - Re-authorize

To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize the Conservation Revolving Fund as voted in Article 20 Revolving Funds - Wetlands Protection, at the April 1992 Town Meeting; or what it will do in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 16 – CONSERVATION REVOLVING FUND - RE-AUTHORIZE

I move to re-authorize the Conservation Revolving Fund as voted in Article 20 Revolving Funds - Wetlands Protection, at the April 1992 Town Meeting in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, section 53E 1/2 and to set the maximum expenditure for FY2004 at \$100,000, as specified in Article 16 as printed in the warrant, and that any wetland filing fees collected be deposited into said fund and expended to meet the expenses of the Conservation Commission's programs. [J. Veno]

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

I move to consider Article 18 out of sequence for the following reason: the Article 18 amendment needs to be dealt with prior to the re-authorization of the Parks & Rec. Revolving Acct. Article #17. [J. Murphy for B. Wood] [Requires 4/5 vote]

UNANIMOUS

Article 18 Amend Article 15 of the April 1, 2002 Town Meeting - Revolving Fund Parks and Recreation

To see if the Town will vote to authorize, under MGL Chapter 44, sec. 53E1/2, the establishment of a Parks and Recreation Revolving Fund into which funds collected from special events, user fees, programs and/or permits shall be deposited for use by the Parks and Recreation Department to pay associated service, supply, personnel, or capital costs related to Park operations or Recreation programming, and to further authorize the expenditure of not more than \$214,100 for said purposes; or what it will do in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 18 – AMEND ARTICLE 15 OF THE APRIL 1, 2002
TOWN MEETING - REVOLVING FUND PARKS
AND RECREATION**

I move to amend Article 15 of the April 1, 2002 Town Meeting warrant to authorize the establishment of a Parks and Recreation Revolving Fund in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2 and to set the maximum expenditure for FY2003 at \$214,122 for such purposes as specified in Article 18 as printed in the warrant, and that any fees collected be deposited into said fund and expended to meet the expenses of the Parks and Recreation Commission's programs. *[J. Murphy]*

[Note: The Moderator stated that this would change the action taken under Article 15 of the April 2002 Town Meeting rather than amend the motion.]

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

[Note: original amount authorized in 2002 was \$250,000 which exceeded amount allowed under the law.]

UNANIMOUS

Article 17 Parks and Recreation Revolving Fund - Re-authorize

To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize the Recreation Revolving Fund as voted in Article 22 Revolving Fund - Parks & Recreation, at the October 1997 Town Meeting; or what it will do in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 17 – PARKS AND RECREATION REVOLVING FUND -
RE-AUTHORIZE**

I move to re-authorize the Parks and Recreation Revolving Fund originally authorized under Article 22 of the October 1997 Town Meeting in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2, and to set the maximum expenditure for FY2004 at \$222,953, as specified in Article 17 as printed in the warrant, and that any fees collected be deposited into said fund and expended to meet the expenses of the Parks and Recreation Commission's programs. *[J. Murphy]*

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

Mr. Moderator: I move to reconsider Article 15. *[Stephen O'Sullivan]*
The Moderator read Chapter 172.11 "Reconsideration" of the by-laws.
Motion to reconsider **UNANIMOUSLY LOST**

Article 19 Recycling Promotion Revolving Account - Re-authorize

To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize the Recycling Promotion Revolving Account as voted in Article 12, of the April 1995 Town Meeting; or what it will do in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 19 – RECYCLING PROMOTION REVOLVING ACCOUNT -
RE-AUTHORIZE**

I move to re-authorize the Recycling Promotion Revolving Account origi-

nally authorized under Article 12 of the April 1995 Town Meeting in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2 and to set the maximum expenditure for FY2004 at \$2,000, as specified in Article 19 as printed in the warrant, and that any fees collected be deposited into said fund and expended to meet the program's expenses. *[J. Murphy]*

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

Article 20 Damon Tavern Revolving Account - Re-authorize

To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize the Damon Tavern Revolving Account as voted in Article 17 of the April 2002 Town Meeting; or what it will do in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 20 – DAMON TAVERN REVOLVING FUND - RE-AUTHORIZE

I move to re-authorize the Damon Tavern Revolving Account originally authorized under Article 17 of the April 2002 Town Meeting in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2, and to set the maximum expenditure for FY2004 at \$24,000, as specified in Article 20 as printed in the warrant, and that any fees collected be deposited into said fund and expended to meet the program's expenses. *[J. Murphy]*

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

Article 21 Snow and Ice Deficit

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be applied towards the FY03 Snow and Ice Deficit; or what it will do in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 21 – SNOW AND ICE DEFICIT

I move to transfer the sum of \$210,000 from Cell Tower Revenue and \$46,645 from Overlay Surplus to the FY03 Snow and Ice Deficit, as specified in Article 21 as printed in the warrant. *[J. Murphy]*

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

Article 22 Capital Expenditures

To see if the Town will vote to raise by taxation and appropriate, appropriate and transfer from unexpended funds remaining in Warrant Articles of previous years, or appropriate by transfer from available funds or borrow a sum of money, for the purchase of items of a capital nature, and further to authorize the Town Administrator to sell or trade-in items rendered surplus by such purchases; or what it will do in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 22 – CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

I move to pass over Article 22. *[J. Murphy]*

UNANIMOUS

Article 23 Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to fix the compensation of all elected officers, provide for a reserve fund, and allocate sums of money to defray charges and expenses of the Town, including or relating to, but not limited to:

- Town Boards,
- Town Departments,
- Town Committees,
- Debt and the Interest thereon, and
- Wages and Salaries,

for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004; to appropriate the funds required for the aforementioned purposes; and to raise these funds by taxation as authorized by Ch. 59 of the Massachusetts General Laws, by transferring unexpended funds remaining in accounts established by Warrant Articles of previous Town Meetings or other available funds, or by taxation as authorized through a referendum to be conducted pursuant to Ch. 59, sec. 21C(m) of the Massachusetts General laws; or what it will do in relation thereto.

**APRIL 2003 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
Article 23
FY 2004 OPERATING BUDGET**

FUNCTION SUMMARY

	<u>DEPT REQUEST</u>	<u>SPONSOR RECOMMENDED</u>	<u>FINCOM REC</u>
ALL COSTS	37,703,254	36,676,009	36,676,009
GENERAL GOVERNMENT:			
ADMINISTRATION	842,093	841,273	841,273
FINANCE	4,922,729	4,885,877	4,885,877
PUBLIC SAFETY	5,331,638	4,770,378	4,770,378
PUBLIC WORKS	2,905,262	2,803,689	2,803,689
GENERAL SERVICES	912,340	895,122	895,122
LAND USE	181,288	171,766	171,766
EDUCATION	16,781,430	16,481,430	16,481,430
DEBT SERVICE	1,601,598	1,601,598	1,601,598
ENTERPRISES	4,224,876	4,224,876	4,224,876

Above is a summary, by function, of the FY2004 Operating Budgets of all Town Departments.

ADMINISTRATION

MODERATOR	50	50	50
1 SALARIES	50	50	50
2 EXPENSES			
FINANCE COMMITTEE	4,191	1,300	1,300
3 SALARIES	3,591	1,000	1,000
4 EXPENSES	600	300	300
RESERVE FUND	125,000	125,000	125,000
5 EXPENSES	125,000	125,000	125,000*
*Line 5 Fund \$15,000 from WATER REVENUE			
GENERAL INSURANCE	199,741	199,741	199,741
6 EXPENSES	199,741	199,741	199,741*
*Line 6 Fund \$10,000 from WATER REVENUE			

	<u>DEPT REQUEST</u>	<u>SPONSOR RECOMMENDED</u>	<u>FINCOM REC</u>
TOWN COUNSEL	82,000	90,000	90,000
7 EXPENSES	82,000	90,000	90,000*
*Line 7 Fund \$8,000 from WATER REVENUE			
SELECTMEN	16,004	15,744	15,744
8 SALARIES	16,004	15,744	15,744
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR	235,383	229,714	229,714
9 SALARIES	187,983	186,214	186,214*
10 EXPENSES	47,400	43,500	43,500
11 CAPITAL			
*Line 9 Fund \$3,900 from WATER REVENUE			
SALARY POOL SUPPLEMENT	179,724	179,724	179,724
Overtime and Longevity	10,000	10,000	10,000
Retirement Incentives/ Buy-backs			
Compensation Change	169,724	169,724	169,724
12 SALARY POOL SUPPLEMENT	179,724	179,724	179,724
FINANCE			
FINANCE DIRECTOR	46,863	46,551	46,551
13 SALARIES	46,863	46,551	46,551*
*Line 13 Fund \$4,700 from WATER REVENUE			
ACCOUNTING	164,209	154,559	154,559
14 SALARIES	110,269	110,269	110,269*
15 EXPENSES	53,940	44,290	44,290*
16 CAPITAL			
*Line 14 Fund \$4,000 from WATER REVENUE			
*Line 15 Fund \$3,300 from WATER REVENUE			
ASSESSING	137,606	131,016	131,016
17 SALARIES	126,406	122,866	122,866
18 EXPENSES	11,200	8,150	8,150
19 CAPITAL			
TREASURY	65,775	62,550	62,550
20 SALARIES	44,965	44,965	44,965
21 EXPENSES	20,810	17,585	17,585
22 CAPITAL			
COLLECTION	176,862	170,787	170,787
23 SALARIES	137,792	136,722	136,722*
24 EXPENSES	39,070	34,065	34,065*
25 CAPITAL			
*Line 23 Fund \$4,000 from WATER REVENUE			
*Line 24 Fund \$2,600 from WATER REVENUE			
INFORMATION SYSTEMS	95,600	84,600	84,600
26 SALARIES	52,600	52,600	52,600*
27 EXPENSES	33,000	32,000	32,000*
28 CAPITAL	10,000		
*Line 26 Fund \$12,000 from WATER REVENUE			
*Line 27 Fund \$1,500 from WATER REVENUE			
PENSIONS & BENEFITS	4,235,814	4,235,814	4,235,814
Employment Security	5,000	5,000	5,000
Workers' Compensation	122,000	122,000	122,000
Uninsured Medical Costs	10,000	10,000	10,000
Public Safety Disability	40,000	40,000	40,000
Retired P/S Disability	20,000	20,000	20,000
Health Insurance	2,520,821	2,520,821	2,520,821
Life Insurance	14,500	14,500	14,500

	<u>DEPT REQUEST</u>	<u>SPONSOR RECOMMENDED</u>	<u>FINCOM REC</u>
County Retirement	1,296,853	1,296,853	1,296,853
Medicare	206,640	206,640	206,640
Teachers ERI			
29 PENSIONS & BENEFITS	4,235,814	4,235,814	4,235,814*
*Line 29 Fund \$98,500 from WATER REVENUE			
PUBLIC SAFETY			
POLICE DEPARTMENT	2,950,961	2,544,167	2,544,167
30 SALARIES	2,588,687	2,371,187	2,371,187
31 EXPENSES	273,310	184,875	184,875
32 CAPITAL	115,359		
Operations			
- Salaries	2,563,816	2,348,327	2,348,327
- Expenses	239,465	169,675	169,675
- Capital	115,359		
	2,918,640	2,518,002	2,518,002
Animal Control			
- Salaries	24,871	22,860	22,860
- Expenses	7,450	3,305	3,305
	32,321	26,165	26,165
FIRE DEPARTMENT	2,018,048	1,886,814	1,886,814
33 SALARIES	1,789,248	1,758,064	1,758,064*
34 EXPENSES	177,000	128,750	128,750*
35 CAPITAL	51,800		
*Line 33 Fund \$78,456 from AMBULANCE REVENUE			
*Line 34 Fund \$24,300 from AMBULANCE REVENUE			
Operations			
- Salaries	1,603,061	1,573,425	1,573,425
- Expenses	123,300	90,650	90,650
- Capital	44,300		
	1,770,661	1,664,075	1,664,075
Fire Alarm			
- Salaries	2,614	2,614	2,614
- Expenses	7,000	7,000	7,000
- Capital	5,000		
	14,614	9,614	14,614
Emergency Medical Service			
- Salaries	76,217	74,700	74,700
- Expenses	39,700	30,100	30,100
- Capital			
	115,917	104,800	104,800
Call Force			
- Salaries	42,031	42,000	42,000
- Expenses	7,000	1,000	1,000
- Capital			
	49,031	43,000	43,000
Fire & Police Mechanic			
- Salaries	65,325	65,325	65,325
- Expenses			
- Capital	2,500		
	67,825	65,325	65,325
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	1,600	1,600	1,600
36 SALARIES	1,200	1,200	1,200
37 EXPENSES	400	400	400

	<u>DEPT REQUEST</u>	<u>SPONSOR RECOMMENDED</u>	<u>FINCOM REC</u>
CODE ENFORCEMENT	179,354	173,760	173,760
38 SALARIES	162,354	160,550	160,550
39 EXPENSES	17,000	13,210	13,210
40 CAPITAL			
Building Inspection			
- Salaries	112,565	111,525	111,525
- Expenses	11,950	9,580	9,580
- Capital			
	124,515	121,105	121,105
Plumbing & Gas Inspection			
- Salaries	20,084	19,702	19,702
- Expenses	1,800	1,650	1,650
	21,884	21,352	21,352
Weights & Measures			
- Salaries	8,222	8,222	8,222
- Expenses	1,350	700	700
	9,572	8,922	8,922
Electrical Inspection			
- Salaries	21,483	21,101	21,101
- Expenses	1,900	1,280	1,280
- Capital			
	23,383	22,381	22,381
HEALTH	181,675	164,037	164,037
41 SALARIES	111,700	108,442	108,442
42 EXPENSES	69,975	55,595	55,595
43 CAPITAL			
Administration			
- Salaries	111,700	108,442	108,442
- Expenses	10,700	9,950	9,950
- Capital			
	122,400	118,392	118,392
Environmental Health			
- Salaries			
- Expenses	51,375	38,645	38,645
	51,375	38,645	38,645
Community Health			
- Salaries			
- Expenses	7,900	7,000	7,000
- Misc. Capital			
	7,900	7,000	7,000
PUBLIC WORKS			
OPERATIONS	1,742,829	1,659,256	1,659,256
44 SALARIES	884,484	855,091	855,091*
45 EXPENSES	843,245	804,165	804,165*
46 CAPITAL	15,100		
*Line 44 Fund \$40,600 from WATER REVENUE			
*Line 45 Fund \$20,000 from CEMETERY FUNDS			
Administration			
- Salaries	91,571	88,279	88,279
- Expenses	5,490	4,395	4,395
	97,061	92,674	92,674
Engineering			
- Salaries	35,103	35,103	35,103
- Expenses	3,510	1,200	1,200
	38,613	36,303	36,303

	DEPT REQUEST	SPONSOR RECOMMENDED	FINCOM REC
Road & Street			
- Salaries	432,021	417,773	417,773
- Expenses	160,580	160,560	160,560
- Capital			
	592,601	578,333	578,333
Snow & Ice			
- Salaries			
- Expenses	169,000	169,000	169,000
	169,000	169,000	169,000
Street Lighting			
- Expenses	93,750	93,750	93,750
Trees			
- Expenses	20,300	20,300	20,300
Machinery Maintenance			
- Salaries	155,208	145,272	145,272
- Expenses	103,100	91,000	91,000
	258,308	236,272	236,272
Cemetery, Parks and Grounds			
- Salaries	119,675	117,758	117,758
- Expenses	19,890	14,000	14,000
- Capital			
	139,565	131,758	131,758
Town Buildings			
- Salaries	50,906	50,906	50,906
- Expenses	267,625	249,960	249,960
- Capital	15,100		
	333,631	300,866	300,866
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT	1,162,433	1,144,433	1,144,433
47 SALARIES	23,093	23,093	23,093*
48 EXPENSES	1,139,340	1,121,340	1,121,340*
	*Line 47 Fund \$23,093 from NESWIC		
	*Line 48 Fund \$189,407 from NESWIC		
	*Line 48 Fund \$720,000 from RUBBISH FEES		
FOREST MANAGEMENT			
49 EXPENSES			
GENERAL SERVICES			
TOWN CLERK	165,520	162,410	162,410
50 SALARIES	139,263	136,153	136,153
51 EXPENSES	26,257	26,257	26,257*
52 CAPITAL			
	*Line 51 Fund \$1,900 from WATER REVENUE		
Clerk			
- Salaries	123,348	121,078	121,078
- Expenses	9,830	9,830	9,830
- Capital			
	133,178	130,908	130,908
Elections			
- Salaries	15,915	15,075	15,075
- Expenses	16,427	16,427	16,427
- Capital			
	32,342	31,502	31,502

	DEPT REQUEST	SPONSOR RECOMMENDED	FINCOM REC
ELDER SERVICES	116,054	114,573	114,573
53 SALARIES	101,254	99,773	99,773
54 EXPENSES	14,800	14,800	14,800
VETERANS' SERVICES	86,241	84,014	84,014
55 SALARIES	43,841	43,314	43,314
56 EXPENSES	42,400	40,700	40,700
57 CAPITAL			
LIBRARY	392,590	392,590	392,590
58 SALARIES	288,646	291,401	291,401
59 EXPENSES	103,944	101,189	101,189
60 CAPITAL			
RECREATION	151,935	141,535	141,535
61 SALARIES	110,943	110,943	110,943
62 EXPENSES	35,692	30,592	30,592
63 CAPITAL	5,300		
LAND USE			
CONSERVATION COMM	21,912	20,762	20,762
64 SALARIES	17,727	17,727	17,727*
65 EXPENSES	3,785	3,035	3,035
66 CAPITAL	400		
	*Line 64 Fund \$17,727 from CONSERVATION FEES		
PLANNING COMMISSION	137,065	128,893	128,893
67 SALARIES	122,843	118,371	118,371
68 EXPENSES	14,222	10,522	10,522
69 CAPITAL			
BOARD of APPEALS	22,311	22,111	22,111
70 SALARIES	17,211	17,211	17,211
71 EXPENSES	5,100	4,900	4,900
72 CAPITAL			
EDUCATION			
PUBLIC SCHOOLS	16,593,331	16,293,331	16,293,331
SALARIES	12,948,925	12,660,725	12,660,725
73 TEACHERS	9,275,284	9,079,084	9,079,084
74 ADMINISTRATION	1,059,633	1,059,633	1,059,633
75 OFFICE STAFF	546,398	521,398	521,398
76 PARAPROFESSIONALS/ TUTORS	860,553	828,553	828,553
77 CUSTODIAL	713,643	678,643	678,643
78 ATHLETICS	168,857	168,857	168,857
79 HEALTH SERVICES	236,393	236,393	236,393
80 TRANSPORTATION SPED	60,542	60,542	60,542
81 THERAPEUTIC SERVICES	27,622	27,622	27,622
82 NEW POSITIONS			
83 SALARY POOL SUPPLEMENT			
EXPENSES	3,644,406	3,632,606	3,632,606
84 DISTRICT LEADERSHIP & ADMINISTRATION	113,900	113,900	113,900
85 INSTRUCTION	926,164	926,164	926,164
86 STUDENT SERVICES	529,060	529,060	529,060
87 OPERATION & MAINTENANCE OF PLANT	762,744	762,744	762,744

	DEPT REQUEST	SPONSOR RECOMMENDED	FINCOM REC
88 FIXED CHARGES	74,000	74,000	74,000
89 EQUIPMENT	12,500	12,500	12,500
90 SPECIAL ED TUITION	1,340,753	1,340,753	1,340,753
91 HIGH SCHOOL ACCREDITATION			
92 PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT REQUESTS	53,295	53,295	53,295
93 UNASSIGNED REDUCTIONS/ ADJUSTMENTS	-168,010	-179,810	-179,810
94 REGIONAL VOTECH	188,099	188,099	188,099
DEBT SERVICE			
School Debt			
High School Renov	391,588	391,588	391,588
Hood School Renov	117,830	117,830	117,830
Heat Conversion			
Middle School Roof	31,394	31,394	31,394
Middle School Lockers			
Little School Heat	6,132	6,132	6,132
Batchelder Windows	21,462	21,462	21,462
Computers	10,670	10,670	10,670
High School Track	21,535	21,535	21,535
Swan Pond Planning			
High School Parking Lot	17,659	17,659	17,659
Little School Renov	314,820	314,820	314,820
Modular Classrooms	55,054	55,054	55,054
Middle School Gym	13,844	13,844	13,844
Batchelder Septic	14,710	14,710	14,710
School Van	9,336	9,336	9,336
Batchelder Plans	54,063	54,063	54,063
Library Renovation	35,622	35,622	35,622
Title V	11,111	11,111	11,111
Sr. Citizens Van	13,721	13,721	13,721
Holder/Tractor	11,793	11,793	11,793
Police/Fire Communications	2,044	2,044	2,044
Fire Pumper	27,843	27,843	27,843
Ladder Truck	67,256	67,256	67,256
Backhoe	15,844	15,844	15,844
Road Construction	77,141	77,141	77,141
Road Construction 3	20,775	20,775	20,775
Fire Station Floor	48,286	48,286	48,286
Damon Tavern	63,747	63,747	63,747
Fuel Depot	62,325	62,325	62,325
Burroughs Road Sidewalk			
FY00 Dump Truck	10,513	10,513	10,513
Haverhill St. Property Purchase	7,355	7,355	7,355
FY02 Dump Truck	21,125	21,125	21,125
Short Term Interest	25,000	25,000	25,000
95 DEBT SERVICE	1,601,598	1,601,598	1,601,598*

*Line 95 Fund \$48,286 from RESERVE FOR DEBT SERVICE

	<u>DEPT REQUEST</u>	<u>SPONSOR RECOMMENDED</u>	<u>FINCOM REC</u>
<u>ENTERPRISE FUNDS</u>			
WATER DEPARTMENT	2,089,876	2,089,876	2,089,876
96 SALARIES	587,532	587,532	587,532*
97 EXPENSES	1,057,383	1,057,383	1,057,383
98 CAPITAL	3,000	3,000	3,000*
99 DEBT	441,961	441,961	441,961*
	*Line 96 Fund \$587,532 from WATER REVENUE		
	*Line 97 Fund \$1,057,383 from WATER REVENUE		
	*Line 98 Fund \$3,000 from WATER REVENUE		
	*Line 99 Fund \$441,961 from WATER REVENUE		
HILLVIEW COUNTRY CLUB	2,135,000	2,135,000	2,135,000
100 SALARIES	33,000	33,000	33,000*
101 EXPENSES	862,000	862,000	862,000*
102 IN LIEU of TAX PAYMENT	140,000	140,000	140,000*
103 L.U.C. EXPENSES			
104 CAPITAL	200,000	200,000	200,000*
105 DEBT	900,000	900,000	900,000*
	*Line 100 Fund \$33,000 from HILLVIEW REVENUE		
	*Line 101 Fund \$862,000 from HILLVIEW REVENUE		
	*Line 102 Fund \$140,000 from HILLVIEW REVENUE		
	*Line 104 Fund \$200,000 from HILLVIEW REVENUE		
	*Line 105 Fund \$900,000 from HILLVIEW REVENUE		
<u>SUMMARY</u>			
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	15,095,350	14,368,105	14,368,105
EDUCATION	16,781,430	16,481,430	16,481,430
DEBT SERVICE	1,601,598	1,601,598	1,601,598
ENTERPRISES	4,224,876	4,224,876	4,224,876
TOTAL BUDGET	37,703,254	36,676,009	36,676,009

ARTICLE 23 – OPERATING BUDGET

I move to raise and appropriate the sums set forth in the column headed "Sponsor Recommended" in the line items 1 through 105 including the transfers of funds as set forth in the warrant totaling \$36,676,009. *[J. Murphy]*

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

School Committee recommends.

Mr. Moderator – I move to amend Line Item 42 under Article 23: Health and Environmental Expenses to increase the line item by \$7,230.00 equaling a total of \$62,825 to be funded through the Stabilization Fund. *[Lale Lewis]*

Finance Committee does not support the amendment as it utilizes funds from Stabilization. *[Stated that should an emergency situation arise in the future, they would consider a request from the department to transfer monies from the reserve fund.]*

Board of Selectmen unanimously do not support as it utilizes funds from Stabilization.

Motion to amend: *CARRIED*

On the main motion as amended for a total appropriation of \$36,683,239
[now requires 2/3 vote due to transfer from Stabilization]:
UNANIMOUS

Article 24 Appropriate Money to Stabilization

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to the Stabilization Fund; or what it will do in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 24 – APPROPRIATE MONEY TO STABILIZATION FUND

I move to pass over Article 24. [J. Murphy]
UNANIMOUS

Article 25 Rescind Bond Authorizations

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the following residual bond authorizations; or what it will do in relation thereto:

Date	Article #	Purpose	Amount
2/28/88	2	High School Renovations	\$ 23,000.00
2/23/93	2	NESWC	\$ 38,500.00
1/19/88 and	1		
4/9/90	1	Hillview Purchase	\$185,000.00
4/6/92	11-l	Clean Water Lines	\$ 5,000.00
4/4/94	11-p	Communications Bldg.	\$ 12,000.00
10/7/96	1	Little School Renovations	\$143,000.00
4/16/98	11-x	Middle School Renovations	\$ 19,000.00
4/6/00	13-t	School Van	\$ 6,000.00
10/1/01	6	Senior Van	\$ 500.00

ARTICLE 25 – RESCIND BOND AUTHORIZATIONS

I move to rescind the residual bond authorizations, as specified in Article 25 as printed in the Warrant. [J. Murphy]

Finance Committee recommends.
Board of Selectmen recommends.
UNANIMOUS

Article 26 Fund Purchase of Map 41, Parcel 52

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to purchase from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, land shown on Assessor's Map 41 as Parcel 52, the old Salem to Lowell railroad bed; or what it will do in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 26 – FUND PURCHASE OF MAP 41, PARCEL 52

I move to pass over Article 26. [J. Murphy]
UNANIMOUS

I move to consider Article 28 out of sequence for the following reason: to allow proper time for Article 27. [J. Murphy] [Requires 4/5 vote]
UNANIMOUS

Article 28 Street Acceptance - Bridle Way and Ladyslipper Lane

To see if the Town will vote to accept the layout of the following streets within the Bridle Way subdivision; or what it will do in relation thereto:

Bridle Way: From the point of intersection with Equestrian Drive at Station 0+00 to Station 9+99.28.

Ladyslipper Lane: From the point of intersection with Bridle Way at Station 0+00 to Station 2+52.31.

Meaning and intending to layout and accept Bridle Way and Ladyslipper Lane in accordance with the description and plans dated November 20, 2002, now on file in the Town Clerk's Office, which plans are incorporated herein by reference, together with any necessary deeds, and authorize the acquisition, in fee simple of the property within said way, and raise and appropriate the sum of \$1.00.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: Recommendation to be made at Town Meeting.

Finance Committee: Recommended.

**ARTICLE 28 – STREET ACCEPTANCE -
BRIDLE WAY AND LADYSLIPPER LANE**

I move to accept the layout of Bridle Way and Ladyslipper Lane as specified in Article 28 as printed in the warrant, and to authorize the acquisition by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise, the fee in the property within said way, and to further raise and appropriate the sum of \$1.00 for said purchase. [J. Murphy] [Requires 2/3 vote] **UNANIMOUS**

I move to consider Article 29 out of sequence for the following reason: to allow proper time for Article 27. [J. Murphy] [Requires 4/5 vote] **UNANIMOUS**

Article 29 Citizens Petition - Fund Extension of Water Main on Voke Street

To see if the Town of North Reading will vote to appropriate a sum of money for extension of a water main in Voke Street for the purpose of placing a fire hydrant at the end of Voke Street; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; or to take action thereto.

On the petition of Michael Stebbins and others

**ARTICLE 29 – CITIZENS PETITION - FUND EXTENSION OF
WATER MAIN ON VOKE STREET**

I move to appropriate the sum of \$16,000.00 for the purpose of installing a water main in Voke Street and transfer \$16,000.00 from the Stickney Fund, the balance of the cost of the project to be borne by the abutters. [J. Murphy]

The maker of the motion requested to withdraw the motion [no objection to withdrawing the motion was made]; and the following new motion was presented under Article 29:

I move to appropriate the sum of \$32,000.00 for the purpose of installing a water main in Voke Street and transfer \$32,000.00 from the Stickney Fund for the project. [J. Murphy]

Motion to amend Article 29 to read as follows: I move to appropriate the sum of \$16,000.00 and transfer said sum from Stickney Fund, for the purposes of installing a water main in Voke Street for the purpose of placing a fire hydrant at the end. The balance of the cost, not to exceed 50% of the final cost to be borne by the abutters. [M. Sturdevant for the FinCom] Motion to amend LOST.

Vote on the main motion for \$32,000.00 to be transferred from the Stickney Fund:

CARRIED

As an abutter to the property being considered under the next article (Article 27), Moderator Klaus Kubierschky excused himself from his duties as Moderator under Article 27. In accordance with Section 172-16 of the By-Laws, Town Clerk Barbara Stats presided over the election of a Temporary Moderator. Mr. Robert Mauceri was elected by UNANIMOUS vote of the Town Meeting to preside over the deliberations under Article 27, and was duly sworn-in by the Town Clerk. Town Clerk/Registrar Barbara Stats observed that a quorum was still present to consider this final article after 11:00 p.m. There was no challenge made to the quorum.

Article 27 Fund Eminent Domain Taking - Eisenhaures Pond Park

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate by transfer from available funds, a sum of money for the purpose of taking by eminent domain, or acquiring by purchase, gift or otherwise, the parcels of land depicted on the plan entitled, "Plan of Land in North Reading, MA. Surveyed for the Town of North Reading"; dated "February 28, 2003", drawn by Design Consultants, Inc. and for the purpose of creating Eisenhaures Pond Park to be placed under the custody and control of the North Reading Parks and Recreation Department.

Meaning and intending to acquire the parcels in accordance with the description and plans dated February 28, 2003, now on file with the Town Clerk's office, which plans and descriptions are incorporated herein by reference.

ARTICLE 27- FUND EMINENT DOMAIN TAKING - EISENHAURES POND PARK

I move that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by eminent domain, purchase, gift, or otherwise, the parcels of land depicted on the plan entitled "Plan of Land in North Reading, Ma. Survey for the Town of North Reading", dated "February 28, 2003", drawn by Design Consultants, Inc. for the purpose of creating Eisenhaures Pond Park to be placed under the custody and control of the North Reading Parks and Recreation Department, meaning and intending to acquire the parcels in accordance with the descriptions and plans dated February 28, 2003, now on file with the Town Clerk's office, which plans and descriptions are incorporated herein by reference; provided that such authorization shall be contingent on the appropriation or authorization of sufficient funds at a later town meeting, it being the intention of the Town of North Reading that the funds necessary for said acquisition be derived from the proposed sale of the following two parcels of Town-owned land: (Map 50/Parcel 9) and (Map 50/Parcel 10); both parcels addressed as 0 Marblehead Street; with said sale to be authorized by further action of Town Meeting, provided however that to the extent said parcels are conservation

land, so-called, that Town Meeting requests and authorizes legislation to be filed by the Governor of the Commonwealth seeking necessary authorization from the General Court; provided further that notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, that the Town of North Reading be authorized to use the proceeds from said proposed sale for the purposes of creating Eisenhaures Pond Park as outlined on a plan of survey dated February 28, 2003 on file in the Town Clerk's Office. [W. Pearce, CPC] [Requires 2/3 vote]

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends.

Community Planning Commission unanimously recommends.

Conservation Commission highly recommends.

Warren Pearce, Chairman of the CPC requested leave of the meeting for a 15-minute presentation by their consultant. **CARRIED**. Following the presentation, Warren Pearce continued with an oral report on behalf of the Community Planning Commission.

Move the question. **UNANIMOUS**

Vote on the main motion under Article 27: **UNANIMOUS**

I move to adjourn this meeting *sine die*. [J. Murphy] **UNANIMOUS**

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 p.m.

There were 246 voters present.

Checkers for the evening were: Norma Stiles, Vera Hart, Marguerite Dugas, Geraldine Hamm, Mary Stanuchenski, John Davis, Sara LaMonica, Rose Vitale, Norman Litchfield, and Frank Stanuchenski.

Comcast cable services were provided by Seth Albaum; facilities services were provided by Harold S. Miller, Jr.

ATTEST:

Barbara Stats, Town Clerk

[Articles 8, 9 and 10 of the April 7, 2003 Annual Town Meeting were approved by Assistant Attorney General Kelli E. Lawrence on April 25, 2003 and subsequently advertised in the North Reading Transcript on May 8, 2003 and May 15, 2003.]

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF NORTH READING

SS. To either of the Constables of the TOWN of NORTH READING

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town who are qualified to vote in Elections to vote at:

PRECINCT 1 - High School Gymnasium, Park Street
PRECINCT 2 - Town Hall Gymnasium, 235 North Street
PRECINCT 3 - St. Theresa's Church, Fr. Lane Hall, Winter Street
PRECINCT 4 - St. Theresa's Church, Fr. Lane Hall, Winter Street

on **TUESDAY**, the **SIXTH DAY** of **MAY**, 2003 from **7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.** for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the Annual Town Election for the following offices:

SELECTMAN – Two for Three Years;
MODERATOR – One for One Year;
SCHOOL COMMITTEE – Two for Three Years;
COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMISSION – Two for Three Years;
HOUSING AUTHORITY – One for Five Years.

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

Given under our hands this **SEVENTH** day of **APRIL**, 2003.

John J. Murphy, Chairman
Joseph R. Veno, Vice-Chairman
James P. Muldoon, Clerk
Marcia L. Bailey
SELECTMEN OF NORTH READING

Warrant to be posted in two (2) places in each of the four (4) precincts in Town by the Constable.

ATTEST:

Paul D. Dorsey, Constable
April 7, 2003

PAUL D. DORSEY, SR.
CONTABLE – TOWN OF NORTH READING
18 MAGNOLIA ROAD
NORTH READING, MA 01864

I have notified the inhabitants of the Town of North Reading 28 days before Annual Town Election on Tuesday, May 6, 2003, by posting the warrant in two (2) places in each of the four (4) precincts in Town:

Precinct #1	Viking Tree Service, Inc. 3 Washington Street, North Reading Carpet Crafts 3 Washington Street, North Reading
Precinct #2	Carousel Cleaners 265 Main Street, North Reading Town Hall 235 North Street, North Reading
Precinct #3	Reading Lumber Co. 110 Main Street, North Reading Eastgate Liquors 12 Main Street, North Reading
Precinct #4	U.S. Post Office 174 Park Street, North Reading Ryers Store 162 Park Street, North Reading

ATTEST:

Paul D. Dorsey, Sr., Constable
April 8, 2003

**TOWN OF NORTH READING
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
MAY 6, 2003**

	<u>Prec. 1</u>	<u>Prec. 2</u>	<u>Prec. 3</u>	<u>Prec. 4</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>SELECTMAN</u> for THREE YEARS Vote for TWO					
Marcia L. Bailey*	574	317	349	520	1,760
Joseph R. Veno*	146	132	126	145	549
Ellen J. Glew	278	200	257	296	1,031
Stephen J. O'Leary	594	368	357	533	1,852
William A. Smith	350	329	347	350	1,352
Blanks	110	94	88	105	397
Write-Ins	0	2	0	1	3
TOTALS	2,052	1,442	1,524	1,950	6,968

<u>MODERATOR</u> for ONE YEAR Vote for ONE					
Klaus Kubierschky*	791	544	597	762	2,694
Blanks	230	172	163	200	765
Write-Ins	5	5	2	13	25
TOTALS	1,026	721	762	975	3,484

<u>SCHOOL COMMITTEE</u> for THREE YEARS Vote for TWO					
Gerald Venezia*	730	489	508	695	2,422
Nicole A.R. Davis	655	421	442	572	2,090
John C. Wiese	376	304	320	362	1,362
Blanks	286	227	254	318	1,085
Write-Ins	5	1	0	3	9
TOTALS	2,052	1,442	1,524	1,950	6,968

<u>COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMISSION</u> for THREE YEARS Vote for TWO					
Patricia E. Romeo*	740	512	558	701	2,511
M. Shepard Spear*	671	466	496	651	2,284
Blanks	637	464	467	589	2,157
Write-Ins	4	0	3	9	16
TOTALS	2,052	1,442	1,524	1,950	6,968

<u>HOUSING AUTHORITY</u> for FIVE YEARS Vote for ONE					
Brian E. Blackwood*	738	512	541	709	2,500
Blanks	288	209	220	264	981
Write-Ins	0	0	1	2	3
TOTALS	1,026	721	762	975	3,484

*Candidate for Re-election

ATTEST:
Barbara Stats, Town Clerk

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF NORTH READING
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
OCTOBER 6, 2003
7:00 P.M.**

Middlesex, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of North Reading in the County of Middlesex, GREETING.

IN THE NAME OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Daniel H. Shay Auditorium, North Reading High School, Park Street in said North Reading, on **MONDAY, the SIXTH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2003**, at **seven o'clock** in the evening, then and there to act on the following articles:-

* * * * *

And you are directed to serve this Warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof at two conspicuous places in each of the four precincts in said Town, fourteen days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of meeting, as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this fifteenth day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and three.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

James P. Muldoon, Chairman
Marcia L. Bailey, Vice Chairman
John J. Murphy, Clerk
G. Kevin Callagy
Stephen J. O'Leary

A True Copy
Attest: John J. Firriello, Constable

JOHN J. FIRRIELLO
ONE SULLIVAN ROAD
NORTH READING, MA 01864

September 29th, 2003

I have notified the inhabitants of the Town of North Reading 20 days before October Town Election on October 6th, 2003 by posting the warrant in two places in each of the four precincts:

Precinct #1	Viking Tree Washington Street, North Reading Carpet Craft Washington Street, North Reading
Precinct #2	Carousel Cleaners 265 Main Street, North Reading Town Hall 235 North Street, North Reading
Precinct #3	Reading Lumber Main Street, North Reading Eastgate Liquors Main Street, North Reading
Precinct #4	U.S. Post Office Park Street, North Reading Ryers Store Park Street, North Reading

ATTEST:

John J. Firriello, Constable

TOWN OF NORTH READING
FALL ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
OCTOBER 6, 2003
DANIEL SHAY AUDITORIUM
NORTH READING HIGH SCHOOL
7:00 P. M.

The October 6, 2003 Annual Fall Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator Klaus Kubierschky at 7:00 p.m.

Police Detective Jody Gerardi and Fire Captain Richard Harris were on duty. Tellers appointed by the Moderator were Joseph Veno, James Beggan and Drew Lydotes. Registrars Barbara Stats and Gail Parker were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by the Chairman of the Board of Selectman, James Muldoon.

Mr. Moderator – I move that the following persons be admitted to the meeting: George E. Dow, Sr., Finance Director; Carl Nelson, School Business Manager; Robert Turosz, North Reading Transcript *[freedom of the floor]*; Marcello Goulant, Dunkin' Donuts; John W. Giorgio, Town Counsel; David Troughton, Superintendent of Schools; Thomas G. Younger, Town Administrator; Seth Albaum, Comcast *[freedom of the floor]*; Jeff Fasser, BSC Group; Robert Rodgers, Community Planning Administrator; Sean Killeen, Batchelder School Principal; David Hanlon, Public Works Director; Charles Hay, Tappe Assoc. Architects; Gary E. McAteer, School Department *[freedom of the floor]* and Mark Clark, Water Department Superintendent. **UNANIMOUS**

I move to dispense with the reading of the Warrant and to refer to the Articles by number, and further, to dispense with the reading of the return of service by the Constable. *[J. Muldoon]*

UNANIMOUS

Article 1 Hear and Act on Reports of Town Officers and Committees

To hear and act upon the reports of Town Officers and Committees.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Description...

This is a customary article which provides for Officers and Committees so instructed to report to Town Meeting their progress or recommendations.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: Recommended.

Finance Committee: No action required.

ARTICLE 1 – HEAR AND ACT ON REPORTS OF TOWN OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

I move to hear and act upon the reports of Town Officers and Committees as may be presented at this meeting. *[J. Muldoon]*

A presentation for the Police Station Building Committee was made by member Christopher Hayden.

On the motion: **UNANIMOUS**

Article 2 Accept MGL Chapter 40, sec 8G

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of MGL Chapter 40, sec. 8G - "Agreements for Mutual Police Aid Programs" and provides: "Any city or town which accepts this section may enter into an agreement with another city or town, or other cities or towns, to provide mutual aid programs for police departments to increase the capability of such departments to protect the lives, safety, and property of the people in the area designated in the agreement. Said agreement may include the furnishing of personal services, supplies, materials, contractual services, and equipment when the resources normally available to any municipality in the agreement are not sufficient to cope with a situation which requires police action"; or what it will do in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Description...

This article would allow the Police Department to enter into written mutual aid agreement with other communities for various services.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: Recommended.

Finance Committee: No action required.

ARTICLE 2 – ACCEPT MGL CHAPTER 40, SEC. 8G

I move to adopt the provisions of MGL Chapter 40, sec. 8G – "Agreements for Mutual Police Aid Programs"; as specified in Article 2 as printed in the warrant. *[J. Muldoon]*

Finance Committee stated that no action was required by them.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

Article 3 Amend Code of Town of North Reading - Add Chapter 25 - Assessments

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Code of the Town of North Reading by adding Chapter 25 - Assessments and accept the provisions of the following Massachusetts General Laws dealing with the assessment of betterments; or what it will do in relation thereto:

MGL Chapter 40 - Cities and Towns - Powers and Duties
Sections 42G - 42K

MGL Chapter 80 - Betterments
Sections 1-17

MGL Chapter 80A - Eminent Domain Takings and Betterment Assessments
by Judicial Proceedings
Sections 1-16

MGL Chapter 83 - Sewers, Drains and Sidewalks
Sections 14 - 29

and to adopt the following procedure for the assessment of betterments as a general bylaw.

Chapter 25 - Assessments

§25-1. Betterment Assessments

The Town of North Reading will provide a percentage of the necessary funds for betterments approved through the processes outlined below. The percentage of funds shall be determined annually prior to the annual April Town Meeting by the Board of Selectmen. Said percentage shall be effective beginning July 1st through June 30th of the following fiscal year.

§25-2. Streets, Sidewalks, Storm Drains

A. Private Streets - Street, sidewalk or storm drain betterments will be assessed using the "Fixed Uniform Rate" method.

(1) The Town of North Reading will provide the annually determined percentage of the necessary funds for street, sidewalk or storm drain betterments.

(2)(a) At a public hearing, abutters on private streets must vote on whether they want their street converted to a public street. If a majority of the property owners residing on a street and representing a majority of the road frontage vote in favor of the conversion and the acceptance of costs for construction, the Public Works Department will recommend to the Board of Selectmen, the placement of the street on a list for conversion as funds become available. At the public hearing, abutters are given a NOT-TO-EXCEED assessment cost estimate per linear foot of frontage.

Or,

(2)(b) At a public hearing, abutters on a street will be notified that due to an issue of public health and/or safety, as determined by the North Reading Board of Selectmen, the Town will be making public improvements which will require that betterments be assessed. At the Public Hearing, abutters will be given a NOT-TO-EXCEED assessment cost estimate per linear foot of frontage.

(3) The final assessment is the LOWER of either of the actual per linear foot cost based on the total construction costs divided by the assessable frontage, or the estimated assessment quoted at the public hearing. The date between its acceptance on the list by the Board of Selectmen and the date it is funded for conversion may be and is typically several years. After it is funded, the Department of Public Works shall prepare engineering and construction documents so that it may be put out to bid and constructed. Sometime between the date it is funded and the award of the conversion contract, the street is accepted as a public street, by Town Meeting. Along with the Town Meeting vote of acceptance, a notice of assessment and a layout plan is filed at the Registry of Deeds. The filing allows for Title companies to recognize that the street is to become a public street and assessments to be rendered at a future unknown date. However, the layout plan and notice of assessment will not show on a certificate of municipal liens because the work has not yet been undertaken and no costs have been assessed for the conversion of the street to public. Therefore, a lien cannot be placed against properties to be affected.

(4) After the street is accepted as a public street, the construction contract is awarded and construction takes place. It is not uncommon for the construction of private streets, sidewalks, or storm drains to span two full construction seasons.

The current practice is for assessments to be calculated within six (6) months following the completion of all work associated with the particular street being converted. This six month allowance is in conformance with the statute. Therefore, abutters can expect to receive their assessments for street conversion within six months of completion of street construction.

B. Public Streets

The procedure for improvements to streets which are already accepted public ways is the same as outlined above in Sections A.1 through A.4 with the exception that no votes must be taken by the Board of Selectmen or Town Meeting to lay out and accept the street.

C. Sidewalks

Sidewalks will only be constructed within public ways under the provisions of this bylaw.

D. Storm Drains

Storm Drains will only be constructed within public ways under the provisions of this bylaw.

§25-3. Public Water Supply, Sewers

A. Water main or sewer improvement betterments will be assessed using the "Uniform Unit" method.

(1) Water mains or sewer improvements will only be constructed within public ways under the provisions of this bylaw. The Town of North Reading will provide the annually determined percentage of the necessary funds for water main betterments.

(2)(a) At a public hearing the abutters and property owners must vote on whether they want water mains constructed in the street. If a majority of the property owners residing on a street and representing the majority of the estimated usage vote in favor of the construction of the water or sewer improvement and the acceptance of costs for construction, the Public Works Department recommends to the Board of Selectmen, the placement of the street on a list for construction as funds become available. At the public hearing the abutters will be given a NOT-TO-EXCEED assessment cost estimate based on estimated usage as defined in Title 5 of the State Environmental Code 300 CMR Section 15.203.

Or,

(2)(b) At a public hearing, abutters on a street will be notified that, due to an issue of public health and/or safety, as determined by the North Reading Board of Selectmen, the Town will be making improvements which will require that betterments be assessed. At the public hearing, abutters will be given a NOT-TO-EXCEED assessment cost estimate based on estimated usage as defined in Title 5 of the State Environmental Code 310 CMR, Section 15.203.

(3) The final assessment is the LOWER of either the actual cost based on the total construction costs divided by the assessable usage, or the estimated assessment quoted at the public hearing. The date between acceptance on the list by the Board of Selectmen and the date funded may be and is typically several years. After funding, the Department of Public Works prepares engineering and construction documents so that the construction may be put out to bid and constructed. A notice of assessment and a layout plan is filed at the Registry of Deeds. The filing allows for

Title companies to recognize that assessments are to be rendered at a future unknown date. However the notice of assessment will not show on a certificate of municipal liens because the work has not yet been undertaken and no costs have been assessed for the construction or report of the sidewalks/drains. Therefore, a lien cannot be placed against properties to be affected.

(4) The construction contract is awarded and construction takes place. It is not uncommon for the construction of water or sewer improvements to span multiple construction seasons. The current practice is for assessments to be calculated within six (6) months following the completion of all work associated with the particular water main being constructed. This six month allowance is in conformance with the statute. Therefore, abutters can expect to receive their assessments within six months of completion.

Sponsor: Community Planning Commission and Department of Public Works
Description...

This article will allow the Town to work with neighborhoods that have substandard infrastructure and creates a mechanism for the improvement of those substandard conditions through a public/private partnership.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: Recommendation to be made at Town Meeting.

Finance Committee: Recommendation to be made at Town Meeting.

**ARTICLE 3 – AMEND CODE OF THE TOWN OF NORTH READING –
ADD CHAPTER 25 - ASSESSMENTS**

I move that the town vote to amend the Code of the Town of North Reading by adding Chapter 25 – Assessments and accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws dealing with the assessment of betterments; as specified in Article 3, as printed in the Warrant, with the following changes or modification:

Change Section 25-1 Betterment Assessments

So as to read ...

25-1 Betterment Assessments

The Town of North Reading will provide 50% of the necessary funds for betterments approved through the processes outlined below.

Change Section 25-2.A.(1)

So as to read ...

The Town of North Reading, based on the availability of funds, will provide 50% of the necessary funds for street betterments.

Delete Section 25-2.A.(2)(b)

Change Section 25-2.A.(3)

By deleting the last sentence;

"Therefore, a lien cannot be placed against properties to be affected."

Delete Section 25-2.B.

Delete Section 25-2.C.

Delete Section 25-2.D.

Change Section 25-3.A.(1)

So as to read...

The Town of North Reading, based on the availability of funds, will provide 50% of the necessary funds for water or sewer betterments.

Delete Section 25-3.A.(2)(b)

Change Section 25-3.A.(3)

By deleting the last sentence;

"Therefore, a lien cannot be placed against properties to be affected."

Change Chapter 25 – Assessments

By re-numbering the bylaw as necessary due to these deletions and amendments. [C. Hayden, CPC Vice-Chair]

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

Community Planning Commission Chairman Warren Pearce made a presentation under the Article.

Motion **CARRIED**

Mr. Moderator: I move that the following person be admitted to the meeting: Joe Sanders, 6 Palomino Drive. [J. Muldoon] **UNANIMOUS**

Article 4 Amend Code of the Town of North Reading, Chapter 80 - Hazardous Materials

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Code of the Town of North Reading by amending Chapter 80 Hazardous Materials as follows; or what it will do in relation thereto:

§ 80-5. Registration.

- To change the reference in the last sentence of paragraph "C" from "527 CMR to 5.05 3a" to "527 CMR 5.06" so that it shall read as follows:

"Accurate daily inventory records required pursuant to M.G.L.A. Chapter 148 and 527 CMR 5.06 shall suffice for the purposes of this section, and may be submitted, under Subsection D below, in accordance with this by-law."

- To change the reference in the last sentence of paragraph "F" from "527 CMR 9.09" to "527 CMR 9.00" so that it shall read as follows:

"Nothing in this section shall be construed to replace the application of the dike

requirements to tanks licensed under M.G.L.A. Chapter 148, or 527 CMR 9.00, thereunder."

§ 80-6. Underground storage tanks.

- To change the reference in the first sentence of paragraph "D" from "National Fire Protection Pamphlet No. 329, Chapter 4-3.10" to "the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)" to that it shall read as follows:

"All steel subsurface tanks shall be subject to mandatory testing fifteen (15) years after date of installation, and annually thereafter, or if evidence of date of installation is not available, and the Board of Health or Fire Chief so determine, in accordance with the standards of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), or other test of superior or equivalent accuracy."

§ 80-7. Abandonment and removal.

- To change the reference in the last sentence of paragraph "A" from 527 CMR 10.12(2)" to "527 CMR 9.07J-L" so that it shall read as follows:

"Upon such notification, the Fire Chief shall prescribe appropriate action under 527 CMR 9.07J-L, and M.G.L.A. Chapter 148, as amended."

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Description...

This article would correct obsolete or incorrect references within Chapter 80 of the Code as reported to the Attorney General's Office by the State Department of Fire Services during a review of our by-law.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: Recommended.

Finance Committee: No action required.

ARTICLE 4 – AMEND CODE – AMEND CHAPTER 80 – HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

I move to amend the Code of the Town of North Reading General By-Laws by amending Chapter 80 Hazardous Materials as specified in Article 4 as printed in the warrant. [J. Muldoon]

Finance Committee stated that no action was required by them.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

Article 5 Amend Code of Town of North Reading - Chapter 139 Recreational Vehicles and Chapter 185 Vehicles, Recreational

To see if the Town will vote amend the Code of the Town of North Reading by combining Chapter 139 - Recreational Vehicles with Chapter 185 - Vehicles, Recreational by renumbering, recaptioning and repositioning, with no other substantive changes, so that the by-law will read as follows; or what it will do in relation thereto:

Chapter 185 - VEHICLES, RECREATIONAL

Article I - Restrictions on Operation

§ 185-1. Consent required for operation

Registered and unregistered recreational motorized vehicles, including those com-

monly referred to as snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, minibikes, etc., shall not be operated on any property, private or public, without the expressed consent of the owner or overseer of said property. Evidence of written permission shall be in the possession of the operator of said vehicles and shall be presented on demand of any police officer or other law enforcement officer as set forth in Chapter 589, Acts and Resolves of the General Court, 1970.

§ 185-2. Time limits

In no case shall such vehicles be operated within the confines of the Town between the hours of 9 p.m. and 7 a.m.

Article II - Restrictions on Use

§ 185-3. Operation near residential zones

It shall be unlawful to operate, for recreation or pleasure, any motor vehicle designed or modified for use over unimproved terrain, in or within three hundred (300) feet of a residential zone established by the Zoning Bylaw, except on land owned by the owner of such vehicle.

§185-4. Noise

No person shall operate a recreational vehicle that emits an unusual or excessive amount of noise. A recreational vehicle shall be deemed to emit an unusual or excessive amount of noise if: (Added 4-7-2003 ATM by Art. 9, approved 4/25/2003)

- A. It produces a sound pressure level of more than seventy-eight decibels, as measured at maximum speed at fifty feet;
- B. It increases the broadband sound level by more than 10ddB(A) above ambient; or
- C. It produces a "pure tone" condition - when any octave band center frequency sound pressure level exceeds the two adjacent center frequency sound pressure level by 3 decibels or more.

§ 185-5. Violations and penalties

Whoever violates the provisions of this bylaw shall be subject to the following penalties: first offense: warning; second offense: \$50.00; third and subsequent offenses: \$100.00. Each day or portion thereof during which a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

and further to amend the Code of the Town of North Reading by amending the list of fines under Chapter 1, General Provisions 1-5B(3) Violations and Penalties, to delete the reference to Chapter 139, Recreational Vehicles and substitute the following under Chapter 185-5, Vehicles, Recreational:

§ 185-5. Vehicles, Recreational

Article II, Restrictions on Use

Police Department

- 1st offense: warning
- 2nd offense: \$50
- 3rd and subsequent offenses: \$100

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Description...

This is a housekeeping item which will group these two Chapters into one for organizational purposes only.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: Recommended.

Finance Committee: No action required.

ARTICLE 5 – AMEND CODE – CHAPTER 139 RECREATIONAL VEHICLES AND CHAPTER 185 VEHICLES, RECREATIONAL

I move to amend the Code of the Town of North Reading General By-Laws by combining Chapter 139 - Recreational Vehicles with Chapter 185 - Vehicles, Recreational as specified in Article 5 as printed in the warrant. *[J. Muldoon]*

Finance Committee stated that no action was required by them.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

Article 6 Prior Year's Bills

To see if the Town will vote to raise by taxation and appropriate, or appropriate by transfer from available funds, a sum of money to pay prior year's bills; or what it will do in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Description...

This article provides for payment of prior fiscal year bills which were not submitted prior to the fiscal year end.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: Recommended.

Finance Committee: Recommend \$352.32 from Hillview Revenue and \$143,121.04 from Water Revenue.

ARTICLE 6 – PRIOR YEAR'S BILLS

I move to appropriate \$352.32 from Hillview Revenue and \$143,121.04 from Water Revenue to pay FY03 bills. *[J. Muldoon] [Requires 4/5 vote]*

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

Article 7 Capital Expenditures

To see if the Town will vote to raise by taxation and appropriate, appropriate and transfer from unexpended funds remaining in Warrant Articles of previous years, or appropriate by transfer from available funds or borrow a sum of money for the purchase of items of a capital nature, and further to authorize the Town Administrator to sell or trade-in items rendered surplus by such purchases; or to take other action relative thereto.

Description...

This article, required by the Town Charter, annually funds the purchase and re-

placement of capital equipment for various Town Departments. The following table lists each proposed purchase, the proposed sources and means of funding and the vote required for passage. All equipment displaced as surplus will be sold or traded in compliance with Town Bylaws. A 2/3 vote is required for transfers from the Stabilization Fund and for borrowing.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: a., b., d., e., f., g. and h. - Recommended
c. - Recommendation to be made at Town Meeting.

Finance Committee: Recommendation to be made at Town Meeting.

FY04 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>	<u>FY04 COST</u>	<u>FINANCING METHOD</u>
FIRE DEPARTMENT	24,000	24,000	
a. Replace Deputy Chief's Vehicle	24,000	24,000	Tax Levy
POLICE DEPARTMENT	24,000	24,000	
b. Replace 1 Cruiser	24,000	24,000	Tax Levy
ADMINISTRATION	30,000	30,000	
c. Technology	30,000	30,000	Tax Levy
CEMETERY	50,000	50,000	
d. Phase 1A Soil Berm	50,000	50,000	Tax Levy
TOWN BUILDINGS	30,000	30,000	
e. Roof Repairs	20,000	20,000	Tax Levy
f. Paint Interior of Library	10,000	10,000	Tax Levy
SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	120,000	120,000	
e. Furniture Replacement	20,000	20,000	Tax Levy
f. Technology Plan	100,000	100,000	Tax Levy
TOTAL	278,000	278,000	

Transfer from Free Cash =
Transfer from Ambulance Reserve =
Transfer from Cell Tower Revenue =
General Obligation Bonds =

Tax Levy = 278,000 278,000
278,000 278,000

ARTICLE 7 – CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

I move to raise and appropriate the sum of \$228,000 for the purpose of making capital expenditures as detailed as items a, b, c, e, f, g and h as specified in Article 7 as printed in the warrant. [J. Muldoon]

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends. [It was noted that Item "d" was omitted]

School Committee recommends.

School Committee Vice-Chairman Stephen VanBeaver made a presentation under "Item h."

Motion to amend [George Luongo]:

I move to reduce line h to \$50,000 and to reduce the total appropriation to 178,000.

Move the question: **UNANIMOUS**

Motion to amend **LOST**

Motion to amend [Philip H. "Nick" O'Brien]:

Move to amend Article "7" – Capital Expenditures for FY04 by deleting line "a" under Fire Department -to "Replace Deputy Chief's Vehicle" - Cost - \$24,000. Total for Article #7 to read \$204,000.00.

Motion to amend **LOST**

A request by Gerald Woodmansee to vote on the article item-by-item was put before the Town Meeting by the Moderator and **LOST**.

On the main motion as presented:

UNANIMOUS

Mr. Moderator: I move that the following person be admitted to the meeting: State Senator Bruce Tarr. [J. Muldoon] **UNANIMOUS**

Article 8 Amend FY 2004 Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to amend the FY2004 Operating Budget voted under Article 23 of the April 7, 2003 Annual Town Meeting as follows; or what it will do in relation thereto:

Line 6 - General Insurance

- Increase by \$76,633.00
To fund the cost of general liability insurance in FY04.

Background...

The Town appropriated \$199,741 at the 2003 Annual Town Meeting to fund the Town's insurance costs. The bill for general liability insurance increased \$76,633.00 after Town Meeting concluded. This will be funded by the previously unanticipated State Aid.

Line 95 - Debt Service

- Increase by \$123,160.00.
- Amend funding source to read "Line 95 Fund \$3,326.00 from Reserve for Debt Service"

Background...

The 2003 Annual Town Meeting voted an amount that was in excess of the balance of the account. This action corrects the amount and the Line number reference. The difference will be funded from previously unanticipated State Aid.

Line 99 - Water Department Debt

- Increase by \$8,553.00.

Line 102 - Hillview Country Club In Lieu of Tax Payment

- Amend funding source to read "Fund \$95,000 from Hillview Revenue and Fund \$45,000 from Hillview Surplus."

Line 104 - Hillview Country Club Capital

- Amend funding source to read "Fund \$200,000.00 from Hillview Surplus"

Background...

The 2003 Annual Town Meeting voted to take this amount from the receipts of the Hillview Enterprise. It does not appear that the Enterprise will have sufficient revenue to meet this.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: Recommended.

Finance Committee: Recommended.

ARTICLE 8 – AMEND FY2004 OPERATING BUDGET

LINE 6 – GENERAL INSURANCE

I move to increase Line 6 of the FY04 Operating Budget - General Insurance - by the sum of \$76,633.00 and that said sum be raised and appropriated from the Tax Levy. *[J. Muldoon]*

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

ARTICLE 8 – AMEND FY2004 OPERATING BUDGET

LINE 95 – DEBT SERVICE

I move to increase Line 95 of the FY04 Operating Budget - Debt Service - by the sum of \$123,160.00 and to amend the funding source to read "Line 95 fund \$3,326.00 from Reserve for Debt Service". *[J. Muldoon]* *[Moderator's note: The balance to come from the General Fund]*

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

ARTICLE 8 – AMEND FY2004 OPERATING BUDGET

LINE 99 – WATER DEPARTMENT DEBT

I move to increase Line 99 of the FY04 Operating Budget - Water Department Debt - by the sum of \$8,553.00, said sum to be taken from the earnings of the Water Department. *[J. Muldoon]*

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

ARTICLE 8 – AMEND FY2004 OPERATING BUDGET

LINE 102 – HILLVIEW COUNTRY CLUB

IN LIEU OF TAX PAYMENT

I move to amend Line 102 of the FY04 Operating Budget – Hillview Country Club in Lieu of Tax Payment - to read "Fund \$95,000.00 from Hillview Revenue and Fund \$45,000.00 from Hillview Surplus." *[J. Muldoon]*

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

ARTICLE 8 – AMEND FY2004 OPERATING BUDGET

LINE 104 – HILLVIEW COUNTRY CLUB CAPITAL

I move to amend Line 104 of the FY04 Operating Budget - Hillview Country Club Capital - to read "Fund \$200,000.00 from Hillview Surplus." *[J. Muldoon]*

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

Article 9 Appropriate Money to Stabilization Fund

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$935,156 to the Stabilization Fund; or what it will do in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Finance Committee

Description...

This article places funds in the Stabilization Fund, the use of which is unrestricted but requires a 2/3 vote of the Town Meeting.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: Recommendation to be made at Town Meeting.

Finance Committee: Recommended.

ARTICLE 9 – APPROPRIATE MONEY TO STABILIZATION FUND

I move to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$935,156 to the Stabilization Fund from "Free Cash." *[J. Muldoon]*

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

Article 10 Amend Article 8w of the April 2001 Town Meeting

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 8w of the April 2001 Town Meeting reducing the bond authorization from \$2,600,000 to \$2,050,000 and to authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen to borrow the sum of \$550,000 for water distribution system improvements; or what it will do in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Description...

This article reduces the bond authorization to reflect the actual cost of constructing the third water tower and authorizes the borrowing of funds for capital improvements to the water distribution system.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: Recommended.

Finance Committee: Recommended.

ARTICLE 10 – AMEND ARTICLE 8w OF THE APRIL 2001 TOWN MEETING

I move that the Town vote to amend Article 8w of the April 2001 Town Meeting reducing the bond authorization from \$2,600,000 to \$2,050,000 and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow the sum of \$550,000.00 for the purpose of making water distribution system improvements as specified in Article 10 as printed in the warrant. *[J. Muldoon] [Requires 2/3 vote]*

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

Public Works Director David Hanlon offered an explanation under the Article.

UNANIMOUS

Article 11 Amend Article 21 of the April 7, 2003 Annual Town Meeting

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 21 of the April 7, 2003 Annual Town Meeting by reducing funding as follows: to transfer the sum of \$160,000.00 from Cell Tower Revenue; or what it will do in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Description...

The 2003 Annual Town Meeting voted to transfer an amount in excess of actual revenues. This action makes a correction. The difference will be funded from previously unanticipated State Aid.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: Recommendation to be made at Town Meeting.

Finance Committee: Recommended.

ARTICLE 11 – AMEND ARTICLE 21 OF THE APRIL 7, 2003 TOWN MEETING

I move that the Town vote to amend Article 21 of the April 7, 2003 Annual Town Meeting by reducing funding as specified in Article 11 as printed in the warrant. *[J. Muldoon]*

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

Article 12 Fund Efficiency Expert Program

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, the sum of six hundred dollars to fund the Efficiency Expert Program for employees; or what it will do in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Description...

This is an ongoing annual program which will reward one employee per month \$100 for cost saving ideas. This is authorized pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, sec. 5(43).

Recommendation ...

Selectmen: Recommended.

Finance Committee: Recommended.

ARTICLE 12 – FUND EFFICIENCY EXPERT PROGRAM

I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$600.00 for the purpose of funding the Efficiency Expert Program for Town Employees, said sum to be raised from the Tax Levy, as specified in Article 12 as printed in the warrant. *[J. Muldoon]*

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

Article 13 Purchase of Golf Carts - Hillview Enterprise

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, the sum of \$48,000 to purchase Golf Carts for the Hillview Enterprise; or what it will do in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Hillview Commission

Description...

This article will permit the Hillview Commission to purchase golf carts currently under lease, when the lease expires at the end of the year.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: Recommended.

Finance Committee: Recommended.

ARTICLE 13 – PURCHASE OF GOLF CARTS – HILLVIEW ENTERPRISE

I move to appropriate the sum of \$48,000 for the purpose of purchasing golf carts for the Hillview Enterprise and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said sum, and that the debt service thereon shall be paid from the earnings of the Hillview Enterprise. *[J. Muldoon] [Requires 2/3 vote]*

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

Hillview Commissioner Lawrence Dymant offered an explanation under the Article.

UNANIMOUS

Article 14 Hillview Course Improvements

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, a sum of \$50,000 for Hillview Enterprise golf course improvements; or what it will do in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Hillview Commission

Description...

These funds will be used to reconstruct greens and fairways as part of an ongoing Course improvement program.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: Recommended.

Finance Committee: Recommended.

ARTICLE 14 – HILLVIEW COURSE IMPROVEMENTS

I move to appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the purpose of making improvements at the Hillview Enterprise and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said sum and that the debt service thereon shall be paid from the earnings of the Hillview Enterprise. *[J. Muldoon] [Requires 2/3 vote]*

Finance Committee recommends.
Board of Selectmen recommends.

Hand Count under Article 14: YES – 154 NO – 2
Motion **CARRIED**

Article 15 Batchelder School Renovations

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of constructing an addition to and/or remodeling, reconstructing and making extraordinary repairs to the Batchelder School, including original equipment and furnishings related thereto and the necessary costs associated with the relocation of students including the use and installation of modular facilities, and to further authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow the sum appropriated under Chapter 44 of the General Laws; provided, however, that no debt may be incurred under this vote unless and until the Town votes to exempt from the limitation on total taxes imposed by Chapter 59, Section 21C (Proposition 2-1/2) amounts required to pay the principal and interest on the borrowing authorized by this vote; or what it will do in relation thereto.

Sponsor: School Committee
Description...

This article will fund the cost of constructing additions, remodeling, reconstruction, equipping, site alterations and improvements and making extraordinary repairs to the Batchelder School.

Recommendations...

Selectmen: Recommendation to be made at Town Meeting.

Finance Committee: Recommendation to be made at Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 15 – BATCHELDER SCHOOL RENOVATIONS

I move that the Town vote to appropriate \$15,738,810 for the purpose of constructing an addition to and/or remodeling, reconstructing and making extraordinary repairs to the Batchelder School, including original equipment and furnishings related thereto and the necessary costs associated with the relocation of students including the use and installation of modular facilities, and to further authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow the sum appropriated under chapter 44 of the General Laws provided, however, that no debt may be incurred under this vote unless and until the Town votes to exempt from the limitation on total taxes imposed by Chapter 59, section 21C (Proposition 2-1/2) amounts required to pay the principal and interest on the borrowing authorized by this vote. *[G. Venezia] [Requires 2/3 vote]*

Finance Committee recommends.
Board of Selectmen recommends.
School Committee unanimously recommends.

Gerald Venezia requested and was unanimously granted a 20-minute leave of the meeting for the purpose of a presentation. Batchelder School Principal Sean Killeen made a presentation on the current conditions of the school; Charles Hay, of Tappe Associates Architects, reviewed the conceptual design of the project; School Committee Chairman Gerald Venezia reviewed space projections under the plan; Elementary School Building Committee Chairman Jonathan DeSimone explained the tax rate and financial impact; Dr. Troughton reviewed the transition/relocation of staff and students; School Committee Member Stephen Jervey spoke on the enrollment projections; Gerald Venezia summarized the plan and introduced and acknowledged the unfailing effort, dedication and work by the ESBC over the past several years.

Howard Solomon, Chairman of the Historic District Commission, reviewed the HDC's charge under the Town's By-laws and Mass General Laws, but stated that no recommendation could be made by the Commission until the proper procedures were followed and detailed plans brought forward to the HDC under a formal submission.

Move the question: **UNANIMOUS**
Hand count under Article 15: YES – 141 NO – 27
Motion **CARRIED**

A Motion to Reconsider Article 15 was made. The Moderator explained the procedures and impact of such a motion under the By-laws. Motion to Reconsider: LOST

Article 16 Fund Design Work for Remodeling L. D. Batchelder School

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to fund continued design work through construction documents for the enlargement, reconstruction, and remodeling of the L. D. Batchelder School; or what it will do in relation thereto.

Sponsor: School Committee
Description...

This article would fund continued design work through the Development Design and Construction Document phases for the renovations and additions to the Batchelder School.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: Recommendation to be made at Town Meeting.

Finance Committee: Recommendation to be made at Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 16 – FUND DESIGN WORK FOR REMODELING L.D. BATCHELDER SCHOOL

I move to pass over Article 16. *[G. Venezia]*
UNANIMOUS

Article 17 Create Rain Barrel Revolving Fund

To see if the Town will vote to authorize under MGL Ch. 44, sec. 53E 1/2, the establishment of a Rain Barrel Revolving Fund into which funds collected from the sale of rain barrels shall be deposited for use by the Water Enterprise to pay for purchasing additional rain barrels and associated costs and further to authorize the expenditure of not more than \$1,941.00 for said purposes; or what it will do in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Description...

This article will create the revolving fund to deposit the revenue obtained from the sale of the rain barrels.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: Recommended.

Finance Committee: Recommended.

ARTICLE 17 – CREATE RAIN BARREL REVOLVING FUND

I move to vote to authorize under MGL Chapter 44, sec. 53E 1/2, the establishment of a Rain Barrel Revolving Fund as specified in Article 17 as printed in the warrant. [J. Muldoon]

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

Article 18 Establish a Special Education Revolving Fund

To see if the Town will vote to authorize under MGL Ch. 44, sec. 53E1/2, the establishment of a Special Education Revolving Fund into which funds received from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts from the so-called "circuit breaker" program shall be deposited for use by the School Department to pay for certain extraordinary Special Education costs and further to authorize the expenditure of not more than \$222,953.00 for said purpose; or what it will do in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Description...

This article will create the revolving fund to deposit the Special Education Funds.

Recommendations...

Selectmen: Recommended.

Finance Committee: Recommended.

ARTICLE 18 – ESTABLISH SPECIAL EDUCATION REVOLVING FUND

I move to vote to authorize under MGL Chapter 44, sec. 53E 1/2, the establishment of a Special Education Revolving Fund as specified in Article 18 as printed in the warrant. [J. Muldoon]

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

As an abutter to the proposed park being considered in relation to Article 19, Modera-

tor Klaus Kubierschky excused himself from his duties as Moderator. In accordance with Section 172-16 of the By-Laws, Town Clerk Barbara Stats presided over the election of a Temporary Moderator. Mr. Robert Mauceri was elected by UNANIMOUS vote of the Town Meeting to preside over the deliberations under Article 19, and was duly sworn-in by the Town Clerk.

Article 19 Authorize Sale of Town Owned Land - Map 50, Parcels 9 and 10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money for the purpose of acquiring the parcels of land to create the Eisenhaures Pond Park, depicted on the plan entitled, "Plan of Land in North Reading, MA, surveyed for the Town of North Reading," dated "February 28, 2003," drawn by Design Consultants, Inc., and on file in the Town Clerk's office, said acquisition having been previously authorized under Article 27 of the April 7, 2003 Annual Town Meeting; and further to transfer the care, custody, and control of two parcels of town owned land located off Marblehead Street and identified as Map 50, Parcels 9 and 10, to the Board of Selectmen to be held for the purpose of sale and conveyance, and to sell and convey said Parcels 9 and 10 in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30B, the proceeds of said sale and conveyance to be used to pay for the cost of acquisition of the Eisenhaures Pond Park parcels pursuant to a special act of the General Court; or what it will do in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Description...

This article authorizes the sale of town owned land for the purpose of using the proceeds from the sale to pay for the acquisition of land to create Eisenhaures Pond Park.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: Recommended.

Finance Committee: Recommendation to be made at Town Meeting.

**ARTICLE 19 – AUTHORIZE SALE OF TOWN-OWNED LAND –
MAP 50 – PARCELS 9 and 10**

I move that the Town appropriate the sum of 1.2 Million Dollars for the purpose of acquiring the parcels of land to create the Eisenhaures Pond Park, depicted on the plan entitled, "Plan of Land in North Reading, MA, Surveyed for the Town of North Reading," dated "February 28, 2003," drawn by Design Consultants, Inc., and on file in the Town Clerk's Office, said acquisition having been previously authorized under Article 27 of the April 7, 2003 Annual Town Meeting; and further to transfer the care, custody, and control of two parcels of town-owned land located off Marblehead Street and identified as Map 50, Parcels 9 and 10, to the Board of Selectmen to be held for the purpose of sale and conveyance, and to sell and convey said Parcels 9 and 10 in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30B, the proceeds of said sale and conveyance to be used to pay for the cost of acquisition of the Eisenhaures Pond Park parcels subject to the passage of a special act of the General Court. [Warren Pearce, CPC Chairman] [Requires 2/3 vote]

Finance Committee will hold their recommendation until after the presentation.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

BSC Group Consultant Jeff Fasser made a presentation under the Article on behalf of the Community Planning Commission.

William Reed, Chairman of the Conversation Commission stated the recommendation of the Conservation Commission for the sale.

Finance Committee recommends.

Move the question: *UNANIMOUS*

Hand Count on the Main Motion under Article 19 [Requires 2/3 vote]:

YES – 70 NO – 13

Motion *CARRIED*

Mr. Mauceri turned the proceedings back to Moderator Klaus Kubierschky.

Article 20 Accept Gift of Land - Railroad Bed off Haverhill St. (IRP)

To see if the Town of North Reading/Hillview Commission will vote to accept a gift of land from Horace H. Jones et al heirs, located off Haverhill Street, as shown on Assessor's Map 41, Parcel 52 and formally of Boston and Main Railroad, consisting of approximately 1.73 acres and to accept said land of free will, without covenants, conditions or prejudice, to be used for open space, recreation and access, and to be added in aggregate to the Ipswich River Park; or what it will do in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Parks and Recreation Department

Description...

Acquisition of this property has been in the works since 1994. Recent research has revealed that the State is not the legal owner as was presumed. The deed to the property was issued to Horace H. Jones in 1940, however the deed was never registered with the Middlesex Registry of Deeds. The current path of acquisition is for Boston and Main Railroad to issue a conveyance deed for the land to Horace H. Jones et al heirs, who have agreed to donate said land to the Hillview Commission and the Town of North Reading.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: Recommended.

Finance Committee: Recommended.

ARTICLE 20 – ACCEPT GIFT OF LAND - RAILROAD BED OFF HAVERHILL STREET

I move that the Town vote to accept a gift of land from Horace H. Jones et al heirs, located off Haverhill Street, as shown on Assessor's Map 41, Parcel 52 as specified in Article 20 as printed in the warrant. [J. Muldoon] [Requires 2/3 vote]

Finance Committee recommends.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

Article 21 Transfer Custody and Control of Land to Conservation Commission

To see if the Town will vote to transfer custody and control of the 29 parcels of land listed below, to the North Reading Conservation Commission. This land will be administered under the provisions of MGL Chapter 40, section 8C, as amended; or what it will do in relation thereto.

Map	Parcel	Address	Book	Page
8	108	106 Burroughs Road	06818	0453
8	109	104 Burroughs Road	19388	0225

Map	Parcel	Address	Book	Page
8	111	2 Brooksdale Road	09913	0352
8	131	9 Hollywood Terrace	09913	0352
8	132	11 Hollywood Terrace	09708	0285
8	135	6 Algonquin Road	07486	0191
8	137	3 Algonquin Road	09913	0352
8	138	4 Garden Road	09913	0352
8	139	2 Garden Road	09913	0352
8	140	98 Burroughs Road	08793	0140
8	260	16 Pinecrest Road	08196	0043
13	71	36 Burroughs Road	20588	0462
13	100	15 St. Theresa Street	06818	0453
33	49	9 Cherry Street	09523	0272
33	51	16 Cherry Street	09523	0272
33	52	12 Cherry Street	11584	0089
44	13	31 Cherry Street	08196	0043
33	55	5 Fourth Street	09523	0272
33	58	16 Broadway Street	09913	0352
33	59	9 Third Street	09913	0352
33	74	9 Second Street	09523	0270
33	81	6 Second Street	10548	0105
33	108	13 First Street	11992	0085
44	3	71 Oakdale Road	00784	0093
44	6	33 Maple Road	10168	0095
44	11	25 Cherry Street	02384	0239
44	19	23 Fourth Street	09913	0352
44	21	7 Magnolia Street	08793	0140
44	24	10 Lloyd Road	06827	0449

Sponsor: Conservation Commission

Description...

This article proposes to correct a defect in the language and description of past Town Meeting votes authorizing the transfer of 29 parcels of land to the care; custody; management and control of the North Reading Conservation Commission.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: Recommended.

Finance Committee: No action required.

ARTICLE 21 – TRANSFER CUSTODY AND CONTROL OF LAND TO CONSERVATION COMMISSION

I move that the Town vote to transfer custody and control of 29 parcels of land to the Conservation Commission to be administered under the provisions of MGL Chapter 40, Section 8C as specified in Article 21 as printed in the warrant. [J. Muldoon] [Requires 2/3 vote]

Finance Committee stated that no action was required by them.

Board of Selectmen recommends.

UNANIMOUS

Article 22 Citizens Petition - Transfer Custody and Control of Parcels to Conservation Commission

To see if the Town will vote to transfer custody and control of the parcels listed on the attached sheet (said parcels being located on Harris Road, Quimby Road, and Stevens Road), to the North Reading Conservation Commission. This land will be administered under the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 40, Section 8C, as amended.

The following parcels were listed on the attached sheet:

Map	Parcel	Address	Book	Page
35	15	Harris Road	10415	0265
35	16	Harris Road	08793	0140
35	18	Harris Road	08793	0140
35	19	Harris Road	10696	0119
35	20	Harris Road	09462	0418
35	28	Quimby Road	14837	0098
35	29	Quimby Road	12806	0216
35	30	Quimby Road	08990	0079
35	31	Quimby Road	12524	0546
35	33	Quimby Road	09913	0352
35	37	Stevens Road	12806	0216

On the petition of Philip D. Hebert and others.

Description...

This article would transfer care and control of 11 parcels of general government land totaling 2.68 acres to the Conservation Commission for Conservation purposes.

Recommendations ...

Selectmen: Recommendation to be made at Town Meeting.

Finance Committee: Recommendation to be made at Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 22 – CITIZENS PETITION – TRANSFER CUSTODY AND CONTROL OF PARCELS TO CONSERVATION COM.

I move that the Town vote to transfer custody and control of 11 parcels of land located on Harris Road, Quimby Road and Stevens Road to the Conservation Com. to be administered under the provisions of MGL Chapter 40, Section 8C as specified in Article 22 as printed in the warrant. *[J. Murphy for petitioner Philip Hebert] [Requires 2/3 vote]*

Finance Committee does not recommend.

Board of Selectmen unanimously does not recommend. *[The Board explained that there has been interest expressed towards the purchase of some of these parcels and further that there may also be interest from other Town Boards/Committees]*

Conservation Commission Chairman William Reed stated that the Commission voted 3-1 in favor of the Article.

Move the question: **UNANIMOUS**

Hand Count on the Main Motion under Article 22 *[Requires 2/3 vote]:*

YES – 16 NO – 43

Motion **LOST**

I move to adjourn this meeting *sine die*. *[J. Muldoon]*

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:07 p.m. There were 240 registered voters present.

Checkers for the evening were: Norma Stiles, Vera Hart, Jean Gigante, Shirley Hoyt, Mary Stanuchenski, John Davis, Sara LaMonica, Rose Vitale, Norman Litchfield and Frank Stanuchenski.

Comcast cable services were provided for by Seth Albaumb; facilities services by Gary McAteer. Administrative Assistant Gail Parked assisted with the minutes and Carol Ducrow assisted with check-in procedures.

A True Copy.

ATTEST:

Barbara Stats, Town Clerk

[Articles 3, 4 and 5 of the October 6, 2003 Fall Annual Town Meeting were approved by Assistant Attorney General Kelli E. Gunagan on November 12, 2003 and subsequently advertised in the North Reading Transcript on December 11, 2003 and December 18, 2003.]

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF NORTH READING
WARRANT FOR SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION**

SS.

To either of the Constables of the **TOWN** of **NORTH READING**

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth; you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town who are qualified to vote in Elections to vote at:

PRECINCT 1 – High School Gymnasium, Park Street
PRECINCT 2 – Town Hall Gymnasium, 235 North Street
PRECINCT 3 – St. Theresa's Church, Fr. Lane Hall, Winter Street
PRECINCT 4 – St. Theresa's Church, Fr. Lane Hall, Winter Street

on **TUESDAY**, the **EIGHTEENTH DAY** of **NOVEMBER, 2003** from **7:00 a.m.** to **8:00 p.m.** for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the **SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION** for the following ballot question:

QUESTION #1

Shall the Town of North Reading be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds to be issued in order to finance constructing an addition to and/or remodeling, reconstructing and making extraordinary repairs to the L.D. Batchelder School, including original equipment, furnishings and relocation costs related thereto?

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

Given under our hands this **TWENTIETH** day of **OCTOBER, 2003**.

James P. Muldoon, Chairman
Marcia L. Bailey, Vice-Chairman
John J. Murphy, Clerk
G. Kevin Callagy
Stephen J. O'Leary
SELECTMEN OF NORTH READING

Warrant to be posted in two (2) places in each of the four (4) precincts in Town by the Constable.

ATTEST:

Paul D. Dorsey, Constable
October 20, 2003

**PAUL D. DORSEY, SR.
CONTABLE – TOWN OF NORTH READING
18 MAGNOLIA ROAD
NORTH READING, MA 01864**

I have notified the inhabitants of the Town of North Reading 28 days before Special Town Election on Tuesday, November 18, 2003, by posting the warrant in two (2) places in each of the four (4) precincts in Town:

Precinct #1	Viking Tree Service, Inc. 3 Washington Street, North Reading Carpet Crafts 3 Washington Street, North Reading
Precinct #2	Carousel Cleaners 265 Main Street, North Reading Town Hall 235 North Street, North Reading
Precinct #3	Reading Lumber Co. 110 Main Street, North Reading Eastgate Liquors 12 Main Street, North Reading
Precinct #4	U.S. Post Office 174 Park Street, North Reading Ryers Store 162 Park Street, North Reading

ATTEST:

Paul D. Dorsey, Sr., Constable
October 21, 2003

**TOWN OF NORTH READING
SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION
NOVEMBER 18, 2003**

QUESTION #1

Shall the Town of North Reading be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds to be issued in order to finance constructing an addition to and/or remodeling, reconstructing and making extraordinary repairs to the L.D. Batchelder School, including original equipment, furnishings and relocation costs related thereto?

	<u>Prec. 1</u>	<u>Prec. 2</u>	<u>Prec. 3</u>	<u>Prec. 4</u>	<u>Total</u>
YES	506	275	313	448	1,542
NO	182	153	131	182	648
BLANKS	0	1	3	0	4
TOTALS	688	429	447	630	2,194

ATTEST:
Barbara Stats, Town Clerk

VITAL STATISTICS AND LICENSES ISSUED

January 1, 2003 – December 31, 2003

Vital Statistics for 2003:

Births	146
Marriages	51
Deaths	109

Number of Dogs Licensed To Date: 557

Number of Passport Applications Processed: ... 101 (7/1/03-12/31/03)

Business Certificates Issued:

New Certificates	38
Renewals	20

licenses Issued for Division of Fisheries & Wildlife:

Hunting & Fishing	174
Free	32
Water Fowl Stamps	15
Archery Stamps	29
Primitive Firearms Stamps	17

Public Welfare

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICES

The Department of Veterans Services discharged requisite tasks with respect to benefits and services for North Reading veterans, dependents and survivors of veterans. Responses to requests for benefit and service delivery by the veteran community were performed in conformance with directive of the Mass. Dept. of Veterans Services and programs of the Federal Dept. of Veterans Affairs. Assistance, counsel and referral for the acquisition of benefits as well as advocacy for hearings and appeals were afforded for state and federal levels. The integration of resources at state and federal agencies provided a more comprehensive benefit and service profile.

The state veterans benefits program, mandated by Chapter 115, Mass. General Laws, is administered by the Mass. Dept. of Veterans Services and implemented locally through this office. Funds acquired for this purpose are made available through budgetary provisions from the town and are reimbursed by the state at the rate of 75% for authorized expenses. Financial assets of \$35,332.59 were expended in FY2003 for public assistance requirements comprising income maintenance, medical care and emergency services for eligible claimants. Cost conservation strategies have mitigated program liabilities.

Federal benefit requests were coordinated with the regional office of the Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Boston and various Veteran Administration medical and support facilities. Claims generated and processed during the year accounted for a percentage of \$1,115,170 in federal funds dispensed to North Reading claimants generally for veterans, dependents and survivor pensions, disability and indemnity compensation, medical and death benefits entitlement. A prescription drug service for \$7 per prescription, conducted by the Veterans Administration, has been inundated with applicants necessitating the imposition of a needs basis criteria to control both program administration and financial resources.

Support for the Mass. Fuel Assistance Program was continued through the Energy Office, Greater Lawrence Community Action Council (GLCAC). For FY2003, the Town of North Reading received \$31,211 for 53 eligible recipients. The state annuity program sponsored by the Mass. Dept. of Veterans Services and coordinated through this office disbursed \$30,000 to 20 local annuitants in FY2003. Annuities are provided to 100% service connected disabled veterans, Gold Star parents and widows of veterans killed in military action. In order to preclude errors, a procedure was implemented and coordinated with local undertakers and the DPW to validate personal data on applications for grave markers and head stones before submission to Washington. (Inaccurate data submitted on several occasions has been costly, time consuming and frustrating for grieving families.)

A few words of thanks for the cooperation of town departments with whom

we interface, and a special expression of thanks to the department's administrative assistant, Maureen Stevens, who has established a hallmark of excellence for the construction and content of social service claims emanating from this office. Her penchant for discipline and dedication to her tasks in case management and service delivery coupled with her facility in interpersonal and organizational skills have made her a very valuable asset to this office. Mrs. Stevens performance in connection with veterans affairs is outstanding.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. Callahan
Director of Veterans Services
Veterans Agent

VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

The Veterans Memorial Committee of North Reading, consisting of nine members, held meetings on September 9, October 8 and October 30 for the purpose of conducting committee business and organizing a commemorative service to be held on Veterans Day, November 11, 2003. This is an exercise of recognition and appreciation perpetuated through the years and is consistent with the tradition of honoring veterans who made the commitment for their country. Plans were developed and coordinated with representatives of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 10874, North Reading Militia, and other interested parties. The planning agenda comprised issues relating to publicity, guest speakers, program format, assignment scheduling, support services, static displays of military equipment, aircraft fly-over, flags, decorative wreaths, area maintenance, satellite memorials and contacts with local and state organizations and personnel as components for complementing the program.

The ceremony on Veterans Day was a joint effort by the VFW, North Reading Militia and the Veterans Memorial Committee. VFW Commander James E. MacLauchlan, Post 10874, North Reading, performed as Master of Ceremonies, Selectman James P. Muldoon, Chairman, North Reading Selectmen, read the Veterans Day Proclamation. Father Thomas M. Gillespie, Pastor, St. Theresa's Church, gave the Invocation and Benediction. Past State President, Korean War Veterans of Mass., performed as guest speaker and gave a stirring account of the Korean War. Senator Bruce Tarr participated despite earlier commitments to other communities and presented an inciteful and eloquent oratorical performance. Other participants included the North Reading High School Band under the direction of Eric Foreman, North Reading Boy Scout Troop #750, led by Scoutmaster Jeff Anderson, Charley Peacock, cannoneer, and the Olde Reading Battery, bell ringer Nick O'Brien, and a delegation of local veterans who placed memorial wreaths. Captain Ford, 101st Engineers, Mass. National Guard, provided a static display of several military vehicles for enhancing the memorial venue.

A special expression of thanks is extended to Edith O'Leary, Director of the Council On Aging, for her hospitality at the Edith O'Leary Senior Center for dignitaries, ceremony participants and attendees. In retrospect, a debt of gratitude is due Mrs. O'Leary for her past commitment and dedication to our Veterans Day ceremony. She has worked tirelessly and unselfishly over the years in providing a resource, in both fair and foul weather, where the community could gather socially and enjoy a refreshment in a convivial environment.

In October, 2003, our memorial contractor, Mount Pleasant Memorials, Gloucester, restored the WWII bronze plaque and cleaned and lacquered other memorial plaques. The maintenance program is designed to sustain a salutary and pristine perspective for the town's veterans memorial site.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. Callahan
Director of Veterans Services

Financial Reports

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Assessors report for fiscal 2003 is as follows:

The FY2003 Total Real Estate Valuation: \$1,829,483,200
 Personal Property Valuation: 14,629,100
 Tax Rate for Residential/Open Space: 12.09
 Tax Rate for Commercial/Industrial: 12.09

Amounts Levied By Class, Percentage, Valuation & Taxes:

Classes	Percentage	Valuation	Taxes
Residential	85.40%	\$1,574,860,800	\$19,040,067.07
Open Space		0	
Commercial	6.89%	127,067,000	1,536,240.03
Industrial	6.92%	127,555,400	1,542,144.79
Personal Property	0.79%	14,629,100	176,865.82
	100.00%	\$1,844,112,300	\$22,295,317.71

Total Exemptions Granted: 138 Amount \$53,697.83

Motor Vehicle and Trailer Excise:

Number of Vehicles Assessed as of 1/1/03 16,618
 Assessed Valuation as of 1/1/03 \$102,550,162.00
 Excise Tax Rate \$25.00 per thousand *\$2,185,850.71

*Assumes a full year of taxation on all bills.

State and County Assessment:

County	None
State	\$9,094,727.00

Gross Amount to be raised	\$37,452,661.71
Estimated Receipts and Available Funds	\$15,157,344.00
Net Amount to be Raised by Taxation	\$22,295,317.71

Appellate Tax Board: 2 appeals for FY03

Respectfully submitted,

Richard D. Simmons, Jr.
 Assessing Manager

TOWN TREASURER

The transactions in the General Cash Account in summary form were as follows:

Balance 6/30/2002	\$ 8,349,105.91
Balance 6/30/2003	\$ 9,349,447.59

FUNDED DEBT

Outstanding 7/1/2002	\$13,511,667.00
Bonds and notes paid in FY 03	\$ 4,989,911.00
New Bonds FY 03	\$ 6,537,040.00
Outstanding June 30, 2003	\$15,058,796.00

DEBT ACCOUNT

General Bonds 1993	\$ 870,000.00
Hillview 1995	\$ 1,065,000.00
Water 1995	\$ 177,000.00
General Government 1995	\$ 49,000.00
General Government 1998	\$ 685,000.00
Hillview FY 98	\$ 885,000.00
Water FY 98	\$ 795,000.00
General Government FY 99	\$ 520,000.00
Hillview FY 99	\$ 360,000.00
FY 2000 School Bonds	\$ 2,805,000.00
FY 2000 Gen. Gov. Bonds	\$ 155,000.00
FY 2003 Gen. Gov. Bonds	\$ 6,242,000.00
Title V - Septic (Comm of Mass. Bonds)	\$ 155,556.00
MWPAT	\$ 295,240.00

Total \$15,058,796.00

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Craveiro
 Town Treasurer

TOWN COLLECTOR

Outstanding Balances June 30, 2003:

Levy of 2000	
Motor Vehicle	\$ 12,338.58
Personal Property	\$ 7,362.75
Levy of 2001	
Motor Vehicle	\$ 12,379.90
Personal Property	\$ 3,435.80
Levy of 2002	
Motor Vehicle	\$ 37,476.09
Personal Property	\$ 3,827.70
Levy of 2003	
Real Estate	\$ 422,924.83
Motor Vehicle	\$ 179,192.77
Personal Property	\$ 7,325.54
Levy of 2004	
Real Estate (bills mailed on 6/27/03)	\$ 11,084,81.22

FY 2003 TOWN OF NORTH READING TRUST FUND ANALYSIS

Account Number	Account Description	7/1/02		Revenue	Receipts		Transfers In (Out)	6/30/03	
		Expendable	Non-Expendable		Bequests	Disbursements		Balance	Non-Expendable
911	Flint Memorial Hall	29,088.85	6,000.00	504.10				28,592.95	6,000.00
912	Edith F. Holt Scholarship	4,130.74	3,000.00	70.11		200.00		4,000.85	3,000.00
913	Walter S. Flint	44,420.94	10,000.00	769.77				45,190.71	10,000.00
914	Alice G. Wilson	4,151.03	500.00	71.95				4,222.98	500.00
915	West Village Club Scholarship	4,580.43	1,780.64	81.56				4,787.52	1,780.64
916	Flint Memorial Library	7,644.14	3,150.00	132.48				7,766.62	3,150.00
917	Elliot Flint	26,283.73	5,000.00	455.47				26,739.20	5,000.00
918	Thomas Stafford	2,584.94	1,000.00	44.81				2,629.75	1,000.00
919	Library Piano Trust	4,417.53	2,715.00	76.56				4,494.09	2,715.00
920	Ebenezer Damon	13,061.36	5,000.00	226.34				13,287.70	5,000.00
921	Anne U. Abbott	4,596.21	1,000.00	79.65				4,675.86	1,000.00
922	Harmony Vale	6,993.83	1,000.00	121.19				7,115.02	1,000.00
923	Luther G. Howard	5,707.27	500.00	98.90				5,806.17	500.00
924	Park Street Cemetery	1,897.38	300.00	32.87				1,930.25	300.00
925	Perpetual Care	599,289.82	436,823.00	10,385.10				609,674.92	436,823.00
926	150th Anniversary	403.11	125.00	6.98				410.09	125.00
927	Tri-centennial Amer/Revlt	348.32	100.00	6.04				354.36	100.00
929	Stabilization	734,258.91	406,195.16	12,723.92				746,982.83	406,195.16
930	Conservation	89,350.91	25,000.00	1,548.37				90,899.28	25,000.00
931	James & Barbara Alyward	12,923.87	10,000.00	220.66		500.00		12,644.53	10,000.00
933	James Greg Hannon	11,186.07	10,000.00	186.51		500.00		10,872.58	10,000.00
936	Neido Barrasso	123,716.40	100,000.00	2,106.00		3,000.00		122,822.40	100,000.00
937	Richard Murphy Scholarship	4,581.09	3,000.00	79.36				4,660.45	3,000.00
	Cultural Council Scholarship	4,830.68	1,789.00	83.70				4,914.38	1,789.00
	James Stewart Scholarship	1,175.32	610.00	20.36				1,195.70	610.00
	Michael J. Mitton Memorial	25,718.32	24,100.00	429.63		2,000.00		24,147.95	24,100.00
	Richard K. Smith Scholarship	5,814.96	3,750.00	100.79				5,915.75	3,750.00
939	Veterans Mem. Scholarship	16,368.74	0.00	283.65				16,652.39	0.00
	Fitzgerald Prize For Comm.	16,704.60	8,464.00	324.09	2,050.00			19,078.69	10,514.00
	Eleanor Frazier Mem. Scholar.	718.17	675.00	12.44				730.61	675.00
	Eric Nelson Mem. Schol. Fund	5,279.59	5,764.91	94.14	550.00			5,923.73	6,314.91
Citizens Bank 1,840,130.41									
Andover Bank 18,854.16									
		1,812,352.89	1,077,341.71	31,377.52	2,600.00	6,200.00	0.00	1,840,130.41	1,079,941.71

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

The following pages are the audited General Purpose Financial Statements of the Town of North Reading for the Fiscal Year 2003. The statements and accompanying notes were prepared by Guisti, Hingston and Company, P.C., the outside audit firm, as a result of the annual audit of the Town's financial records by the firm.

Responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of the data presented rests with the Town. I believe the data, as presented, is accurate in all material respect that it is presented in a manner designed to fairly set forth the financial position of the Town as measured by the activity of its various funds.

The Town's finances continue to feel the pressure of rapid growth and a general decline in the economy. The Town's ability to generate sufficient revenue to provide the services demanded is severely limited by the constraints of Proposition 2-1/2. The Town is faced with difficulty, funding not only the operating budget but major capital projects over the next few years. This can only be accomplished by careful and thoughtful planning of the Town's leaders.

I would like to thank the Town Administrator, the Department Heads and the entire staff for their support and cooperation during my few months as Acting Finance Director and ask for their continued patience as we transition to a new Finance Director. Also, on behalf of the finance division staff, I would like to thank George E. Dow, Sr., who served for almost fifteen years as the Town's Finance Director/Town Accountant until he retired on December 30, 2003. George provided us with leadership and guidance and we wish him the best of health and happiness in his retirement.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurianne Galvin,
Acting Finance Director/Town Accountant

Town of North Reading, Massachusetts Statement of Net Assets June 30, 2003

	Governmental Activities	Business - Type Activities	Total
Assets			
Current:			
Cash/Investments	\$ 7,835,227	\$ 1,347,521	\$ 9,182,748
Petty Cash	585	150	735
Receivables:			
Property Taxes	313,512	-	313,512
Tax Liens	234,276	-	234,276
Excises	231,832	-	231,832
Departmental	54,572	-	54,572
User Charges	-	174,597	174,597
Liens	8,356	13,642	21,998
Intergovernmental	2,223,529	255,130	2,478,659
Noncurrent:			
Intergovernmental Accounts Receivable	5,034,291	-	5,034,291
Deferred Property Taxes	89,428	-	89,428
Deferred Special Assessments	118,387	-	118,387
Capital Assets:			
Assets not Being Depreciated	10,516,872	4,311,766	14,828,638
Assets Being Depreciated, Net	20,644,503	13,748,625	34,393,128
Total Assets	47,305,370	19,851,431	67,156,801
Liabilities			
Current:			
Warrants Payable	372,377	154,998	527,375
Accounts Payable	-	143,131	143,131
Accrued Salaries Payable	1,252,200	11,470	1,263,670
Employees' Withholding Payable	248,285	-	248,285
Due to Individuals	(5,349)	-	(5,349)
Due to Other Governments	11,099	-	11,099
Unclaimed Checks	29,227	-	29,227
Guarantee Deposits	17,940	53,056	70,996
Accrued Interest	110,831	105,071	215,902
Other Liabilities	122,296	-	122,296
Bonds Payable	1,254,115	1,065,534	2,319,649
Bond Anticipation Notes Payable	5,311,500	1,310,000	6,621,500

Town of North Reading, Massachusetts
Statement of Net Assets
June 30, 2003

	Governmental Activities	Business - Type Activities	Total
Noncurrent:			
Bonds Payable	7,481,557	6,093,380	13,574,937
Compensated Absences	4,043,400	-	4,043,400
Total Liabilities	20,249,478	8,936,640	29,186,118
Net Assets			
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt	23,547,813	10,169,390	33,717,203
Restricted for:			
Capital projects	107,543	-	107,543
Water	-	407,576	407,576
Golf	-	65,000	65,000
Other	2,880,947	-	2,880,947
Perpetual Funds:			
Expendable	156,884	-	156,884
Nonexpendable	523,942	-	523,942
Unrestricted	(161,237)	272,825	111,588
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 27,055,892</u>	<u>\$ 10,914,791</u>	<u>\$37,970,683</u>

Town of North Reading, Massachusetts
Statement of Activities
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003

Functions/Programs	Net (Expenses) Revenues and Changes in Net Assets					
	Program Revenues	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total
Expenses	Charges for Services					
Primary Government:						
Governmental Activities:						
General Government	\$ 1,949,359	\$ 429,399	\$ 136,695	\$ -	\$ (1,383,265)	\$ -
Public Safety	5,128,566	417,533	476,659	-	(4,234,374)	-
Education	21,555,156	1,070,272	6,458,338	-	(14,026,546)	-
Highways and Public Works	4,952,683	1,814,360	767,134	723,780	(1,647,409)	-
Human Services	386,927	21,174	39,102	-	(326,651)	-
Culture and Recreation	808,034	200,535	101,022	-	(506,477)	-
Fringe Benefits	3,742,900	-	-	-	(3,742,900)	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest on Debt Services	499,657	-	-	-	(499,657)	-
State and County Assessment	260,273	-	-	-	(260,273)	-
Total Governmental Activities	39,283,555	3,953,273	7,978,950	723,780	(26,627,552)	-
Business-Type Activities:						
Golf	1,514,934	1,674,484	34,771	-	194,321	194,321
Water Services	2,285,391	2,341,688	24,385	-	80,682	80,682
Total Business-Type Activities	3,800,325	4,016,172	59,156	-	275,003	275,003
Total Primary Government	<u>\$ 43,083,880</u>	<u>\$ 7,969,445</u>	<u>\$ 8,038,106</u>	<u>\$ 723,780</u>	<u>\$ (26,627,552)</u>	<u>\$ 275,003</u>
General Revenues:						
Property Taxes				22,201,942	-	22,201,942
Motor Vehicle and Other Excise Taxes				2,221,460	-	2,221,460
Penalties and Interest on Taxes				109,963	-	109,963
Other Taxes, Assessments and in Lieu of payments				379,009	-	379,009
Intergovernmental				2,127,751	-	2,127,751
Interest and Investment Income				76,333	-	76,333
Other Revenue				185,902	-	185,902
Contributions to Permanent Funds				18,250	-	18,250
Special Item:						
Net Payment to Escrow Agent for Debt Refunding				(25,740)	-	(25,740)
Transfers, Net				193,307	(193,307)	-
Total General Revenues, Special Items and Transfers				27,488,177	(193,307)	27,294,870
Change in Net Assets				860,625	81,696	942,321
Net Assets:						
Beginning of the Year				26,195,267	10,833,095	37,028,362
End of the Year				<u>\$ 27,055,892</u>	<u>\$10,914,791</u>	<u>\$37,970,683</u>

Town of North Reading, Massachusetts
Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
June 30, 2003

	General	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets			
Cash/Investments	\$ 4,312,813	\$ 3,522,414	\$ 7,835,227
Petty Cash	585	-	585
Receivables:			
Property Taxes	313,512	-	313,512
Tax Liens	234,276	-	234,276
Excises	231,832	-	231,832
User Charges	54,572	-	54,572
Deferred Property Taxes	89,428	-	89,428
Liens	8,356	-	8,356
Intergovernmental	5,598,978	1,658,842	7,257,820
Special Assessments	-	118,387	118,387
Tax Foreclosures	257,078	-	257,078
Total Assets	<u>\$11,101,430</u>	<u>\$ 5,299,643</u>	<u>\$16,401,073</u>
Liabilities and Fund Balances			
Liabilities:			
Warrants Payable	\$ 262,351	\$ 110,026	\$ 372,377
Accrued Salaries Payable	1,252,200	-	1,252,200
Employees' Withholding Payable	248,285	-	248,285
Due to Individuals	(5,349)	-	(5,349)
Due to Other Governments	11,099	-	11,099
Unclaimed Checks	29,227	-	29,227
Guarantee Deposits	17,940	-	17,940
Other Liabilities	-	122,296	122,296
Bonds Anticipation Notes Payable	-	5,311,500	5,311,500
Deferred Revenue:			
Property Taxes	160,976	-	160,976
Property Taxes Paid in Advance	54,322	-	54,322
Deferred Property Taxes	89,428	-	89,428
Tax Liens	234,276	-	234,276
Excises	50,711	-	50,711
Special Assessments	-	118,387	118,387
Tax Foreclosures	257,078	-	257,078
User Charges	54,572	-	54,572
Intergovernmental	5,537,763	991,524	6,529,287
Total Liabilities	<u>8,254,879</u>	<u>6,653,733</u>	<u>14,908,612</u>

Town of North Reading, Massachusetts
Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
June 30, 2003

	General	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Fund Equity:			
Fund Balances:			
Reserved for Encumbrances	499,671	478,390	978,061
Reserved for Special Purposes	113,681	2,967,398	3,081,079
Reserved for Perpetual Permanent Funds	-	523,942	523,942
Unreserved:			
Designated for:			
Subsequent Year's Expenditures	426,711	-	426,711
Appropriation Deficits	(304,303)	-	(304,303)
Undesignated, Reported in:			
General Fund	2,110,791	-	2,110,791
Special Revenue Fund	-	(20,669)	(20,669)
Capital Projects Fund	-	(5,311,500)	(5,311,500)
Permanent Fund	-	8,349	8,349
Total Fund Balances	<u>2,846,551</u>	<u>(1,354,090)</u>	<u>1,492,461</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	<u>\$11,101,430</u>	<u>\$ 5,299,643</u>	<u>\$16,401,073</u>

Town of North Reading, Massachusetts
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003

	General	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:			
Property Taxes	\$ 22,007,974	\$ -	\$ 22,007,974
Tax Liens	107,603	-	107,603
Excises	2,228,246	-	2,228,246
Penalties and Interest	109,963	-	109,963
Licenses and Permits	427,895	-	427,895
Intergovernmental	8,682,322	2,033,887	10,716,209
Charges for Services	974,307	1,523,084	2,497,391
Fines and Forfeits	7,447	-	7,447
Earnings on Investments	71,852	72,354	144,206
In Lieu of Taxes	379,009	-	379,009
Contributions	-	549,702	549,702
Miscellaneous	183,296	41,829	225,125
Total Revenues	<u>35,179,914</u>	<u>4,220,856</u>	<u>39,400,770</u>
Expenditures:			
Current			
General Government	1,871,658	273,879	2,145,537
Public Safety	4,774,056	355,125	5,129,181
Education	19,232,410	2,623,007	21,855,417
Intergovernmental	260,273	-	260,273
Highways and Public Works	3,630,989	935,305	4,566,294
Human Services	371,692	4,540	376,232
Culture and Recreation	486,583	212,712	699,295
Employee Benefits	3,742,900	-	3,742,900
Debt Service:	-	-	-
Principal	999,872	-	999,872
Interest	499,657	-	499,657
Total Expenditures	<u>35,870,090</u>	<u>4,404,568</u>	<u>40,274,658</u>
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	<u>(690,176)</u>	<u>(183,712)</u>	<u>(873,888)</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Operating Transfers In	781,059	29,319	810,378
Operating Transfers (Out)	(58,790)	(558,281)	(617,071)
Proceeds from Refunding Bonds	1,759,906	-	1,759,906
Payments to Refunding Agent	(1,759,906)	-	(1,759,906)
Proceeds from Bonds	332,000	1,995,000	2,327,000
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>1,054,269</u>	<u>1,466,038</u>	<u>2,520,307</u>

Town of North Reading, Massachusetts
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003

	General	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Excess of Revenues and Other Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Uses	364,093	1,282,326	1,646,419
Fund Balance, Beginning	2,482,458	(2,402,325)	80,133
Prior Period Adjustment	-	(234,091)	(234,091)
Fund Balance, Beginning as Restated	<u>2,482,458</u>	<u>(2,636,416)</u>	<u>(153,958)</u>
Fund Balance, Ending	<u>\$ 2,846,551</u>	<u>\$ (1,354,090)</u>	<u>\$ 1,492,461</u>

Town of North Reading, Massachusetts
Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet
Total Fund Balances to the Statement of Net Assets
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003

Total Governmental Fund Balances	\$ 1,492,461
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.	31,161,375
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and, therefore, are deferred in the funds.	7,291,959
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds	
Bonds Payable	(8,735,672)
Accrued Interest on Bonds	(110,831)
Compensated Absences	(4,043,400)
Net Assets of Governmental Activities	<u>\$27,055,892</u>

Town of North Reading, Massachusetts
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures,
and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds
to the Statement of Activities
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds	\$ 1,646,419
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation exceeded capital outlays in the current period.	(8,770)
In the statement of activities, the gain on the trade in of capital assets is reported, whereas in the governmental funds, the gain is not reported.	
Revenues in the Statement of Activities that do not provide current financial resources are fully deferred in the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances. Therefore, the recognition of revenue for various types of accounts receivable (i.e., real estate and personal property, motor vehicle excise, etc.) differ between the two statements. This amount represents the net change in deferred revenue.	575,844
The issuance of long-term debt (e.g., bonds and leases) provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction, however, has any effect on net assets. Also, governmental funds report the effect of issuance costs, premiums, discounts, and similar items when debt is first issued, whereas these amounts are deferred and amortized in the Statement of Activities. This amount is the net effect of these differences in the treatment of long-term debt and related items.	(1,327,128)
In the statement of activities, the net payment to the escrow agent in excess of the debt refunded is reported as a special item, whereas in the governmental funds, the proceeds and payments are reported as other financing sources/uses.	(25,740)
Change in net assets of governmental activities	<u>\$ 860,625</u>

Town of North Reading, Massachusetts

Statement of Net Assets

Proprietary Funds

June 30, 2003

	Business-Type Activities Enterprise Fund	
	Water	Golf
Assets		
Current:		
Cash and Cash Investments	\$ 832,534	\$ 514,987
Petty Cash	-	150
Receivables, Net of Allowance for Uncollectibles:		
User Charges	174,597	-
Liens	13,642	-
Due from Other Governments	255,130	-
Noncurrent:		
Receivables:		
Assets Not Being Depreciated	477,376	3,834,390
Assets Being Depreciated, Net	10,862,586	2,886,039
Total Assets	12,615,865	7,235,566
Liabilities		
Current:		
Warrants Payable	99,905	55,093
Accounts Payable	143,131	-
Accrued Wages Payable	11,035	435
Guarantee Deposits	-	53,056
Interest on Bonds Payable	51,541	53,530
Notes Payable	1,120,000	190,000
Bonds Payable	352,777	712,757
Noncurrent:		
Bonds Payable	2,876,137	3,217,243
Total Liabilities	4,654,526	4,282,114
Net Assets		
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt	7,568,961	2,600,429
Restricted	407,576	65,000
Unrestricted	(15,198)	288,023
Total Net Assets	\$ 7,961,339	\$ 2,953,452

Town of North Reading, Massachusetts
Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Assets
Proprietary Funds
For The Year Ended June 30, 2003

	Water Enterprise	Golf Enterprise
Operating Revenues:		
Charges for Services	\$ 2,341,688	\$ 1,501,782
Departmental	-	172,702
Gifts	-	29,200
Total Operating Revenues	2,341,688	1,703,684
Operating Expenditures:		
Personal Services	554,096	29,547
Nonpersonal Services	1,313,873	1,117,316
Depreciation	329,516	143,293
Total Operating Expenditures	2,197,485	1,290,156
Operating Income	144,203	413,528
Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses):		
Intergovernmental	22,086	-
Earnings on Investments	2,299	5,571
Interest on Debt	(87,906)	(224,778)
Total Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)	(63,521)	(219,207)
Income Before Operating Transfers	80,682	194,321
Other Financing Sources (Uses):		
Operating Transfers In	16,693	-
Operating Transfers Out	(210,000)	-
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(193,307)	-
Net Income	(112,625)	194,321
Retained Earnings July 1, 2002	8,073,964	2,759,131
Retained Earnings June 30, 2003	\$ 7,961,339	\$ 2,953,452

Town of North Reading, Massachusetts
Statement of Cash Flows
Proprietary Fund
For the Year Ended June 30, 2003

	Water	Hillview
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
Receipts from Customers	\$ 2,315,011	\$ 1,703,684
Payments to Employees	(549,403)	(29,415)
Payments to Vendors	(2,004,079)	(1,067,970)
Net Cash Flows Provided (Used) by Operating Activities	<u>(238,471)</u>	<u>606,299</u>
Cash Flows from Non Capital Related Financing Activities:		
Transfers to Other Funds	(193,307)	-
Net Cash Flows Provided (Used) by Non Capital Related Financing Activities	<u>(193,307)</u>	<u>-</u>
Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities:		
Receipts from Government	22,086	-
Proceeds from Bonds	1,602,914	935,000
Bond Proceeds Recognized, Cash not Received	(255,130)	-
Principal Payments on Notes and Bonds	(566,000)	(1,425,000)
Interest Expense	(87,906)	(224,778)
Net Cash Flows Provided (Used) by Capital and Related Financing Activities	<u>715,964</u>	<u>(714,778)</u>
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:		
Earnings on Investments	2,299	5,571
Net Cash Flows Provided (Used) by Investing Activities	<u>2,299</u>	<u>5,571</u>
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	286,485	(102,908)
Cash and Cash Equivalents, July 1, 2002	546,049	617,895
Cash and Cash Equivalents, June 30, 2003	<u>\$ 832,534</u>	<u>\$ 514,987</u>
Reconciliation of Net Income to Net Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities:		
Operating Income (Loss)	\$ 144,203	\$ 413,528
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Income to Net Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities:		
Depreciation Expense	329,516	143,293
(Increase) Decrease in Accounts Receivable	(26,677)	-
Increase (Decrease) in Warrants Payable	243,004	49,478
Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Payable	(928,517)	-
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	<u>\$ (238,471)</u>	<u>\$ 606,299</u>
Noncash Investing, Capital and Financing Activities:		
Borrowing Under Capital Leases	-	-
Contributions of Capital Assets from Government	-	-
Purchase of Equipment on Account	-	-
Increase in Fair Value of Investments	-	-
Capital Asset Trade-Ins	-	-

Town of North Reading, Massachusetts
Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets
Fiduciary Funds
June 30, 2003

	Private-Purpose Trust
Assets	
Cash and Cash Investments	\$ 233,899
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>233,899</u>
Liabilities	-
Total Liabilities	-
Net Assets	
Reserved for Scholarships	-
Expendable	192,145
Nonexpendable	41,754
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 233,899</u>

Town of North Reading, Massachusetts
Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Assets
Fiduciary Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2003

Additions:	
Interest, Dividends, and Other	\$ 6,308
Deductions:	
Scholarships Awarded	<u>(6,500)</u>
Change in Net Assets	(192)
Net Assets:	
Beginning of the Year	<u>234,091</u>
End of the Year	<u><u>\$ 233,899</u></u>

