

**296th  
Annual Town Report**



*For the Year Ending  
December 31, 2012*



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## GENERAL INFORMATION FOR THE TOWN OF STRATHAM

### TELEPHONE NUMBERS: (\* denotes an emergency number)

<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT (TO REPORT FIRE)</b> .....	<b>911*</b>
<b>EMS EMERGENCY NUMBER (AMBULANCE)</b> .....	<b>911*</b>
Fire House business number (not to report fire).....	772-9756
Fire Chief.....	772-8215
<b>POLICE DEPARTMENT (EMERGENCY NUMBER)</b> .....	<b>911*</b>
Police Department (business number).....	778-9691
Animal Control.....	679-2225
Town Clerk/Tax Collector.....	772-4741
Selectmen's Office/Town Administrator.....	772-7391
Planner/Planning Board .....	772-7391
Highway Department.....	772-5550
Building Inspector/C.E.O.....	772-7391
Wiggin Memorial Library.....	772-4346
Historical Society.....	778-0434
Parks & Recreation.....	772-7450
Stratham Memorial School.....	772-5413
Exeter Region Coop. School District (main switchboard)	778-7772
Superintendent, SAU #16.....	775-8653

### COMMUNITY INFORMATION: [www.strathamnh.gov](http://www.strathamnh.gov)

#### TOWN OFFICE HOURS: (closed holidays)

**Town Clerk/Tax Collector:** Mondays 8:30 am to 7:00 pm; Tuesday–Thursday 8:30 am to 4:00 pm; Fridays 8:00 am to 12:30 pm

**Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector:** Monday – Friday 9:00 am–noon

**Wiggin Memorial Library:** Monday–Thursday 9:30 am to 7:00 pm, Fri. 9:30 am – 6:00 pm  
Sat. 9:30 am–3:00 pm

**All Other Offices:** Monday–Friday 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

#### HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOURS:

Tuesdays 9 am–11:30 am; Thursdays 2 pm–4 pm; 1st Sunday of month 2 pm–4 pm

#### STRATHAM TRANSFER STATION HOURS:

Saturdays 9 am–4 pm (Winter (December thru March) 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month only)

#### TRASH & RECYCLING COLLECTION: Thursday & Friday curbside by 7:00 am

*See Back Cover for Meetings & Schedules*

**ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
TOWN OF STRATHAM  
NEW HAMPSHIRE  
BY THE**

Selectmen, Town Clerk, Tax Collector,  
Town Treasurer, and other Town Departments,  
Boards and Commissions,  
and Reports of  
School Districts and SAU #16

**DECEMBER 31, 2012**

*WITH THE*

**VITAL STATISTICS  
FOR 2012**

*Printed and Bound By:*  
Hannaford & Dumas  
Woburn, MA  
2013



## DEDICATED TO



**Martin Wool**



**Fred Hutton, Jr.**

Longevity, dedication, commitment, loyalty, devotion, reliability, are only words until individuals act in ways that embody their meaning. Two such individuals for the Town of Stratham are Martin Wool and Fred Hutton, Jr.

Marty Wool served the Town in about as many ways as one can, most notably as a Selectman for over thirty years. Other contributions have included serving on the several Master Plan Committees, co-chairing the Town Center Study Subcommittee, recycling committees, member of the Stratham Volunteer Fire Department, Chair of the Stratham Fair, President of the Exeter Crimeline, Secretary to the Stratham Hill Park Association, and served as both selectmen's representative and later an appointed member of the Stratham Planning Board during which he was most recently elected chairman of the board. The depth and breadth of his involvement over the years in every facet of this community are innumerable.

Fred Hutton was appointed as the Town's Highway Agent in 1982 and continued in that capacity until his retirement in 2012. These were considered Stratham's boom years when the Town's population doubled and then some resulting in new subdivisions all over town. This presented ever-increasing challenges for a department of four full-time employees including the Highway Agent. Throughout it all, Fred maintained a steadfast perseverance to get the job done no matter the trials this new growth offered and always with an eye towards what was best for the community. Fred did not stop with his employment with the Town. He has been a lifelong member of the Stratham Volunteer Fire Department having served in many leadership capacities including Deputy Fire Chief. Without Fred, so many of the little things that are easily overlooked would not have been accomplished.

Individuals like Marty and Fred are the grease that allows things in a community to get done. For this we thank them because we owe them a debt of gratitude.



## IN MEMORY OF



**Robert A. Cushman**



**D. Craig Wark**

Stratham has had the good fortune of having many individuals whose contributions make a lasting mark on their community. At their passing, it is only right to reflect upon the differences they made and the void that has been created. Although no one will ever replace these individuals, the challenge to others is to make sure the spirit of their contributes lives on.

Bob Cushman served honorably his community and country by enlisting in the Navy before receiving a bachelor's degree from New Hampshire College. His focus continued into the field of risk management both professionally and personally having been a Risk Management Specialist for several different insurance companies. His encyclopedic knowledge of the various codes and regulations made him a resource to many and eventually lead him to serve the Town of Greenland as their Building Inspector. As a lifelong member of the Stratham Volunteer Fire Department, he held many leadership positions including Fire Chief. His love of Stratham did not stop there for Bob was also a Cemetery Trustee and frequent contributor to the Stratham Fair.

Craig Wark was a person of many talents. After receiving a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering, he worked for many years in technical fields for major manufacturing companies before starting his own. Once he and his wife Jean move to Stratham, Craig Wark served the Town as a Library Trustee for 10 years, spearheading efforts that led the Library to receive the New Hampshire Library Trustees Association (NHLTA) awards for the Library and Library Director. The NHLTA also recognized Craig as the New Hampshire Library Trustee of the Year in 2004, and the Wiggin Memorial Library named Craig its first and only Trustee Emeritus after his years of service as a board member and chairman of the board. He went on to become a member of the Board of Directors of the NHLTA. Craig's hard work and advocacy were instrumental to the success of the Library's expansion/renovation project in 2009-2010. Craig truly believed in the power of community to make a difference in people's lives.





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## **2012 TOWN OFFICERS**

### **ELECTED POSITIONS**

#### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

David Canada, Chair	term expires 2014
Bruno Federico	term expires 2015
Timothy Copeland	term expires 2013

#### **MODERATOR**

David Emanuel	term expires 2014
Jerry Howard (appointed assistant)	term expires 2014

#### **TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR**

Joyce Charbonneau	term expires 2014
Catherine Kenny, Deputy (appointed)	
Lucy Hopping, Office Assistant	

#### **TREASURER**

Kevin Peck	term expires 2014
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#### **SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST**

Caren Gallagher	term expires 2014
Melanie McGrail	term expires 2016
Susan Hunter	term expires 2018

#### **TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUNDS**

Joyce Rowe, Chair	term expires 2013
Diane Morgera	term expires 2015
Maria Emanuel	term expires 2014

#### **LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

Connie Aubin-Adams	term expires 2015
Lee Beauregard	term expires 2015
Eileen Bischoff	term expires 2013
Bruce Cotter	term expires 2014
Murray Segal	term expires 2013
Lesley Kimball, Director (appointed)	

#### **CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

June Sawyer, Chair	term expires 2013
Robert Cushman*	term expires 2014
Colin Lavery**	term expires 2014
John Labonte	term expires 2015

\* *Died in office*

\*\**Appointed to fill the unexpired term of Robert Cushman*

## **APPOINTED POSITIONS**

### **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

Paul R. Deschaine  
Valerie Kemp, Accounting Supervisor  
Stacey J. Grella, Executive Asst./Welfare Administrator  
Charles Browne, Custodian/Building Maintenance  
Doreen Coughlin, Asst. Custodian  
Paul Wolf, IT Administrator

### **CODE ENFORCEMENT/BUILDING INSPECTOR**

Terry Barnes  
Tracey Cutler, Land Use Assistant

### **TOWN ASSESSOR**

Andrea S. Lewy  
James Joseph, Assessing Assistant

### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Colin Lavery, Highway Agent	Russell Stevens
Alan Williams, Foreman	Timothy Slager

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Rob Cook	Lt. Tim Brothers	EMS – Capt. Kelley Dold
Asst. Chief Matt Larrabee	Lt. Josh Crow	EMS – Lt. Derrick Hall
Deputy Chief James Devonshire	Lt. John Dardani	EMS – Lt. Scott Standen
Captain Alan Choiniere	Lt. Tim Slager	
Captain Bryan Crosby		

### **OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

David Emanuel, Director  
Katherine Flagg, Deputy Director  
Timothy Copeland, Deputy Director

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief John V. Scippa		On Call Officers:
Det. Sgt. David Pierce	Off. Michael Oliveira	Kevin O’Neil
Sgt. James “Chris” Call	Off. Grant Fotheringham	Peter Bakie
Off. Charles Law	Off. Amanda Bibeau	Support Staff:
Off. John Emerson		Jaye Aither, Admin. Asst.
		Stacey Grella, P/T Admin. Asst.
		William Hart, Prosecutor

### **HEALTH OFFICER**

David Tosatti  
Doreen Gaulin, Deputy  
Dr. Vincent Tan, Deputy

**PLANNING BOARD**

Michael Houghton, Chair	term expires 2014
Robert Baskerville, Vice Chair	term expires 2014
Jeffrey Hyland, Secretary	term expires 2013
Christopher Merrick, Alternate	term expires 2014
Bruno Federico, Selectmen's Rep.	
Jameson Paine	term expires 2015
Mary Jane Werner, Alternate	term expires 2015
Tom House, Alternate	term expires 2013
Lincoln Daley, Town Planner	

**BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**

Arol Charbonneau, Chair	term expires 2015
Jeffrey Karam, Secretary	term expires 2013
Christopher Brett	term expires 2015
Kirk Scamman	term expires 2014
Bruce Barker	term expires 2013
Michael Smith, Alternate	term expires 2014
Garrett Dolan, Alternate	term expires 2015
David Short, Alternate	term expires 2013

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Donna Jensen, Chair	term expires 2013
Patricia Elwell, Vice Chair	term expires 2014
Robert Keating	term expires 2014
William McCarthy	term expires 2015
Dan McAuliffe	term expires 2014
Timothy Copeland, Selectmen's Rep.	
Allison Knab, Alternate, Secretary	term expires 2013
Bill Grace, Alternate	term expires 2013

**RECREATION COMMISSION**

Stephanie Ilberg-Lamm, Co-Chair	term expires 2015
Tracy-Lynn Abbott, Co-Chair	term expires 2014
Claire Ellis	term expires 2013
April Mason, Alternate	term expires 2015
Kevin Peck, Secretary	term expires 2014
Chris Cavaretta, Alternate	term expires 2015
Tim Copeland, Selectmen's Rep.	
Seth Hickey, Parks & Recreation Director	

**BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Garrett Dolan	June Sawyer
Nathan Merrill	Travis Thompson, School Board's Rep.
Michael Perfit	

**HERITAGE COMMISSION**

Rebecca Mitchell, Chair	term expires 2013
Nancy Hansen	term expires 2014
Florence Wiggin	term expires 2015
David Canada, Selectmen's Rep.	
Mary Jane Werner, Planning Board Rep.	
Georgiana Law, Alternate	term expires 2015
Nathan Merrill, Alternate	term expires 2014
Janet Johnson, Alternate	term expires 2013

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION**

John Boisvert, Chair	term expires 2013
Michael Girard	term expires 2014
Michael Perfit	term expires 2013
David Canada, Selectmen's Rep.	
Lissa Ham, Alternate	term expires 2013
James Moran, Alternate, Secretary	term expires 2014
William Schoppmeyer	term expires 2015

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Michael Houghton, Chair	term expires 2015
Bruno Federico, Selectman	
Paul R. Deschaine, Town Administrator	term expires 2015
William Howell	term expires 2013
Kelly Gerardot, Alternate	term expires 2013

**AD HOC CONSERVATION BOND SUBCOMMITTEE TO THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Roger Stephenson, Chair
Laura Lee, Vice Chair
Edie Barker, Secretary
Tammy Hathaway
Dan McAuliffe, Conservation Commission Rep.

**ENERGY COMMISSION**

John Dold, Chair	term expires 2015
Michael Welty	term expires 2015
Matt O'Keefe	term expires 2014
James Schlough	term expires 2014
Michael Gorman	term expires 2013

**300<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION COMMITTEE**

Jeffrey Hyland, Alternate, Chair	term expires 2016
Peter Wiggin	term expires 2016
Florence Wiggin	term expires 2016
Joyce Rowe	term expires 2016

John Dold	term expires 2016
Liz Chisholm	term expires 2016
Susan Canada, Alternate, Secretary	term expires 2016
Pat Sapienza, Alternate	term expires 2016
Jeff Gallagher, Alternate	term expires 2016
Cathy Kenny, Alternate	term expires 2016

#### **STRATHAM FAIR COMMITTEE**

Stan Walker, Chair	Vicky Avery
Robert Cook	John Cushing
Francisco Marin	

#### **TOWN CENTER REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE**

Rachael Ela, Secretary	term expires 2013
Colleen Lake	term expires 2013
David Canada, Selectmen's Rep.	
Tim Roche	term expires 2013
David Short	term expires 2013
Robert Goodrich	term expires 2013
Jameson Paine	term expires 2013

#### **GATEWAY REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Lincoln Daley	Tom House
Jeff Hyland	Robert Baskerville, Alternate
Lucy Cushman	Joe Johnson, Alternate

#### **ROCKINGHAM PLANNING COMMISSION**

Janet Johnson  
Robert Goodrich  
Lissa Ham, Alternate

#### **LAMPREY REGIONAL COOPERATIVE**

Paul R. Deschaine

#### **COAST (Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation)**

David Sandmann

#### **SOUTHEAST WATERSHED ALLIANCE**

Michael Perfit  
Michael Girard, Alternate

## SELECTMEN'S REPORT

The Board of Selectmen continually seeks input and guidance on decisions affecting the Town and suggestions on how we can do a better job in general for you. We recognize that communications between us facilitate a broad exchange of ideas and opinions. To that end, we have continued a series of occasional newsletters to you. If you have not received any of these electronic newsletters but would like to, please go to the Town's website, [strathamnh.gov](http://strathamnh.gov), click on "Subscribe to E-Notices" and check the box "News From the Selectmen." If you prefer, you can also email us at [selectmen@strathamnh.gov](mailto:selectmen@strathamnh.gov) and asked to be added to the list. We also add informational inserts to other Town mailings where the postage expense has already been incurred, such as the tax bills. Anytime you would like to speak to a selectman, you may call Dave at 772-3876, Tim at 580-1998, or Bruno at 778-1541, or email us at the same address. We are grateful for your input.

In 2012, we continued to work on providing water and sewer infrastructure to our commercial district along Portsmouth Avenue. This is a slow process but we have made gains. Under the auspices of the Rockingham Planning Commission, we looked into the synergies of working with the Town of Exeter as a source of fresh water and sewer services. Our consultants, Kleinfelder Engineering, determined that there are likely significant savings to be realized with some sort of collaborative effort. In 2013 we will continue to work with the Exeter Board of Selectmen to validate the expected savings and relative value to each town in the hopes of having a proposal for you at the 2014 Town Meeting.

Additionally, the area around our water tank site is being developed for housing. The developer, Makris Real Estate Development, LLC, has agreed to install the needed water pipe from the Town-owned Foss property to the Municipal Center property line while she has equipment on site. This will be at no charge, other than engineering, to the Town. Makris has also agreed to create an entry drive from the development's road to the parking lot. This will create a better flow of traffic around and through the parking area.

Speaking of the Municipal Center parking lot, we anticipate expanding and improving the area in 2013. We have been setting aside money in the Capital Improvement Plan for the last few years and look forward to alleviating the parking crunch we encounter on a regular basis. Part of the stormwater infrastructure expense will be absorbed through a grant from the UNH Stormwater Center who assisted us with the lot's design.

We lost the services of longtime Highway Agent Fred Hutton in 2012 with his retirement. We are pleased to dedicate this book to him as recognition of his many years of service to the Town. We have co-dedicated this book to Martin Wool recognizing Marty's 30 plus years as a member of the Select and Planning Boards. His tenure also ended in 2012. We offer both best wishes in their retirements.

Replacing Fred as head of the Highway Department is Stratham resident Colin Laverty. Colin has really hit the ground running and we unanimously feel that we could not have made a better choice for Fred's successor. Welcome Colin!

We also hired a part-time custodian to assist Charlie Browne. Charlie is in charge of seeing that every Town building is clean and in good repair. With a little help from his new assistant, Doreen Coughlin, Charlie will have time to tackle many of the bigger maintenance and repair jobs we now need to farm out, as well as keeping the shine on our beautiful facilities.

With the purchase of 3 additional conservation easements in 2013, we have completely expended the 5 million dollars authorized at the 2002 Town Meeting for this purpose. We were able to secure an interest rate of 2.38% for the final bond issued. The Conservation Commission and their Ad Hoc Conservation Bond Committee did a fabulous job over the past several years finding matching funds and grants to add to our appropriation. In total, they parleyed 5 million into over 7 million dollars in purchases. Thanks to all those who put in so many hours over the years on this project!

One disappointment this past year was the collapse of the Concord Cooperative's single stream recycling project. We reported to you last year that we anticipated cost savings, as well as increased convenience in recycling, as a result of this initiative. At that time the Co-op was tantalizingly close to starting construction. At the last minute the City of Concord, the key player, decided the economic uncertainty of the times made the venture too risky. Without the City, the project could not obtain critical mass and expired. Accordingly, we have contracted with our current service provider, Bestway Disposal Services, for an additional three years. We have received a better rate than the last contract and we will continue to enjoy the excellent service Bestway provides.

Most of the Town was recently designated an MS4 community (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) by the EPA. This will require far greater construction, maintenance, and record keeping of stormwater facilities throughout the Town. While all this will lead to a cleaner environment in general, and Great Bay in particular, it will require work and expense to fulfill our requirements. We will be working this year to inventory our stormwater system including such things as mapping out the catch basins in Town. We will keep you updated on this as things develop.

We formed the Town Center Revitalization Committee this year. We have several enthusiastic volunteers, led by Town Planner Lincoln Daley, whose goal is to bring back awareness and pride in our village area. Ultimate goals include relieving some of the traffic problems associated with a busy road, and creating an environment conducive to the economic viability of the area. They hope to utilize the ideas of Plan NH, a group of professional planners and designers who work as volunteers to communities, as a starting point for discussions and ideas. We wish them good luck and look forward to enjoying the fruits of their labors as they develop over the coming years.

Another commission formed this year was an Energy Commission. John Dold expressed an interest in forming such a Commission and offered compelling reasons for having a group focus on energy usage by and in the Town. The goal of the Energy Commission is to promote and encourage energy conservation measures for Stratham's residents, businesses, and municipal operations. As an ever increase line item in everyone's budget, we look forward to any recommendations the Commission brings forward.



We will be asking you to authorize the purchase of the Cushman House at the 2013 Town Meeting. This is a strategically located 2.2-acre parcel adjacent to the Municipal Center at the corner of Portsmouth and Bunker Hill Avenues. The Cushman's have agreed to the very advantageous price of \$500,000. Although there is no planned use at this time, the Town continues to grow and, with that growth, will come the need for more community facilities. We believe this purchase will come to be seen as important as were the Noyes purchase of the 1960s (eastern end of Stratham Hill Park) and the Gifford purchase of the 1980s (adjacent southern portion to the Park, Town Forest, and site of the Stratham Memorial School).

Finally, we want to bring to your attention the cost of maintaining our road system. For the past several years we have invested about a quarter million dollars per year to keep our roads in satisfactory condition. This may not be enough. We have many miles of roads and all need resurfacing on a periodic basis. Failure to resurface on a timely basis leads to the need to reclaim, rather than just overlay, the road surface. This creates a cost multiple of four fold. Our Highway Agent, Colin Laverty, will undertake a road-by-road, mile by mile analysis of all Town roads in 2013. With the information he develops, we will formulate a paving strategy and schedule which will maximize our paving dollars while at the same time maintain the high standards in roadways you expect.

We wish you all a prosperous 2013!

Your Selectmen,

David Canada  
Timothy Copeland  
Bruno Federico

### **YESTERYEAR STRATHAM**

- In the Town Report for 1862, residents of the Town's Poor Farm were enumerated. It was reported that "Sarah Mason, some 80 odd years old, performs no labor, but has the use of her tongue in all its pristine power." The amount to be raised in taxes for the ensuing year was \$3,113.26.
- In 1912, the Town voted to accept the Wiggin Memorial Library building, a bequest of Emma Wiggin. Among other costs, \$11.00 was spent on Stratham Hill Park the past year. An appropriation of \$50.00 was asked for Old Home Day celebrations.
- By 1962, the Wiggin Library needed a "proper stairway to the basement for public use" and "painting and repairing the walls on the main floor." A total of \$1,339.00 was asked for this work. The Planning Board also predicted that up to 100 new houses would be built in the next five or six years.

**Town of Stratham  
Town Meeting Minutes  
March 13, 2012**

The ballot clerks were sworn in at 7:55 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Present were Moderator Dave Emanuel, Assistant Moderator Jerry Howard, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Joyce Charbonneau, Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector Catherine Kenny, and Town Administrator Paul Deschaine. Also present were Selectmen David Canada and Timothy Copeland. The Supervisors of the Checklist present were Melanie McGrail and Caren Gallagher. The ballot clerks for the day were Pat Sapienza, Dianna Thompson, Johanna Greenlaw, Andra Copeland, Vic Collino, Diana Alsterberg, Natalie Perry, Ann Marie Peck, Penny O'Sullivan, Peg Mullin, Michael Perfit, and Liz Chisholm.

It was a quiet day with 621 votes cast at the Town election, with 29 of those being absentee ballots. This represented a 12% turnout of voters.

**Exeter Region Cooperative School District Ballot results for Stratham only are as follows:  
(\*Denotes the Winner)**

Cooperative School Board: For Exeter for three years, vote for one: Townley Chisholm 246. Margaret Bishop 277\*. For Newfields for three years, vote for one: Alicia K. Heslop 473\*. For Stratham for three years, vote for one: Helen M. Joyce 533\*. Cooperative School District Budget Committee: For East Kingston for three years, vote for one: David Pendell 466\*. For Exeter for three years, vote for one: Carl Robertson 478\*. For Stratham for three years, vote for one: Susan Canada 556\*. Cooperative School District Moderator for one year, vote for one: Charles F. Tucker 510\*.

**Article 1:**

Operating Budget: Yes 430\* No 174

**Article 2:**

Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Exeter Region Cooperative School Board (ERCSB) and the Exeter Area Administrators' Association. (2 years)  
Yes 374\* No 230

**Article 3**

Collective Bargaining Agreement between the ERCSB and the Exeter Cooperative Paraprofessional Association. (3 years)  
Yes 361\* No 244

**Article 4**

Collective Bargaining Agreement between the ERCSB and the Exeter Education Association. (2 years)  
Yes 342\* No 267

Article 5  
Expendable Trust Fund (Maintenance Fund)  
Yes 467\* No 128

Article 6  
Transfer of duties for the Trustee of Trust Funds for the Cooperative School District from the East Kingston Trustees to the Exeter Trustees.  
Yes 447\* No 113

**Stratham Memorial School District Ballot Results are as follows:**  
**(\*Denotes the Winner)**

School Board Member for three years, vote for two: Travis Thompson 513\* and Heidi Hanson 478\*. School District Clerk for three years, vote for one: Mikki Deschaine 550\*

**Annual Town of Stratham Ballot results as follows:**  
**(\*Denotes the Winner)**

**Article 1:**

Selectman for three years, vote for one: Bruno Federico 533\*. Supervisors of the Checklist for six years, vote for one: Susan Hunter 548\*. Cemetery Trustee for three years, vote for one: John LaBonte 532\*. Library Trustee for three years, vote for two: Gerald "Lee" Beauregard 452\* and Connie Aubin-Adams 493\*. Trustee of the Trust Funds for three years, vote for one: Diane Morgera 531\*. Moderator for two years, vote for one: David F. Emanuel 564\*.

**Article 2:**

To amend the Zoning Ordinance, Section 5.8.4 Applicability to insert the following text "Special Commercial District" into Section 5.8.4 to further clarify and codify workforce housing and elderly affordable housing as a permitted use within the Special Commercial Zoning District through the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit.  
Yes 422\* No 88

**The remaining Town of Stratham articles will be voted on Friday, March 16, 2012 at the Stratham Memorial School at 7:00 p.m.**

Town Moderator Dave Emanuel declared the meeting to come to order at 7:10 p.m. Chris Rowe led the Pledge of Allegiance. Moderator Emanuel then wished Chris a happy 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. Mr. Emanuel then went on to introduce everyone on the stage; the Board of Selectmen, (B.O.S.): Bruno Federico, Tim Copeland, and David Canada; the Town Administrator: Paul Deschaine, and the Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Joyce Charbonneau. Also introduced was Jerry Howard, the Assistant Moderator, and Catherine Kenny, the Deputy Town Clerk. Mr. Emanuel also introduced the Supervisors of the Checklist, Caren Gallagher, and Melanie McGrail. Mr. Emanuel then called for a moment of silence for all those serving in the Armed Forces, and for

those that could not be there tonight. Assistant Moderator Jerry Howard read the Dedication of the Town Report. This year's dedication was to Doug and Stella Scamman. Although they could not be present at this time, we were told that they were deeply appreciative of the honor. Dave Emanuel then read the results of the ballot voting on Tuesday, March 13, 2012. He stated there were no requests for recounts. Dave then explained the Rules of Procedure for Town Meeting.

**The following articles were discussed and voted on:**

**Article 3: Budget**

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate Five Million Two Hundred Sixty Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Dollars and no cents (\$5,268,930.00) to defray general town charges for the ensuing year. The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by unanimous vote. Selectman David Canada accepted the article as read. Selectman Tim Copeland seconded the motion. Selectman David Canada spoke for the motion. Mr. Canada first thanked the Budget Committee for all their hard work in this process. Mr. Canada then went on to review the budget and pointed out several valid points on the budget. Mr. Canada stated that one major drive throughout the budget was the payroll. He went on to state that we gave a 2% cost of living increase across the board to our employees, and there were also a few merit increases based on performance. Total payroll increased by about \$80,000.00, which included, COLA's, merits, step increases, and some added hours for some additional part-time help. He then went down the list to the first item, which were Elections. Mr. Canada explained that this year, there are four elections while last year there was only one, thus the increase on that line. The next item was Financial Administration, which includes bookkeeping and related financial management in the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office, the Assessing Department, and Information Technology (I.T.). Mr. Canada explained that we had an increase in the I.T. office as the I.T. personnel, Paul Wolf has had an increase in hours to keep up with the expanding needs and preventive maintenance of the town offices, as well an increase in the software licenses and service contract expenses.

Mr. Canada went on to explain the following items: Personnel Administration was up \$29,000.00. These are expenses associated with payroll taxes which naturally go up as payroll goes up, as well as employee benefits. A new health insurance plan was also implemented this year, saving the Town \$3000.00 from last year. The employees chose to decrease their health insurance benefits, and in return, the Town froze their contribution to 20%; it had been scheduled to increase to 25% this year. There was a \$25,000.00 increase in the NH State Retirement Fund costs. General government buildings were up \$12,000.00 due to adding part-time custodial help. Also, the Stratham Historical Society building needs about \$8000.00 worth of work to complete the projects that were taken on last year. Mr. Canada stated that we also added \$2000.00 in maintenance expenses for the Foss property, which was a new item. The police department budget is up \$42,000.00. This was due to the pay scale being revamped. He stated that we raised the starting salary to \$20,000.00. Step increases are now at 2% every year for ten years, and then it is capped. This is in addition to any COLA's that would be given out across the board. Mr. Canada went on to explain that we also created a Corporal's position to help with administrative duties. We also added eight hours of civilian administrative help. We also added to the

overtime/on-call line in the budget. Chief Scippa created a position for a school resource officer at the Stratham Memorial School, as well as the Exeter Cooperative School. Michael Oliveira is the school resource officer. With the increase in the overtime/on-call line, he stated that we would be able to fill the patrol slots that otherwise would be unfilled to compensate for the resource officer's time at the school. Emergency Management was up \$13,000.00; this is an in and out expense. Mr. Canada informed us that the State reimburses us entirely. The Fire Department budget was down 2% and Mr. Canada wanted to thank them publicly for all their hard work and dedication. Emergency dispatching was transferred to the Rockingham County Dispatch Center. Mr. Canada said that we are receiving these services at no additional costs over and above our regular county taxes. He wanted to give special thanks to Sherriff Mike Downey for finding room for us. He explained that if not for him, we would be paying Newmarket \$135,000.00 this year for dispatching services. Highway Department was up about \$30,000.00. Pavement has to be replaced periodically, and the budget was increased to reflect this cost. The Public Works Commission was down considerably in the operating budget, however, we are asking for money to continue work on providing water and sewer infrastructure in the Commercial District, but we have moved that fund into the CIP. The Planning Board created a Town Center Committee to help develop a master plan for our Town Center District. We added a modest budget for this for the Committee's use, and only bring it up since it is the first year, and Mr. Canada stated that the B.O.S. wanted to bring it to your attention.

Last, he finished up with the interest on TAN/BAN and Long-Term debt. Both are up. He explained if you combine these two lines, total increase on long term obligation interest is \$13,000.00. On the revenue side, interest and penalties on delinquent taxes were up significantly in 2011 over what was anticipated. We projected \$60,000.00 and it was almost twice that. This year, we are projecting \$70,000.00, to stay on the conservative side. Income from Departments are projected to go up, largely due from building permits. He stated that we also have rental income coming in from the Foss property that was purchased last year. Highway Block Grants are down from the State, and Trust Funding is down as well. Mr. Canada stated "To put things in perspective, if the Capital Improvement Budget, (articles 5, 6, 9, and 10) all pass, we will see a projected tax increase of about two cents per thousand, or less than ten dollars in your entire tax bill." Mr. Canada stated that we are asking you to appropriate over five million dollars. He stated that they realize that is a lot of money, and the B.O.S. take the responsibility of handling that money very seriously.

Moderator Dave Emanuel then asked for questions from the floor. Marty Wool, Winnicutt Rd. commended the Selectmen on a well-developed budget, the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee did a good job. He had a question on why the Heritage Commission, the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, and the Economic Development Committee are all up from last year, and what are the plans for these Committees in the future. Mr. Canada responded that the Heritage Committee is up to replace the lighting in the Veterans Garden at Stratham Hill Park. John Dold, William Circle, member of the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, responded to the inquiry on the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee. He stated that the money requested is seed money for fund raising and to set the events up for the fund raising. Mr. Canada pointed out that the Economic Development Committee is down \$4000.00. Mr. Wool was looking at the wrong line item. Roger Stephenson, Stephen Dr. asked about the Town Center Revitalization expense. He asked what will the \$5,500.00 be used for. Mr. Canada responded that there will be some

expenses with this new Committee, and the Selectmen felt it would be prudent to supply some money for this. Kevin Henry, Chisholm Farm Drive, asked why under Personnel Administration, was the projected and the actual expense so far off. Mr. Deschaine responded that there were two vacancies for a period of time in the Police Department, which created lower health care contributions, and retirement and social security were affected by these lower payroll numbers as well. He also explained that the other element was the large number of employees who participated in the Buy Out program. This is for the employees who do not participate in our health insurance plan. Consequently, this made the health care costs lower than anticipated. A follow up question from Mr. Henry asked about the Police vacancies, and whether that came under the Police budget or the Personnel Administration budget. Mr. Deschaine responded under the Personnel Administration budget. Mr. Deschaine also added that we had budgeted for a disability plan that was not implemented last year, but that we were hopeful that it would be implemented this year. With no further questions or comments from the floor, Moderator Dave Emanuel read the question, the vote was taken in the affirmative, and article 3 passed.

#### **Article 4: CIP**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum on One Million One Hundred Ninety One Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$1,191,000.00) to implement the Capital Improvements Program for 2012 as presented in the Town Report and approved by the Planning Board. This is a special warrant article which will be non-lapsing until the specific items are completed or obtained but shall in no case be later than five (5) years from this appropriation per NH RSA 32:7 (VI). The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by unanimous vote. Selectman Bruno Federico moved to accept this article as read. Selectman Tim Copeland seconded the motion. Selectman Federico spoke to the motion. Mr. Federico pointed out that more than half of the amount requested is for debt service and principal payments on four items in the Persons and Property section. He stated that we are requesting six hundred thousand dollars in active items. He then went on to review the rest of the CIP, which could be found on page 34 of the 2011 Town Report. Mr. Federico had John Boisvert, Winnicutt Rd. speak on the water and sewer infrastructure for the Water/Sewer Commission. Mr. Boisvert explained about the expenditures moving forward with regard to public water and sewer for the Gateway District.

Moderator Emanuel asked for questions or comments from the floor. Roger Stephenson, Stephen Dr., asked about the Town Center Grant Match and Improvements. He asked if we are we putting aside money for grants that require a match, and would that also require a separate public hearing to expend. He also questioned the Town Center Sign Plan, and asked what was the difference between that and the Town Center Enhancements. Mr. Federico explained that the Town Center Sign Plan was a direct result of the Town Center Master Plan Committee. They asked that we start identifying the Town Center. Regarding the Town Center Grant Match and Improvements, Mr. Federico explained that for the past two years, the Town Center has been going through available grants that would enable us to do some upgrades for the Town Center. Most of the grants that we are looking at require a 20% match. If we don't use that line, then the money goes back to the town. Pat Abrami, Tall Pines Dr. asked about the effect of the CIP on the property tax rate. Mr. Federico responded it would be .99 (cents) for the total CIP of \$1,191,000.00. Mr. Abrami then asked about additional taxable properties coming on line in the town. Mr. Federico responded that the largest development right now is going on in the

Industrial Park. North American Headquarters for Lindt is being built there right now, as well as the Nissan Garage on Portsmouth Ave. Mr. Abrami asked if anything was going on with the old Vocational Technical property, and Mr. Federico responded that the State has it back on the market, and that Webster is still interested in it. Bob Goodrich, Portsmouth Ave. asked about the mowers on the CIP. Mr. Federico responded that these are commercial mowers, and adding Stevens Park to the mowing schedule for the past two years has necessitated that we hire part-time people to do the mowing. He explained that the fields have to be a specific height for the varied sports played there. Mr. Canada also responded that we had to replace last year's mower that was used for the cemetery with a new one. Mr. Goodrich also asked about the Goodrich property and the water source protection area and whether that was under a Conservation Easement. Mr. Canada responded in the affirmative. With no further questions or comments from the floor, Moderator Dave Emanuel read the question, the vote was taken in the affirmative, and article 4 passed.

### **Article 5 – Cemetery Land Purchase**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to purchase on behalf of the Town a portion of the property at 97 Portsmouth Avenue (Tax Map 13 Lot 37) adjacent to the Town-owned Maple Lane Cemetery as part of a future expansion of the public cemetery for the sum of One Hundred Sixty Two Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$162,000.00) and to further raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Twenty Seven Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$127,000.00) to fund the balance of this purchase, with the remaining balance of this appropriation having been raised and appropriated during the 2011 Town Meeting as part of the Capital Improvements Program for this purpose. This is a special warrant article which will be non-lapsing until the specific items are completed or obtained but shall in no case be later than five (5) years from this appropriation per NH RSA 32:7 (VI). The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by unanimous vote. Selectman David Canada moved to accept the article as read. Selectman Bruno Federico seconded the motion. Mr. Canada spoke to the motion. Mr. Canada stated that the town has been looking at a parcel of land adjacent to the Maple Lane Cemetery for a number of years. In the early 2000's, the B.O.S. wanted to buy this property, and had it appraised, but the owner would not negotiate on the basis of the appraised price. In 2008, the Cemetery Committee revisited the idea of buying the property. They concluded, based on a site walk, that the land was not suitable due to the wetlands on the property. The current B.O.S. decided to consult experts including soil scientists and engineers rather than just accepting the decision based on a site walk by laymen. Mr. Canada stated that they hired Rockingham County Conservation District (R.C.C.D.) to analyze the soils. R.C.C.D. examined a series of test pits to analyze both the soils and the water tables. Mr. Canada stated that their conclusion was, and he quoted from R.C.C.D., "The site can be used as a cemetery, especially since all but one test pit was free of bedrock conditions." (Mr. Canada stated that the one site that was not free of bedrock was just a large boulder.) Mr. Canada went on to quote from R.C.C.D. that "The surface runoff conditions would require additional drainage measures to be installed to reduce flooding. The development of a detailed drainage plan would require considerable more time than what was allotted." (End of quote). R.C.C.D. did go on to express concerns about the total parcel area, due to wetlands in the middle, and R.C.C.D. suggested that we continue to look for other parcels. Mr. Canada then stated that there is no better parcel geographically than this one.



The B.O.S. then asked Jones and Beach Engineering to determine what would be required to make this land suitable. Mr. Canada went on to say that in the Jones and Beach report, they stated, and he quoted from Jones and Beach Engineering, "In conclusion, it is an ideal spot for the expansion." (End of quote). The B.O.S. felt that water is a condition that is easily dealt with, and so they consulted with one of the most respected soil scientists in the area, Jim Gove, of Gove Environmental Services, of Exeter. His comment was that fixing water problems, and again, Mr. Canada quoted Jim Gove, "Fixing water problems is easy to do, cheap, farmers do it, and the only rich farmers are in the mid-west." (End of quote). Jones and Beach Engineering created a plan and Mr. Canada referred to the screen at the front of the room for the residents to view. The total cost for the drainage plan presented by Jones and Beach Engineering is \$17,650.00.

Mr. Canada stated that this is a purchase that is based on opportunity, not on immediate need. Mr. Canada went on to state that "We have sufficient land at the current cemetery that will last for a couple more generations. However, this parcel will not be available to us then. If we don't buy it, the owner intends to develop it along with some other land that he owns nearby, and create two or three house lots. State law requires that every community provide a burial space within the community for a cemetery." Mr. Canada stated to please ask yourself "Where are we going to find land in Stratham that will be suitable fifty years from now, and what that cost might be if we do find good land in Stratham fifty years from now?" Mr. Canada stated that the B.O.S. feel that this is a purchase based on good planning. The effect on your tax bill will be negligible. Less than a one time charge of \$40.00 for most of us. Remedial work is less than 10% of the cost in today's dollars as there is no plan to develop this or do any work at this point. The Board of Selectmen strongly urges you to support this article.

Moderator Dave Emanuel asked for any questions or comments from the floor. Bob Cushman, Winnicutt Rd. introduced himself as the Chairman of the Cemetery Trustees, and named the other two trustees as Ken Lanzillo and June Sawyer. Mr. Cushman stated that for many years the B.O.S. has been denied the opportunity to purchase this land because of the fore-mentioned situations, and the difficulty to maintain this site. He explained that we sold about 60 lots in the last five years. He stated that there is no immediate emergency to purchase this land. He went on to state that Maple Lane and Harmony Hill has an estimated availability of 350-425 for full and cremation plots. Mr. Cushman stated that a few years ago, a number of trees were cut down along the back perimeter on two acres of land that was given to the town by Bill Krooss, and they have been raising sod, and this year their hope is to have that all laid out. Mr. Cushman stated that Mr. Reiss, the owner of this land has been looking for the Town to purchase this property for the last ten years. During that period the Trustees of the Cemetery Committee and the different B.O.S. have done their due diligence by reviewing the situation with the Wetland Scientists, and had also consulted with Gove Environmental Services in the past. Mr. Cushman stated that this particular plot is not ideal to use for a cemetery. Due to the wetlands, seasonal streams, and difficulty to manage natural issues the Trustees do not recommend this site. Mr. Cushman went on to state that the location is unmanageable, and there are also money issues. He stated that in November 2011, the Town evaluation of this 7.63 acre lot is \$141,000.00. Mr. Cushman went on to state that the tax card as of today shows that there are two buildable acres on this site. The two buildable acres are up towards the front of this particular property, and they



are worth about \$126,000.00. The back parcel that is being presented to the voters tonight is 5.63 acres, and this is listed as unbuildable. This parcel is listed at \$26,200.00, for an estimated cost per acre of \$461.00. The warrant article purchase price of \$162,000.00 for the 4.7 acres is \$34,468.00 per acre.

Mr. Cushman stated that Mr. Gerald Lang's review of the land available for sale would be approximately 2.68 acres if the roads and burial sites are available. (Mr. Lang is with Professional Engineers.) The cost per acre of the useable land is \$60,447.00 per acre. The Trustees consider this price excessive for an unusable and untrustworthy location, especially from Mother Nature, and the flood waters that the Town has had down through that area. He stated that there is also an unknown cost of construction. He also stated that all of the construction issues that Mr. Canada referred to include drainage off of Mr. Reiss's existing lot. Right now, the water comes across Butterfield Lane, and it goes behind the old Raeder Farm, the VFW Garage, the Ice Cream and Christmas Tree Store, and it takes a sharp right hand turn that is not on property that is for sale. The water goes from there and continues down to flood the parcel that the B.O.S. would like to purchase. Mr. Lang, who submitted a report for the Town on this property, on January 6, 2011, had this comment to make: "The main drainage issue is a significant amount of surface runoff that enters the parcel from the Southwest." Mr. Cushman then stated that the runoff would go down the hill towards Oak Lane. He also stated that any construction work in this particular part of the parcel would not be allowed because of significant impact on the existing wetlands. According to RSA 487, and E.E.S., you cannot divert any water from the wetlands, and Mr. Cushman stated that he would reserve any comments from the Conservation Committee on that. Mr. Cushman continued to quote from Mr. Lang's report, and in part, stated that "After consideration in the amount of the unusable area for the cemetery, total estimated land being available on the parcel is 4.75 acres, at which only 2.68 acres is available for roads and burial sites." Mr. Cushman also made note that restricted usable area in the center of the whole parcel would make deficient use of the remaining land. Mr. Cushman stated that what Mr. Lang meant by this is that it would be difficult to maintain, would be subject to flooding, and because of the wetlands, and water and drainage situations that we would have to pay for, we would have no idea of the geometry of the plots on this particular piece of land. Mr. Cushman, again quoting from Mr. Lang's report, stated that the soils outside of the wetland and setback area can be used for caskets with vaults. However, the total parcel area is not well suited for efficient use for a cemetery because of the wet area in the center of the parcel. (The wet area would not be suitable for caskets with vaults, which is the desired material to have on caskets.)

In conclusion, Mr. Lang suggested that the Town look elsewhere for a more suitable space for expansion. Mr. Cushman stated that with the final costs and unknown prices for these plots, the Cemetery Trustees would have no idea how this land can be developed if and when the Town gets the water under control. Mr. Cushman read an excerpt from a report from Jones and Beach Engineering that was submitted to the B.O.S. and forwarded to the Cemetery Trustees on November 22, 2011, and it stated, in part, that "The existing wetland, at a fifty foot setback, would take out an area of approximately 7000 square feet, with the 4.5 acres remaining being considered for cemetery use, and that would leave 2.75 acres for roadway and burial sites." Mr. Cushman went on to state that with the fifty foot setback, burial sites would not be able to be within the fifty foot buffer. Surface water overflow would go to the neighbors' homes. Jones and Beach Engineering stated that if this parcel is to be utilized, it would be their

recommendation that the Town install an under-drain system. Mr. Cushman went on to say that Mr. Reiss has stated for the last ten years that he is going to build there if the town does not buy the land. To date, there has been no action on that site. There have been no septic system approvals and no driveway permits which are required before you can build a home. Due to the extensive environmental issues and the natural issues on this site, the cemetery trustees believe it would be impossible to manage. He stated that this land is a natural buffer between the cemetery and the abutters. In conclusion, the Trustees of the Cemetery Committee remain firm in their position that this land is unsuitable for cemetery use.

Moderator Dave Emanuel asked if there were any other comments or questions from the floor. Brian Ladd, Butterfield Lane stated that his house abuts the proposed cemetery, and he wanted to let everyone know that it is extremely wet back there. Currently, water from the runoff goes into his yard. Mr. Ladd asked if this is going to be built up, where is the water going to go? He thinks the only place the water can go is down the river. He feels very strongly that everyone in Butterfield and Winding Brook will be flooded. He asked you to please consider this when you vote. Mr. Ladd also stated that in his opinion, a house being built there would be very unlikely because of the wetlands back there. Marty Wool, Winnicutt Rd. stated he wanted to support the Cemetery Trustees. He went on to state that the B.O.S. think that it is a Committee, and it is not a Committee, they are Trustees that were voted in and he stated that we should rely on their expertise. Mr. Wool went on to say that we rely on the Selectmen in their areas of expertise, and we should rely on the Cemetery Trustees for their area of expertise. It is their job to look out for the Town and the cemeteries. Mr. Wool stated that he was a Selectman back in 2002 when Mr. Reiss came to the B.O.S., (which comprised of Marty Wool, Dave Short, and Kirk Scamman at that time.) Mr. Reiss asked if they wanted to purchase the piece of property being discussed tonight. The Board discussed lowering the price with Mr. Reiss because of the wetlands. Mr. Reiss insisted he could get two house lots on that property, and Mr. Wool felt that was an impossibility. Mr. Wool stated he was asked by the Trustees to investigate this property from a planning point and it was determined that because of the wetlands in the middle, and the fifty foot buffer, no buildings or structures can be put in within that area and a vault and a septic tank is considered a structure, per State law and Town Ordinance.

In regards to the question of what are we going to do in fifty years, Mr. Wool stated that the wetlands are going to be even more important than they are right now. In his opinion, this piece of property is only worth about \$25,000.00. Mr. Wool stated that this purchase is not a good idea. Mr. Canada asked the Moderator if he could question Mr. Wool for a point of clarification. Mr. Emanuel responded in the affirmative. Mr. Canada asked Mr. Wool to cite the State law that Mr. Wool referenced. Mr. Wool explained that he spoke to D.E.S. (Department of Environmental Services), and was told that they would consider a vault a structure; therefore you cannot put a vault within setbacks or wetlands. Mr. Wool referenced RSA 482. Mr. Canada stated it is not in RSA 482. Mr. Canada stated the Selectmen contacted D.E.S. in January 2010, and they indicated that there were no concerns about a vault whatsoever. Kirk Scamman, Frying Pan Lane stated that he was in favor of buying the property for a future cemetery. Back in 2002, the B.O.S. (Kirk Scamman being one of the Selectmen at that time) looked at this property, and decided it was not a priority at that time due to other expenses that we had, including the Police Station, Fire Station, and the Library. Mr. Scamman went on to state that the current B.O.S. has looked at this property, and has decided that it is a priority, and it is something that the Town can

afford. Mr. Scamman stated he grew corn on this property for many years, well into the 80's. He feels it would be much more efficient to have a cemetery that is connected for equipment, and day to day maintenance. He feels that this is a piece of property that the Town should buy tonight, and then move forward helping the Cemetery Committee and the Town over the next fifty years, and he considers it good planning by the current B.O.S. Pat Elwell, Strawberry Lane, (who introduced herself as the Chair of the Conservation Committee) stated that she is for the purchase of this property. She went on to say that the engineering studies that went on with this were thorough, and the group that the Selectmen worked with to develop this plan are a very conservative group. She feels that it is only going to protect the wetlands even more as you won't be having people disturbing the wetlands as you would if there were houses there. Mrs. Elwell stated that with just one house with one child on this lot, (and she uses this analogy with her Conservation parcels,) it would cost the Town \$168,000.00 over a period of twelve years. Mrs. Elwell stated that you really are conserving land by purchasing this property, and so she is in support of purchasing this land. June Sawyer, High St. and Trustee of the Cemetery Committee, stated that she has been on this property multiple times and has been in water and mud up to her knees in the Spring, and has had water up to her ankles in the middle of the summer, during the dry season. She agreed that there are pieces of this property that would be good for a cemetery, but the overall parcel could not be recommended to purchase by the Cemetery Trustees. Lucy Cushman, Winnicutt Rd. asked the B.O.S. about the price, as she got the tax card, and the whole 7.63 acres is assessed at \$141,000.00. She stated that the B.O.S. is suggesting we pay \$162,000.00 for the 5.63 acres in the back. She asked why land that is assessed at \$26,000.00 is worth \$162,000.00 when it is wet, and needs a lot of work, and a lot would need to be spent on drainage. Ms. Cushman also stated the only access to it would be through the existing cemetery. Selectman David Canada responded that the Conservation Commission looked into the land extensively, and they did a yield survey. The assessment is based on back land, and when it stops being back land, it is going to stop being assessed for that amount. The Conservation Commission did three appraisals, two of which were determined to be spot on, with similarities to this piece. The appraisals indicative value is at \$155,000.00-\$165,000.00 per lot. He stated that we used this as a basis for negotiations. Negotiations started at \$205,000.00 and concluded with \$162,000.00. Mr. Canada stated that we are not talking about back land anymore, we are talking about the cost of lots, and that is what this property would be valued at.

Mary Jane Keane, Winnicutt Rd. asked if the B.O.S. along with the Trustees of the Cemetery and the Conservation Commission ever met together to discuss this. Mr. Canada responded that the Cemetery Committee had a lot of good questions and concerns, and that they met several times. Mr. Canada stated that the last meeting they had was with himself, Bob Cushman, and Jones and Beach, where we all outlined all of the concerns, and then asked Jones and Beach to give us answers. Mr. Canada further stated that when we got the information back, the B.O.S. asked for a meeting with the Board of Trustees, but they refused to meet with them. So, in conclusion, Mr. Canada stated, that yes, they did meet, but they did not get to discuss the final costs as the Cemetery Committee chose not to meet with the B.O.S. to go over them. June Sawyer, High St. stated that the night that they were asked to meet was a very difficult night to meet for the Trustees, and that was the basic reason why they did not meet with the B.O.S. that night. Mrs. Sawyer also requested a paper ballot, and had the signatures required to do so. Pat Reed of Butterfield Lane stated that on some occasions there is a river coming down her backyard. She

stated it is very, very, wet back there. She also had a question on her well and whether this would affect her well water. Mr. Canada responded that there is no reason to anticipate any problems with your well water. Mrs. Reed also thanked the Cemetery Trustees for the very knowledgeable letter that was sent out. Bob Goodrich, Portsmouth Ave. asked that “after the \$17,000.00 is spent fixing the water problem, where exactly is that water going?” Mr. Canada asked that everyone refer to the diagrams and pictures that were on the screen at the front of the room, and pointed out how the landowner made a water feature there. He mentioned the little bridge that goes across there and that this is the water that is coming out of the proposed purchase area. Mr. Canada referred to the deep groove that was cut by Mother Nature over thousands of years. He also pointed out the stone retaining wall, and the culvert that goes under Butterfield Lane. He stated that on the other side of Butterfield Lane there is a deep drainage area that was carved out by Mother Nature that heads straight towards the Squamscott River. Mr. Canada stated that you can tell by the depth of the cut there that this stream is ready to take on all comers. He stated that there would not be any additional flooding on anyone’s land because of this, and if anything, it will help it because it will be picking up some of this water.

Mr. Canada went on to state that it will not impact the wetlands as it will be putting more water back into the wetlands. He concluded that all of this water is coming down here anyway, and what we are trying to do is direct it so that it does not spread out over the whole field and flood the whole field. He finished with the statement that the picture that was shown to you with the field, and the stream running through it, is the water that we are trying to pick up. Roger Stephenson, Stephen Dr. asked if there is an estimate on the cost of the road, which looks to be about a six hundred foot road. Mr. Canada responded that was not part of the purchase price, and that would be addressed down the road. Mr. Canada went on to state that Mr. Wool had said that the cemetery people are experts, and he (Mr. Canada) would contend that they ran for election uncontested, and they were elected accordingly, and that hardly makes them experts. He also stated that Mr. Wool attributed the same attributes to the B.O.S. and Mr. Canada stated that none of the B.O.S. feels that they are experts in this area, and that is why they consulted experts. He stated that he thinks the cemetery people failed to look at that. Mr. Canada went on to state that this is a purchase of opportunity, that it is cheap, and it is good planning. Mr. Canada went on to explain that fixing the water issues is not challenging, and it is not expensive. He asked that you please do not reject it because of suitability concerns. He stated that if you do not want to buy this property because of the expense, then that is understandable. Mr. Canada concluded by saying that this is for our future generations and the B.O.S. would like to provide them with the same opportunity that we had in purchasing a cemetery lot, and therefore the B.O.S. urge you to vote for this article. Lester Cuff, Stratham Heights Rd. stated that he moved here 20 some years ago, and that the Town at one time had the opportunity to buy land for the school, and that it was passed on. The Town ended up paying three or four times the amount of what the cost was originally. Mr. Cuff stated he is for expansion for the future, and he supports this article. Chris Rowe, Gifford Farm Rd. asked to move the question. Moderator Dave Emanuel asked for a second, it was seconded. Mr. Emanuel asked the residents if they wanted the question moved which would end debate to please signify by saying aye, and those oppose, signify by stating nay. Mr. Emanuel stated that the ayes had it, and the question was so moved. Mr. Emanuel read the question, and directed the residents to the area where the voting would take place. He then gave directions on the voting process for the written ballot. Once the votes were counted, It was announced by Moderator Emanuel that article 5 failed, the results were 86

against, and 60 for. Lucy Cushman made a motion to restrict reconsideration on article 5, seconded by Marty Wool. The vote to restrict reconsideration on article 5 was taken in the affirmative; and the motion passed to restrict reconsideration on article 5.

### **Article 6 – Town Buildings and Grounds Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to create an expendable trust fund under RSA 31:19-a to be known as the “Town Buildings and Grounds Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund” for the purpose of funding facility maintenance and improvements to Town-Owned property, and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this expendable trust fund for the purpose for which it was established. Furthermore, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$25,000.00) to be deposited in the “Town Buildings and Grounds Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund.” The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by unanimous vote. Selectman Bruno Federico moved to accept this article as read. Selectman David Canada seconded the motion. Mr. Federico spoke to the motion.

Mr. Federico stated that over the past few years the Town has added a number of buildings to their inventory. He explained that we added the Foss property, and the Police and Fire Stations to our current list of buildings. He stated that the two major issues are going to be wells and septic systems. Mr. Federico went on to say that we currently do not have a plan to replace, maintain, and upgrade. He stated that we have reached a point that we need to start a trust fund, because you never know when you will have to replace a well or a septic system. Mr. Canada added that we currently maintain fourteen septic systems, nine wells, twenty-five roofs, and one fire suppression system, all of which has to be maintained. He felt that this would give us a buffer against a catastrophic failure, which would impact our operating budget. Mr. Canada stated that we would like to establish this fund, and we are asking for twenty-five thousand dollars in order to do that, and he also stated that we will probably ask for twenty-five thousand dollars for the next couple of years, and cap it at either fifty or seventy-five thousand dollars. Moderator Dave Emanuel asked for any questions or comments from the floor, and seeing none, Mr. Emanuel read the question, the vote was taken in the affirmative, and article 6 passed.

### **Article 7 – EMS Training**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$8,000.00) for the purpose of providing EMS training for the members of the Stratham Volunteer Fire Department for the ensuing year, and to further authorize the withdrawal of Eight Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$8,000.00) from the Stratham Fire Department EMS Special Revenue Fund created for these purposes during the March 17, 2000 Annual Town Meeting and as amended during the March 11, 2005 Town Meeting. No additional funds from general taxation are to be used. The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by unanimous vote. Selectman Tim Copeland moved to accept the article as read. Selectman Bruno Federico seconded the motion. Selectman Copeland spoke to the motion. He stated that we vote on this every year because we have to. He went on to say that the money itself comes from ambulance runs if you have insurance. We bill the insurance company, and they in turn give the money to this special fund. Selectman Copeland also stated that the money is put away for ambulances,

fire trucks, training, etc. Mr. Copeland added that every year we have to request the money, and this year we are asking for \$8,000.00 to cover EMS annual training and continuing education so they can stay up to date with their certifications. He concluded with the statement that the Fire Department is a volunteer service, and that they do a great service for this community, and we are looking to provide the money without raising taxes through this special fund to pay for their ongoing education. Moderator Dave Emanuel asked for any questions or comments from the floor, and seeing none, Mr. Emanuel read the question, the vote was taken in the affirmative, and article 7 passed.

### **Article 8 – Purchase of a Fire Dept. Tanker**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Thirty Six Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and no cents (\$436,500.00) for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a new fire truck for the use of the Stratham Volunteer Fire Department, and to authorize the Selectmen as agents to withdraw up to One Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$180,000.00) from the Capital Reserve Fund created for these purposes during the March 13, 1998 Annual Town Meeting, and to further authorize the withdrawal of up to One Hundred Thirty Six Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and no cents (\$136,500.00) from the Stratham Fire Department EMS Fund created for these purposes during the March 17, 2000 Annual Town Meeting and as amended during the March 11, 2005 Town Meeting. Furthermore, the balance of up to One Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$120,000.00) is authorized to be accepted and expended by the Selectmen on behalf of the Town as a donation for these purposes from the Stratham Volunteer Fire Department Association. This is a special warrant article, which will be non-lapsing until these purposes are accomplished but shall in no case be later than five (5) years from this appropriation per NH RSA 32:7 (VI). No additional funds from general taxation are to be used. The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by unanimous vote. Selectman Tim Copeland moved to accept this article as read. Selectman David Canada seconded the motion. Mr. Copeland spoke to the motion. He stated that the tanker that we have is twenty-six years old. He made the following points:

The Company that made it twenty-six years ago is no longer in existence. Replacement parts are harder and harder to find. The tanker is a two person cab, the new tanker looks more like a fire pumper that you are used to seeing with an enclosed cab, and you can fit a lot more personnel inside there. The Tanker itself is a water transportation unit; and this is important as we do not have hydrants in the town for the most part. The Tanker is used to bring the water to the fire scene, and to feed the pumper that is already at the scene. The money itself is through the CIP, (\$180,000.00) and has already been raised. The \$136,500.00 is coming from the EMS fund that has been previously discussed in article 7. The \$120,000.00 is money from donations, and proceeds from the Stratham Fair. Selectman Copeland concluded with the statement that the bottom line here is that it is not costing the tax payers any additional money to purchase this truck. This truck is already built so there is no wait time, and if this passes, the Town will take delivery on this in May. Rob Cook, Fire Chief, and Matt Larrabee also spoke to the motion. Mr. Cook presented a power point on this. He stated that the current pump is a 1986 pump and that it failed the pump test last year. There are no parts available for the pump since it is so old. The one that we want to purchase is a demo; it has 1500 miles on it. Mr. Cook reiterated several points that Mr. Copeland discussed. Moderator Dave Emanuel then asked for any questions or



comments from the floor, Kevin Henry, Chisholm Farm Dr. asked about the CIP money, (the \$180,000.00,) and if the funds are used, does that finish off the reserve fund. Selectman Copeland explained that it is an ongoing CIP fund, and every year we allocate money towards the future purchase of fire apparatus. This \$180,000.00 has already been allocated for a pumper toward the future. The ambulance money is there, so we feel that we should use that towards the purchase as well. He again stated that we are not raising any new tax dollars towards this purchase. Seeing no further questions or comments from the floor, Mr. Emanuel read the question, the vote was taken in the affirmative, and article 8 passed.

#### **Article 9 – Accrued Benefits Trust Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$20,000.00) to be deposited into the Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust Fund as created by the March 16, 2007 Town Meeting to meet the currently unfunded obligations of the Town. The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by unanimous vote. Selectman Bruno Federico moved to accept this article as read. Selectman David Canada seconded the motion. Mr. Federico spoke to the motion. Mr. Federico stated that this article pertains to accrued benefits for the employees that receive benefits from the Town, which would include time off, pension benefits, etc. He stated that when these employees retire, the Town needs to pay them what is owed to them. We don't put this in a general fund, we created a trust fund. We are asking for \$20,000.00 to be expended this year for the Accrued Benefits Liability Trust Fund. Moderator Dave Emanuel asked for any questions or comments from the floor, and seeing none, Mr. Emanuel read the question, the vote was taken in the affirmative, and article 9 passed.

#### **Article 10 – Funding for Updating the Town History**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate, by special warrant article, the sum of Fifty-Five Thousand Dollars and no cents, (\$55,000.00) for the purpose of researching, compiling, writing, and all other activities associated with the production and printing of an update to the Town's History. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the updated Town History is completed or December 31, 2015, whichever is sooner. The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by unanimous vote. Selectman Tim Copeland moved to accept this article as read. Selectman Bruno Federico seconded the motion. John Dold, William Circle, and member of the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee spoke to the motion. Mr. Dold stated he wanted to begin his presentation on article 10 with a short quote from a speech by Jay Fred Emery at Stratham Town Meeting in 1949. The quote is as follows: "Mr. Moderator, I arise to appoint a personal privilege that I may address this meeting and presenting to the Town a historical souvenir, one which connects the Stratham from long ago, with the Stratham of today, thank you Mr. Moderator." (end of quote.) Mr. Dold then listed the members of the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee. He stated the Committee was established in March, 2010 by a Town Warrant Article. The Committee has been busy since then with different fund raising events. One of the first things they did was to select a logo for the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The Committee has attended a number of Town events, such as being present at elections, the Stratham Fair, etc. to raise funds and public awareness of the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary coming up in 2016. He stated that the 300<sup>th</sup> Committee has a website and a page on Facebook. They are also busy recruiting volunteers and working on the Town History. Planning for this year, and the future, if this article

is passed tonight, will be to continue to work on the Town history. Some of the events planned for this year are a yard sale that is scheduled in May at Stratham Hill Park, a tent set up again this year at the Stratham Fair, and the Committee is also working on a marathon to be run in August. The 300<sup>th</sup> Committee is working with the Stratham Recreation and the Stratham Park Association to make this happen.

In the years to come, from 2013-2016 they are in discussion with different Indian groups from New England to feature and sponsor an Indian Pow-Wow at Stratham Hill Park. In 2016, a parade, fireworks, a dinner dance, concerts, and an auction are being planned. Tonight, we are talking about history. The current history book on Stratham covers 1631 to 1900. Our request tonight is for \$55,000.00 and the purpose is to enter into a contract with a NH author, Craig Brandon, to update the Town History. Craig Brandon is a highly qualified writer who was unanimously chosen through a selection process by our Committee and he will work with Town Volunteers to research, document, and update the Town History from 1900 to current. It is our estimate that the research and writing, which is a two year project, will be \$40,000.00, expenses will be \$5000.00, book printing will be \$5000.00, and we have a contingency fund for \$5000.00 for a total of \$55,000.00. The history research is a big part of this project and it is the Committee's hope that a lot of history research will be provided by volunteers. We have a number of them signed up to work on this. We have estimated that if we get enough volunteers to work with the author, we can cut \$20,000.00 off the \$55,000.00 that we are requesting tonight. We have about ten or eleven volunteers signed up right now. The author stated he could use as many as twenty volunteers to do the project. Mr. Dold stated that if this article is passed tonight, and we get the volunteers we need to help, there will be a savings on the total cost. He went on to state that the publishing costs are about \$5000.00. However, Mr. Dold stated he became aware of a fund that exists at the Stratham Library which may be able to be used to offset some of the publishing costs, and that will be looked into. It is the Committee's intent to save money through volunteers and the use of the publishing fund and any unused funds from this article will be returned to the Town. Mr. Dold concluded with the statement that in their attempt to make the public aware of Stratham's 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary coming, up, it is the Committee's hope to install street signs on Portsmouth Ave. coming into Stratham from Greenland, Exeter, and Newfields. Moderator Dave Emanuel asked for comments or questions from the floor. Kevin Henry, Chisholm Farm Dr. asked about the number of books planning on being published, and can some revenue be gained by selling the books to the general public. Selectman Copeland responded that the plan is to have the books sold, and the plan is to use some of those funds to offset the costs. He stated, at this point, we do not know how many will be published, they need to investigate how many people will be interested, but we have until 2016 to find out. Seeing no other questions from the floor, Mr. Emanuel read the question, the vote was taken in the affirmative, and article 10 passed.

#### **Article 11 – Hunting at Stratham Hill Park and Adjacent Town-Owned Property**

To see if the Town will direct the Board of Selectmen to prohibit hunting in the area of the original Stratham Hill Park bequest to a designated boundary at a line three hundred (300) feet east of the fire tower and running roughly north and south of that point, and to furthermore designate under NH RSA 644:13 II (b) that the balance of the lands in the area known as Stratham Hill Park and adjacent Town-Owned lands (Tax Map 22 Lots 83 & 85) as a compact



part of the Town of Stratham, which results in a person being guilty of a violation if such person fires or discharges any cannon, gun, pistol, or other firearm, except by written permission of the Chief of Police or governing body. The Board of Selectmen makes no recommendation on this article. Selectman David Canada moved to accept the article as read. Selectman Tim Copeland seconded the motion. Selectman Canada spoke to the motion. The B.O.S. wanted to review the rates for the use of the pavilions at Stratham Hill Park, and to find out which communities were populated by, in the words of the bequest which created the park in 1905, comprising Stratham, Portsmouth, Exeter, and other adjacent towns. Mr. Canada also stated that the B.O.S. felt it was a good opportunity to review the rules and regulations that are in place, or should be in place.

Mr. Canada went on to state that among other things we proposed was banning hunting. He stated that we did not expect this to be too controversial as "We, like many people we spoke to, did not think there was any hunting activity at the Park. Turns out, we were wrong." Mr. Canada reported that over the years, the Park has been augmented by the "so called" Noyes purchase and also the Gifford purchase in the 1980's. He went on to state that these areas provide hunting opportunities. At our public hearing there was a roomful of concerned citizens, equally divided by the subject, and the B.O.S. concluded that it would be best decided at Town Meeting. Mr. Canada stated that "The B.O.S. is an administrative body, you tell us what to do, and we follow orders." Mr. Canada stated that the choices are we can do nothing, which will have the effect of allowing hunting in the expanded Park area, and a "No" vote tonight will have this effect. We can vote for this article, which will ban hunting in the original bequest. He stated that the B.O.S. is neutral on this article. Mr. Canada stated that they will vote as they see fit themselves, but they would like to hear what the community wants.

Mr. Emanuel asked for questions or comment from the floor. Bruce Scamman, Greta's Way stated that he is not a hunter, nor has he ever been a hunter. One concern he has is over-population of deer. He also stated that he does not think this article will solve the problem. He is aware of a hunter from last fall dragging a deer down to the road and putting it in the back of a pickup truck with Massachusetts plates. He does not believe this law will solve that problem. Mr. Scamman also wanted to point out pertinent information regarding the deed that the Tuck family left the park to the Town. He read part of the deed which states as follows: "The said Town of Stratham to have the control of said lands with the power to make all necessary by-laws and regulations of the use of the same. But no by-laws shall be enacted depriving law abiding citizens from the above towns, from the free use, enjoyment, and occupation thereof. And in said land, shall ever cease to be used for such purposes, or if any of the conditions herein shall be broken, then there upon this deed, and the conveyance shall become null and the estate hereby granted shall determine the entire property hereby conveyed shall revert without the aid of any legal process or formality whatever to the said Edward Tuck, his heirs assigned,." (end of quote) Mr. Scamman stated he is very concerned with the ownership of the Park, and he is also concerned about the Town being sued because that person has the right to be in the Park, and has the right to hunt and the Town is denying them that right. Mr. Scamman stated this needs to be researched and looked into and it should not be voted on tonight. Dan Crowe, Benjamin Rd. stated that he knows this is a controversial issue. He stated that the deed clearly states that it can be reverted back if it is not held to the open and free use, enjoyment, and occupation thereof by the Town of Stratham, Exeter, Portsmouth, and all the surrounding towns. He does not feel that we can make this decision for the other towns if it goes against the grain of the deed. Mr. Crow

asked if Mr. Copeland would speak to the status of RSA 644:13. Mr. Copeland responded that the House of Representatives passed banning that law, or repealing it, if you will. He stated that the compact law is designed more for inner cities, because of the discharge of firearms. Mr. Copeland felt that it would not pass the Senate. He stated that he knows the Governor will veto it if it gets that far because of the compact zone within the cities itself. A lot of towns still use this RSA to prevent the discharge of firearms in those compact zones. This particular warrant article is asking for the Town to create a compact zone so that the discharge of firearms won't happen, but bow and hunting could happen, which will also bring down the deer population. Mr. Copeland stated this RSA has not been repealed yet, the legislature voted to repeal it, but it still has several more stages to go. It has to go through the Senate, and signed by the Governor. Mr. Crow stated that based on that, there is concern with that law in that it is being used inappropriately in towns like ours where it is more designed for towns like Manchester, Bedford, and Concord where they need that law. Mr. Copeland disagreed with that statement. Mr. Crow stated the subject of banning hunting at the Park was only brought to the Park's Association's attention in writing in January of this year, (2012). Mr. Crow stated that they would like to create safety zones that would prohibit the discharge of firearms. He went on to say that this would be an act of self-management, and policed by legal hunters. He went on to say "And if you are asking who are the hunters, then the answer is that the hunters are our friends and our neighbors, and you are surrounded by them. They are our sons and daughters, they are members of our Fire Department, and they are members of our Police Department." Mr. Crow asked everyone, with all due respect, to vote this article down, and let the legacy of self-management continue under the NH Fish and Game laws that are established. Mr. Crow's final note was that the Stratham Park Association did not support this ordinance change.

Marty Wool, Winnicutt Rd. stated that the town is growing, and that there are a lot of people walking around in these so-called hunting zones, and he does not feel that there should be hunting in these compact zones. When the Park was given to the Town, the population was 300 in Stratham. The population now is close to 8000. There is a school close by, and there are a lot of dog walkers, and cross country skiers there as well. Mr. Wool stated that hunting at the Park should be restricted. Roger Stephenson, Stephen Dr. stated that this is a cultural issue, and he is against this article. Mr. Stephenson lives adjacent to the park, and hunters often park at the end of his road. He stated that the hunters leave the area many times better than when they found it. Mr. Stephenson stated he has a lot of respect for hunters, and the Fish and Game laws are adequate. He also stated that the deer population must be managed. Mr. Stephenson stated we need to maintain the culture of hunting in Stratham. He stated that there are a lot of land owners in Stratham that permit hunting, or not, depending on their desires. He also had concern about the deed that Mr. Scamman mentioned earlier. Mr. Stephenson stated he would vote against this article. Robert Dillon, Gifford Farm Rd. stated he lives close to the school, and he is originally from Montana. He grew up as a hunter, but feels that this area is heavily populated. Mr. Dillon feels that the Town can manage the herd without having to allow open hunting. Pat Elwell, Strawberry Lane, Chair of the Conservation Commission, stated that she is in favor of voting for this article. She stated that the amount of use that this property gets, and the number of people going over there from all over to enjoy it would amaze and impress the Tuck family. She stated she thinks very highly of the hunters here in Stratham, but it is not the hunters in Stratham that she worries about. It is the hunters that come in from out of state, or out of the area, and do not know or respect the area as we do. She feels it is no longer a good match to have hunters in that

area with the number of people now using the park. Jordan Ambargis, Humes Court stated he is often in the park running and he rarely comes across any hunters. He stated that the hunting is regulated in the Park. The hunters have to follow the Fish and Game laws. He stated we need to take time on this issue, and not rush on this. He pointed out that there are only certain areas that the hunters hunt on. He stated that this article needs to be voted down, and then we need to look at all the issues, and set up rules and regulations. Mr. Ambargis also stated that postings need to be placed in the park during hunting season. He concluded with the recommendation to vote this article down, and then to take a look at it again with the Conservation Commission, and the Stratham Hill Park Association as well as the lawyers so they can take a look at the deed. That way everyone's needs for safety and recreation can be met.

Selectman Copeland made a point of clarification. He stated that the mention of the signage for Stratham Hill Park will not cost the taxpayers any money, as NH Fish and Game gives the Town the signage for that. Tom Shealy, Stratham Hgts. Rd. stated that deer hunting season is about thirty days. November 9 to December 10. Dr. Shealy stated that he finds it hard to believe that we can't get along with hunters and non-hunters during that period. He asked why are we creating a problem where none exists. Travis Thompson, Stratham Hgts. Rd. brought up two points. He stated that he is a member of the Stratham School Board and they have not officially taken a position on this as a School Board. However, he wanted to point out that the students actively use the Stratham Hill Park and the adjacent property every single day of the week. Mr. Thompson also wanted to state that if there is any question at all about the ownership of the Park in relation to the deed that was mentioned earlier, then it is certainly premature to make any decision without much more legal analysis going into this. Roger Thompson, Joyce Lane stated that if there is even any slight chance that we may lose this park in relation to the way the deed is worded, then that needs to be looked at first. Then the question can be decided on hunting or no hunting but we do not want to lose this park. Chris Duffy, High St. stated that he has lived in Stratham for 28 years, and that he hikes 3-5 days with his dogs in this Park, all year round. He stated he has met most of the hunters through the years, and he said he has never met anyone from Massachusetts. Mr. Duffy stated he has never had any problem with hunting season. He finds out the dates for bow and hunting season, and for shotgun season. During bow and hunting season, he puts his dogs in bright colored jackets. During shotgun season he stays out of the area where the hunters are. He states he gives them four weeks out of the year to hunt. He stated that he likes the fact that they keep the herd under control. He also stated that the hunters are good people; they are people from this town for the most part. He feels that they have every right to enjoy the park as much as he does. Mr. Duffy stated that he absolutely hopes that you vote "No" on this article. Janice Wayne, Depot Rd. had several questions regarding this article. She asked if someone could answer what dates are hunting seasons, what is being hunted, and what kind of weapons are being used for hunting, Tom Shealy, Stratham Hgts. Rd. explained that for the most part, what is being talked about in the Park is just deer. He went on to explain that there are three different seasons for geese and duck hunting, but that is on the bay. Legally, you can hunt pheasant and grouse, but they just aren't there at the Park. Bird hunters are not in Stratham Hill Park. Shotgun season is seven days in May. Dr. Shealy stated that you could see a turkey hunter during those seven days in May in the Park. The deer hunting in this section of NH is shotgun only because it is a close-range weapon. The season for deer is about thirty days. NH Fish and Game also has everything listed on their website in regards to dates and weaponry, etc.

At this time, Mr. Emanuel stated seeing no other questions or comments we will move the vote on article 11. Everett Lamm, Autumn Lane, apologized for taking up a couple more minutes, but wanted to know why we have not heard from a member of Fish and Game here tonight, or from the Chief of Police, John Scippa. Mr. Lamm asked if he could yield the floor to Chief Scippa. Mr. Emanuel asked if there was any objection, and seeing none, yielded the floor to the Chief. John Scippa, Chief of Police stated he was going to speak to just one small portion of this very large problem. He stated that there is one federal law that deals specifically with fire arms being in close proximity to any public school. It is called the "Gun Free School Zone Act", which is an Inter-State Commerce Law. It is a federal law, not a state law, nor is it a town ordinance. It prohibits any firearm from being within 1000 feet of any school. He mentions this because this law would impact the hunting zone. There would have to be a 1000 foot radius that would have to go completely around this school. He also stated that there are some waivers that go along with this law. One of the waivers states that if you are on private property, and have permission to be there, then you are not in violation of this law. However, if someone drove by this school on their way to hunting, and they had a firearm in their car, they would be in violation of this federal law. He noted that it is important to know that, regardless of the vote tonight, there are no firearms allowed within 1000 feet of this school, or any public school. A question was asked of Chief Scippa on whether the hunters are aware of this law. He responded with that for as many that do know about this law, there are probably just as many that are not aware of it. Patrick Kelley, Benjamin Rd. stated that he has been involved in this from the very beginning. He stated that it was he who drew up safety zones. Mr. Kelley stated that they had a meeting at the Park with two Fish and Game officers, and the Fish and Game officers stated that the Park was safe to hunt if we hunted in areas that were not congested, and not heavily used. He stated that he hiked the park, and he developed a map, which put most of the trails and congested areas off limits to the hunters. Mr. Kelley further stated that a Committee was formed, and that this Committee volunteered to post all the areas to create a safety zone. They met with Kim, the Park Ranger, and she agreed with the areas that they, the hunters had agreed upon, and a compromise was reached. He mentioned the deer tick population, and how we are going to have to try and control that if hunting is restricted. Mr. Kelley concluded with that an issue was created here that never should have been created, and he recommends that we all vote "No". Mr. Wool stated that he thought the question was moved. Janice Wayne, Depot Rd. responded that she had one quick question, and that question was can anyone hunt there, or is there some sort of restriction. The response from one of the residents was that you need a license to hunt anywhere. She then asked once you get the license, are there parameters? Kim Woods, Park Ranger for Stratham Hill Park responded that anyone can hunt anywhere that is not posted. Mr. Kelley stated that is not true, and you cannot hunt within 300 feet of a home or any kind of structure, parking lots, etc. Kim Woods responded that Janice Wayne was asking specifically about the Park. Mr. Kelley stated that "the majority of people that hunt the Park respect it. You are more likely to be bit by a dog than hurt by a hunter." Chris Rowe, Gifford Farm Rd. stated he is not a hunter. He wanted to point out that all it takes is a lot of common sense. He also asked if anyone wants to speak, to please address the Moderator at the microphone. Selectman Tim Copeland asked if the public would like to hear from the Park Ranger, Kim Woods. Bruce Scamman asked for point of interest and stated that he thought the question was moved. The Moderator stated he did not recognize the question. Mr. Wool then moved the question. It was seconded by several residents. The vote was taken in the affirmative, and the question was moved. Mr. Emanuel

then declared the debate closed. Mr. Emanuel then read the question; the nays had it, and article 11 failed.

## **Article 12 – Other Business**

To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting. Selectman David Canada thanked all the members of the various Boards and Committees who spent so much time taking care of Town business. He stated that we could not do it without them. He also wanted to thank John Dold for his service on the Board of Adjustment that he served on for a number of years. He noted that Mr. Dold is still active on several other committees. Mr. Canada also wanted to thank Fred Hutton for his thirty years for the Town of Stratham and wished him well on his upcoming retirement. Mr. Canada stated that he does not know anyone whose heart is in the right place more than Fred. Mr. Canada stated if anyone is interested in serving on any Boards/Commissions/Committees to come on up front and pick up an application. Mr. Canada also announced that Mel McGrail is continuing to keep the Stratham Pocket Gardeners Club. If anyone is interested in volunteering for this club, please see Mel up front, and she will be happy to give you some information on it. Selectman Tim Copeland announced that the Conservation Commission will be holding its annual clean-up day on the morning of Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. He stated that we welcome any help from individual residents and groups like the boy scouts and girl scouts. He invited everyone to come to Stratham Hill Park at 9:00 a.m. and stated that you will be assigned an area to clean up, given a safety vest, plastic gloves, and a trash bag. The pickup will end around noon. There will be coffee, donuts, and perhaps chocolate offered to everyone in the morning. Selectman Canada asked any newly elected town officers to come forward after the meeting to be sworn in, or to see Joyce Charbonneau, Town Clerk, at her office. Selectman Federico wanted to thank everyone for showing up tonight, and doing their civic duty. Moderator Dave Emanuel had an announcement from the Assessing Department. They are having a presentation on the blind and elderly exemptions as well as Veteran tax credits on Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at the Town Hall. Moderator Emanuel asked if there was any other business. A resident then put forth to the Moderator a motion to reconsider article 11. Moderator Emanuel asked for a second, and it was seconded. Mr. Emanuel asked all those in favor of reconsidering article 11, to signify by saying aye, and those oppose, signify by stating nay. Mr. Emanuel stated the nays have it, and article 11 is not reconsidered for debate. A resident then stated that the nays just spoke louder, and asked for a hand vote or division of the house. Mr. Emanuel asked for a second for a division of the house. There was a second to do a division of the house. Mr. Emanuel called for a vote for the question on a division of the house, and the ayes had it. The division of the house determined that the nays did have the vote to not reconsider article 11 and Mr. Emanuel stated that article 11 will not be debated again this evening. Seeing no other business before the town, Mr. Emanuel thanked everyone, and closed the meeting at 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Charbonneau  
Town Clerk

## STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

THE POLLS WILL BE OPEN FROM 8 AM TO 8 PM

To the inhabitants of the Town of Stratham in the County of Rockingham in said State, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Stratham Municipal Center on Tuesday, on the twelfth day of March 2013, next at eight of the clock in the forenoon, to act upon the following subjects:

**Article 1:** To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

**Article 2:** Are you in favor of adopting the following amendment to the Town of Stratham Zoning Ordinance as petitioned by Benjamin Dunkerley and 24 other registered voters?

To see if the Town will amend the Official Zoning Map of the Town of Stratham pursuant to Section 3.2 to rezone tax Map 13 Lot 43, also known as 5 Emery Lane, from its current zoning designation of Residential/Agricultural (R/A) to the Professional/Residential (PRE) Zoning District. Please refer to the map below for more information.



*The Planning Board does not recommend this article by a vote 3-1 (one abstention).*

**Article 3:** – Are you in favor of adopting the following amendment to the Town of Stratham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To see if the Town will amend the Zoning Ordinance, Section II. Definitions, Subsection 2.1.51 Professional (Professional Office), insert new subsections for a Commercial Service Establishment, Personal Service Establishment, and Retail Sales to further clarify and define said terms to read as follows:

Delete Section 2.1.51 Professional (Professional Office) as it now reads:

~~2.1.51 Professional (Professional Office): These occupations shall include the practice of medicine, dentistry, law, accounting, architecture, engineering, real estate, teaching and similar activities in which specialized services are provided to clients.~~

By replacing the current language to read as follows:

2.1.51 Professional (Professional Office): These occupations shall include the practice of medicine, dentistry, law, accounting, architecture, engineering, real estate, teaching and similar activities in which specialized services are provided to clients. A business conducted by an individual or group practice characterized by a high level of training or proficiency in a particular pursuit, science, or study such as medicine, dentistry, law, professional recruiters, engineering, land use planning, architecture, real estate, insurance, accounting, teaching, investment, information and communications technology, and similar types of professions. Professional Office does not include psychics or similar types of services, tattoo shops, Commercial Service Establishments or Personal Services Establishments.

And in connection therewith, amend Section II. Definitions by adding the proposed underlined language to read as follows and then renumbering Section II. accordingly:

**Commercial Service Establishment:** A business in which the primary concern is rendering services to persons and/or businesses rather than the sale of products, including but not limited to electricians, plumbers, repair services, installation services, general contractors, cleaning services without bulk storage of chemical cleaning materials, and businesses providing similar commercial services. Commercial services may include, as an accessory use only, retail sales of items related to the services being provided. Commercial Service Establishment does not include Personal Service Establishments, motor vehicle related services, tattoo shops, Professional Office, or psychics or similar types of services.

**Personal Service Establishment:** A business, the primary concern of which is the rendering of services to persons rather the sale of products, including but not limited to barber, hairdresser, health spa, beauty salon, shoe repair, laundry, laundromat, dry cleaner drop-off and pick-up service (for off-site dry-cleaning only), tailoring, dressmaking, photographic studio, catering, express mail/courier and businesses providing similar personal services. Personal services may include, as an accessory use only, retail sales of items related to services being provided. Personal Service Establishment does not include motor vehicle related services, tattoo shops, Professional Office, or Commercial Service Establishments.

**Retail Sales:** The sale or rental of goods or merchandise directly to the public, including services incidental to the sale of such goods and merchandise. Wholesale sales from a retail



showroom are included. This shall exclude any gasoline filling or service stations, motor vehicle repair service, new/used motor vehicle sales/rentals, and trailer, boat, RV, manufactured home sales and service. Retail also does not include Commercial Service Establishments or Personal Service Establishments.

And in connection therewith, amend Section 3.6 Table of Uses by adding/replacing as appropriate the proposed underlined text to Table 3.6.F Commercial Uses to include a Commercial Service Establishment, Personal Service Establishment, and Retail Sales as regulated uses in all zoning districts, and then renumbering accordingly.

### 3.6 TABLE OF USES: (CONTINUED)

USES:	ZONING DISTRICT							
	R/A	MAH	PRE	TC	GCM	SC	CLIO	IND
<b>F. COMMERCIAL USES:</b>								
<u>1. Retail Sales.</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>S<sup>1</sup></u>
<u>2. Personal Services</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>
<u>3. Commercial Services</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>
4. Professional Office.	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>
5. Banks & Lending Institutions.	X	X	S	P	P	P	P	P
6. Restaurants.	X	X	X	P	P	P	P	X
7. Filling Stations, Service Stations.	X	X	X	S	P	X	X	X
8. Motor Vehicle Dealerships, Repair Garages, Body Shops, Paint Shops. (Rev. 3/99)	X	X	X	X	P	X	X	X
9. Veterinary Hospitals.	X	X	X	P	P	P	P	X
10. Kennels, with a minimum lot size of five acres and a structure setback of a minimum of 100 feet from all lot lines.	S	X	X	X	S	S	S	X
11. Airports, Runways, Control Towers, Administration Buildings, Hangars.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
12. Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. (Rev. 3/97)	S	X	P	X	X	X	X	X
13. Adult Uses. (Adopted 3/93)	X	X	X	X	S <sup>3</sup>	S <sup>3</sup>	X	X

*The Planning Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.*

**Article 4:** – Are you in favor of adopting the following amendment to the Town of Stratham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To see if the Town will vote to amend Sections 3.4.3 Professional/Residential, 3.6 Table of Uses, and Footnotes to Table 3.6 to permit limited retail uses within the Professional/Residential Zoning District to read as follows:

**Delete Section 3.4.3 Professional / Residential as it now reads:**

~~**3.4.3 Professional/Residential:** The intent of this district is to permit professional and residential uses in areas on streets with high traffic volumes which now have a mixture of residential and professional uses but where the trend has been conversion to professional use. These areas are frequently abutted on the rear by residential neighborhoods. The intent is to permit limited professional and personal service use while buffering residential neighborhoods from disturbance and disruption.~~

**By replacing the current language with the underlined text to read as follows:**

**3.4.3 Professional/Residential:** The intent of this district is to maintain the existing and surrounding neighborhood's residential appearance while allowing professional office development and limited retail uses through creative planning, oversight, and performance standards.



The district offers a unique opportunity to promote mixed-use development while maintaining buffering for residential neighborhoods from disturbance and disruption on streets with high traffic volumes.

And in connection therewith, amend 3.6 Table of Uses by changing the use designation of Retail Sales within the Professional / Residential District from “X” to “C” to read as follows:

### 3.6 TABLE OF USES: (CONTINUED)

USES:	ZONING DISTRICT							
F. <u>COMMERCIAL USES:</u>	R/A	MAH	PRE	TC	GCM	SC	CLIO	IND
1. Retail Sales.	X	X	<u>C</u> <sup>1</sup>	P	P	P	P	<u>S</u> <sup>2</sup>

And in conjunction therewith, amend Section 3.6 Table of Uses, Footnotes To Table 3.6 by inserting the proposed underlined text, renumbering the footnotes accordingly, and then deleting the text “/Service” from Footnote 2 to read as follows:

Footnotes To Table 3.6:

1. In the Professional/Residential Zoning District, new retail sales on the west side of Route 108 will be limited to existing buildings prior to the adoption of this Section and shall not exceed 500 total square feet. New retail sales on the east side will be limited to 2,000 square feet of designated retail floor area either within an existing or new building.

The proposed layout and design of the retail use shall be compatible with the established character of the neighborhood and shall mitigate any external impacts of the use on the neighborhood. The location, nature, design, and height of the new or existing structure and its appurtenances, its scale with reference to its surroundings, and the nature and intensity of the use, shall not have an adverse effect on the surrounding environment nor discourage the appropriate and orderly development and use of land and buildings in the neighborhood. Drive-through facilities are not permitted in the Professional / Residential Zoning District.

2. Retail Sales/~~Service~~: May be permitted in the Industrial Zone as a special exception provided the proposed use is carried out on a limited or incidental basis only; the products sold must be manufactured or distributed by the parent company; the space devoted to retail sales shall not exceed 2,000 square feet; the activity will create only a small amount of additional traffic; the activity will be carried on in such a manner as not to create a nuisance to abutting landowners and/or tenants, and; the use must comply with the Town’s parking specifications as delineated in Section VI. (Rev. 3/91).

***The Planning Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.***

**Article 5:** Are you in favor of adopting the following amendment to the Town of Stratham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To see if the Town will vote to amend Section VII. Signs by deleting the section in its entirety and replacing the current language with the proposed text to read as follows:

## **SECTION VII. SIGNS**

### **7.1 PURPOSE & INTENT**

The purpose of this Section is to establish uniform regulations for the installation and use of signs in the Town of Stratham and to protect and improve the livability and quality of life in Stratham through sign regulations that:

- a. Encourage the effective use of signs as a means of communication in Stratham;
- b. Protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public, with a specific focus on improving pedestrian and traffic safety;
- c. Maintain and enhance the appearance and aesthetic environment of Stratham;
- d. Maintain and promote the rural, agricultural, and historical character of Stratham;
- e. Control visual clutter and encourage high-quality professional standards in sign design and display.
- f. Promote signs that are harmonious in color, material and lighting with the buildings and surroundings to which they relate, while minimizing the adverse effects of signs on nearby public and private property; and
- g. Retain and enhance the Town's ability to attract and encourage economic development and growth.

### **7.2 DEFINITIONS**

The following words and phrases shall have the meaning described herein for all purposes associated with the construction and interpretation of the Sign Ordinance.

- a. Flag: A piece of cloth or similar material, typically oblong or square, attachable by one edge to a pole or rope and used as the symbol or emblem of a country or institution; a decoration during public festivities; or displayed outside a business and solely containing one word such as “open”, “antiques”, “food”, or “restaurant”.
- b. Lineal Building Frontage: The length of a ground level straight line or lines parallel to and equaling the length of the building front that includes the main public entrance(s) or the side of the building fronting on the principal roadway. In the case of a multi-unit development the frontage of each separate building is additive for the purpose of determining permissible sign area.
- c. Sign: Any name, identification, description, display, illustration or device which is affixed to or represented directly or indirectly upon a building, structure or land in view of the general public, and which directs attention to a product, place, activity, person, institution or business. A sign shall include writing, representation, or other figure of similar character within a building only when illuminated and located in a window.
- d. Sign, Agricultural, Temporary / Seasonal: A temporary sign advertising or providing direction to a Farm Stand or farm/agricultural sales activity. The sign shall be seasonal or temporary in nature may be located off-site and within a public right-of-way. (Adopted 03/07)

- e. Sign, Attached: A sign which is attached to a building wall and which extends eighteen (18) inches or less from the face of such wall.
- f. Sign, Awning: A sign painted on or attached flat or flush against the surface of the awning, but not extending above, below or beyond the awning or attached to the underside. The copy area on awnings is computed as all or a portion of the allowed wall sign area. (Adopted 03/11)
- g. Sign, Banner: A temporary sign of lightweight material (paper, plastic or fabric) hung either with or without frame(s). Flags and insignias containing markings of any government, corporation or business are not considered banners, and are defined as Flags. (Adopted 03/11)
- h. Sign, Canopy or Marquee: Any sign attached to or part of a canopy or marquee. The copy area on such signs is computed as all or a portion of the allowed wall sign area. (Adopted 03/11)
- i. Sign, Contractor's / Development Sign: A temporary sign advertising the contractor or development firm actively engaged in developing the site or parcel on which the sign is located. (Rev. 3/07)
- j. Sign, Directional: Signage necessary for on-site public safety and convenience. (Adopted 03/11)
- k. Sign, Directory: Signs which are necessary to identify and locate occupants of a building, including office buildings, residences, and church directories. (Adopted 03/11)
- l. Sign, Event Specific: A temporary sign used to announce an event such as a festival, dance, business opening, sale, meeting, fund raiser, parade or other event..
- m. Sign, Flashing: Any sign or signal light with continuously variable illumination, whether achieved electrically or mechanically.
- n. Sign, Freestanding / Monument: A sign established on a freestanding frame, mast or pole and not attached to any building. Where such signs are established back to back, the larger face shall be used for the calculation of allowable area. Also known as detached sign, freestanding sign, pole sign, ground sign or pylon sign. (Adopted 03/11)
- o. Sign, Height: The vertical distance measured from the adjacent undisturbed grade of the sign to the highest point of the sign. (Adopted 03/11)
- p. Sign, Historic Marker: A marker that identifies an historic place, person event or date and is erected by a historical organization or by a government agency. (Adopted 03/11)
- q. Sign, Illuminated: Any sign which emanates light either by means of exposed tubing, electrical bulbs, fluorescent lights, neon tubes or lamps on its surface, or by means of illumination transmitted through the sign face(s). Any decorative lighting that is used expressly for the purpose of advertisement shall be construed as a sign. (Adopted 03/11)
- r. Sign, Landmark: An older sign of artistic or historic merit, uniqueness, or extraordinary significance, as identified by the local historical organization. The

- character of landmark signs warrants their preservation in original condition, or their restoration. (Adopted 03/11)
- s. Sign, Nonconforming: Any sign which was lawfully established prior to the date this Ordinance was adopted, and which fails to conform to the specifications of this Ordinance. (Adopted 03/11)
  - t. Sign, Parking: Signs that identify available spaces or areas for parking of vehicles. Parking signs are deemed “Directional Signs” for the purposes of this Ordinance. (Adopted 03/11)
  - u. Sign, Permanent: A permanent sign is any sign established for a period of greater than six (6) months. (Adopted 03/11)
  - v. Sign, Political: Signs that advertise a candidate, party, position or other political issue. The provisions of RSA Chapter 664 and any other applicable state laws relative to political advertising are incorporated herein by reference.
  - w. Sign, Portable: Any sign not permanently attached to the ground or a building. Also see “Contractor’s/Development Sign,” “Temporary Sign.” (Adopted 03/11)
  - x. Sign, Projecting: A sign attached to a building or other structure and extending in whole or in part more than fourteen (14) inches beyond the building. (Adopted 03/11)
  - y. Sign, Real Estate: A temporary non-electrical ground or wall sign that either:
    - i. Advertises the on-site sale, rental or lease of the premises or a portion thereof; or
    - ii. The off-site advertising (including balloons) of an open house. (Adopted 03/11)
  - z. Sign, Snipe: An informal off-premises sign which is tacked or otherwise attached to a tree, pole, stake, fence, other sign structure, or other structure advertising an organization or activity or displaying a message which is not applicable to the present use of the site upon which the snipe sign is attached. (Adopted 03/07)
  - aa. Sign Structure: Any framework, either freestanding or an integral part of the building, which supports or is capable of supporting any sign, including decorative cover. (Adopted 03/11)
  - bb. Sign, Temporary: Any sign established for any period of less than six (6) months. (Adopted 03/11)
  - cc. Sign, Utility: These signs are noncommercial in nature and identify the location of gas lines, water lines or phone cables, often warning of the potential hazard of digging or excavation in the immediate area.
  - dd. Sign, Vehicle: A sign mounted onto, or otherwise affixed to (a) the body or window of a motor vehicle, or (b) any other device designed for transport on any public roads. (Adopted 03/07)
  - ee. Sign, Wall/Building: Any sign attached parallel to the building wall or other surface to which it is mounted that does not extend more than fourteen (14) inches from said surface and has only one (1) sign face that is intended to be read parallel to the wall or other surface to which it is mounted. This sign also includes any sign established on any other part of a building provided that the sign is on a plane parallel to the wall of the building. Wall/Building signs may not project above the top of a parapet, wall or the roof line at the wall, whichever is highest. A wall/building sign is also a sign

established on a false wall or false roof that does not vary more than thirty (30) degrees from the plane of the building's parallel wall. (Adopted 03/11)

- ff. Sign, Window: A sign that is applied to or attached to the exterior or interior of a window or located in such a manner within a building that is visible from the exterior of the building through a window, but excludes merchandise in a window display. (Adopted 03/11)

### **7.3 ADMINISTRATION**

- a. The Administrator of this sign Ordinance shall be the Code Enforcement Officer. The Code Enforcement Officer shall have the responsibility and authority to administer and enforce all provisions of this Ordinance, other than those provisions with powers specifically reserved to the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Gateway Technical Review Committee, or the Zoning Board of Adjustment.
- b. All signs shall be reviewed for compliance with the applicable state and federal building codes.
- c. Relief – Any relief sought from this sign ordinance, having been denied by the Code Enforcement Officer, may be brought before the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

### **7.4 PERMIT PROCEDURES**

No sign, except as provided by Section 7.5 and Section 7.6 shall be erected, displayed, altered, relocated, or replaced until the Code Enforcement Officer issues a sign permit.

- a. **Permit Application** – The Code Enforcement Officer may adopt from time to time such application procedures as the Code Enforcement Officer may find efficient, provided that the procedures are consistent with the Sign Ordinance and other applicable law. Applications for sign permits shall be submitted on forms provided by the Town, completed as required; at a minimum, they shall have attached the following information, in either written or graphic form.
  - i. A completed sign permit application form.
  - ii. A certification from a registered engineer and/or licensed architect licensed to practice in New Hampshire upon request by the Code Enforcement Officer.
  - iii. A non-refundable application review fee in an amount to be set by the Board of Selectmen.
  - iv. An illustration of the proposed sign(s), drawn to scale, that includes the following information:
    - 1. The total area of the proposed sign(s) in square feet.
    - 2. The proposed support structure for the proposed sign(s).
    - 3. The proposed sign structure height.
    - 4. The setback(s) of the proposed sign(s).
    - 5. The location(s) of the proposed sign(s).
    - 6. The relationship of the proposed sign(s) to the property on which the proposed sign(s) is to be located and/or the buildings thereon.
    - 7. A photograph of existing signage, including dimensions drawn onto the photograph; provided, however, for multi-unit properties, condominiums and

the like, the applicant need only submit a photograph detailing existing signage for the Applicant's particular unit.

8. The material from which the proposed sign(s) is to be constructed.
9. Design information such as illumination, function, and other essential characteristics of the proposed sign(s).

**b. Permit Review and Action**

- i. Completeness Review: The Code Enforcement Officer shall determine whether the sign permit application is complete within ten (10) calendar days after the application is filed.
- ii. All new signage, related to any new development, which may require Site Plan Review and/or Conditional Use Permit and not exempted in Section 7.5 shall receive Planning Board approval prior to the issuance of any permit.
- iii. Decision:
  1. The Code Enforcement Officer shall either approve or deny the sign permit application within the time periods specified below after the Code Enforcement Officer determines that the application is complete. Applications found to be incomplete shall be denied.
  2. Upon a finding by the Code Enforcement Officer that the sign permit application complies with the provisions of this Ordinance, the Code Enforcement Officer shall cause to be issued a sign permit for installation by the applicant. The sign permit shall be issued within ten (10) calendar days of the date on which the application was deemed complete.
  3. If the sign permit application is denied, the applicant shall be notified within ten (10) calendar days of the date on which the application was deemed complete. The notice of denial shall specifically explain any deficiencies in writing in the application and how the applicant may proceed under this Section.
  4. The Code Enforcement Officer shall not consider any sign permit application until the Code Enforcement Officer has determined that the application is complete.
  5. No sign permit shall be issued in any case of an incomplete sign permit application.
  6. No sign permit may be issued until all fees have been paid and other requirements of the Sign Ordinance have been satisfied.
- iv. Approval Criteria: The Code Enforcement Officer shall issue the requested sign permit if the sign permit application complies with this Ordinance. Otherwise, the Code Enforcement Officer shall deny the sign permit application.
- v. Photograph. When the sign has been completed, the Applicant shall photograph the completed sign and forward the photograph to the Code Enforcement Officer. The Code Enforcement Officer shall then inspect the sign.
- vi. Inspection for Compliance. The Code Enforcement Officer, or a designee, shall perform a final inspection after installation of any approved sign.

- vii. Discrepancies. Any discrepancies between any sign as approved and the sign as constructed shall be identified in writing by the Code Enforcement Officer and may result in the halt of construction and correction of the discrepancy.

## **7.5 EXEMPT SIGNS**

The following signs are exempt from the permit requirements of this Article, but are otherwise subject to the standards contained herein. Any failure to comply with these standards and any other provisions of this Article shall be considered a violation of the Zoning Ordinance.

- a. Nameplate signs giving property identification names or numbers, or names of occupants.
- b. Signs on mailboxes or newspaper tubes.
- c. Signs posted on private property warning the public against trespassing, danger from animals, or restricting specific recreational activities which signs shall each be no greater than two (2) square feet in area .
- d. Signs erected by or on behalf of or pursuant to the authorization of a governmental body, including legal notices, identification and informational signs, and traffic, directional, or regulatory signs.
- e. Signs required by Town Ordinance.
- f. Historic marker signs, provided that said signs are no more than two (2) square feet.
- g. Utility Signs.
- h. Flags of any governmental organization when not displayed in connection with a commercial promotion or as an advertising device. No flag shall be flown from a pole that is more than fifty (50') feet in height.
- i. Directional Signs that do not exceed four (4) square feet each and that bear no advertising matter.
- j. Real Estate Signs if limited to one (1) per property and four (4) square feet in area in residential zones and thirty-two (32) square feet in all other zones. These signs shall be removed within thirty (30) days of settlement or lease of the property.
- k. Construction site identification signs / Permanent Subdivision Signs shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area, and shall not be illuminated.
- l. Signs erected in connection with elections or political campaigns shall comply with all provisions of NH RSA 664:14-21. No such sign may exceed the sign area permitted for other signs within the zoning district in which it is located.
- m. Signs indicating that a special event such as a grand opening, fair, carnival, circus, festival, or similar event is to take place on the lot where the sign is located. Such signs may be erected not sooner than fourteen (14) days before the event and must be removed not later than three (3) days after the event. Please see Section 7.10.b.vi. for number and area requirements.
- n. Directory Signs that do not exceed four (4) square feet in area; and,
- o. Landmark Signs or other signs that are located on, or are an integral part of, a property that has been placed on or determined eligible for the National Register

of Historic Places, provided that such signs are recognized as contributing to the National Register status of the property.

- p. Flags, of no more than 15 square feet in size and solely containing one word such as “open”, “antiques”, “food”, or “restaurant”. To be exempt from the sign permit requirements, Properties are limited to one of these Flags unless the property is located on a corner and has two (2) sides on a public way in which case the property may use two of these (2) Flags, one on each side.
- q. Temporary/Seasonal Agricultural Signs are exempt from the sign permit requirements of this Article so long as there are no more than two (2) on-site signs, each does not exceed six (6) square feet, and is/are used for listing agricultural or horticultural products grown or produced by the resident seller, in season, for such operations as farm stands or Christmas tree sales.
- r. Signs no greater than two (2) square feet in area and containing messages such as Open, Closed, Vacancy, No Vacancy and credit card, telephone, restroom, gasoline prices, and other similar informational messages.
- s. Temporary Signs not covered in the foregoing categories, provided that such signs meet the following restrictions:
  - i. Not more than one (1) such sign may be located on any lot;
  - ii. No such sign may exceed six (6) square feet in surface area; and,
  - iii. The maximum sign height shall be six (6) feet above grade to the top of the sign and its supporting structure.
  - iv. Such a sign may not be displayed for longer than seven (7) consecutive days or no more than fourteen (14) days out of any one (1) year period.
  - v. The Code Enforcement Officer is authorized to mark temporary signs in any reasonable way that does not interfere with the content of the temporary sign so as to ensure compliance with this Article.

## **7.6 PROHIBITED SIGNS**

The following signs are prohibited:

- a. Any sign located within, on, or projecting over a property line which borders a public or private street, highway, alley, lane, parkway, avenue, road, sidewalk, or other right-of-way, except as provided in this Ordinance. The Code Enforcement Officer may cause to be removed any temporary or portable sign erected or displayed upon, or projecting into public property.
- b. Any flashing sign or other sign or lighting device, whether freestanding, on the exterior of the building, or on the inside of a window which is visible beyond the boundaries of the lot or parcel, or from any public right-of-way, with intermittent, animated, flashing, rotating, scintillating, blinking, or strobe light illumination, including a variable electronic message device, or the regulations applicable to a particular sign structure.
- c. Any sign which emits audible sound, odor, smoke, steam, laser or hologram lights, or other visible matter, including any sign that employs any stereopticon or motion picture projection.



- d. Signs, which by reason of location, size, color, or design interfere with public traffic or can be confused with or obstruct the view or effectiveness of any official traffic signal or traffic marking.
- e. Any sign with unshielded incandescent, metal halide, or fluorescent light bulbs.
- f. Any off-premises sign or signs which are located off of the property that they are advertising, except as provided for herein.
- g. Signs located on the roof of any structure.
- h. Any rotating sign.
- i. Any banners, pennants or temporary signs, except as provided for herein.
- j. Any sign attached to any public utility pole or structure, streetlight, tree, fence, fire hydrant, bridge, curb, sidewalk, park bench, or other location on public property, also known as “snipe signs,” except as provided herein.
- k. Strings of light bulbs whether in conjunction with a sign or not except as conventionally used as part of a holiday celebration.
- l. Any sign which causes glare onto a public road or any neighboring property.
- m. Any inflatable sign and other similar permanent objects.
- n. Any sign including a mirror device.
- o. Internally illuminated signs may be permitted only in the Gateway Commercial Business District, Commercial/Light Industry/Office, and Industrial Zoning districts (Rev. 3/96; Rev. 3/98, Rev. 3/11)
- p. Any sign which is placed so as to prevent or inhibit free ingress to or egress from any door, window, or exit way required by the Building Code or the Fire Code; and,
- q. Any sign mounted, attached or painted on a trailer, boat, or motor vehicle when parked, stored, or displayed conspicuously on the public right-of-way or private premises in a manner intended to attract attention of the public for business advertising purposes are considered portable signs within the context of this Ordinance and are prohibited. This provision expressly excludes business signs that are permanently painted on, or magnetically attached to motor vehicles or rolling stock that are regularly and consistently used to conduct normal business activities. However, this section does not prohibit an individual, not engaged in business, to display a sign, mounted, attached or painted on a trailer, boat or motor vehicle, when it is parked for the purpose of a one-time sale of said trailer, boat or motor vehicle.

## **7.7 ENFORCEMENT AND VIOLATIONS**

- a. Any person, including, without limitation, an owner of real property, who violates, suffers a violation to occur or refuses to comply with any provision of this Ordinance may be subject to the penalty provisions as described in Section XXII of the Zoning Ordinance.
- b. In addition to the remedies provided in Section XXII, the Code Enforcement Officer may remove or cause to be removed any sign that does not comply with the provision of this Ordinance, at the expense of the owner of the property wherein the sign is located after written notification of the violation to the property owner.

- c. The Code Enforcement Officer may remove or cause to be removed any sign without notice that the Code Enforcement Officer reasonably concludes is impermissibly established in the public right-of-way or that otherwise constitutes a danger to public safety.
- d. The Code Enforcement Officer may remove or cause to be removed any sign not maintained in good repair for reasons of safety or aesthetics.

## **7.8 GENERAL STANDARDS AND CRITERIA FOR SIGNS**

The regulations in this section specify the area and heights of signs that are allowed within the Town and which require a permit.

### **a. Measurement and Calculation of Area:**

#### **i. Area of Freestanding Signs.**

1. Sign face area is calculated as the total area within the smallest square, circle, rectangle, triangle, or combination thereof that will encompass the extreme limits of the writing, representation, emblem, or other display together with any material or color forming an integral part of the background of the display or used to differentiate the sign from the backdrop, background or structure against which it is placed. Areas of supporting framework shall be excluded from this calculation up to the amount of 35% of the total area as calculated above. All supporting framework, bracing, or decoration in excess of the 35% limit shall be deemed part of computation of the maximum aggregate area.
2. The area of one side of a double-faced sign shall be regarded as the total area of the sign provided that such sign faces are either parallel or at an angle of thirty (30) degrees or less to each other. If the sides are of unequal area, the larger shall determine the area.

#### **ii. Area of Wall/Building Signs.**

1. The sign face area of signs attached or affixed to buildings or other structures shall include all lettering, designs, or symbols, together with the background, whether open or enclosed, upon which they are displayed. When signs are incorporated into canopies or awnings, the entire panel containing the sign copy is counted as the sign face area.
2. Where a sign consists of individual letters or symbols attached, painted or applied to a building, wall or window, without any distinguishing border, panel or background, the area shall be considered to be the smallest rectangle, triangle, or circle encompassing all the letters and symbols.
3. In no case can the additional surrounding background area exceed the area of the copy. For the purpose of this section, the permitted background area is the total area between the lintel bar and the parapet on a one (1) story building or between the lintel bar and the floor level of the floor above on a multi-story building

#### **iii. Sign Height for Freestanding Signs.**

The height of a freestanding sign shall be computed as the distance from the elevation of the nearest travel lane edge of pavement to the highest attached component of the sign.

b. Signage Standards:

Design, color, materials, size, and placement are all important in creating signs that are architecturally attractive and integrated into the overall site design. Signs that are compatible with the surroundings and effectively communicate a message will promote a quality visual environment. The following design standards will be used as a basis for review of sign permits and the management of signs:

i. General Standards.

1. Design signs in harmony with the style and character of the development and as an integral design component of the building architecture, building materials, landscaping, and overall site development.
2. Signs should be clear, informative to the public and should weather well.
3. All signs shall be maintained in good repair, including the display surface, which shall be kept neatly painted or posted.
4. Sign letters and materials should be professionally designed and fabricated.
5. Exposed conduit and tubing is prohibited. All power supplies and other equipment shall be concealed.
6. The exposed back of all signs visible to the public shall be suitably finished and maintained.

ii. Placement.

1. Signs should be generally free of obstructions when viewed from different angles. However, trees or other landscaping that grows to a point that it obstructs the view of a sign or makes it illegible shall not be grounds for removal or trimming of the plant(s).
2. The physical placement of signs on a building shall be as important as the sign composition itself. To maximize the effectiveness of signs and a building's architecture, every sign located on a building shall be required to be an integral part of the building.
3. Signs shall be located with respect to the basic architectural framework of the building, so as not to obscure the primary elements (door and window openings and decorative facade treatments) of a building's framework.

iii. Sign composition.

The visual style of a sign is determined by the relationship of its lettering, colors, lighting, and material used. The design standards set forth herein constitute general design criteria to be followed when determining conformity with the Ordinance.

iv. Lettering.

1. No more than two (2) lettering styles shall be permitted per sign.
2. Letters may be attached to the building facade.
3. Light-colored letters on a dark background are preferred. Dark letters on a light background shall only be permitted if it complements the building's color composition.

4. Lettering and signboards shall be located so as not to obstruct architectural detailing on the building face.
  5. Product trademarks are discouraged; however, trade signs (e.g., a shoe for a cobbler, a mortar and pestle for a druggist) are preferred.
  6. Letter styles shall be limited to the classic genre, i.e., Copper plate Gothic, Times, Franklin Gothic, Benton, Clarendon, Haas Helvetica, Folio Caravelle Medium, Windsor, and Times Roman.
  7. The size of the lettering shall be in proportion to both the sign configuration and the building.
- v. Color.
1. No more than three (3) colors are preferred, including black/white. Lettering shall preferably be one (1) color.
  2. Colors used in signage should relate to the color composition of the building material and be compatible with them.
  3. The determination of sign color must relate to the degree of contrast between the sign lettering and sign background.
- vi. Materials.
1. Traditional materials, such as wood, glass, brass, bronze, aluminum, or iron are preferred for the framework of a sign. The use of plastic, aluminum and vinyl will only be permitted if styled and composed to imitate wood or iron.
  2. Wooden signs shall be constructed of dense, clear or finely grained wood that adapts to engraving/carving and paint or stain. Ordinary plywood will not withstand exposure; therefore, only overlay, exterior or marine plywood shall be permitted.
- vii. Sign Illumination.
1. The light from an illuminated sign shall not be of an intensity or brightness that will create glare or other negative impact on residential properties in direct line of sight to the sign.
  2. Whenever indirect lighting fixtures are used (fluorescent or incandescent), care shall be taken to properly shield the light source to prevent glare from spilling over into residential areas and any public right-of-way.
  3. Internally illuminated plastic box “canned” signs are discouraged. Individually illuminated channel letters are preferred.
  4. Signs shall not have blinking, flashing, or fluttering lights, or other illumination devices that have a changing light intensity, brightness, or color.
  5. Light sources shall utilize energy efficient fixtures to the greatest extent possible.

## **7.9 GENERAL REGULATIONS (REV. 3/11)**

Any sign not specifically listed shall not be permitted unless otherwise exempted herein.

- a. Signs Permitted in the Residential/Agricultural District, Manufactured Housing/Mobile Home District, Retirement Planned Community District:

i. Agricultural Sign, Temporary / Seasonal:

1. Shall require a permit and may be placed off-site and within a Town right-of-way only with the permission of the Board of Selectmen, and a letter granting approval for the location from the owner of the property of which the sign is located in front of.
2. Placement shall not exceed six (6) months continuously for a season with an additional 30 contiguous or non-contiguous days for the sale of agricultural products.
3. If located within a Town right-of-way shall not exceed six (6) square feet.
4. If located on private property any sign shall be limited to twelve (12) square feet.
5. Sign shall not exceed a maximum height of ten (10) feet.

ii. Contractor's Sign: Shall be required to obtain a permit and comply with the conditions listed below.

1. Contractor signs may not be placed on the property prior to fourteen (14) days before the expected start of construction or upon issuance of a building permit (whichever is later) nor maintained on the property beyond fourteen (14) days after completion of work or upon issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy (whichever is earlier).
2. No more than one sign per contractor may be placed on the site and the total area of all contractors' signage shall not exceed thirty-two (32) sq. ft.
3. Contractor signs shall be located outside of the public right-of-way.
4. Contractor signs shall not exceed a maximum height of ten (10) feet.
5. Contractor signs shall not be illuminated.
6. Signs, which advertise for a contractor who does continual maintenance or service of a site, shall not be allowed.

iii. Development signs:

1. Development signs shall require a permit and may not be placed on the property prior to fourteen (14) days before the expected start of development activity nor maintained on the property beyond fourteen (14) days after issuance of the final certificate of occupancy or four (4) years from the original date of issue. The Code Enforcement Officer may issue additional sign permits on an annual basis only beyond the original permit, if he finds that significant sales activity is taking place on the site. Significant sales activity may be determined to be a staffed sales office, regular on-site sales staff hours for lots or new units or continued new-unit construction activities.
2. Development signs shall be located outside of the public right-of-way.
3. Development signs shall not exceed a maximum height of ten (10) feet.
4. Development signs shall not be illuminated.

iv. Directional Signs:

In any zone, signs not exceeding two (2) square feet per sign in area to point direction to residences, businesses, other allowed uses or meeting places or for directing traffic into or out of a site are permitted.

v. Governmental Signs:

Signs erected by the municipal, State, or federal governments, which are required for the public safety and welfare shall be allowed.

vi. Home Occupation Signs:

1. Not more than one free standing sign or other advertising device is to be displayed on the property and it shall not exceed a size of four (4) square feet.
2. Home Occupation signs shall be located outside of the public right-of-way.
3. The height of Home Occupation signs shall be a minimum of eight (8) feet in height and a maximum height of ten (10) feet.
4. Signs will not be lighted from within or by exterior spot lighting.

vii. Institutional Signs

1. Signs setting forth the name of any simple announcement for any public, charitable, educational or religious institution located entirely within the premise of that institution, up to an area of 24 square feet. Such signs may be illuminated in accordance with the regulations contained herein. If building mounted, these signs shall be flat wall signs and shall not project above the roof line. If ground mounted, the top shall be no more than eight (8) feet above ground level.
2. Signs erected by community, social, religious, and fraternal organizations, shall not be displayed for longer than seven (7) consecutive days or no more than fourteen (14) days out of any one (1) year period for a fund raising or community event. The sign shall not be larger than six (6) square feet and be a maximum height of six (6) feet above grade to the top of the sign and its supporting structure.) Such sign shall be placed only on the premises where the event is to be held or conducted.
3. Signs shall be located outside of the public right-of-way.

viii. Real Estate Signs: Signs four (4) sq. ft. or smaller in size do not need to obtain a permit as long as they comply with the conditions listed below. Any sign in excess of four (4) sq. ft. shall require a permit.

1. Real estate signs may only advertise the property on which they are situated.
2. Real estate signs may not be illuminated.
3. There may be no more than one sign per street frontage.
4. The signs must be removed within thirty (30) days of consummation of the sale or lease.
5. A portable real estate open house sign not to exceed two (2) square feet may be placed off-site only on the day of the open house and no longer than one (1) hour before and thirty (30) minutes after the open house is taking place.

ix. Service/Civic Association Signs:

Service and civic associations, defined as organizations established by local citizens and which have non-profit tax status, may apply to the Board of Adjustment for a special exception to erect signs in the municipality providing that the following conditions are met:

1. An individual sign is no larger than six (6) square feet;
2. The organization has written permission for placement of the sign from the landowner; and
3. The sign will not cause a safety hazard or have a visual effect on the surroundings.

x. Yard Sale Signs:

Do not need to obtain a permit as long as they comply with the conditions listed below.

1. Yard sale signs may not be placed prior to three (3) days before the sale and must be removed within 1 day after the sale.
2. They may not exceed six (6) square feet and may not be illuminated.
3. The signs may be placed off premises for noncommercial sales related to a single residential dwelling unit (or informal joint sales among neighbors) only provided they are not placed on utility poles and are not a distraction to traffic.

b. Signs Permitted in commercial and/or industrial uses:

i. All signs permitted in the Residential / Agricultural District and Manufactured Housing / Mobile Home District, Retirement Planned Community District pursuant to Section 7.9.a.

ii. Awning/Canopies:

1. One sign with lettering per business shall be permitted on an awning or canopy, and logos shall be permitted on all awnings and canopies, provided that:
  - a. The letter and logo height does not exceed 50% of the diagonal portion of the awning or canopy.
  - b. The letter and logo height is located on the vertical flap and does not exceed eight inches.
  - c. The letter and logo area does not exceed 15% of the area of the diagonal portion of the awning or canopy.
  - d. The signage shall only be on first-floor awnings and canopies.
2. Awnings and canopies shall be aesthetically compatible with the building and consistent with each other.
3. Awnings and canopies shall be kept in good order and repair.
4. All awning and canopies shall be made of cloth or canvas.
5. A business cannot have a wall sign and awning/canopy with lettering.

iii. Directory Signage

1. Permitted only for upper story non-residential uses.

2. Area shall be a maximum of twelve (12) square feet located by the main entrance to the upper floors.
  3. Letter height shall not exceed four (4) inches.
- iv. Free Standing Signage
1. Flexible Mixed-Use District, Professional/Residential District, and Town Center District.
    - a. If there are one to two distinct operations under different ownership/proprietorship, the area the face shall not exceed 32 square feet and the top of such sign is no higher than twelve (12) feet above sidewalk or finish grade; or
    - b. If there are three to four distinct operations under different ownership/proprietorship, the area of the face shall not exceed 48 square feet and the top of such sign is no higher than twelve (12) feet above sidewalk or finish grade; or
    - c. If there are five or more such distinct operations under different proprietorship on the lot, the area of the face shall not exceed sixty-five (65) square feet and the top of such sign does not exceed fifteen (15) feet above grade.
  2. Gateway Commercial Business District, Special Commercial District, Commercial/Light Industrial District, and Industrial District.
    - a. If there are one to two distinct operations under different proprietorship, the area of the face shall not exceed 48 square feet and the top of such sign is no higher than twenty (20) feet above sidewalk or finish grade; or
    - b. If there are three to four distinct operations under different proprietorship, the area of the face shall not exceed seventy-five (75) square feet and the top of such sign is no higher than thirty (30) feet above sidewalk or finish grade; or
    - c. If there are five or more such distinct operations under different proprietorship on the lot, the area of the face shall not exceed one hundred thirty (130) square feet and the top of such sign does not exceed thirty (30) feet above grade.
  3. A lot with front lot line of 300 feet or more may have two freestanding signs. However, said signs shall be separated by a minimum of 200 feet.
  4. One (1) freestanding sign shall be permitted for each street or limited access highway which abuts a lot. The area of the sign located on the primary lot frontage (determined by the applicant) shall be the maximum permitted in the district. The area of sign located on the secondary lot frontage shall be 50% of maximum permitted in the district.
  5. When a lot abuts more than one street or limited access highway and qualifies for an additional freestanding sign, the minimum separation between freestanding signs on the lot, regardless of the orientation of the freestanding signs, shall be one hundred (100) feet.
  6. Minimum front yard setback, side yard setback and rear yard setback. Unless



otherwise stated in the Ordinance, there shall be no minimum required front, side, or rear setback for freestanding signs, provided, however, such signs shall not encroach into any public right-of-way or any clear sight area.

v. Projecting Signage

Projecting signs and displays attached to individual buildings or units shall be allowed in addition to the permitted freestanding signs and displays, subject to the following:

1. There is no more than one such sign for each entrance door to a business establishment.
2. The permitted area of projecting signs shall be one (1) square foot for each five (5) linear feet of building or unit front facade to which it is attached, not to exceed thirty two (32) square feet.
3. The base of all projecting signs shall be no less than eight (8) feet above the ground or sidewalk.
4. Projecting signs shall not be located or erected on the roof area of any building, shall be located only on the building walls, and may not project above the building roof line or roof ridge.
5. Projecting signs shall not project from the exterior wall of a building more than five (5) feet.
6. Projecting signs shall not project into any public or private street travel way.
7. There are no exposed guy wires or turnbuckles.
8. In the case of a building located on a corner lot, a projecting building sign may be located at the corner of the building oriented toward the intersection of two or more streets, provided, however, that no other projecting building identification signs shall be located on the same building within one-hundred (100) feet of a corner projecting building identification sign, regardless of orientation

vi. Promotional Event Signs.

The requirements for these signs are as follows:

1. Keep promotional and grand opening signs out of the public right-of-way (including sidewalks, planter strips, tree wells, sound walls, fences, and street medians), on public property, or in any location which interferes with vehicular, bicycle, or pedestrian circulation or safety.
2. Pennants, flags, streamers, searchlights, and banners (maximum 60 square feet each) may be displayed for three (3) 14-day periods per calendar year and an additional four weekends or federally recognized 3-day holiday weekends. The weekend or federally recognized 3-day holiday weekend display is limited to 1 per every 3 months. A weekend display is permitted Friday evening to Sunday evening (or Monday if a federally recognized 3-day holiday.) Upon the approval of the Board of Selectmen, a permit shall be secured from the Building Inspector for the signs that exceed said specified time limits.

3. For grand openings pennants, flags, streamers, searchlights, and one banner not to exceed 60 square feet in area may be displayed one time for a maximum of 30 days. All signs must be removed within 5 days after the grand opening ceases.
4. Temporary Mobile and/or Portable Signs: New businesses may use a temporary mobile sign (or trailer mounted sign) while awaiting the arrival of a permanent sign. Such signs shall be allowed only until the permanent sign(s) is installed or for thirty (30) days, whichever is shorter. A permit shall be secured from the Building Inspector for the placement of such signs.

vii. Street Address Signage

1. Street address signage is encouraged on each building or individual tenant.
2. Numbers shall be a maximum of eight (8) inches in height.

viii. Wall/Building Signage

1. One of the three below for each street frontage of each business:
  - a. Internally-lit raised letters with concealed power supply.
  - b. Back-lit raised letters with concealed power supply.
  - c. Signage board with gooseneck lighting.
2. Wall signage is also permitted for walls facing rear parking areas with the same area as permitted on the front façade.
3. Wall signage must be located below the second story floor line.
4. The building frontage is used to calculate the total maximum wall/building sign area. One square foot of wall/building sign area is allowed for each linear foot of lot frontage. The area of all wall/building signs must be equal or less than this total, including existing and new signs. The building sign total maximum area formula shall be calculated using the following formula:

Building Linear Frontage x Multiplier (see chart below) = Total maximum sign area

for all building signs.

$$\text{_____} \times \text{_____} = \text{square feet}$$

5. Total Maximum Area Multiplier

The total aggregate area in square feet of all permanent building signs, except for signs freestanding signs and directional signs, shall not exceed the following:

Average Distance of Sign From Centerline of Abutting Street	Building Frontage Multiplied By
0-99	1
100-249	1.5
250 and over	2

6. For lots with frontage on more than two streets or a limited access highway, the total maximum area for wall/buildings signs shall be determined using the maximum area permitted for the primary and secondary lot frontages (as determined by the applicant).
7. A use with less than 50 feet of sign frontage may have a maximum of 50 square feet of permanent wall/building signs.

ix. Window Lettering/Sign

1. All window lettering/signs for businesses shall be inside the window and shall be permitted only on the first and second floor windows.
2. Window lettering/signs shall not exceed 15% of the window area.
3. Window lettering or signs shall pertain only to the establishment occupying premise where window is located.

## **7.10 MAINTENANCE AND OBSOLESCENCE:**

All signs and sign structures shall be properly maintained and kept in a neat and proper state of maintenance and appearance. All signs of any type and located within any district which are found by the Building Inspector to be in a state of disrepair or are considered dangerous, shall be repaired or removed on order of the Building Inspector and upon failure to comply with this order within the time specified within the order, the Building Inspector is hereby authorized to cause removal of this sign and any expense resultant thereto shall be borne by the owner/lessee.

## **7.11 NONCONFORMING SIGNS**

a. Continuance.

Any sign lawfully existing or under construction before the date of enactment of these sign regulations or upon any date on which these regulations are amended, and any sign which is accessory to a nonconforming use, shall be deemed a nonconforming sign. Portable signs (including trucks and trailers) are exempt from treatment under this section for continuance and shall, therefore, require sign permits and compliance with the provisions of Section VII.

b. Maintenance:

A nonconforming sign must be maintained in good repair for reasons of public safety and aesthetics. Ordinary maintenance and minor repairs shall not include replacement of the structural framing and supports, enlargement of the area of a sign face, or relocation of the sign.

c. Alteration, Relocation and Replacement:

Alterations, relocation, and/or replacement of a legal nonconforming sign structure is permitted when damage or deterioration does not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the area of the sign and structure. A non-conforming sign that is damaged by any casualty or force majeure may be replaced by an identical sign in the same location that is identical to the damaged sign. The replacement sign retains its status as a permitted, non-conforming use.

d. Removal:

A nonconforming sign shall be removed within three hundred and sixty-five (365) days if any one of the following conditions exist:

1. If the damage or deterioration of the sign structure exceeds fifty percent (50%) of the area; or,
  2. If the building to which the sign structure is accessory is damaged or demolished to an extent exceeding fifty percent (50%) of the building's appraised value and no plans have been submitted for the building's reconstruction or restoration pursuant to applicable codes and Ordinances; or,
  3. If the sign has been abandoned for at least three hundred sixty-five (365) days.
- e. Any sign that has been removed due to any of the conditions listed in 7.11.d above shall not be replaced and any succeeding sign shall conform to the provisions of this Ordinance. If any portion of the sign structure is removed, then all parts and components of the sign shall also be removed.

## **7.12 SEVERABILITY**

If any section, clause, provision or phrase of this section is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent authority, such holding shall not affect, impair or invalidate any other section, clause, provision, portion or phrase of the Ordinance.

And in connection therewith, delete Section II. Definitions, Subsections 2.1.61 through 2.1.91 and Section 3.8 Gateway Commercial Business District, Subsection 3.8.7.f in their entirety and renumber accordingly

*The Planning Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.*

**Article 6:** – Are you in favor of adopting the following amendment to the Town of Stratham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To see if the Town will vote to amend Section VIII. Residential Open Space Cluster Development by deleting said section in its entirety and replacing the current language with the proposed text to read as follows:

## **SECTION VIII: RESIDENTIAL OPEN SPACE CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT**

### **BY CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT**

#### **8.1 AUTHORITY**

Pursuant to RSA 674:21, the Planning Board is hereby authorized to grant a Conditional Use Permit to allow for a Residential Open Space Cluster Development in accordance with the restrictions and requirements of this section. The Planning Board is further authorized to adopt amendments to the Subdivision Regulations in order to administer the requirements of this ordinance.

#### **8.2 PURPOSE**

The Residential Open Space Cluster development provisions provides applicants with an alternative development approach intended to promote flexibility and innovation in land planning that are not specifically permitted in the current zoning ordinance. The provisions are intended to encourage environmentally sound planning, conserve open

space, retain and protect important natural and cultural features, and provide for efficient use of land and community services to advance the goals stated in the master plan.

Within this context, these regulations established are intended to be a minimum consideration of allowable impacts. Each tract of land possesses different, unique development characteristics and limitations, and the Residential Open Space Cluster Development uses allowed on any particular tract will be a function of innovative land planning and subdivision design interacting with the special characteristics and limitations of the site.

### **8.3 OBJECTIVES**

The Planning Board shall consider the following objectives and balance them accordingly during the review of individual applications.

- a. Maintain and preserve the rural character of the Town of Stratham by allowing an alternative residential development option which preserves large areas of open space, provides for visual buffers from existing roads and residential development, and permits farming opportunities on parcels of open space.
- b. To create a contiguous network of open spaces or “greenways” throughout the Town by linking the common open spaces within the subdivision, to open space on adjoining lands wherever possible, and as particularly found in the Stratham Master Plan designated and referred to as the Stratham ‘S’ on Map FLU-2.
- c. To provide for connected corridors of open land throughout Town for preservation of habitat, environmental resources, and public enjoyment.
- d. To preserve those areas of the site that have the highest ecological value, including, for example, wildlife habitat, e.g., large unfragmented blocks of undeveloped land, areas of highest condition identified based on NH Fish and Game’s Wildlife Action Plan, and water resources, e.g., drinking water supply areas and watersheds, wetlands, streams and rivers.
- e. Provide for a diversity of housing types, opportunities, and styles.
- f. To locate buildings and structures on those portions of the site that are the most appropriate for development and avoiding developing in areas ill-suited for development, including, for example, areas with poor soil conditions, a high water table, that are subject to frequent flooding or that have excessively steep slopes.
- g. Encourage flexible road design that will contribute to and enhance a rural atmosphere and maintain minimal safety design.
- h. As part of an alternative for residential development, to require the clustering of homes in a manner that includes proximity in physical location while minimizing confusion over issues of property ownership.

### **8.4 DEFINITIONS**

The following definitions specifically apply to this Section of the Zoning Ordinance:

- a. Buffer: Land area within which adequate vegetation is maintained or provided to visibly separate or screen one use from another and/or to minimize potentially negative impacts on surrounding areas, e.g., shield or block noise, light or other nuisances, reduce water pollution. Also known as a “vegetated buffer.”
- b. Buildable Area. Land area of a parcel excluding non-buildable area.

- c. **Buildable Lot.** The smallest lot area established by the zoning ordinance on which a use or structure may be located in a particular district.
- d. **Common Area.** Any parcel or area of land and/or area of water set aside as a result of a residential open space cluster plan. The common area is designed for the benefit and enjoyment of the residents of a residential open space cluster development. These areas may contain accessory structures and improvements necessary and appropriate for the educational, recreational, cultural, social or other noncommercial/nonresidential / non-industrial uses, plus any utility services utilized by the owners of the common area.
- e. **Conservation Land.** Land given to a public body dedicated to conservation of forests, park land, etc., or to a private conservation trust, with the intent of preserving in its original ecological condition, safeguarding water supplies, or diminishing flood danger.
- f. **Mandatory Home Association.** A private non-profit corporation, association, or other nonprofit legal entity established by the developer for the benefit and enjoyment of the residents of the Cluster Development. Membership in said association shall be mandatory for property owners and made a required covenant in any deed issued or passed. It shall provide voting and use rights in the common area when applicable and may charge dues to cover expenses, which may include tax liabilities of the common area, recreational or utility facilities. Articles of Association or Incorporation must be acceptable to the Planning Board and by the Town Counsel and any other municipal, county, state agency, body, commission or department required by law to approve of the same.
- g. **Non-buildable Area.** Land area that cannot be counted toward the minimum lot size under a conventional subdivision, including areas with the following characteristics: wetlands or wetland soils as defined by RSA 482-A: 2, X; slopes greater than 25 percent; submerged areas; utility rights-of way; land area within the 100-year floodplain; or land that is restricted from development by covenant, easement or other restriction.
- h. **Open Space Cluster Subdivision.** An alternative form of residential development where, instead of subdividing an entire tract into lots of conventional size, a similar number of housing units are arranged on lots of reduced dimensions, with the remaining area of the parcel permanently protected as designated open space. Also referred to as “conservation subdivision.”
- i. **Open Space Easement.** Land whose development rights have been legally restricted, either by deed or by public purchase of those rights. The easement may be so worded as to permit or restrict public access, to allow or disallow recreational development, and similar provisions. Easements are tied to the title of the land, regardless of its subsequent ownership.
- j. **Public Open Land.** Land purchased by or given to the Town of Stratham for parks, playgrounds, or an undeveloped open space, generally with the intention of making it accessible for public use.

## **8.5 STRICT ADHERANCE**

To these provisions shall not be construed as establishing a legal right to a conditional use permit for a cluster development. Those who wish to pursue their “development

rights” to a certain use or development of land should consider developing their land with the permitted, conventional subdivision approaches, or through the variance procedure as provided for by New Hampshire law.

## **8.6 CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT**

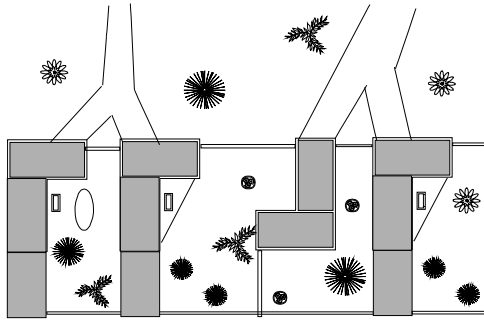
- a. All Residential Open Space Cluster Developments shall obtain a Conditional Use Permit from the Planning Board subject to Section 3.6 Additional Notes. The Conditional Use Permit is meant to provide flexibility, minimize adverse impacts, and allow the Board to participate jointly with the applicant to prepare a development that is consistent with this ordinance, regulations, and the Master Plan for the Town of Stratham
- b. The Conditional Use Permit shall clearly set forth all conditions of approval and shall clearly list all plans, drawings, and other submittals that are part of the approved use. Everything shown or otherwise indicated on a plan or submittal that is listed on the Conditional Use Permit shall be considered to be a condition of approval. Construction shall not deviate from the stated conditions without approval of the modification by the Planning Board.

## **8.7 APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCEDURE**

- a. A Residential Open Space Cluster Development shall be initiated by filing with the Planning Board for an application for a Conditional Use Permit.
- b. The completed application and fee as set by the Board or Selectmen shall be submitted to the Planning Department. Said fee is nonrefundable.
- c. The Planning Board shall consider the application at its next regular meeting following the public notice process.
- d. Where development approval for the Conditional Use Permit includes subdivision or site plan approval by the Planning Board, the application and review procedure for the Conditional Use Permit shall be made concurrently and in accordance with the procedures specified in the Subdivision Regulations or Site Plan Regulations as applicable to the particular development.

## **8.8 USES**

- a. Only residential uses shall be permitted in the Residential Open Space Cluster Developments.
- b. Single-family detached homes are permitted.
- c. Multi-family Units: Shall be permitted up to a unit count of four (4) per building or structure. For the purpose of elderly affordable and workforce housing developments, multi-family means a building or structure containing five (5) or more dwelling units, each designed for occupancy by an individual household. These are units that are structural joined and share walls with no yard between units. (Rev. 3/10)
- d. Joined-Array Units: Single-family units that are attached by and share a common yard and/or fence as part of a tightly-constructed joined-array, not to exceed four joined units, shall be considered single family units for setbacks to other arrays or detached units but shall not require setbacks from each other provided that yard space at least twenty (20) feet wide is available for individual use between units. In no case shall structures be less than ten (10) feet apart (example below).



- e. Home occupations or accessory apartments are not permitted in Residential Open Space Cluster Developments.

## 8.9 DIMENSIONAL REQUIREMENTS & SETBACKS

- a. Residential Open Space Cluster Development.
- i. Lot Size Requirement. Unless specifically stated herein, the minimum lot size for a Residential Open Space Cluster Development is 20 acres.
  - ii. Frontage Requirements:
    1. The minimum frontage for the development shall be a contiguous 100 feet and of sufficient length to provide safe access for a right-of-way of at least 60 feet.
    2. At least one access shall be within the minimum frontage.
    3. The minimum frontage and access shall be within the Town of Stratham. If, however, the subject parcel has only 50 feet of frontage and was legally created prior to the date of adoption of this ordinance under ordinances and regulations that required at least a 50 feet minimum right-of-way, 50 feet shall be the minimum required frontage for such pre-existing lots.
    4. Frontage lands on roads existing at the time of application shall be preserved as buffers to the maximum extent possible in addition to all required setbacks.
    5. After the passage of this ordinance, any parcel that subdivides more than 50% of the frontage away from the parent parcel shall not be eligible for a Residential Open Space Cluster Development for a period of 4 years from the date of the subdivision approval.
    6. Merging the required parcels with the parent parcel to achieve the 50% original required frontage shall nullify this restriction.
  - iii. Buffer Area:
    1. A vegetated buffer strip of at least fifty (50) feet shall be maintained along the external perimeter or property line of the Residential Open Space Cluster Development to minimize potential impacts on abutting properties. The natural vegetation shall be retained or, if required, vegetation of a type and amount as deemed appropriate by the Planning Board shall be planted and maintained. No dwelling, accessory structure, street or parking area shall be



permitted within the designated buffer area. Streets that serve as access to the development, walls, underground utilities, and drainage structures may be located within this buffer. Said buffer strip shall not be included in the calculation of open space for the development.

2. If the subdivision abuts a water body or wetland, the width and treatment of the buffer shall be consistent with the requirements of the Wetland Conservation Overlay District and/or Shoreland Protection Overlay District.
3. Appropriate legal mechanisms shall be established by the subdivider, subject to the approval of the Planning Board, to assure that the buffer area will be permanently protected and maintained.

b. Residential Open Space Cluster Lot or Unit.

i. Frontage Requirement:

1. Each single-family lot or unit shall have a minimum of fifty (50) feet of frontage on interior roadways.
2. Joined-Array single family units, as described in Section 8.8 shall have one hundred twenty-five (125) feet of frontage.
3. Duplex and Multi-family units, sharing a common wall shall have seventy-five (75) feet of frontage.

ii. All developments shall contain some form of lot delineation or lines that designate a reasonable amount of land attributable to each particular structure.

iii. The following setbacks shall apply to all residential structures within the development:

1. Setbacks from exterior property lines of the entire parcel shall be fifty (50) feet for single-family detached units, with an additional fifteen (15) feet per unit for multi-unit structures (e.g. 4 unit attached = 130').
2. Thirty (30) foot setback from the edge of pavement for roadways within, and part of, the development.
3. Forty (40) foot structural separation for all single-family unit structures within the development.
4. Fifty (50) foot structural setback for multi-family units from all other structures.
5. Ten (10) foot structural setback from all lot lines.

## **8.10 MINIMUM OPEN SPACE REQUIREMENTS**

In addition to the requirements of this section, the Planning Board shall adopt regulations that prescribe additional criteria for open space parcels.

- a. The parcel must contain a minimum of 35% of the total land in the parcel dedicated as open space. The fifty foot (50') vegetated buffer as described in Section 8.9.a.iii, shall not be used in the calculation of said minimum.
- b. For purpose of this Section, the minimum open space requirements shall be established in accordance with Section 4.6.6 of the Subdivision Regulations.
- c. 75% of the dedicated usable open space shall be contiguous.

- d. Such land shall be preserved in perpetuity through deed restriction or conservation easement, and designated on the approved and recorded plat. Such restriction shall be approved by the Planning Board and Town Counsel.
- e. The minimum required open space is land unbuilt upon, which must be permanently kept in that condition, and cannot be subjected to current use taxation or discretionary easements. However, actively operated farmland, classified as "prime" or "unique" by the Rockingham County Conservation District will be entitled to current use taxation or discretionary easements.
- f. The open space and/or common area within a cluster development shall be owned by and bound by one or more of the following:
  - i. Mandatory Homeowners Association: Which may use it for common recreational facilities or may designate it as Open Space, or may grant a public body an Open Space Easement.
  - ii. A Public Body: Which shall use it as Conservation Land or Public Open Land.
  - iii. Such Designation must be made prior to approval of the subdivision application by the Planning Board; such lands shall be held in such type of legal entity as the Planning Board deems appropriate.

## **8.11 MAXIMUM DEVELOPMENT DENSITY**

### **a. Density:**

The maximum density for a Residential Open Space Cluster Development shall be determined by use of a yield plan. The purpose of a yield plan is to show the density that is reasonably achievable under a conventional subdivision in accordance with the requirements of the zoning ordinance and subdivision regulation. The Planning Board shall adopt regulations that provide for the generation of a yield plan in accordance with this section.

### **b. Density Bonus:**

The Planning Board may award a development an additional number of lots or units as a density bonus, if the required criteria as performance standards are met. Additional density allowances are based on the number of lots or units achievable under the yield plan baseline. The allowances are cumulative and may be allowed based on the performance standards stated below. In no instance shall the density bonuses awarded exceed 50% of the maximum number of lots or units achievable under the yield plan.

- i. The minimum density bonus, regardless of other frontage or innovative protection bonuses achieved, shall be one lot.
- ii. A density bonus of up to 2 lots may be awarded for the preservation of each potential frontage lot as open space.
- iii. If required criteria as set forth in the Stratham Subdivision Regulations for preservation of unique land and environmental features and/or facilities are met, the Stratham Planning Board may award the development an additional density bonus of up to 10%.
- iv. Innovative layout and design of the project to encourage a village or community type environment with such amenities as village greens and parks, community

viewsheds and/or integration into existing protected farm activities or existing recreational opportunities, the Stratham Planning Board may award the development additional density bonus of up to 10%.

- v. For the development of new recreational facilities such as parks, playgrounds, trails, and/or community centers, the board may grant an additional density bonus of up to 5%. If the improvements are made available to the general public, this bonus may be increased to a maximum of 10%.

vi. Elderly Affordable and Workforce Housing.

To encourage the development of diverse and affordable housing, the following bonuses for elderly housing, may be granted as follows:

1. If the project is developed as an Elderly Housing Development and no less than 20% of the units are provided as elderly affordable, a density bonus of 10% shall be awarded. If 50% or more of the units are offered as affordable, a 25% density bonus shall be granted.
  - a. Any elderly housing developed under this section must be established and maintained in compliance with the Fair Housing Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 3601 et seq. and NH Human Rights Commission Regulations Hum 302.02 62 or Over Housing, 302.03 55 or Over Housing as may be amended.
  - b. Any applicant seeking approval of a development that is intended to qualify as elderly affordable housing under this section shall adhere to requirements stated in Section 5.8.
  - c. Housing for adults aged 55 and older shall at a minimum shall provide that at least 80% of the units shall be occupied by at least one person 55 years of age or older per unit.
  - d. Within a residential open space cluster development, elderly affordable multi-family units, as defined under section 8.8.c, may be permitted to be increased up to a unit count of 6 per building or structure.
2. To encourage the development of diverse workforce housing opportunities, the Planning Board may allow a density bonus and/or reduction to the minimum required acreage if certain conditions are met.
  - a. For developments consisting of twenty (20) acres or greater, the Planning Board shall grant a density bonus of 15% if the project designate at least 20% of the units as workforce affordable.
  - b. The Planning Board may allow a reduction of the minimum open-space cluster development acreage to ten (10) acres for a plan which guarantees a designated percentage of units reserved for workforce housing as set forth below:

Percentage of Workforce Units in the Development	Density Bonus Units
40%	30%
25%	25%
20%	15%

- c. Within a residential open space cluster development, workforce multi-family units, as defined under section 8.8.c, may be permitted to be increased up to a unit count of 6 per building or structure.
- d. Any applicant seeking approval of a development that is intended to qualify as workforce housing under this section shall adhere to the requirements, standards, and administration of workforce housing as stated in Section 5.8. Where conflict arises in other sections of the Ordinance, Section VIII. shall supersede.
- vii. Every development seeking such bonuses shall provide the Planning Board with easements, covenants, or deed restrictions, which shall provide for the perpetual continuation of the performance standards, which are used in the granting of any bonus. Said easements, covenants, or deed restrictions shall be reviewed by qualified legal counsel on behalf of the town (at the developer's expense) and approved by the planning board prior to the issuance of any final approval.
- viii. Where a final number is greater than .5, the density number may be rounded up to the next whole number.
- ix. Performance standards and/or subdivision design elements shall not be used to satisfy more than one density bonus.
- x. In no event shall the total density bonus awarded exceed the soil-based carrying capacity for the entire parcel. The Planning Board may adopt additional regulations that provide for density bonuses in accordance with this section.

## **8.12 APPROVAL AND GRANTING OF PERMITS**

### **a. Planning Board Decision Based on Findings.**

Every decision of the Planning Board pertaining to the granting, denial or amendment of a request for a Conditional Use Permit shall be based upon the findings of fact and conditions of approval. The findings of fact and conditions of approval shall be supported in the records of its proceedings. The criteria enumerated in Subsection b. below are required to be met in any matter upon which the Planning Board is required to pass under these regulations. A mere finding or recitation of the enumerated conditions unaccompanied by findings of specific fact shall be deemed not to be in compliance with these regulations.

### **b. Criteria Required for Consideration of a Conditional Use Permit.**

A conditional use permit shall be granted only if the Planning Board determines that the proposal conforms to all of the conditional use permit criteria as described and detailed in Section 3.6 Table of Uses, Additional Notes.

### 8.13 UTILITIES

All utilities serving the development shall be underground. The Planning Board may waive the requirement for underground utilities along lengthy entrance roads that are visually separated from the clustered housing units. The Planning Board may not waive this requirement within the network of the development.

### 8.14 OTHER REGULATIONS APPLICABLE

The Planning Board shall adopt sections of the Subdivision Regulations not pre-empted by this ordinance, which shall apply to the Residential Open Space Cluster Development, including the right to waive such regulations. Where not specifically pre-empted by the provisions of this ordinance the requirement that is more restrictive shall apply. The Planning Board shall determine if pre-emption is intended by the provisions of this Ordinance, and/or what requirement that is to apply, is more restrictive.

### 8.15 EXPIRATION

The Conditional Use Permit shall expire upon the expiration or revocation of the subdivision or site plan approval.

And in connection therewith, replace Section 3.6 Table of Uses, Additional Notes in its entirety with the proposed revised language to read as follows:

#### **TABLE 3.6 ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

All permitted uses are subject to all of the other provisions of this Ordinance. All special exceptions are subject to the provisions of Section XVI, the Board of Adjustment. Conditional use permits shall be granted in accordance with the following: (Rev. 3/98)

1. **Conditional Use Permits:** All developments designated as “C” in Table 3.6, Table of Uses shall obtain a conditional use permit from the Planning Board. The conditional use permit shall clearly set forth all conditions of approval and shall clearly list all plans, drawings, and other submittals that are part of the approved use. Everything shown or otherwise indicated on a plan or submittal that is listed on the conditional use permit shall be considered to be a condition of approval. (Rev. 3/99)
2. These provisions shall not be construed as establishing any legal right to a given use.
3. **Approval and Granting of Permit:**
  - a. **Planning Board Decision Based on Findings.** Every decision of the Planning Board pertaining to the granting, denial or amendment of a request for a Conditional Use Permit shall be based upon the findings of fact and conditions of approval. The findings of fact and conditions of approval shall be supported in the records of its proceedings. All standards below must be met or impacts mitigated to the satisfaction of the Planning Board prior to the granting of a Conditional Use Permit. A mere finding or recitation of the enumerated conditions unaccompanied by findings of specific fact shall be deemed not to be in compliance with these regulations.
  - b. **Criteria Required for Consideration of a Conditional Use Permit.** A conditional use permit shall be granted only if the Planning Board determines that the proposal conforms to all of the following conditional use permit criteria:

1. Spirit and Intent of the Ordinance: The proposed development will be constructed in a manner compatible with the spirit and intent of the Stratham Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance.
2. Conformity to Zoning Ordinance: That there are no existing violations of the Stratham Zoning Ordinance on the subject property.
3. Site suitability: The site is suitable for the proposed use which includes the following:
  - i. Adequate vehicular and pedestrian access for the intended use.
  - ii. The availability of adequate public services to serve the intended use including emergency services, pedestrian facilities, schools, and other municipal services.
  - iii. The absence of environmental constraints (floodplain, steep slope, etc.).
  - iv. The availability of appropriate utilities to serve the intended use including water, sewage disposal, stormwater disposal, electricity, and similar utilities.
4. External impacts: The external impacts of the proposed use on abutting properties and the neighborhood shall be no greater than the impacts of adjacent existing uses or other uses permitted in the zone. This shall include, but not be limited to, traffic, noise, odors, vibrations, dust, fumes, hours of operation, and exterior lighting and glare. In addition, the location, nature, design, and height of the structure and its appurtenances, its scale with reference to its surroundings, and the nature and intensity of the use, shall not have an adverse effect on the surrounding environment nor discourage the appropriate and orderly development and use of land and buildings in the neighborhood.
5. Character of the site development: The proposed layout and design of the site shall not be incompatible with the established character of the neighborhood and shall mitigate any external impacts of the use on the neighborhood. This shall include, but not be limited to, the relationship of the building to the street, the amount, location, and screening of off-street parking, the treatment of yards and setbacks, the buffering of adjacent properties, and provisions for vehicular and pedestrian access to and within the site.
6. Character of the buildings and structures: The design of any new buildings or structures and the modification of existing buildings or structures on the site shall not be incompatible with the established character of the neighborhood. This shall include, but not be limited to, the scale, height, and massing of the building or structure, the roof line, the architectural treatment of the front or street elevation, the location of the principal entrance, and the material and colors proposed to be used.
7. Preservation of natural, cultural, historic, and scenic resources: The proposed use of the site, including all related development activities, shall preserve identified natural, cultural, historic, and scenic resources on the site and shall not degrade such identified resources on abutting properties. This shall include, but not be limited to, identified wetlands, floodplains, shoreland buffers, significant wildlife habitat, stonewalls, mature tree lines,

cemeteries, graveyards, designated historic buildings or sites/landscapes, scenic views, viewsheds, and the establishment, protection, and promotion of agricultural uses of the site.

8. Impact on property values: There will be no greater diminution of neighboring property values than would be created under any other use or development permitted in the underlying zone;
9. Availability of Public Services & Facilities: Adequate and lawful facilities or arrangements for sewage disposal, solid waste disposal, water supply, utilities, drainage, and other necessary public or private services, are approved or assured, to the end that the use will be capable of proper operation. In addition, it must be determined that these services will not cause excessive demand on municipal services, including, but not limited to, water, sewer, waste disposal, police protection, fire protection, and schools.
10. Fiscal impacts: The proposed use will not have a negative fiscal impact on the Town unless the Planning Board determines that there are other positive community impacts that off-set the negative fiscal aspects of the proposed use. The Planning Board's decision shall be based upon an analysis of the fiscal impact of the project on the town. The Planning Board may commission, at the applicant's expense, an independent analysis of the fiscal impact of the project on the town.
11. Public Interest: The permit is in the public interest.

c. Conditions of Approval:

Conditional Use Permit approvals shall be subject to appropriate conditions where such conditions are shown to be necessary to further the objectives of this ordinance, Town land-use regulations, and the Master Plan, or which would otherwise allow the general conditions of this Section to be satisfied. Conditions of approval shall be stated in writing in the issuance of a permit. The conditions shall, if applicable, include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Front, side, and rear setbacks in excess of the minimum requirements of this Ordinance.
2. Screening of the premises from the street or adjacent property in excess of any minimum requirements of this Ordinance.
3. Landscaping in excess of any minimum requirements of this Ordinance.
4. Modification of the exterior features of buildings or other structures.
5. Limitations on the size of buildings and other structures more stringent than the minimum or maximum requirements of this Ordinance.
6. Footprint or lot coverage less than the allowed maximum of this Ordinance.
7. Limitations on the number of occupants and methods and times of operation.
8. Grading of the premises for proper drainage.
9. Regulation of design of access drives, sidewalks, crosswalks, and other traffic features.

10. Off-street parking and loading spaces in excess of, or less than, the minimum requirements of this Ordinance.
11. Other performance standards as appropriate.

***The Planning Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.***

**Article 7:** Are you in favor of adopting the following amendment to the Town of Stratham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To see if the Town will vote to amend Sections 3.1, 3.2, 3.4, 3.6, 3.8, 4.1, 4.2, Section 5.8.4, 7.2.3, and 7.3 to eliminate the General Commercial Zoning District in its entirety and designate the Gateway Commercial Business District from its current designation as an overlay district to the underlying zoning district. In connection therewith, amend Section 3.8 Gateway Commercial Business District to change the provisions and standards of the Gateway Commercial Business District from voluntary compliance to mandatory for all development projects within the district to read as follows:

Amend Sections 3.1 Establishment of Districts, by deleting the following underlined text referencing the General Commercial District and the Gateway Commercial Business District as an overlay district to read as follows:

### **3.1 ESTABLISHMENT OF DISTRICTS**

#### **Abbreviation:**

#### **District Name:**

~~General Commercial~~.....~~GCM~~

Gateway Commercial Business District (~~Overlay~~) (Adopted 3/10) .....G CBD

And in connection therewith, amend the Official Zoning Map of the Town of Stratham pursuant to Section 3.2 to eliminate the district boundaries for the General Commercial Zoning District in their entirety and designate the Gateway Commercial Business District as the underlying zoning. Refer to the map below for more information.





And in connection therewith, Amend Sections 3.4 District Purposes and 3.4.9 Gateway Commercial Business District by deleting the following stricken text referencing the General Commercial District and the Gateway Commercial Business District as a voluntary overlay district to read as follows and then renumbering accordingly:

### 3.4 DISTRICT PURPOSES

The following purposes are hereby established for each of the districts:

~~3.4.5 **General Commercial:** The intent of this district is to permit general commercial uses in areas on streets with high traffic volumes and to buffer abutting residential neighborhoods from disturbance and disruption.~~

**3.4.9 Gateway Commercial Business District (overlay):** The intent of this District is to promote economic vitality, business diversity, accessibility, and visual appeal of the Route 108/Portsmouth Avenue corridor in a manner that is consistent with the landscape and architecture of the Town's agricultural tradition. Further, the District fosters the development of a vibrant mixed use zoning district with a cohesive street layout and architectural character that includes commercial, residential, and civic uses and the integration of open spaces, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian accommodations. ~~The Gateway Commercial Business District would be implemented on a voluntary basis at the request of an applicant and/or property owner. (Adopted 3/10)~~

And in connection therewith, amend Section 3.6 Table of Uses by deleting the stricken text referencing the General Commercial District and adding the proposed underlined language detailing the regulated uses in the Gateway Commercial Business District, Central and Outer Subzoning Districts to read as follows.

### 3.6 TABLE OF USES: (Rev. 3/2013)

USES:		ZONING DISTRICT								
A. RESIDENTIAL USES:	R/A	MAH	PRE	TC	GEM	GCBD CZ	GCBD OZ	SC	CLIO	IND
1. Single-Family Dwelling.	P	P	P	P	X	X	P	X	X	X
2. Two-Family Dwelling.	P	P	P	P	S	X	P	S	X	X
3. Multi-Family Dwelling in accordance with Section 5.8 of this Ordinance.	X	X	C	C	E	C	P	C	C	X
4. Cluster Developments by conditional use permit in accordance with Section VIII. of this Ordinance. (Rev. 3/99) Also Senior Housing as set forth in Section 5.7. (3/05)	C	X	C	C	E	C	P	C	X	X
5. Workforce and Elderly Affordable Housing in accordance with Section 5.8 of this Ordinance.	C	X	C	C	E	C	P	C	C	X
6. Manufactured Housing;	P	P	X	X	X	C	P	X	X	X
Mobile Homes; in accordance with Section IX of this Ordinance.	X	P	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
7. Home Occupations in accordance with Sections 2.1.27, 5.13 (3/10)	S	S	S	X	X	C	P	X	X	X
8. Accessory Apartments in accordance with Section 5.4. (Rev. 3/90 & 3/05)	S	S	S	S	X	C	P	X	X	X
B. TEMPORARY RESIDENTIAL USES										
1. Overnight and Day Camps, Cottage Colonies, Vacation Resorts, and similar Recreational Facilities.	S	S	X	X	X	C	P	X	X	X
2. Bed and Breakfast Inns.	S	S	S	P	P	C	P	P	P	X
3. Hotels, Motels, and Hostels. (Rev. 3/98)	X	X	X	P	P	C	P	P	C	X

### 3.6 TABLE OF USES: (CONTINUED)

USES:		ZONING DISTRICT									
C. <u>OUTDOOR/ RECREATIONAL USES:</u>		R/A	MAH	PRE	TC	GCM	G CBD CZ	G CBD OZ	SC	CLIO	IND
1. Forestry, Wildlife, Timber Preserves, Reservoirs, and Nature Study areas.		P	P	P	P	<del>P</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>P</u>	P	P	P
2. Public Parks and Playgrounds.		P	P	P	P	<del>P</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>P</u>	P	S	S
3. Commercial Riding Stables and Riding Trails.		S	S	X	X	<del>X</del>	<del>X</del>	<u>P</u>	X	X	X
4. Historic Building or Site open to public.		P	P	P	P	<del>P</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>P</u>	P	P	P
5. Recreational Camping Parks, Recreational Areas, Residential Tenting and Recreational Vehicles.		S	S	X	X	<del>X</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>P</u>	X	X	X
D. <u>AGRICULTURAL / FORESTRY USES:</u>		R/A	MAH	PRE	TC	GCM	G CBD CZ	G CBD OZ	SC	CLIO	IND
1. Farming including Dairying, Livestock, Animal and Poultry Raising, Tilling of Soil, Horticulture, Crop Production, including customary accessory uses.		P	P	P	P	<del>P</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>P</u>	P	P	P
2. Tree Farming, Commercial Timbering, Non-commercial Harvesting of Forest Products.		P	P	X	P	<del>P</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>P</u>	P	P	S
E. <u>INSTITUTIONAL USES:</u>		R/A	MAH	PRE	TC	GCM	G CBD CZ	G CBD OZ	SC	CLIO	IND
1. Private Schools, Nursery through College.		S	S	X	S	<del>S</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>P</u>	S	S	S
2. Day-Care Facilities. (Rev. 3/95)		S	S	S	S	<del>S</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>P</u>	S	C	S
3. Senior Citizen Centers.		S	S	S	P	<del>X</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>P</u>	X	C	X
4. Non-profit Lodges and Fraternal Organizations.		S	S	X	S	<del>X</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>P</u>	X	X	S
5. Hospitals, Clinics, Nursing Homes and Rehabilitation Centers.		X	X	X	S	<del>S</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>P</u>	S	S	S
6. Funeral Home or Parlor.		X	X	X	S	<del>S</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>P</u>	S	S	X
7. Place of worship plus customary ancillary facilities. (Rev. 3/89)		S	S	P	P	<del>X</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>P</u>	X	X	X
8. Cemetery.		P	P	P	P	<del>X</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>P</u>	X	X	X
9. Public Utilities.		S	S	S	S	<del>S</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>P</u>	S	S	S
10. Municipal Buildings.		P	P	P	P	<del>P</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>P</u>	P	P	P

### 3.6 TABLE OF USES: (CONTINUED)

USES:		ZONING DISTRICT									
F. <u>COMMERCIAL USES:</u>		R/A	MAH	PRE	TC	GCM	G CBD CZ	G CBD OZ	SC	CLIO	IND
1. Retail Sales & Service.		X	X	X	P	<del>P</del>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	P	P	S <sup>1</sup>
2. Business Services.		X	X	X	P	<del>P</del>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	P	P	P
3. Professional Services.		X	X	P <sup>2</sup>	P	<del>P</del>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	P	P	P
4. Banks & Lending Institutions.		X	X	S	P	<del>P</del>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	P	P	P
5. Restaurants.		X	X	X	P	<del>P</del>	<u>P</u>	<u>C</u>	P	P	X
6. Filling Stations, Service Stations.		X	X	X	S	<del>P</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>C</u>	X	X	X
7. Motor Vehicle Dealerships, Repair Garages, Body Shops, Paint Shops. (Rev. 3/99)		X	X	X	X	<del>P</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>C</u>	X	X	X
8. Veterinary Hospitals.		X	X	X	P	<del>P</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>C</u>	P	P	X
9. Kennels, with a minimum lot size of five acres and a structure setback of a minimum of 100 feet from all lot lines.		S	X	X	X	<del>S</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>C</u>	S	S	X
10. Airports, Runways, Control Towers, Administration Buildings, Hangars.		X	X	X	X	<del>X</del>	<del>X</del>	<del>X</del>	X	X	X
11. Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. (Rev. 3/97)		S	X	P	X	<del>X</del>	<del>X</del>	<del>X</del>	X	X	X
12. Adult Uses. (Adopted 3/93)		X	X	X	X	<del>S<sup>3</sup></del>	<u>S<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>S<sup>1</sup></u>	S <sup>1</sup>	X	X
13. Special Promotional Sales & Displays <sup>4</sup> . (Adopted 3/96)		X	X	X	P	<del>P</del>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	P	P	X
14. Self Storage or Warehousing. (Adopted 3/99)		X	X	X	X	<del>C<sup>4</sup></del>	<u>C<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>C<sup>1</sup></u>	C <sup>1</sup>	C <sup>1</sup>	X
15. Conference Center. (Adopted 3/09)		X	X	X	X	<del>X</del>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	P	X	X
16. Movie Theater, Indoor Entertainment Complex. (Adopted 3/09)		X	X	X	X	<del>X</del>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	P	X	X

### 3.6 TABLE OF USES: (CONTINUED)

USES:	ZONING DISTRICT									
	R/A	MAH	PRE	TC	GCM	G CBD CZ	G CBD OZ	SC	CLIO	IND
<b>G. INDUSTRIAL USES:</b>										
1. Manufacturing, Assembly, Fabricating Operations.	X	X	X	X	<del>X</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>C</u>	X	C	P
2. Research and Development, Corporate, and Business Offices.	X	X	X	P	<del>P</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>C</u>	P	P	P
3. Warehousing and Wholesaling Operations.	X	X	X	X	<del>S</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>C</u>	S	C	P
4. Freight and Trucking Terminals.	X	X	X	X	<del>S</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>C</u>	S	C	S
5. Bulk Storage and Distribution of Goods, except Fuels.	X	X	X	X	<del>X</del>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	X	C	P
6. Bulk Storage of Fossil Fuels.	X	X	X	X	<del>X</del>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	X	X	X
7. Earth Products Removal subject to the provisions of Section X.	P	P	X	X	<del>P</del>	<u>C</u>	<u>C</u>	P	P	P
8. Commercial Sawmills.	X	X	X	X	<del>S</del>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	S	X	S
9. Junk Yards, Recycling Centers.	X	X	X	X	<del>X</del>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	X	X	S
10. Special Promotional Sales & Displays <sup>4</sup> . (Adopted 3/96)	X	X	X	P	<del>P</del>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	P	P	X
11. Light Industrial. (Adopted 3/98)	X	X	X	X	<del>P<sup>6</sup></del>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	P <sup>7</sup>	P	P

And in connection therewith, amend Section 3.8.2 Applicability by deleting the following stricken text and adding the proposed underlined language to read as follows.

### 3.8 GATEWAY COMMERCIAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (REV. 3/2011)

#### 3.8.2 Applicability

- This Ordinance shall establish the Gateway Commercial Business District (the “District” or “G CBD”). The boundaries of the District ~~shall correspond with the Commercial Business District and as are~~ shown on the plan entitled “Gateway Commercial Business District, Town of Stratham, New Hampshire” and dated December 22, 2009 (as amended) and the Zoning Map, Town of Stratham, New Hampshire (as amended).
- The provisions of the G CBD shall be ~~implemented on a voluntary basis upon the request from a developer or property owner~~ mandatory for development projects within the Gateway Commercial Business District. Development projects submitted for approval under this zoning district shall be subject to applicable requirements of the Subdivision and Site Plan Review Regulations of Stratham.
- ~~When implemented voluntarily, the provision of the G CBD~~ When in conflict, shall take precedence over those of other ordinances, regulations, and standards except the Local Health and Safety Ordinances and Building Codes.

And in connection therewith, amend Section 3.8.8 Development of Standards and Tables, b. Table 2 by adding the proposed underlined text establishing a minimum front setback requirement for properties fronting Route 108 / Portsmouth Avenue to read as follows.

### 3.8.8 DEVELOPMENT OF STANDARDS AND TABLES

- Central Zone Design Standards and Roadways

Table 2.

Building Height		Setbacks – Principal Structures	
Principal Structure <sup>1</sup> (maximum)	3 stories 40 feet maximum height	Frontage (from street or lot line)	0 minimum 15 maximum <sup>2</sup>
Principal Structure <sup>1</sup> (minimum)	1.5 stories	Side or Secondary Frontage (from street or lot line)	10 minimum 0 feet if secondary frontage <sup>2</sup>
<sup>1</sup> Principal Structures include: (1) uses served by single and multiple structures and (2) parking structures			
<sup>2</sup> The minimum building/structure front setback requirement for properties fronting Portsmouth Avenue shall be ten (10) feet from the State Right-Of-Way or twenty (20) feet from the edge of pavement, whichever is greater.			
First Floor Height	14 feet minimum required for non- residential; 10 feet minimum required for residential	Rear (from street or lot line)	10 feet minimum 0 feet if secondary frontage
		Note: Individual buildings on a lot or block may be connected, with no separation between or setback from one another.	

And in connection therewith, Amend Sections 4.1.3 General Requirements, 4.2 Table of Dimensional Requirements, 5.8.4 Applicability, 7.2.3 Prohibited Signs, and 7.3 Table of Permitted Signs by deleting the following stricken text referencing the General Commercial Zoning District to read as follows.

#### 4.1 **GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

- 4.1.3 More than one building may be allowed on a lot in the ~~General Commercial~~, Town Center, Industrial, Commercial/Light Industrial/Office and Professional Residential districts provided that there is a minimum distance of sixty (60) feet separating each of the buildings in the ~~General Commercial~~, Commercial/Light Industrial/Office and Industrial zones and thirty (30) feet of separation between buildings in the Town Center and Professional Residential zones. (Adopted 3/96, Rev. 3/98, Rev. 3/00)

4.2 TABLE OF DIMENSIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

DIMENSIONAL REQUIREMENT:	Residential/ Agriculture (b)(i)	Manufactured Housing/Mobile Home (i)	Professional/ Residential: (c)	Town Center: (c)	<del>General Commercial: (c)(c)</del>	Special Commercial: without Utilities / with (public water and sewer services) (Adopted 3/09)	Commercial /Light Industrial Office:	Industrial: (c)	Retirement Planned Community: (b)
MINIMUM Lot Dimensions: (d)	AREA:	2-acre (d)	1-acre (d)	1-acre (d)	<del>1-acre (d)</del>	1-acre	1-acre	2-acres	5-acres
	CONTIGUOUS FRONTAGE:	200' (d)	200' (d)	100' (d)	200' (d)	200'	100'	150'	50'
	DEPTH	150'	150'	100'	<del>100'</del>	100'	100'	200'	200'
	FRONT:	30' (e)	30' (e)(g)(1) 100' (g)(2)	30' (e)	60' (e)	100'	40'	30' (e)	40'
MINIMUM Yard Dimensions: (e)	SIDE:	20'	20' (g)(1) 25' (g)(2)	25'	<del>25'</del>	25'	10'	25'	40'
	REAR:	20'	20' (g)(1) 25' (g)(2)	25'	25'	25'	20'	25'	40'
	MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF STRUCTURE	35'	35'	35'	35'	35'	50'	35' (f)	45'
	MAXIMUM % BUILDING COVERLOT:	20%	25%	30%	40%	<del>40%</del>	40%	60%	40%
	MAXIMUM BUILDING FOOTPRINT: (Adopted 3/00)	N/A	N/A	N/A	80,000 sq. feet	80,000 sq. feet	80,000 sq. feet	N/A	N/A
	MINIMUM % OPEN SPACE/LOT:	60%	30%	50%	50%	30%	30%	40%	40%
FRONT OPEN SPACE SETBACK:	N/A	N/A	30' minimum 50' average	30' min. 50' avg.	<del>25' min. 50' avg.</del>	35' min. 50' avg.	NA	25' min. 50' avg.	40' min.
SD BYE/AR OPEN SPACE SETBACK:	N/A	N/A	20' minimum 30' average	25' min. 40' avg.	<del>25' min. 40' avg.</del>	25' min. 40' avg.	explanatory notes Sec 4.5(f)	25' min.	40' min.

## 5.8 **MULTI-FAMILY, WORKFORCE HOUSING, AND ELDERLY**

### **AFFORDABLE HOUSING (ADDED 3/10)**

#### 5.8.4 **Applicability:** (Rev. 3/12)

Developments under this Section shall be permitted within the Residential/Agricultural (refer to Section 8. Residential Open Space Cluster Development), Professional Residential, Town Center, ~~General Commercial~~, Commercial/Light Industrial/Office, Special Commercial District, and the Gateway Commercial Business District zoning districts by Conditional Use Permit issued by the Planning Board.

## **SECTION VII. SIGNS**

### 7.2.3 **Prohibited Signs:**

The following signs are prohibited:

- i. Internally illuminated signs may be permitted only in the ~~General Commercial~~, Gateway Commercial Business District, Commercial/Light Industry/Office, and Industrial-zoning districts for certain permitted uses. (Rev. 3/96; Rev. 3/98, Rev. 3/11)

### 7.3 **TABLE OF PERMITTED SIGNS:** (Continued)

<del>General Commercial District:</del>	Maximum Aggregate Area (A)	<del>PROJECTING SIGNS:</del>		<del>FREE-STANDING:</del>		<del>ILLUMINATION:</del>	
		Height Min/Max	Minimum Feet to Curb	Maximum Height	Min. Feet to Lot Line	External Illum.	Internal Illum.
<del>Businesses, Professional Offices, and Other Office Uses:</del> (not in shopping centers)	(B)	N/A	N/A	45'	20'	Yes	Yes
<del>Shopping Centers and similar Multiple-Use Developments:</del> (comprised of four or more distinct operations under different proprietorship which make use of a common driveway and/or parking area)	(B)	20'	100'	30'	35'	Yes	Yes
<del>Industrial and Office Park Identification Signs:</del> (Not for individual buildings or uses)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<del>Industrial and Office Buildings:</del>	30 sq. ft.	8'-16'	25'	16'	35'	Yes	Yes
<del>Retail and Service Operations:</del> (permitted as a special exception in the Industrial District only)	2 sq. ft.	8'	25'	40'	20'	No	No

#### **Explanatory Notes**

- ~~A. With the exception of Note B, the maximum aggregate area is the sum of attached, projecting, and/or freestanding signs. In no case can all of the sign areas exceed the maximum aggregate area.~~
- ~~B. One square foot of a sign area is allowed for each linear foot of principal store frontage of each individual business. In addition, one free standing sign of up to 100 square feet is allowed to identify the shopping center.~~

*The Planning Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.*

**Article 8:** Are you in favor of adopting the following amendment to the Town of Stratham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To see if the Town will amend Sections 4.2 Table of Dimensional Requirements and 4.3 Explanatory Notes to reduce the front setback requirements for properties fronting Route 108 and Route 33 within the Gateway Commercial Business District, Professional / Residential District, Special Commercial District, Town Center District by deleting the stricken language and adding the underlined text to read as follows:

	DIMENSIONAL REQUIREMENTS:	Residential/Agricultural: (b)(h)	Manufactured Housing/Mobile Home: (i)	Professional/Residential: (c)	Town Center: (c)	Special Commercial: without Utilities / with Utilities (public water and sewer services) (Adopted 3/09)		Commercial/Light Industrial Office:	Industrial: (c)	Retirement Planned Community: (k)
MINIMUM Lot Dimensions: (a)	AREA:	2-acres (d)	1-acre (d)	1-acre (d)	1-acre (d)	1-acre		1-acre	2-acres	5-acres
	CONTINUOUS FRONTAGE:	200' (d)	100' (d)	200' (d)	100' (d)	200'	100'	150'	150'	50'
	DEPTH:	150'	150'	150'	100'	100'	100'	100'	200'	200'
MINIMUM Yard Dimensions: (a)	FRONT:	30' (e)	30' (e)	30' (e)(g)(1) <del>100'</del> <del>(e)(2)</del>	30' (e)	60' (e)	40' (e)	30' (e)	30' (e)	40'
	SIDE:	20'	20'	20' (g)(1) 25' (g)(2)	25'	25'	10'	25'	40'	40'
	REAR:	20'	20'	20' (g)(1) 25' (g)(2)	25'	25'	20'	25'	50'	40'
	MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF STRUCTURE:	35'	35'	35'	35'	35'	50'	35' (f)	35' (f)	45'
	MAXIMUM % BUILDING COVER/LOT:	20%	25%	30%	40%	40%	60%	40%	40'	40%
	MAXIMUM BUILDING FOOTPRINT: (Adopted 3/00)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	80,000 sq. feet		80,000 sq. feet	N/A	N/A
	MINIMUM % OPEN SPACE/LOT:	60%	50%	50%	50%	50%	30%	40%	40%	40%
	FRONT OPEN SPACE SETBACK:	N/A	N/A	30' minimum 50' average	30' min. 50' avg.	35' min. 50' avg.	NA	See: 4.3(j) explanatory notes	25' min. 50' avg.	40' min.
	SIDE/REAR OPEN SPACE SETBACK:	N/A	N/A	20' minimum 30' average	25' min. 40' avg.	25' min. 40' avg.	NA	See: 4.3(j) explanatory notes	25' min.	40' min.

### 4.3 Explanatory Notes

- (e) For lots that abut Route 33 or Route 108, the minimum front setback shall be 10 feet from the State Right-of-Way or 20 feet from edge of pavement, whichever is greater. ~~except in the Town Center District. In the Town Center District and for any land that lies south and west of Route 101, front setbacks on Route 33 or Route 108 shall be 60 feet.~~ The above setbacks shall not apply to septic tanks and/or leaching fields. Septic tanks and/or leaching fields must be located at least 30 feet from the edge of a right-of-way, or comply to the standards



set forth in Section 20.1.1 & 2 of this Ordinance; the more restrictive provision shall apply. In addition, for land that lies south and west of Route 101 that is also served by municipal sewer and water, the minimum rear and side open space setback shall be the same as the yard dimensions, the minimum open space shall be 15%, and the height of the buildings may also be increased in accordance with footnote f, below.

*The Planning Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.*

\*\*\*\*\*  
THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES WILL BE VOTED ON FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2013 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE STRATHAM MEMORIAL SCHOOL, 39 GIFFORD FARM ROAD, STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**ARTICLE 9:** – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) for the acquisition of property of the Cushman Family Trust at 82 Portsmouth Avenue, Stratham, NH (Tax Map 13 Lot 127) and to authorize the Selectmen to act on behalf of the Town in connection with such an acquisition, and to further authorize the issuance of not more than Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) of bonds and/or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (NH RSA Chapter 33), and to authorize the Selectmen to issue, negotiate, and regulate such bonds and/or notes and to determine the rates of interest thereon. Further, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the additional sum of Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$12,000.00) to pay interest and other related charges during the first year of the acquisition of this property. Should this Article pass, Article 12 shall become null and void.

**A two thirds (2/3) majority ballot vote in favor is required for passage. Polls must be open for a minimum of one (1) hour.**

*The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article by unanimous vote.*

**ARTICLE 10:** – To see if the Town will raise and appropriate Five Million Five Hundred Seventy Thousand Four Hundred Eleven Dollars and no cents (\$5,570,411.00) to defray general town charges for the ensuing year.

*The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article by unanimous vote.*

**ARTICLE 11:** – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Two Hundred Fourteen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and no cents (\$1,214,500.00) to implement the Capital Improvements Program for 2013 as presented in the Town Report and approved by the Planning Board. This is a special warrant article which will be non-lapsing until the specific items are completed or obtained but shall in no case be later than five (5) years from this appropriation per NH RSA 32:7 (VI).

*The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article by unanimous vote.*

**ARTICLE 12:** – Should Article 9 fail, to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to purchase on behalf of the Town the property of the Cushman Family Trust at 82 Portsmouth Avenue, Stratham, NH (Tax Map 13 Lot 127) and to further raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$500,000.00) for this purpose. This is a special warrant article which will be non-lapsing until the specific items are completed or obtained but shall in no case be later than five (5) years from this appropriation per NH RSA 32:7 (VI).

*The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article by unanimous vote.*

**ARTICLE 13:** – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$25,000.00) to be deposited into the “Town Buildings and Grounds Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund” as created by the March 16, 2012 Town Meeting.

*The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article by unanimous vote.*

**ARTICLE 14:** – To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of NH RSA 72:37 creating a Fifteen Thousand Dollar and no cents (\$15,000.00) annual exemption from the assessed value of the residential real estate owned by a person who is legally blind.

*The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article by unanimous vote.*

**ARTICLE 15:** – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Nine Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$29,000.00) for the following purposes:

EMS/EMT/First Responder Training	\$19,000.00
ALS Services Contract	\$10,000.00

and to further authorize the withdrawal of Twenty Nine Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$29,000.00) from the Stratham Fire Department EMS Special Revenue Fund created for these purposes during the March 17, 2000 Annual Town Meeting and as amended during the March 11, 2005 Town Meeting. No additional funds from general taxation are to be used.

*The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article by unanimous vote.*

**ARTICLE 16:** – To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to rent or lease municipal property for a term of up to 5 years without further vote or ratification of the Town. Once so adopted, this authority shall remain in effect until specifically rescinded by a future Town Meeting, duly warned, provided that the term of any lease entered into prior to the rescission shall remain in effect.

*The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article by unanimous vote.*

**ARTICLE 17:** – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$20,000.00) to be deposited into the Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust Fund as created by the March 16, 2007 Town Meeting to meet the currently unfunded obligations of the Town.

*The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article by unanimous vote.*

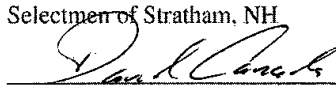
**ARTICLE 18:** – To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant a limited easement to Stratham Plaza Commercial Condominium Association on a portion of town-owned property at 10 Bunker Hill Avenue (Tax Map 13 Lot 129) for the purpose of siting, constructing, and operating a subsurface septic system by the Association, and to further authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate under what terms and conditions the easement shall be conveyed.

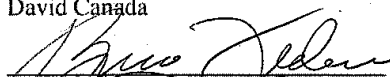
*The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article by unanimous vote.*

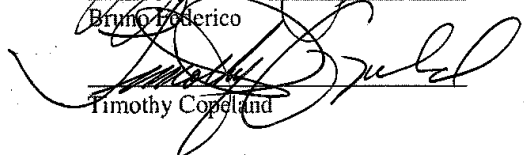
**ARTICLE 19:** – To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Given under our hands and seal, this twenty-fifth day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand thirteen.

Selectmen of Stratham, NH

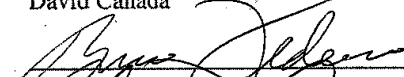
  
David Canada

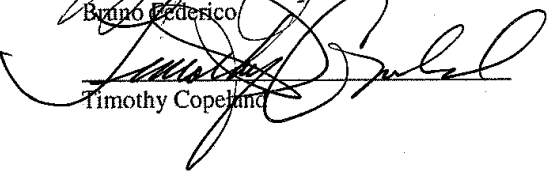
  
Bruno Federico

  
Timothy Copeland

A true copy of Warrant—Attest:

  
David Canada

  
Bruno Federico

  
Timothy Copeland

## **TOWN BUDGET**

	<b>2013</b>
	<b><u>PROPOSED</u></b>
Executive	\$175,420
Election & Registration	\$6,175
Financial Administration	\$426,088
Legal Expenses	\$40,000
Personnel Administration	\$1,063,320
Planning & Zoning	\$236,876
General Government Buildings	\$127,339
Cemeteries	\$34,050
Insurances	\$84,143
Police	\$928,932
Fire	\$158,800
Emergency Management	\$11,410
Emergency Dispatch Communication	\$1,000
Highways	\$559,972
Street Lighting	\$8,000
Solid Waste Management	\$628,168
Public Works Commission	\$21,500
Animal Control	\$600
Pest Control	\$61,800
Public Service Agencies	\$49,246
Direct Assistance	\$25,000
Parks	\$86,109
Recreation	\$116,497
Library	\$389,688
Patriotic Purposes	\$2,000
Conservation Commission	\$2,000
Heritage Commission	\$2,250
300th Anniversary Committee	\$5,000
Economic Development	\$5,250
Town Center Revitalization Comm.	\$7,200
Energy Commission	\$1,500
Interest on Long-Term Debt	\$305,078
Total Appropriations	<b><u>\$5,570,411</u></b>

### **Board of Selectmen:**

David Canada, Chair  
Bruno Federico  
Timothy Copeland

### **Budget Advisory Committee:**

Garrett Dolan  
Nathan Merrill  
Michael Perfit  
June Sawyer  
Travis Thompson

**STRATHAM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM--PROJECT SUMMARY IN \$000'S**  
**AS APPROVED BY THE PLANNING BOARD ON FEBRUARY 6, 2013**

<b>TOWN PROJECT TITLE/DEPARTMENT</b>	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>General Government:</b>						
Land Conservation Fund	0	25	25	25	25	25
Town Office Computer Replacement Plan	5	5	5	5	5	5
Municipal Center Parking lot expansion/improvements*	100					
Town Center Grant Match & Improvements	25	25	25	25	25	25
Town Center Sign Plan	3					
2014 Revaluation	25	25	20	20	20	20
<b>Protection of Persons/Property:</b>						
Fire Dept. Capital Reserve Fund	6	30	135	135	135	105
Radio Communications Capital Reserve Fund	0	5	5	5	5	5
Public Safety Complex (debt service, principal)	250	250	250	250	250	250
Gifford Property (debt service, principal)	14	14	14			
Conservation/Firehouse bond (debt service, principal)	225	225	225	225	225	225
Scamman Conservation Easement (debt service, prin.)	0	120	120	120	120	120
Police computer replacement program	5	5	5	5	5	5
Police vehicle replacement program	0	10	5	5	5	5
<b>Public Works and Highways:</b>						
Highway vehicle replacement program	50	50	50	50	50	50
Bunker Hill & Portsmouth Ave. Signalization	0		525			
Winnicutt Rd. & Portsmouth Ave. Signalization	0			450		
Road Reconstruction Program	300	300	300	300	300	300
Mower	13			13		
Insulating Highway Garage	0	55				
Cemetery Improvements	0	25	25			
Water and Sewer Infrastructure, Planning, & study	125	125	50	50	50	50
<b>Cultural and Recreational Activities:</b>						
Playing Field Improvements/Future Community Center	8	12	250	250	250	250
Facility Improvements at SHP	5	5	5	5	5	5
SHP Parking Lot Replacement	44	32.5				
Tennis Court Maintenance	5					5.5
Mower	0	10.5				10.5
Library computer replacement program	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
<b>Totals For Town Appropriations</b>	<b>1,214.5</b>	<b>1,360.5</b>	<b>2,045.5</b>	<b>1,944.5</b>	<b>1,481.5</b>	<b>1,467.5</b>

\* \$32,764. in grants and offsite improvements to offset this amount down to \$67,236.

**BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF STRATHAM**

<b>EXPENSES:</b>	<b>2012 APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>2012 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2013 PROPOSED</b>
Executive	\$168,916	\$170,647	\$175,420
Election & Registration	\$13,000	\$12,364	\$6,175
Financial Administration	\$393,503	\$381,885	\$426,088
Legal Expenses	\$40,000	\$10,918	\$40,000
Personnel Administration	\$835,898	\$818,776	\$1,063,320
Planning & Zoning	\$214,029	\$222,791	\$236,876
General Government Buildings	\$144,215	\$129,255	\$127,339
Cemeteries	\$31,900	\$28,071	\$34,050
Insurances	\$78,391	\$71,767	\$84,143
Police	\$893,180	\$842,268	\$928,932
Fire	\$137,830	\$132,119	\$158,800
Emergency Management	\$27,740	\$12,138	\$11,410
Emergency Dispatch Communication	\$1,500	\$770	\$1,000
Highways	\$576,841	\$508,745	\$559,972
Street Lighting	\$7,500	\$7,705	\$8,000
Solid Waste Management	\$634,496	\$624,461	\$628,168
Public Works Commission	\$11,500	\$185	\$21,500
Animal Control	\$600	\$575	\$600
Pest Control	\$61,000	\$60,734	\$61,800
Public Service Agencies	\$47,896	\$47,896	\$49,246
Direct Assistance	\$30,000	\$2,331	\$25,000
Parks	\$75,245	\$74,228	\$86,109
Recreation	\$99,250	\$103,503	\$116,497
Library	\$371,627	\$371,627	\$389,688
Patriotic Purposes	\$1,700	\$1,910	\$2,000
Conservation Commission	\$1,500	\$1,661	\$2,000
Heritage Commission	\$6,500	\$4,414	\$2,250
300th Anniversary Committee	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Economic Development	\$5,250	\$689	\$5,250
Town Center Revitalization Comm.	\$5,500	\$118	\$7,200
Energy Commission	\$0	\$0	\$1,500
Interest on Long-Term Debt	\$347,422	\$349,962	\$305,078
Total Appropriations	\$5,268,929	\$4,999,513	\$5,570,411

**REVENUES:**

Interest & Penalties on Taxes	\$80,000	\$98,751	\$90,000
Motor Vehicle Permits	\$1,260,000	\$1,332,776	\$1,275,000
Business Licenses & Permits	\$30,000	\$156,777	\$32,000
Cable TV Franchise Fee	\$133,371	\$133,371	\$133,371
Yield Tax	\$1,231	\$1,231	\$200
Income From Departments	\$220,751	\$119,008	\$254,572
Employee Contributions towards Health Ins.	n/a	n/a	\$115,387
Rent of Town Property	\$170,000	\$47,832	\$52,200
Sale of Town Property	\$30,000	\$31,419	\$10,000
Highway Block Grant	\$151,529	\$151,529	\$146,328
Rooms & Meals	\$324,069	\$323,198	\$324,069
Interest on Investments	\$2,000	\$2,002	\$2,000
Reimbursements	\$20,000	\$10,248	\$8,000
Trust & Agency Funds	\$5,600	\$5,651	\$5,600
Total Revenues	\$2,428,551	\$2,413,793	\$2,448,727

## **TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR**

I think we can all agree that 2012 was a very busy year in the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office. We had four elections in 2012, including the Presidential Election, which had an 84 % turnout!

We also started credit card transactions for motor vehicles, dogs, and vital records in February, which was very well received by our residents. We also continue to increase our online motor vehicle and dog registrations. In 2012, we processed 927 motor vehicles online, (up from 810 in 2011). We also processed 77 dogs online, almost double from the previous year.

Residents will have the option starting this year of receiving their renewal notice by regular mail or email. When you come in to register your car, you will be asked if you would like to provide your email address. If you do so, we will send you your next reminder notice via email. You can also provide your email address on the reminder notice that you currently receive in the mail.

Our tax kiosk that we implemented in September of 2011 continues to be well used by residents, mortgage companies, and title companies to view current and past taxes. This is a convenience to everyone, and helps reduce the incoming calls into our busy office.

We also started using a company (Bill Trust) to print, stuff, and mail the tax bills in 2011. They do an excellent job and we are able to get postage rates at a reduced rate due to the bulk mailings they process.

In conclusion, I will continue to work hard exploring different scenarios with the objective of saving the Town of Stratham (and the residents) money while continuing to offer the latest technology to our customers that is available to us.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Charbonneau  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

**TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**  
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2012

Beginning Cash Balance:	\$220.00
Automobile Registrations	\$1,332,775.82
Municipal Agent Fees	\$26,736.00
Title Fees	\$3,050.00
U.C.C. Filings	\$1,530.00
Vital Records	\$796.00
Dog Licenses	\$5,251.50
Dog Fines	\$2,320.00
Dredge & Fill	\$0.00
Other Filing Fees	\$30.00
On-Line Revenue (Town)	\$301.60
Total Collected	<hr/> \$1,372,790.92
Remitted To Treasurer	(\$1,372,790.92)
Ending Cash Balance:	\$220.00

Respectfully Submitted,

Joyce L. Charbonneau  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector



**TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT  
FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2012**

**DEBITS**

**UNCOLLECTED TAXES--**

**Beginning of Fiscal Year: 2012**

	2012	2011	2010	2009
Property Taxes		\$1,359,976.45	\$0.00	\$0.00
Land Use Change Taxes		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Excavation Taxes				
Current Year Tax Credits	(\$58,085.36)			

**TAXES COMMITTED THIS YEAR:**

Property Taxes	\$23,146,612.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Land Use Change Taxes	\$255,200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Yield Taxes	\$1,230.51	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Excavation Taxes	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

**OVERPAYMENTS:**

Overpayments/Credits Refunded	\$58,085.36			
Interest Collected on Delinquent Taxes	\$11,985.24	\$45,303.30	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL DEBITS:</b>	<b>\$23,415,027.75</b>	<b>\$1,405,279.75</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**CREDITS**

**REMITTED TO TREASURER:**

Property Taxes	\$22,335,925.99	\$1,022,546.16	\$0.00	\$0.00
Land Use Change Taxes	\$255,200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Yield Taxes	\$1,230.51	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest	\$11,985.24	\$45,303.30	\$0.00	\$0.00
Excavation Taxes	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Converted to Liens (Principal only)	\$0.00	\$337,430.29	\$0.00	\$0.00

**ABATEMENTS MADE:**

Property Taxes	\$2,234.79	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Land Use Change Taxes	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Timber Yield Taxes	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

**UNCOLLECTED TAXES--**

**End of Fiscal Year: 2012**

Property Taxes	\$808,451.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Land Use Change Taxes	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Yield Taxes	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
This Year's Overpayment Returned	\$0.00			
<b>TOTAL CREDITS:</b>	<b>\$23,415,027.75</b>	<b>\$1,405,279.75</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

## SUMMARY OF TAX LIEN ACCOUNTS

**FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012**

### **DEBITS**

	<b>.....Tax Liens on Acc't of Levies.....</b>		
<b>Balance of Unredeemed Liens:</b>	2011	2010	2009 + Prior Years
Beginning of Fiscal Year	\$0.00	\$181,245.89	\$78,942.17
Liens Executed During Fiscal Year	\$360,822.59	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest & Costs Collected (After Lien Execution)	\$14,192.18	\$27,457.40	\$23,205.58
<b>TOTAL DEBITS</b>	\$375,014.77	\$208,703.29	\$102,147.75

### **CREDITS**

#### **REMITTED TO TREASURER:**

Redemptions	\$201,758.16	\$121,670.84	\$76,612.16
Interest/Costs Collected	\$14,192.18	\$27,457.40	\$23,205.58
Abatements of Unredeemed Taxes	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Liens Deeded To Town	\$2,434.86	\$2,404.25	\$2,330.01
<b>Balance of Unredeemed Liens:</b>			
End of Fiscal Year	\$156,629.57	\$57,170.80	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	\$375,014.77	\$208,703.29	\$102,147.75

## **TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT 2012**

### **RECEIVED FROM TAX COLLECTOR**

2012 Property Tax & Interest	\$22,347,911.23
2011 Property Tax & Interest	\$21,911.00
Prior Year Tax Redemptions & Interest	\$464,896.32
Current Use Land Change & Interest	\$255,200.00
Overpayment of Taxes	\$58,085.36
Railroad Tax	\$11.00
Yield Tax & Interest (Timber Cutting)	\$1,230.51

<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$23,149,245.42</b>
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### **RECEIVED FROM TOWN CLERK**

Motor Vehicle Permits	\$1,332,775.85
Municipal Agent Fees	\$26,736.00
Titles	\$3,050.00
Vital Records	\$796.00
UCC Filings & Certificates	\$1,530.00
Dog Licenses & Fines	\$7,571.50
On-line Revenue	\$301.60
Filing and Other Fees	\$30.00
Dredge & Fill Permit	\$0.00

<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$1,372,790.95</b>
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### **RECEIVED FROM INTERGOVERNMENTAL SOURCES**

N.H. Revenue Sharing Block Grant	\$0.00
N.H. Highway Block Grant	\$151,528.96
N.H. Rooms & Meals Tax	\$323,197.63
Misc. Grants	\$103,066.64
OEM Drill Reimbursement	\$12,487.64

<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$590,280.87</b>
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### **RECEIVED FROM OTHER SOURCES**

Interest Income	\$2,001.74
Building Permits	\$82,691.48
Fire Inspections	\$50.00
Transfer Station Permits	\$2,493.00
Transfer Station Fees	\$41,486.00
Planning Board Fees	\$879.00
Board of Adjustment Fees	\$4,721.00
Police Department Reports	\$5,022.04
Police Resource Officer	\$15,000.00
Recreation Programs	\$9,752.00
Recreation Summer Camp	\$8,628.10
Rent of Town Property	\$47,832.43
Sale of Town Property	\$26,731.70
Sale of Cemetery Lots	\$3,000.00
Grave Excavation Fees	\$5,550.00
Cable TV Franchise	\$133,371.01
Returned Check Fines	\$800.00

Recycling Program	\$6,293.85
Insurance Reimbursements	\$1,000.00
NH Retirement Reimbursement	\$0.00
Reimbursement for Plan Review	\$41,592.13
Overpayments and Other Reimbursements	\$9,248.36
Winnicutt Road Easement Bond	\$1,126,000.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$1,574,143.84</b>
<b><u>RECEIVED FROM SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</u></b>	
Transfer from EMS Fund	\$131,500.00
Transfer from SVFD Association	\$115,000.00
Transfer from Trustees of the Trust Funds	\$355,018.50
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$601,518.50</b>
<b><u>TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR 2012</u></b>	<b><u>\$27,287,979.58</u></b>
<b><u>FISCAL YEAR 2012 TRANSACTIONS</u></b>	
Cash on Hand January 1, 2012	\$8,753,939.22
Total Receipts for 2012	\$27,274,678.24
Safety Complex Bond Principal & Interest	(\$376,875.00)
Scamman Conservation Easement Principal & Interest	(\$71,500.00)
Fire House & Conservation Bond Principal & Interest	(\$373,540.00)
Gifford Property Principal & Interest	(\$16,647.00)
Jones/Goodrich Easement Principal & Interest	(\$1,295,368.00)
Debt Service Interest	(\$71,900.00)
Paid on Selectmen's Orders	(\$22,640,173.56)
Trustees of the Trust Funds	(\$300,728.00)
<b><u>BALANCE ON HAND DEC. 31, 2012</u></b>	<b><u>\$10,881,885.90</u></b>
<b><u>OTHER ASSETS IN HANDS OF TREASURER</u></b>	
Police Detail Account	\$75,308.61
Road & Other Bonds	\$697,358.64
Payroll Account	\$2,000.00
Gifford House Security Deposit	\$2,100.37
Foss Property Security Deposit	\$1,800.85
Park Cottage Security Deposit	\$950.15
Stratham Hill Park Revolving Fund	\$33,813.00
Stratham Hill Park Association	\$11,808.72
Stratham Hill Park Public Deposit Investment Pool	\$3,930.69
Fire Department E.M.S. Fund	\$189,245.28
Fire Protection Fund	\$46,382.51
Heritage Fund	\$17,129.09
Recreation Revolving Fund	\$110,820.39
Cemetery Land Fund	\$1,232.44
Drug Forfeiture Fund	\$2,138.60
Petty Cash	\$420.00
<b><u>TOTAL ALL OTHER ASSETS</u></b>	<b><u>\$1,196,439.34</u></b>

**OUTSTANDING SHORT TERM NOTES****Bond Anticipation Note:**

(2.71% per annum, which matures June 15, 2012)

**SUMMARY OF SAFETY COMPLEX BONDED DEBT****Safety Complex General Obligation Bond:      \$5,000,000.00**

<b><u>Fiscal Year</u></b>			<b><u>Outstanding Debt</u></b>
<b><u>Ending</u></b>			<b><u>Balance</u></b>
<b><u>Dec. 31st</u></b>	<b><u>Principal Payment</u></b>	<b><u>Interest Payment</u></b>	
2004		\$104,270.83	\$5,000,000.00
2005	\$250,000.00	\$175,625.00	\$4,750,000.00
2006	\$250,000.00	\$169,375.00	\$4,500,000.00
2007	\$250,000.00	\$163,125.00	\$4,250,000.00
2008	\$250,000.00	\$156,875.00	\$4,000,000.00
2009	\$250,000.00	\$150,312.50	\$3,750,000.00
2010	\$250,000.00	\$143,125.00	\$3,500,000.00
2011	\$250,000.00	\$135,312.50	\$3,250,000.00
2012	\$250,000.00	\$126,875.00	\$3,000,000.00
2013	\$250,000.00	\$117,812.50	\$2,750,000.00
2014	\$250,000.00	\$108,437.50	\$2,500,000.00
2015	\$250,000.00	\$99,062.50	\$2,250,000.00
2016	\$250,000.00	\$89,375.00	\$2,000,000.00
2017	\$250,000.00	\$79,375.00	\$1,750,000.00
2018	\$250,000.00	\$69,062.50	\$1,500,000.00
2019	\$250,000.00	\$58,437.50	\$1,250,000.00
2020	\$250,000.00	\$47,812.50	\$1,000,000.00
2021	\$250,000.00	\$37,187.50	\$750,000.00
2022	\$250,000.00	\$26,562.50	\$500,000.00
2023	\$250,000.00	\$15,937.50	\$250,000.00
2024	\$250,000.00	\$5,312.50	\$0.00

**SUMMARY OF GIFFORD HOUSE BONDED DEBT****Gifford House Obligation Bond:      \$140,000.00**

<b><u>Fiscal Year</u></b>			<b><u>Outstanding Debt</u></b>
<b><u>Ending</u></b>			<b><u>Balance</u></b>
<b><u>Dec. 31st</u></b>	<b><u>Principal Payment</u></b>	<b><u>Interest Payment</u></b>	
2006	\$14,000.00	\$4,100.83	\$126,000.00
2007	\$14,000.00	\$5,985.00	\$112,000.00
2008	\$14,000.00	\$5,320.00	\$98,000.00
2009	\$14,000.00	\$4,655.00	\$84,000.00
2010	\$14,000.00	\$3,990.00	\$70,000.00
2011	\$14,000.00	\$3,325.00	\$56,000.00
2012	\$14,000.00	\$2,660.00	\$42,000.00
2013	\$14,000.00	\$1,995.00	\$28,000.00
2014	\$14,000.00	\$1,330.00	\$14,000.00
2015	\$14,000.00	\$665.00	\$0.00

**SUMMARY OF FIRE HOUSE/CONSERVATION BONDED DEBT****Fire House/Conservation General Obligation Bond: \$4,444,000.00**

<b><u>Fiscal Year</u></b>				<b><u>Outstanding Debt</u></b>
<b><u>Ending</u></b>				<b><u>Balance</u></b>
<b><u>Dec. 31st</u></b>	<b><u>Principal Payment</u></b>	<b><u>Interest Payment</u></b>		
2008		\$103,922.29		\$4,444,000.00
2009	\$229,000.00	\$173,858.75		\$4,215,000.00
2010	\$225,000.00	\$165,346.25		\$3,990,000.00
2011	\$225,000.00	\$156,908.75		\$3,765,000.00
2012	\$225,000.00	\$148,190.00		\$3,540,000.00
2013	\$225,000.00	\$139,190.00		\$3,315,000.00
2014	\$225,000.00	\$130,190.00		\$3,090,000.00
2015	\$225,000.00	\$121,190.00		\$2,865,000.00
2016	\$225,000.00	\$112,190.00		\$2,640,000.00
2017	\$220,000.00	\$103,290.00		\$2,420,000.00
2018	\$220,000.00	\$94,490.00		\$2,200,000.00
2019	\$220,000.00	\$85,690.00		\$1,980,000.00
2020	\$220,000.00	\$76,890.00		\$1,760,000.00
2021	\$220,000.00	\$68,090.00		\$1,540,000.00
2022	\$220,000.00	\$59,290.00		\$1,320,000.00
2023	\$220,000.00	\$50,490.00		\$1,100,000.00
2024	\$220,000.00	\$41,580.00		\$880,000.00
2025	\$220,000.00	\$32,560.00		\$660,000.00
2026	\$220,000.00	\$23,375.00		\$440,000.00
2027	\$220,000.00	\$14,025.00		\$220,000.00
2028	\$220,000.00	\$4,675.00		\$0.00

**SUMMARY OF CONSERVATION BOND DEBT****Conservation General Obligation Bond: \$2,375,000.00**

<b><u>Fiscal Year</u></b>				<b><u>Outstanding Debt</u></b>
<b><u>Ending</u></b>				<b><u>Balance</u></b>
<b><u>Dec. 31st</u></b>	<b><u>Principal Payment</u></b>	<b><u>Interest Payment</u></b>		
2012				\$2,375,000.00
2013		\$45,980.03		\$2,375,000.00
2014	\$120,000.00	\$69,177.50		\$2,255,000.00
2015	\$120,000.00	\$66,657.50		\$2,135,000.00
2016	\$120,000.00	\$63,537.50		\$2,015,000.00
2017	\$120,000.00	\$59,817.50		\$1,895,000.00
2018	\$120,000.00	\$56,697.50		\$1,775,000.00
2019	\$120,000.00	\$52,377.50		\$1,655,000.00
2020	\$120,000.00	\$47,457.50		\$1,535,000.00
2021	\$120,000.00	\$42,537.50		\$1,415,000.00
2022	\$120,000.00	\$36,417.50		\$1,295,000.00
2023	\$120,000.00	\$30,897.50		\$1,175,000.00
2024	\$120,000.00	\$27,177.50		\$1,055,000.00
2025	\$120,000.00	\$24,657.50		\$935,000.00
2026	\$120,000.00	\$22,062.50		\$815,000.00

2027	\$120,000.00	\$19,392.50	\$695,000.00
2028	\$120,000.00	\$16,647.50	\$575,000.00
2029	\$115,000.00	\$13,886.25	\$460,000.00
2030	\$115,000.00	\$11,040.00	\$345,000.00
2031	\$115,000.00	\$8,050.00	\$230,000.00
2032	\$115,000.00	\$5,060.00	\$115,000.00
2033	\$115,000.00	\$1,782.50	\$0.00

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Peck  
Town Treasurer

**SUMMARY INVENTORY OF VALUATION  
TOWN OF STRATHAM IN ROCKINGHAM COUNTY  
CERTIFICATE (2012)**

This is to certify that the information contained in this report was taken from the official records and is correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

David Canada, Bruno Federico, Timothy Copeland, Selectmen

1. Valuation of land only:	Acres	Assessment
A. Current use (at c.u. value)	2,592.27	\$508,700
B. Conservation	47.53	\$1,703
C. Residential	5,127.29	\$306,069,300
D. Commercial/Industrial	440.57	\$52,939,600
E. Total of Taxable Land	8,207.66	\$359,519,303
F. Tax Exempt & Non Taxable	978.87	\$10,101,000
2. Value of Buildings only:		
A. Residential		\$716,965,288
B. Manufactured Housing		\$3,080,200
C. Commercial/Industrial		\$112,706,600
D. Discretionary Preservation Easement		\$32,312
E. Total of Taxable Buildings		\$832,784,400
F. Exempt & Non Taxable		63,556,300
3. Public Utilities:		
A. Gas		\$9,546,600
B. Electric		\$12,470,800
C. Other Utilities (water)		\$1,085,000
D. Total Utilities		\$23,102,400
4. Valuation before Exemptions:		\$1,215,406,103
5. Certain Disabled Veterans		\$0
6. Modified Assessed Valuation of all Properties		\$1,215,406,103
7. Blind Exemption (3)	15,000	\$45,000
8. Elderly Exemption (40)		\$3,398,800
9. Total Dollar Amount of Exemptions		\$3,443,800
10. Net Valuation on which Tax Rate is computed		\$1,211,962,303
11. Less the Value of Utilities		(\$23,102,400)
12. Net Valuation without Utilities on which State Education Tax is Computed		\$1,188,859,903

**TAX CREDITS:**

Totally and permanently disabled veterans, their spouses or widows, and the widows of veterans who died or were

killed on active duty (\$2,000.):	12	\$24,000
Other war service credits (\$500.):	365	\$182,500
Total Number and Amount:	377	\$206,500



## **STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS**

Taxes Assessed for the Tax Year 2012

This is to certify that the information contained in this report was taken from official records and is correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

David Canada, Bruno Federico, Timothy Copeland, Selectmen

### **PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATION**

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT:**

Executive	\$168,916
Elections, Registration & Vital Statistics	\$13,000
Financial Administration	\$393,503
Revaluation of Property	
Legal Expenses	\$40,000
Personnel Administration	\$835,898
Planning and Zoning	\$214,029
General Government Buildings	\$144,215
Cemeteries	\$31,900
Insurance	\$78,391

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Police	\$893,180
Fire	\$145,830
Emergency Management	\$27,740
Emergency Communications	\$1,500

#### **HIGHWAYS AND STREETS:**

Highway Department	\$576,841
Street Lighting	\$7,500
Public Works - Other	\$11,500

#### **SANITATION:**

Solid Waste Collection	\$634,496
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#### **HEALTH:**

Animal Control	\$600
Pest Control	\$61,000
Health Agencies & Hospitals	\$47,896

#### **WELFARE:**

Administration & Direct Assistance	\$30,000
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#### **CULTURE AND RECREATION:**

Parks & Recreation	\$174,495
Library	\$371,627
Patriotic purposes	\$1,700
Conservation Commission	\$1,500
Heritage Commission	\$6,500
300th Anniversary Committee	\$60,000
Economic Development	\$10,750

#### **DEBT SERVICE:**

Interest -Long Term Bonds & Notes	\$347,423
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Princ. - Long Term Bonds & Notes	\$560,500
CAPITAL OUTLAY:	
Capital Improvements	\$1,067,000
OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT	<u>\$45,000</u>
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS:	<u><u>\$7,004,430</u></u>

### **REVISED ESTIMATED REVENUES**

TAXES:	
Yield Taxes	\$1,231
Excavation Taxes	
Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	\$80,000
LICENSES, PERMITS AND FEES:	
Business Licenses and Permits	\$30,000
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	\$1,260,000
Building Permits	
Other Licenses, Permits and Fees	\$133,371
FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT:	
Police Grant	
FROM STATE:	
Shared Revenues	
Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution	\$323,249
Highway Block Grant	\$151,529
Other	\$11
CHARGES FOR SERVICES:	
Income from Departments	\$220,740
Other Charges	\$20,000
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES:	
Sale of Municipal Property	\$30,000
Interest on Investments	\$2,000
Other	\$170,000
INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS:	
Trust and Agency Funds	\$5,651
Special Revenue Funds	\$144,500
Capital Reserve Funds	\$180,000
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	
Proceeds from Long Term Bonds & Notes	

SUBTOTAL OF REVENUES:	<u><u>\$2,752,282</u></u>
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GENERAL FUND BALANCE:		
Unreserved Fund Balance	\$1,513,528	
Less Voted from "Surplus"		
Less Fund Balance - Reduce Taxes	<u>(\$313,528)</u>	\$313,528
Fund Balance - Retained	<u>\$1,200,000</u>	
TOTAL REVENUES AND CREDITS:		<u><u>\$3,065,810</u></u>

**DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION  
MUNICIPAL SERVICES DIVISION  
2012 TAX RATE COMPUTATION**

**Tax Rates**

**TOWN PORTION**

Appropriations	\$7,004,430		
Less: Revenues	(\$3,065,810)		
Less: Shared Revenues			
Add: Overlay	\$149,380		
Add: War Service Credits	\$206,500		
Net Town Appropriation/Approved			
Town Tax Effort	\$4,294,500		\$3.54
Municipal Tax Rate			

**SCHOOL PORTION**

Net Local School Budget	\$9,265,874		
Regional School Apportionment	\$10,080,573		
Less: Adequate Education Grant	(\$1,469,989)		
Less: State Education Taxes	(\$2,756,072)		
Net School(s) Appropriation/			
Approved School Tax Effort	\$15,120,386		\$12.48
Local School Tax Rate			
State Education Tax Rate			
Times the Equalized Valuation			
(without utilities)	\$1,153,168,014		
State Education Tax			
Divided by the Local Assessed			
Valuation (without utilities)	\$1,188,859,903		
Localized State Education Tax Rate	\$2,756,072		\$2.32

**COUNTY PORTION**

Due to County	\$1,178,437		
Less: Shared Revenues	\$0		
Net County Appropriation/Approved			
County Tax Effort	\$1,178,437		\$0.97
County Tax Rate			
			\$19.31

**Combined Tax Rate**

Total Property Taxes Assessed	\$23,349,395
Less: War Service Credits	(\$206,500)
Total Property Tax Commitment	\$23,142,895

**PROOF OF RATE**

	Net Assessed Valuation	Tax Rate	Assessment
State Education Tax (no utilities)	\$1,188,859,903	\$2.32	\$2,756,072
All Other Taxes	\$1,211,962,303	\$16.99	\$20,593,323
			\$23,349,395

## **EXPENDITURES**

### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Payroll	\$187,864.00
Training	\$460.00
Substance Abuse Testing	\$949.00
Meals	\$865.00
Uniforms	\$3,595.00
Paving & Road Construction	\$150,000.00
Rented Equipment	\$2,883.00
Culvert Pipe	\$381.00
New Equipment & Tools	\$992.00
Road Paint	\$6,161.00
Equipment Repair & Maintenance	\$29,932.00
Salt	\$67,934.00
Sand and Gravel	\$8,009.00
Telephone	\$1,891.00
Electricity	\$7,520.00
Gas & Oil	\$30,221.00
Heat	\$3,541.00
Building Maintenance	\$3,738.00
Supplies	\$1,808.00
TOTAL	\$508,744.00

### **SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL**

Payroll	\$16,543.00
Solid Waste Processing	\$529,772.00
Landfill Closure Annual	\$12,607.00
Materials and Supplies	\$2,474.00
Hazardous Waste Collection	\$100.00
Transfer Station	\$62,523.00
Electricity	\$442.00
TOTAL	\$624,461.00

### **CEMETERIES**

Payroll	\$18,535.00
Ground Maintenance (& Road Repairs)	\$3,392.00
Excavation	\$2,050.00
Equipment Maintenance	\$1,179.00
New Equipment	\$260.00
Supplies	\$254.00
Transfer to Trust Funds	\$2,400.00
TOTAL	\$28,070.00

**EXPENDITURES (cont.)**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Payroll	\$528,721.00
Police Part Time/OT	\$80,501.00
Police Holiday	\$11,661.00
Police payroll - Secretaries	\$47,150.00
Police payroll - Prosecutor	\$35,606.00
Office supplies - Legal	\$1,305.00
Office Supplies	\$3,065.00
New Equipment	\$5,516.00
Prosecutors Expenses	\$310.00
Uniforms	\$6,354.00
Technical Support	\$11,289.00
Cruiser Lease	\$31,787.00
Gas and Oil	\$30,047.00
Repairs (Vehicle & Equipment)	\$13,375.00
Community Service Programs	\$0.00
Training	\$9,514.00
Special Response Team	\$2,599.00
Electricity	\$9,661.00
Heat	\$2,788.00
Telephone	\$5,106.00
Maintenance/Repair/Supply	\$5,912.00
TOTAL	<hr/> \$842,267.00

**PARK**

Payroll	\$48,325.00
Training	\$626.00
Office Supplies	\$382.00
Ground Maintenance	\$9,260.00
Electricity	\$2,328.00
Supplies	\$2,805.00
Uniforms	\$742.00
Building Maintenance	\$3,278.00
Equipment Maintenance	\$1,824.00
Vehicle Maintenance	\$3,940.00
New Equipment	\$718.00
Electricity	
TOTAL	<hr/> \$74,228.00

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES						
Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2012						
Title of Appropriations	Appropriation	Receipts/ Reimbursements	Total Amount Available	Expenditures	Unexpended Balance	Overage
Executive	\$168,916	\$133,371	\$302,287	\$170,647	\$131,640	
Elections & Registrations	\$13,000	\$0	\$13,000	\$12,364	\$636	
Financial Administration	\$393,503	\$385,025	\$978,528	\$381,885	\$596,643	
Legal Expenses	\$40,000	\$0	\$40,000	\$10,918	\$29,082	
Personnel Administration	\$835,898	\$2,451	\$838,349	\$818,776	\$19,573	
Planning and Zoning	\$214,029	\$129,934	\$343,963	\$222,791	\$121,172	
General Government Buildings	\$144,215	\$47,832	\$192,047	\$129,255	\$62,792	
Cenerities	\$31,900	\$14,201	\$46,101	\$28,071	\$18,030	
Insurances	\$78,391	\$1,000	\$79,391	\$71,767	\$7,624	
Police Department	\$893,180	\$20,022	\$913,202	\$842,268	\$70,934	
Fire Department	\$137,830	\$7,664	\$145,494	\$132,119	\$13,375	
Emergency Management	\$27,740	\$12,488	\$40,228	\$7,725	\$32,503	
Emergency Dispatch						
Communication	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500	\$770	\$730	
Highway Department	\$576,841	\$151,529	\$728,370	\$508,745	\$219,625	
Street Lighting	\$7,500	\$0	\$7,500	\$7,705	\$0	(\$205)
Waste Disposal	\$634,496	\$47,310	\$681,806	\$624,461	\$57,345	
Public Works Commission	\$11,500	\$0	\$11,500	\$185	\$11,315	
Animal Control	\$600	\$7,572	\$8,172	\$575	\$7,597	
Pest Control	\$61,000	\$0	\$61,000	\$60,734	\$266	
Public Service Agencies	\$47,896	\$0	\$47,896	\$47,896	\$0	
Direct Assistance	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000	\$2,331	\$27,669	
Park	\$75,245	\$0	\$75,245	\$74,228	\$1,017	
Recreation	\$99,250	\$18,380	\$117,630	\$103,503	\$14,127	
Library	\$371,627	\$0	\$371,627	\$371,627	\$0	
Patriotic Purposes	\$1,700	\$0	\$1,700	\$1,910	\$0	(\$210)
Conservation Commission	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,661	\$0	(\$161)
Heritage Commission	\$6,500	\$0	\$6,500	\$4,414	\$2,086	
300th Anniversary Committee	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	
Economic Development Com.	\$5,250	\$0	\$5,250	\$689	\$4,561	
Town Center Revitalization	\$5,500	\$0	\$5,500	\$118	\$5,382	
Interest on Accounts		\$2,802	\$2,802		\$2,802	
Interest on Long Term Debt		\$0	\$0		\$0	
TOTALS	\$4,921,507	\$1,181,580	\$6,103,087	\$4,645,138	\$1,458,525	(\$576)

**YEARLY EARNINGS FOR TOWN EMPLOYEES - 2012**

Aither, Jaye	\$37,325.56	Kemp, Valerie A.	\$42,459.96
Andrews, Lauren	\$37,594.60	Kenny, Catherine	\$27,306.08
Bakie, Peter G.	\$864.88	Kern, Kelly	\$56.76
Barnes, Terry W.	\$54,096.62	Kimball, Lesley	\$58,902.09
Bibeau, Amanda	\$5,780.61	Larrabee, Matthew	\$482.80
Brothers, Timothy	\$221.00	Laverty, Colin P.	\$19,673.28
Browne, Charles	\$27,855.96	Law, Charles	\$52,172.58
Call, James C.	\$66,735.20	Lewy, Andrea	\$57,597.64
Canada, David	\$3,000.00	Littlefield, William D	\$3,245.79
Carboneau, Chris	\$665.60	Ludington, Veronique	\$5,033.71
Chaffin, Colby	\$1,089.31	MacCallum, Marcia	\$18,704.24
Chamberlain, David	\$332.80	Marin, Gabriela	\$332.80
Charbonneau, Joyce	\$43,064.72	Mason, Peter	\$332.80
Choinere, Alan	\$332.80	McAulay, Stephen	\$40,600.19
Cook, Robert	\$332.80	McCleary, Cynthia S	\$1,200.00
Copeland, Andra	\$24.38	McKay, Caitlyn	\$2,299.99
Copeland, Erin L	\$200.00	McKinnon, Sue	\$306.00
Copeland, Timothy D	\$185.05	McLaughlin, Mary E.	\$5,789.55
Coughlin, Doreen	\$2,756.25	Milner, Richard	\$2,002.50
Crosby, Bryan	\$737.80	O'Neil, Kevin B	\$2,291.02
Cushman, Robert	\$103.50	Oliveira, Michael	\$64,703.35
Cutler, Tracey	\$24,040.29	Peck, Kevin J.	\$3,000.00
Daley, Lincoln	\$74,775.63	Pierce, David	\$91,749.21
Danko, Phyllis L.	\$30,974.23	Powers, Christine	\$242.10
Dardani, John	\$110.50	Pvirre, Keith	\$144.50
Davis, James	\$1,475.76	Rivais, James E.	\$7,650.16
Deschaine, Paul R.	\$79,885.92	Rivers, Cindy	\$12,288.06
DiBartolomeo, Jeffrey	\$975.76	Rohr, Lisa	\$2,000.00
Dold, Kelley	\$570.80	Rosetti, David	\$6,131.14
Dziamia, Pamela C.	\$4,742.12	Ryan, Karen	\$14,203.76
Emanuel, David	\$1,962.50	Ryden, Patricia A.	\$33,050.70
Emerson, John R.	\$58,168.55	Sawyer, June	\$379.50
Federico, Bruno	\$3,000.00	Scippa, John V.	\$83,316.31
Flagg, Katherine	\$110.50	Slager, Timothy E	\$43,701.33
Fotheringham, Grant	\$19,060.54	Standon, Scott	\$238.00
Gallagher, Caren	\$443.30	Stevens, Russell	\$48,043.84
Gobbi, Michael A.	\$29,825.61	Streelman, Janice	\$29,299.06
Grella, Stacey J	\$42,255.99	Thompson, Roger	\$287.50
Hall, Derrick	\$482.80	Von Letkemann, Lucia	\$30,912.16
Hart, William	\$35,606.33	Walsh, Emma	\$940.69
Hickey, Seth	\$41,454.03	Watkins, Michael	\$332.80
Hopping, Lucy	\$13,276.64	Weymer, Gary	\$119.00
Hunt, Matthew	\$1,248.00	Whitham, Anna	\$1,234.10
Hutton, Fred A. Jr.	\$49,682.61	Williams, Alan	\$49,275.95
Izzo, Robert	\$110.50	Winchell, Benjamin	\$2,394.00
Jackson, Robert E	\$5,254.59	Woods, Kimberly E.	\$39,412.69
Jordan, Gregory	\$62,102.75	Wool, Martin	\$1,437.92
Joseph, James	\$31,600.36	Yelle, Jasmine	\$2,970.00

**FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**GENERAL FUND**

Revenues and expenditures for the period January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012

**A. REVENUES - Modified Accrual**

1. Revenue from Taxes	
a. Property taxes	\$22,794,052
b. Land Use Change Tax	\$255,200
c. Timber (Yield) Taxes	\$1,231
d. Interest & penalties on delinquent taxes	\$98,751
TOTAL	\$23,149,234
2. Revenues from licenses, permits, and fees	
a. Business licenses and permits	\$5,708
b. Motor vehicle permit fees	\$1,359,512
c. Building permit fees	\$82,691
d. Other licenses, permits and fees	\$7,572
TOTAL	\$1,455,482
3. Revenues from Federal Government	
a. Other Fed Grants/reimbursements	\$2,899
TOTAL	\$2,899
4. Revenues from State of New Hampshire	
a. Shared revenue block grant	\$0
b. Meals & rooms distribution	\$323,198
c. Highway block grant	\$151,529
d. Other grants/reimbursements	\$112,667
TOTAL	\$587,394
5. Revenues from charges for service	
a. Income from departments	\$90,251
b. Garbage-refuse charges	\$43,979
c. Other Charges	\$138,921
TOTAL	\$273,151
6. Revenues from miscellaneous sources	
a. Sale of municipal property	\$31,419
b. Interest on investments	\$2,002
c. Rents of property	\$47,832
d. Insurance dividends and reimbursements	\$1,000
e. Other misc. sources not otherwise class.	\$10,048
TOTAL	\$92,300



7. Interfund operating transfers in	
a. Transfers from special revenue fund	\$246,500
b. Other Investments	\$0
c. Transfers from capital reserve funds	\$0
d. Transfers from trust and agency funds	\$355,019
TOTAL	<u>\$601,519</u>
8. Other financial sources	
a. Transfer from Bond Proceeds	\$1,126,000
TOTAL	<u>\$1,126,000</u>
TOTAL REVENUES FROM ALL SOURCES	<u><u>\$27,287,979</u></u>
TOTAL FUND EQUITY (beginning of year)	\$1,868,970
GRAND TOTAL	<u><u>\$29,156,949</u></u>
B. EXPENDITURES - Modified Accrual	
1. General Government	
a. Executive	\$170,647
b. Election, registration and vital statistics	\$12,364
c. Financial administration	\$381,885
d. Legal expenses	\$10,918
e. Personnel administration	\$818,776
f. Planning & zoning	\$222,791
g. General government building	\$129,255
h. Cemeteries	\$28,071
i. Insurance not otherwise allocated	\$71,767
j. Other general government	\$162,492
TOTAL	<u>\$2,008,966</u>
2. Public Safety	
a. Police	\$842,268
b. Fire	\$132,119
c. Emergency management	\$12,138
d. Other (communications)	\$770
TOTAL	<u>\$987,295</u>
3. Highways and Streets	
a. Highways and Streets	\$508,745
b. Street lighting	\$7,705
TOTAL	<u>\$516,450</u>
4. Sanitation	
a. Solid waste disposal	\$624,461
TOTAL	<u>\$624,461</u>
5. Water Distribution & Treatment	
a. Other (Public Works Commission)	\$185
TOTAL	<u>\$185</u>
6. Health	
a. Pest control	\$60,734
b. Health agencies and hospitals	\$47,896
c. Animal control	\$575
TOTAL	<u>\$109,205</u>

7. Welfare	
a. Direct assistance	\$2,331
TOTAL	<u>\$2,331</u>
8. Culture and recreation	
a. Parks	\$74,228
b. Recreation	\$103,503
c. Library	\$371,627
d. Patriotic purposes	\$1,910
TOTAL	<u>\$551,268</u>
9. Conservation	
a. Conservation Commission	\$1,661
b. Economic Development	\$689
c. Heritage Commission	\$4,414
d. 300th Anniversary Committee	\$5,000
e. Town Center Revitalization	\$118
TOTAL	<u>\$11,882</u>
10. Debt Service	
a. Principal On Long Term Bonds PSC	\$250,000
b. Conservation/Fire House BAN Principal	\$225,000
c. Scamman Conservation Easement	\$71,500
d. Jones/Goodrich Conservation Easement	\$1,293,180
e. Gifford House Bond Principal	\$14,000
f. Long Term Debt Interest	\$352,150
TOTAL	<u>\$2,205,830</u>
11. Capital outlay	
a. Land and improvements	\$0
b. Machinery, vehicles, and equipment	\$63,299
c. Buildings	\$1,703
d. Improvements other than buildings	\$247,349
TOTAL	<u>\$312,351</u>
12. Interfund operating transfers out	
a. Transfers to capital reserve funds	\$0
b. Operating Transfers out	\$426,500
c. Grant Transfers Out	\$23,524
d. Trustees of the Trust Funds	\$300,728
TOTAL	<u>\$750,752</u>
13. Payments to other governments	
a. Taxes assessed for county	\$1,178,437
b. Taxes assessed for school districts	\$17,511,405
c. Payments to other governments	\$0
TOTAL	<u>\$18,689,842</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u><u>\$26,770,818</u></u>
TOTAL FUND EQUITY (end of year)	\$2,386,131
GRAND TOTAL	<u><u>\$29,156,949</u></u>

## GENERAL FUND BALANCE SHEET

### A. ASSETS

	Beginning of year	End of year
1. Current assets		
a. Cash and equivalents	\$8,756,512	\$10,198,155
b. Investments		
c. Taxes receivable	\$1,359,976	\$808,451
d. Tax liens receivable	\$260,188	\$213,800
e. Accounts Receivable		
f. Due from other governments	\$92,504	
g. Tax deeded property	\$18,300	\$18,300
h. TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$10,487,480</u>	<u>\$11,238,707</u>

### B. LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY

1. Current liabilities		
a. Due to School Districts	\$8,550,621	\$8,852,576
b. Accounts Payable	\$67,889	
c. Bonds Payable - Current		
d. Total Liabilities	<u>\$8,618,510</u>	<u>\$8,852,576</u>
2. Fund equity		
a. Assigned Fund Balance	\$355,442	\$636,620
b. Unassigned Fund Balance	\$1,513,528	\$1,749,511
c. TOTAL FUND EQUITY	<u>\$1,868,970</u>	<u>\$2,386,131</u>
3. TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY	<u>\$10,487,480</u>	<u>\$11,238,707</u>

### A. RECONCILIATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT LIABILITY

1. School district liability beginning year	\$8,550,621
2. Add School assessment for current year	<u>\$17,813,360</u>
3. TOTAL LIABILITY WITHIN CURRENT YEAR	\$26,363,981
4. SUBTRACT payments made to school	<u>\$17,511,405</u>
5. School district liability at end of year	\$8,852,576

### B. RECONCILIATION OF TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES

1. Short term (TANS) beginning of year	\$0
2. Add: New issues during current year	\$0
3. Subtract: Issues retired during current year	<u>\$0</u>
4. Short term (TANS) outstanding end of year	\$0

### C. ALLOWANCE FOR ABATEMENTS WORKSHEET

	Current Year	Prior Year
1. Overlay/Allowance for abatements	\$150,000	\$140,327
2. Subtract: Abatements made	\$90,624	(\$140,327)
3. Excess of estimate	\$59,377	\$0

### D. TAXES/LIENS RECEIVABLE WORKSHEET

	Taxes	Liens
1. Uncollected, end of year	\$808,451	\$685,866
2. Subtract: Overlay carried forward	\$0	\$0
3. Estimated Receivable, end of year	\$808,451	\$685,866

STRATHAM TRUST FUNDS 2012											
DATE OF CREATION	NAME OF FUND	BAL/BEG	NEW FUNDS	CAP/GAIN	WITHDRAWN	BAL/END	BAL/BEG	INCOME	EXPENDED	BAL/END	GRAND TOTAL Principal/Income
CEMETERY FUNDS:											
2012	ABBOTT	229,165	2,400	-	-	231,565	106,693	9,358	5,549	110,502	342,067
2012	RAMSAY		1,200			1,200	-	-	-	-	1,200
	TOTAL CEMETERY FUNDS	229,165	2,400	-	-	231,565	106,693	9,358	5,549	110,502	342,067
LIBRARY FUNDS:											
VARIOUS											
		81,701	-	-	-	81,701	1,871	3,339	1,794	3,417	85,118
STRATHAM HILL PARK:											
VARIOUS											
		17,814	-	-	-	17,814	21,283	497	-	21,780	39,594
STRATHAM HILL PK ASSOCIATION											
1966											
		59,622	-	-	-	59,622	31,204	1,290	-	32,494	92,116
CAPITAL RESERVES & OTHER TRUSTS											
1988	LAND CONSERVATION FUND	460,533	255,200	-	386,506	329,227	310	414	331	393	329,619
2001	RADIO COMMUNICATIONS EQUIP	89,028	-	-	-	89,028	4,046	66	-	4,113	93,141
1998	SVFD CAPITAL RESERVE	186,400	-	-	183,000	3,400	11,495	40	11,512	24	3,423,82
2012	SVFD R WIGGIN FUND	-	11,005	-	-	11,005	-	4	-	4	11,009
2012	SVFD J HUTTON FUND	-	9,770	-	-	9,770	-	4	-	4	9,774
2012	SVFD C SCAMMAN FUND	-	5,947	-	70	5,877	-	2	-	2	5,879
2012	SVFD FAIR TRUST	-	33,460	-	-	33,460	-	-	-	-	33,460
1987	BARKER 4-H SCHOLARSHIP	4,002	-	-	-	4,002	1,964	7	250	1,720	5,722
1989	SCAMMAN/PARK TRUST	975	-	-	-	975	310	1	-	311	1,286
1989	SCAMMAN SCHOLARSHIP	3,663	-	-	-	3,663	1,836	6	-	1,842	5,505
1997	WIN. GRANGE EDUC FUND	5,500	-	-	-	5,500	1,041	11	-	1,052	6,552
2003	DEBBIE GREENBURG TRUST	4,791	-	-	-	4,791	14	5	-	19	4,810
2009	SMS SPECIAL EDUC TRUST	75,000	75,000	-	-	150,000	92	97	-	189	150,189
2009	SMS MAINTENANCE TRUST	165,000	100,000	-	43,973	221,027	105	197	-	302	221,329
2010	EMPLOYEE TERMINATION TRUST	31,261	-	-	-	31,261	6	33	-	39	31,300
2012	TOWN BUILDINGS & GROUNDS	-	24,381	-	-	24,381	-	-	-	-	24,381
2012	STRATHAM FAIR OPERATING	-	85,793	-	-	85,793	-	19	-	19	85,812
2012	FAIR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	-	38,070	-	-	38,070	-	7	-	7	38,077
2012	FAIR RAINY DAY FUND	-	23,524	-	-	23,524	-	5	-	5	23,528
TOTAL ALL FUNDS:		1,414,455	664,549	-	613,549	1,465,455	182,270	15,402	19,435	178,237	1,643,692
TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUNDS:		JOYCE ROWE, CHAIR; MARIA EMANUEL, DIANE MORGERA									

## CEMETERY TRUSTEES

This was a very difficult but productive year for the Cemetery Trustees. First, we would like to say “Thank You” to the citizens of Stratham for your support this past year.

By late spring, we had hired Emanuel Engineering to complete the next phase of development work at Maple Lane Cemetery; mapping the existing conditions, laying out the first section of new direct burial lots, and laying out the newly established Cremation Garden.

In July, we lost Bob Cushman due to a tragic fall. Without his leadership our work became more difficult and took longer than planned. In September, the Board of Selectmen appointed Highway Agent Colin Laverty to complete Bob’s term.

All of the work begun in the spring has now been completed resulting in over 1,000 lots available in the Cremation Garden and just over 300 lots in the full burial area with more under design for the future.

During October and November, we updated the Stratham Cemetery Regulations to include the Cremation Garden and changed some wording to be in compliance with the State of New Hampshire RSA’s, and to clarify some of our existing regulations. The revised Cemetery Regulations can be found on the Town of Stratham website [www.strathamnh.gov](http://www.strathamnh.gov).

Our plans for the future include doing some much needed maintenance work, completing the road structure on the Harmony Hill portion of Maple Lane Cemetery in order to add more full burial lots, and the possible development of a second Cremation Garden.



We look forward to serving the citizens in the upcoming year and we welcome your questions or comments anytime.

Respectfully submitted,

June Sawyer, Chair  
John LaBonte  
Colin Laverty

## FOREST FIRE WARDEN AND STATE FOREST RANGER

Your local Forest Fire Warden, Fire Department, and the State of New Hampshire Division of Forests & Lands, work collaboratively to reduce the risk and frequency of wildland fires in New Hampshire. To help us assist you, please contact your local Forest Fire Warden or Fire Department to determine if a permit is required before doing ANY outside burning. Under State law (RSA 227-L:17) a fire permit is required for all outside burning, unless the ground is completely covered with snow. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services also prohibits the open burning of household waste. Citizens are encouraged to contact the local fire department or DES at 603-271-1370 or [www.des.state.nh.us](http://www.des.state.nh.us) for more information. Safe open burning requires diligence and responsibility. Help us to protect New Hampshire's forest resources. For more information please contact the Division of Forests & Lands at (603) 271-2214, or online at [www.nhdfl.org](http://www.nhdfl.org).

Due to a record warm winter and little snow, our first fire occurred on February 4<sup>th</sup> with several more early fires to follow. Normally a large percentage of the warm windy days with low humidity occur when the ground is saturated from a long snow covered winter. By the time the surface fuels and ground dry out enough to burn, we only have a few weeks until "green up". This year, however, we had an extended period of these favorable spring fire conditions. Our largest fire in the state was 86 acres. The average size fire was .6 acres. Extensive summer rains kept total acreage burned to near normal levels.

As has been the case over the last few years, state budget constraints have limited the staffing of our statewide system of 16 fire lookout towers to Class III or higher fire danger days. Despite the reduction in the number of days staffed, our fire lookouts are credited with keeping most fires small and saving several structures due to their quick and accurate spotting capabilities. The towers fire spotting was supplemented by the NH Civil Air Patrol when the fire danger was especially high. Several of the fires during the 2012 season threatened structures, a constant reminder that forest fires burn more than just trees. Please help Smokey Bear, your local fire department, and the state's Forest Rangers by being fire wise and fire safe!

### 2012 FIRE STATISTICS (All fires reported as of October 2012)

COUNTY STATISTICS		
County	Acres	# of Fires
Rockingham	6.4	21

CAUSES OF FIRES REPORTED		Total	Fires	Total Acres
Arson	14	2012	318	206
Debris	105	2011	125	42
Campfire	14	2010	360	145
Children	15	2009	334	173
Smoking	17	2008	455	175
Railroad	0			
Equipment	6			
Lightning	7			
Misc.*	140 (*Misc.: power lines, fireworks, electric fences, etc.)			

ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDLAND FIRE

## **STRATHAM VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

In 2012, the Stratham Volunteer Fire Department responded to a total of 538 supporting Fire/EMS and service calls to the residents of the Town and surrounding communities.

I would like to thank all of the men and women of the Stratham Volunteer Fire Department and their families, as well as the Ladies Auxiliary whose dedication and commitment to serve the citizens of this community with the utmost quality of care and service is greatly appreciated.

The members of the Stratham Volunteer Fire Department donate their time and effort to help their friends, neighbors and the community when needed. They continually join efforts in all types of situations as well as give the time to train, certify and administer the needs of this Department for the good of the community.

The Volunteer Fire Department continues to be an all volunteer fire department. Our Fire Department is one of very few that receives no compensation for emergency calls, training, certifications, clothing allowance, fuel or administrative functions for its members. In addition, these volunteers along with the Stratham Volunteer Fire Department Association are the foundation to raise additional funds through the Stratham Fair and the annual Pancake Breakfast.

In 2012, we replaced the 26 year old 3,000 gallon tanker truck. The truck has served the town well over the years, but no longer meets the needs of this growing community. We took delivery of the new truck last spring, which meets today's National Fire Protection Standard 1901 to serve our community and provide all the safety features to our firefighters. The cost of the truck was \$336,500 dollars of which \$256,500 dollars was raised by the Stratham Volunteer Fire Department through ambulance billing, the Stratham Fair and donations by the Ladies Auxiliary, Stratham Volunteer Fire Department Association and a local resident. I would like to thank the residents for your vote and support to purchase the new tanker.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert R. Cook Jr.  
Fire Chief



**Stratham Volunteer Fire Department  
2012 Emergency Responses**

<b><i>Type of Call</i></b>	<b><i>Number of Calls per Year</i></b>		
	<b><u>2010</u></b>	<b><u>2011</u></b>	<b><u>2012</u></b>
Medical Aid	315	309	298
Service Calls	8	16	8
Mutual Aid to Other Communities	30	32	16
Fire Alarm Activation	81	50	70
Carbon Monoxide Alarms	13	14	18
Structure Fires	17	11	13
Brush/Forestry Fires	11	28	15
Auto Fires	4	3	4
Auto Accidents	41	61	57
Hazardous Materials	6	10	12
Storm Related/Downed Electrical Wires	6	15	26
Rescue/Water Rescue	0	1	1
<b>Total:</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>538</b>

<b><i>2012 Ambulance Recovered Funds</i></b>			
<b><i>Balance forward 1/1/2012</i></b>			<b><i>\$246,671.34</i></b>
Gross Recovered in 2012			\$86,483.98
Records Release Income			\$20.00
Interest Earned in 2012			\$382.12
<b>Total Gross w/ Interest Earned 2012</b>			<b>\$86,886.10</b>
<b><i>2012 Expenses Paid from Fund</i></b>			
EMS Training			\$3,722.18
EMS Conference			\$2,402.10
New Equipment			\$136,500.00
Comstar Refunds (overpayments)			\$1,567.64
Bank Service Fees			\$203.40
<b>Total Expenses</b>			<b>\$144,395.32</b>
Total Net Funds for F/Y 2012			<b>(\$57,509.22)</b>
<b>Total Fund Balance as of 12/31/12</b>			<b>\$189,162.12</b>

## **STRATHAM FAIR COMMITTEE**

The primary focus of the Stratham Fair Committee is to raise funds for the Stratham Volunteer Fire Association and the Stratham Volunteer Fire Department through a four day agricultural fair. The Fair, part of the NH Association of Fairs, is held each year, 6 weeks before Labor Day weekend. Planning and implementation for the event is done by a six member Board of Directors for the Committee. The Board meets on a weekly basis from November through August.

In 2012, the 45th Annual Stratham Fair was held on July 19 through 22 at Stratham Hill Park. Weather for the four days was near perfect with no rain or excessive heat. Attendance ran about average for a 'good weather' fair year at 15,000.

New events and activities added this year included moving the dining tents back up to the food court area, the addition of outside food vendors selling food in the Park, entertainment on the Main Stage each day from noon until close and additional activities for children on Thursday, Children's Day.

The 4-H experienced strong attendance this year with over 150 children participating in events ranging from animal showing to club exhibits. The Fair awarded over \$12,500 to those involved. We thank Randy Claar, Judy Cogger and the many supervisors, judges and 4-H volunteers who worked tirelessly to host another successful 4-H program at the Fair.

Fiesta Shows, the carnival provider, once again offered new rides and updated entertainment. Due to a production glitch, they were unable to deliver the new larger ferris wheel as anticipated. We expect to have this ferris wheel at the 2013 Fair.

This year, the directors put increased focus on managing the Fair like a business, working hard to contain expenses and maintain a profit. We could not have done this without the incredible support we received from our new Fair Treasurer, Bill Thompson. We are pleased to report that the net income from the 2012 Fair is projected to be approximately \$67,000. Year-end accounting for the Fair will be done December 31, 2012. Per the agreement between the Fire Association and the Town, 50% will be put in the Stratham Fire Department/Stratham Fair Trust Fund and the Stratham Volunteer Fire Association will receive the remaining 50%.

We look forward to another wonderful four day fair next year, July 18 through July 21, 2013. The Stratham Fair is an all-volunteer organization and could not happen without support from the Stratham Volunteer Fire Department and community members. To volunteer at the Fair contact Fair Chairman Francisco Marin at [fmarin@wellsfargo.com](mailto:fmarin@wellsfargo.com) or visit the volunteer section of our website at <http://www.strathamfair.com/volunteer/>.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicky Avery, Member  
Stratham Fair Committee

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Stratham Police Department responded to 12,694 calls for service this past year. The following is an overview of some of the general types of calls we responded to and the number of times we responded to these types of calls in 2012:

Sexual Assault	4	Domestics	48	Burglary	9
Theft	88	Assaults	9	Town Ord. Violations	14
Arson	0	Fraud	25	House Checks	1994
Criminal Mischief	34	Harassment	16	Criminal Trespass	3
DWI	15	Juvenile Incidents	93	Assist to Police Depts.	177
Assist to the Public	313	Protective Escorts	7	Disturbance-Loud Party	32
Assist Fire/Rescue	346	Abandoned 911 Calls	57	Disturbance-General	32
Alarms	309	M/V Lockouts	100	Animal Incidents	172
Traffic Citations	178	M/V Accidents	183	Traffic Complaints	123
M/V Warnings	2190	M/V Checkups	89	Disturbance-Fights	3
Disorderly Conduct	4	Robbery	0	Drug Violations	1

This past year, the Police Department had four officers resign to move on to new positions with other police agencies. Each one of those officers saw the move as being beneficial to their families and their careers. We were sad to see them go. All of us here wish the best of luck to Greg Jordan, Steve McAulay, Mike Gobbi and Lauren Andrews as they continue their careers.

To date, we have filled two of the open positions. We welcome Officer Grant Fotheringham, a Town resident and 20 year retired Marine, who came to us from the Newfields Police Department. With his military and police experience, he was able to seamlessly transition into our Department. We also welcome Officer Amanda Bibeau. A former campus police officer, Officer Bibeau is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts with a BS in Criminal Justice. She is presently attending the NH Police Academy and will graduate this April. We continue to work towards filling the remaining two open positions.

On April 12, 2012, the Town of Greenland, NH was the site of the single most violent attack against law enforcement officers in New Hampshire history. Greenland Police Chief Mike Maloney, to many of us a friend and coworker, was shot and killed in the line of duty. Additionally, four other police officers were shot and wounded during the attack. Five Stratham police officers responded to the call for help that followed. All of those officers, without hesitation, went to the call knowing what they were responding to. One of our officers, Officer Charles Law, would ultimately be recognized for his actions that night for removing two wounded officers to safety.

Candidly, this has been a tough year for the Stratham Police Department. Despite the losses that we have suffered, and the tragedy that we have experienced, more than ever we remain resolute in our commitment to providing professional police services to this community. I want to thank the members of the Stratham Police Department for all you do every day. I would also like to thank the Board of Selectmen for their continued support of the Police Department.

Respectfully submitted,

John V. Scippa  
Chief of Police

## **OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

In 2012, the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) was activated several times to monitor severe weather and statewide storm events. The conditions were communicated to and from the New Hampshire Bureau of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and between the Town's operational personnel.

The Town of Stratham and the Greater Exeter Region Public Health Network utilizes Stratham's EOC and Morgera Meeting Room as a primary location for the Region's Multi-Area Coordination Entity (MACE) and Health Network monthly planning meetings.

The OEM staff successfully participated in the 2012 Seabrook Station Emergency Planning Zone - Combined Functional Drills, comprised of table-top drills and a "graded exercise" with Seabrook Station, the NH Bureau of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Stratham's team performed well and received favorable marks from evaluators.

Director Dave Emanuel represented the Town at the 8th Annual NH Emergency Preparedness Conference in Manchester, NH and various planning meetings throughout the year.

The EOC's annual quarterly equipment inventory and reporting of the Department's state of readiness to the State was performed by Deputy Director Tim Copeland with assistance from Andra Copeland.

As natural disasters have ravaged portions of the eastern seaboard in 2012, we are reminded that preparedness is an individual responsibility, which starts in each of our own homes with our own families. We request that residents prepare themselves by keeping adequate emergency supplies and stock at home and by reviewing the annual Seabrook calendar of emergency information. FEMA maintains a web site at <http://www.fema.gov/plan/index.shtm>, which can aid you in preparedness for various emergencies.

The Office of Emergency Management is managed by Director Dave Emanuel with the assistance of Kathy Flagg and Tim Copeland, who serve as Deputy Directors. The OEM is supported by a community staff of 25 members. Residents interested in becoming a resource to the Stratham Office of Emergency Management should contact us through the Town Office.

Respectfully submitted,

David F. Emanuel, Director

## **PLANNING BOARD / TOWN PLANNER**

The Planning Department observed a slight increase in the number and type of applications submitted to the Planning Board when compared to 2011. In 2012, the Planning Board and Planning Department continued their focus on examining existing land use regulations, policy development, and the Master Plan update.

In 2012, the Planning Board approved three subdivision applications totaling 24 new building lots. Most notably, will be the construction of a 20-lot residential open space cluster subdivision located at 32 Bunker Hill Avenue. The approved subdivision design/layout will construct the first section of the prescribed roadway system for the Gateway Commercial Business District. In addition, the development will facilitate the construction and installation of a portion of the municipal water line connecting the Municipal Center property to the proposed future water tank on the recently purchased Town property at 28 Bunker Hill Avenue. The Board also approved an amended site plan review application to allow the construction of the new AutoFair Nissan automobile dealership located on Portsmouth Avenue.

The Planning Board and Department continued their comprehensive review and update of the Town's Land Use Regulations and 1998 Master Plan. The Board focused their efforts during 2012 on revising the Town's sign regulations offering additional flexibility in the number and area permitted for signage and incorporating design standards to maintain the aesthetic character of the community. In addition, the Board re-examined the Town's open space cluster ordinance and regulations to further clarify and provide additional guidance for density bonuses and open space requirements for Residential Open Space Cluster Developments. Lastly, the Board sought to change the Gateway Commercial Business District from voluntary to mandatory and eliminate the General Commercial District. The Board submitted a number of zoning amendments effectuating these changes for vote at the 2013 Annual Town Meeting. The Planning Department has been coordinating the Master Plan update process and is working with the various departments, land-use boards, commissions, and committees to update/expand their specific sections. It is anticipated that the update will be completed in 2013 for formal adoption by the Planning Board.

To assist the Town in developing a vision for the Town Center, the Planning Board and staff enlisted the expertise of Plan NH, a non-profit organization comprised of professionals from different disciplines within the building, design, architecture, planning, and engineering industries. In September, Plan NH released the final report to improve vehicular/pedestrian circulation, development opportunities, and the aesthetic/built environment. The results of this report have been incorporated into the Town Center Area Master Plan for formal adoption by the Board in 2013.

The Planning and Building/Code Enforcement Departments continue to expand the use of the land-use permit software system approved in 2011 to better manage applications/approvals and improve interdepartmental communications and efficiency. The Departments are currently exploring the use of mobile computer devices in the field to further improve workflow and operations.

Lastly, recent amendments to State land-use regulations involving involuntary merged lots by municipal action require the Town to post the following information within the 2011 through 2015 Annual Town Reports: In accordance with NH RSA 674:39-aa, any owner of lots merged by municipal action for zoning, assessing, or taxation purposes prior to September 18, 2010 and without the consent of the owner may request that the lots be restored to their premerger status. Please refer to the following Notice for more information and detailed statute language.

We hope that you will take some time through the coming months and stop by the Planning Department office to learn more about what is happening in Stratham. There are a number of exciting projects anticipated for 2013 and we welcome your input.

Respectfully submitted,

Lincoln Daley  
Town Planner

Michael Houghton  
Planning Board Chair

## **NOTICE**

**If you own real estate lots that were involuntarily merged prior to September 18, 2010 by municipal action, you may be able to have those lots restored to their pre-merger status.**

Your property may qualify if two or more lots were merged for zoning, assessing, or taxation purposes. The merger occurred during your ownership, without your consent; or prior to your ownership, if no previous owner consented to the merger. To restore your property to pre-merger status, you must make a request to the local governing body prior to December 31, 2016.

## **TITLE LXIV PLANNING AND ZONING**

### **CHAPTER 674 LOCAL LAND USE PLANNING AND REGULATORY POWERS**

#### ***Regulation of Subdivision of Land***

##### **674:39-aa Restoration of Involuntarily Merged Lots. –**

###### **I. In this section:**

(a) "Involuntary merger" and "involuntarily merged" mean lots merged by municipal action for zoning, assessing, or taxation purposes without the consent of the owner.

(b) "Owner" means the person or entity that holds legal title to the lots in question, even if such person or entity did not hold legal title at the time of the involuntary merger.

(c) "Voluntary merger" and "voluntarily merged" mean a merger under RSA 674:39-a, or any overt action or conduct that indicates an owner regarded said lots as merged such as, but not limited to, abandoning a lot line.

II. Lots or parcels that were involuntarily merged prior to September 18, 2010 by a city, town, county, village district, or any other municipality, shall at the request of the owner, be restored to their premerger status and all zoning and tax maps shall be updated to identify the premerger boundaries of said lots or parcels as recorded at the appropriate registry of deeds, provided:

(a) The request is submitted to the governing body prior to December 31, 2016.

(b) No owner in the chain of title voluntarily merged his or her lots. If any owner in the chain of title voluntarily merged his or her lots, then all subsequent owners shall be stopped from requesting restoration. The municipality shall have the burden of proof to show that any previous owner voluntarily merged his or her lots.

III. All decisions of the governing body may be appealed in accordance with the provisions of RSA 676.

IV. Any municipality may adopt local ordinances, including ordinances enacted prior to the effective date of this section, to restore previously merged properties that are less restrictive than the provisions in paragraph I and II.

V. The restoration of the lots to their premerger status shall not be deemed to cure any non-conformity with existing local land use ordinances.

VI. Municipalities shall post a notice informing residents that any involuntarily merged lots may be restored to premerger status upon the owner's request. Such notice shall be posted in a public place no later than January 1, 2012 and shall remain posted through December 31, 2016. Each municipality shall also publish the same or similar notice in its 2011 through 2015 annual reports. **Source:** 2011, 206:4, eff. July 24, 2011.

## CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE/BUILDING INSPECTOR

### **Industrial (IND)-**

- One Fine Chocolate Place, Lindt & Sprungli, have completed their new three-story, 35,000 ft.<sup>2</sup> office building.
- 2 Marin Way, Vitronix building has been renovated into three separate business units.
- 14 Marin Way has completed their 18,000 ft.<sup>2</sup> addition to the existing building.
- 200 Domain Dr., Timberland Corporation has completed internal renovations from cubicle areas into conference rooms & sales displays.

### **Commercial District (GCN)-**

- The property at 1 and 3 Portsmouth Ave. has changed ownership.
- Shaw's supermarket on Portsmouth Avenue has changed to new ownership.
- There will be changes made at the Mobil gas station on Portsmouth Avenue.
- The Honda Barn has made their changes to the signage now that Nissan has moved up the road.
- The new Auto Fair Nissan car dealership at 45 Portsmouth Avenue has opened. No requests have yet been made for the lot between River Road and the Nissan garage.
- At Windy Knoll Plaza, CCSI renovations have been completed.
- At 72 Portsmouth Avenue. Stratham Plaza, two of three units that were fire damaged are now occupied.

### **Town Center District-T/C**

- 145 Portsmouth Avenue; a new business opened up called Amish Barn Stratham Furniture on the second floor of Cadieux Flooring building.

### **Professional Residential District (PRE)**

- SPCA installed solar panels on roof and a new pellet furnace.

### **Residential Agricultural (R/A)**

- We've had no inquiries on the Voc-Tech building other than the State changing realtors.
- Crockett Farms has finished the first phase of building and have now started the second phase, which is located off Scamman Road known as Points of Rock Terrace.
- There is going to be a new 20-lot subdivision off of 32 Bunker Hill Ave. Two streets known as Bittersweet Lane and Market Street have been approved by the Planning Board.

ACTIVITY REPORT	2012
Single Family Homes	9
Accessory Apartments	2
Renovations/Additions	52
Pools	18
Garages/Barns	11
Sheds	21
Decks/Porches	28
Electrical/Plumbing/HVAC/Gas	340
Sign Permits	36
Demolition Permits	13
New Commercial	1
Renovations/Additions Commercial	15
Other (renewals, foundations only, Promo, driveways)	78
Zoning Board of Adjustment	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>633</b>

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Barnes, Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector



## ASSESSING DEPARTMENT

In 2012, the Assessing Department continued the data verification process. Out of the 3,251 parcels a total of 800 were reviewed. As an alternative to hiring an outside firm, the Assessing Department is conducting this process in-house, which is approximately a \$100,000 savings over five years. At the conclusion of the five year period, all properties in Stratham will have been verified for exterior and optimistically for interior accuracy prior to the mandated 2014 update of values. Stratham's last update of values was in 2009.

In an effort to continuously improve the Department's efficiency and public relations, the Assessing Department hosted a presentation on the qualification and benefit to receiving the elderly and blind exemption as well as the veteran's tax credit. Due to the overwhelmingly positive feedback, we will be hosting another presentation prior to April 1, 2013. Watch our website for additional information beginning in early to mid February for the date and time.

Currently there are 377 properties that are receiving the veteran's credit which represents \$206,000 in tax dollars, with an additional \$3,443,800 being applied to the Town's current exemptions.

At this time, property record cards are not available online, however, we are in the research phase of finding the most economical way of providing this service to the public. Until then, options for acquiring information are to call or visit the office. A computer is provided in our public room that contains property information that includes the owner's information, current assessment, acreage, sales data, interior and exterior data as well as the sketch of the structure.

In addition, you will find the annually updated digitized tax maps where you can print selected maps in their entirety or a mere section that can be enlarged for printing. The tax maps are also available on our website at [www.strathamnh.gov](http://www.strathamnh.gov).

In an effort to aid in the preservation of historic agricultural buildings, state law RSA 79-D Discretionary Preservation Easements, creates a mechanism to encourage the preservation of historic New Hampshire barns and other agricultural buildings by authorizing municipalities to grant property tax relief to barn owners who (a) can demonstrate the public benefit of preserving their barns or other historic farm buildings, and (b) agree to maintain their structures throughout a minimum 10-year preservation easement. Presently, there are eight structures that are enrolled in this program. Additional information can be found at our office or on our website.

As the Town Assessor, I am committed to ensuring that all 3,251 parcels with a total assessed value of \$1,215,406,103 are assessed fair and equitable in accordance with New Hampshire laws governing taxation

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea S. Lewy, Town Assessor

## **ENERGY COMMISSION**

The Stratham Energy Commission was established by the Board of Selectmen in the spring of 2012. The Commission members were appointed by the Selectmen and the first meeting was held on August 23, 2012. Meetings will be held monthly (except in December).

The first activity approved by the Commission is the benchmarking of the Town buildings, including the schools. Benchmarking is the comparative analysis of energy use in each of our buildings via the input of energy data, i.e., monthly electric and fuel invoices, in an EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) Energy Star software program called Portfolio Manager. The work of data entry into the software program was performed by a student intern from UNH during December. This work will continue by others on a regular basis.

Some of the Commission's objectives include:

- Increase public awareness and encourage participation in the reduction of energy consumption and carbon emissions; opportunities relating to sustainability and renewable energy sources.
- Research energy related issues and actions taken by other Local Energy Commissions in New Hampshire.
- Gather educational and informational resources for the use of residents, businesses and the Town.
- Develop a plan to address the short and long term energy needs of Stratham. The plan may include projects such as:
  - a) Assess the Town building energy usage by implementing a benchmarking software program – in progress
  - b) Conduct an energy audit of each municipal building – start in 2013
  - c) Research energy efficiency standards and regulations being implemented by the State of New Hampshire's Department of Energy and Planning
  - d) Research grant and rebate opportunities through the local utility company and other sources
  - e) Develop recommendations to the Board of Selectmen to improve efficiencies in energy and fuel use Town wide

Respectfully submitted,

John C. Dold, Chairman

## **TOWN CENTER REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE**

The Board of Selectmen reconstituted the Town Center Revitalization Committee (TCRC) in 2012. Along with the newly reformed committee was the creation of a Charter, which defines the role and responsibilities for its members. Under the guidance of the Board of Selectmen, the purpose of the TCRC is to strengthen the social/cultural, physical, and economic health of the Town Center District and re-establish its strategic importance and connection within the community.

The Committee began the year by establishing a list of priorities and projects. One of the major themes were projects to improve the visual character of the Town Center and promote the area. The Committee sought to enhance the aesthetic and historic qualities of the Town Center through the use of signage to identify its boundaries. The Committee utilized the Capital Improvements Program funds approved to design and create four historic Town Center signs. The signs were installed in the fall of 2012 and are located on Winnicutt Road, south of the Stratham Circle on Rte. 108, College Road, and at the Town cemetery property on Rte. 33. Building upon the positive response to the signs, the Committee is currently developing a pilot program for street banners in the Town Center to promote Town events and local organizations and businesses.

The Committee also focused on working with the local business owners to identify concerns. The Committee seeks to continue to build upon these relationships to improve the visual character of the Town Center and promote the area.

In September 2012, the non-profit group Plan NH released the Town Center Report to improve vehicular/pedestrian circulation, development opportunities, and the aesthetic/built environment. The results of this report have been incorporated into the Town Center Area Master Plan for formal adoption by the Planning Board in 2013. The Committee looks forward to furthering the goals and objectives of the plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Lake, Chair

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

The Board of Selectmen reconstituted the Economic Development Committee (EDC) in 2011. Along with the newly reformed committee was the creation of a Charter, which defines the role and responsibilities for its members. Under the guidance of the Board of Selectmen, the EDC is committed to expanding the Town's economic base and achieving economic stability through growth and quality development, together with providing a positive local business climate to attract trade and industry to the community.

The Committee continued to expand upon the initiatives introduced by the Committee in 2011, focusing on identifying the primary needs and concerns of local business owners and residents, improving the level of communication/outreach on behalf of the Town, and promote the role of the Town in assisting local businesses. In direct response to business owners and residents, the Committee worked with the Planning Board in revising the Town's current Sign Ordinance. An amended Sign Ordinance has been drafted for formal vote at the 2013 Annual Town Meeting.

The Committee continues to maintain relations with other organizations concerned with issues of economic development throughout the state. The Committee will continue to be represented on the Exeter Area Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee. Other organizations in which the Committee has worked with this year include the Rockingham Economic Development Corporation (REDC), the Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC), the NH Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED) and the NH Economic Development Association.

The information generated from the focus groups will be used as a vital resource to facilitate the development of economic development tools and business promotion, retention, and recruitment programs beginning in 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Houghton, Chair

## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION**

As an advisory board to the Board of Selectmen, the Public Works Commission monitors and advises the Selectmen on various issues pertaining to water resources as well as wastewater and storm water issues as they arise.

Again this year, the Public Works Commission continued its efforts to assess strategies to develop water and wastewater infrastructure in the Gateway, Commercial, and Town Center Districts. Regional approaches to Stratham's water and wastewater infrastructure objectives offer potential cost saving solutions to meet the needs of the three land use districts. The Rockingham Planning Commission completed the "*Exeter/Stratham Intermunicipal Water and Wastewater Systems Evaluation Study*". This effort was funded equally by the Towns of Exeter and Stratham. Members of the Public Works Commission and Town staff participated in several technical sessions managed by the project consultant, Kleinfelder, Inc. The conclusion of the study is that there are financial benefits to both communities if they work cooperatively to achieve their water and wastewater infrastructure goals. The report recommended that the two communities continue to move forward by engaging in further discussion and evaluation. The Stratham Selectmen have indicated a desire to engage in additional discussions with Exeter. The Public Works Commission will participate in those discussions and will offer advice and recommendations as requested by the Selectmen.

In regards to wastewater discharges to The Great Bay, 2012 was an active year. The Public Works Commission monitored and reported on regional water resource developments including Federal wastewater treatment facility permit renewals in the surrounding communities as these renewals could impact Stratham's efforts to bring wastewater services to the Gateway, Commercial, and Town Center Districts. Stratham received notice from the EPA in 2012 that Stratham will now be included in the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System program, commonly abbreviated as the MS4 program, some time in 2013 when the permit is issued. This is similar to surrounding communities. The Public Works Commission will assist and advise the Selectmen in Stratham's response to these new requirements as requested.

The Public Works Commission continues to be actively involved with the Southeast Watershed Alliance. Public Works Commission member Michael Perfit continues to represent Stratham to the Alliance and is its Secretary. Stratham's participation in the Alliance ensures that the Town remains ahead of current and future environmental issues faced by the region and has a voice in the region's future.

The Public Works Commission is looking forward to the year ahead and working for the Board of Selectmen and with Town staff to continue progress in advancing the Gateway, Commercial, and Town Center Districts as well as addressing the requirements of the MS4 program.

Respectfully submitted,

John Boisvert, Chair

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The year 2012 was an active one for the Conservation Commission. In celebration of Earth Day, the Commission sponsored its annual Stratham Roadside Clean-Up Day, at which time dozens of Stratham citizens and business owners came together to collect trash and debris. This year, the successful event eliminated many hundreds of pounds of trash from the environment. The Commission is grateful to those volunteers who donated their time to collect roadside trash that would otherwise mar Stratham's scenic roadways and precious habitats, and contaminate surface waters. Another April activity for the Commission was developing a free, public composting workshop. Dena Stern, the Conservation Commission's Community Education Liaison, organized the event hosted at Blueberry Bay Farm. Approximately 60 people gathered to learn the importance of enhancing garden soil and promoting plant growth with compost. The primary educational objective of the workshop was to teach participants how to create compost. A secondary objective was to raise awareness about the importance of complex slow-release nitrogen sources such as compost in organic farming.

The Conservation Commission also conducted its annual sale of compost bins and continued its campaign to encourage composting of household waste. Greater efforts to compost kitchen waste could keep tons of material from Stratham's trash stream—minimizing landfill production of the potent greenhouse gas methane. Not to mention, more intensive and widespread composting practices in Stratham could potentially save the Town many tens of thousands of dollars each year in tipping fees. In fact, composting is so fiscally and environmentally important, the Commission authored the poster "Four Reasons Why Everyone Should Compost Their Organic Waste," which was displayed at the 2012 Stratham Fair. Copies of the poster can be obtained by contacting the Commission directly.

Over the last several years, the Conservation Commission Ad Hoc Committee has facilitated the conservation of hundreds of acres of open space in Stratham through the purchase of easements and property. This year, the last of the Town's \$5 million conservation bond was leveraged to conserve two properties, one of which included ground water withdrawal rights. (See the Ad Hoc Committee annual report.) While conserving land for recreational and agricultural use, habitat, storm water control and ground water recharge, conservation also keeps property taxes low by preventing the future development of land for residential use. As always, individuals who wish to conserve properties are encouraged to contact the Conservation Commission, and commissioners can assist in helping to identify the means to do so.

The Conservation Commission holds its meetings on the second and fourth Wednesday each month at 7:00 PM in the Stratham Municipal Center. Its meetings are open to the public. The Conservation Commission welcomes individuals of all ages who have observed interesting plants and animals in Stratham to come and share their stories with the commissioners.

Please visit the dedicated Conservation Commission page found on the Stratham municipal website [www.strathamnh.gov](http://www.strathamnh.gov) to peruse the many resources archived there, including information related to wetlands, recycling, sustainability, composting, and many other topics. If you have questions or would like to learn more about conservation efforts of all sorts, please attend a Conservation Commission meeting or contact the Commission by email via the municipal website.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Jensen, Chairperson

## **AD-HOC LAND PROTECTION COMMITTEE**

In 2002, the Board of Selectmen appointed an Ad Hoc Land Protection Committee to report to them and to the Conservation Commission. Due to the strong public interest in land protection, residents voted in favor of an article authorizing the bond of up to \$5 million to protect local open space.

Ten years later, the Town finally reached the limit of the bonding authority. Over the past ten years, 543.3 acres have been protected in perpetuity – almost 6% of the land area in Stratham. Each project was closed after conservation easements were drafted, and appraisals, surveys and title searches completed. Each project, before receiving final approval, faced its own public hearing at which members of the Ad Hoc Committee and Conservation Commission outlined the merits of the property and the benefit to the taxpayer and answered specific questions from Selectmen and the public.

A conservation easement is a legally binding agreement between a landowner and a conservation organization or agency and, because it is recorded in the county Registry of Deeds a conservation easement is part of the permanent public record; future lenders and owners are therefore made aware of it and its restrictions. A conservation easement permanently restricts future development of a property. Each easement is tailored to protect important and specific values of the land.

Each property protected held development potential. Together, the 543 acres would have supported the development of many dozens of homes. For example, the last three completed projects comprised 60 acres; the documents supporting the appraisals indicated that these properties alone would have supported the development of more than one dozen homes, along with the roads and infrastructure to support the new construction.

Partners assisting and cooperating with the Town include the Rockingham County Conservation District and the Southeast Land Trust, a local New Hampshire non-profit. With few exceptions these two organizations hold the easements and the Town of Stratham holds executory interest. This means that these organizations are responsible for the long term monitoring and enforcement of the terms of the easements.

Town staff, Selectmen and Planning Board volunteers contributed a great deal of time and expertise. State and federal agencies also partnered with the Town by contributing matching funds totaling \$2,086,072.00, which stretched our bond significantly further.

Over the past 10 years, our most important partners have consistently proved to be the participating Stratham landowners, those who for different, sometimes very personal, reasons desired to conserve their property, forego their rights to develop their land and were willing to work with the Town in a process that took months (and in some cases several tries and several years) to complete. Land conservation to this extent in a local community would not be possible without willing landowners.

In gratitude to our partners and to the citizens of Stratham, all essential to the final outcomes, here is a brief description of the lands and scenic, wildlife, water, and farm and forest resources protected since the bond was passed by Stratham citizens on March 15, 2002:

Agricultural soils, productive farmland and forestland as well as important wildlife and wetland habitat are forever protected on the Scamman Farm, along with the enhancement and enlargement of protected land along the Squamscott River and the enjoyment of the general public of scenic rural views.

Productive prime, statewide and locally important soils, farmland, forestland and wildlife habitat are protected along Bunker Hill Avenue, where the intent is also to protect wetlands and groundwater from the impacts of development.

The farmland and forest land of Saltbox Farm, a 2001 Farm of Distinction, are preserved; wildlife habitat is protected as is the scenic enjoyment of the general public as viewed from public roads.

Pasture, farm and paddock are protected at Four Point O Farm, as are wetlands and groundwater. The Wake Robin Farm, adjacent to another 100 agricultural acres, can be used for agriculture and managed for the flowers and vegetables sold at local farmers markets.

Tidal shore land is protected from future development and the Squamscott riverfront is protected from further impact and housing development near Boat Club Lane, thereby protecting a corridor from Portsmouth Avenue to the river.

Four acres were added to previously protected open space on Stratham Heights Road, forming a total of 66 acres for the perpetual protection of the quality and sustainable yield of groundwater. On both sides of Winnicut Road, a corridor of open space and undeveloped scenic frontage is forever protected, and along with it highest ranking wildlife habitat: 1400 feet of frontage to High Street on one side, and 3700 feet of frontage from the Fire Station to Spring Creek Lane. By protecting pasture and agricultural land on Stratham Heights Road, a property is returned to active farming and also enhances 162 adjacent acres of previously protected land.

Land along Squamscott Road, originally granted to Thomas Wiggin during the reign of King George for the purposes of agriculture, will remain agricultural forever.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Stephenson, Chair  
Ad Hoc Land Protection Committee



## **STRATHAM HILL PARK ASSOCIATION**

The Park Association enjoyed another year of increased activity in the Park. The winter yielded very little snow and mild conditions, which was not cold enough to make ice, but during this mild weather the trails were enjoyed by many bikers, runners, and hikers.

A group of residents/trail enthusiasts spent much of the early spring improving the existing trail system and establishing new trails headed up by trail committee members Dave Short and Jordan Ambargis. During the summer months, the SHPA focused on our major fundraising event, Jordan's signature "Fire Tower 5K" & Dave's third year with the "Gordon Barker No Brakes" bike race, both held in October. The run/bike race raised nearly \$5,000.00 of which a portion will go toward maintenance and development of the trail system.

This is our second year of a two year pilot program of owning and maintaining a snowmobile with a drag type groomer to maintain the snow covered trails. We are hoping for more snow this year. The Association will pay all expenses, including equipment maintenance associated with this program for this next year.

In the fall, the Highway Department and Park Ranger Kim Woods spent endless hours reshaping the bottom of the skating pond and extended the water lines adding two hydrants to help resurface the ice.

A new trail map was published with the help of the Parks & Recreation Department.

Many thanks to the Highway crew, Highway Agent Colin Lavery, Ranger Woods, and Parks and Recreation Director Seth Hickey for all their support this past year.

The Board of Selectmen ratified the decision of the SHPA to become a Committee of the Town under Parks and Recreation.

We look forward to another exciting year for the Park in 2013. The Association always welcomes members of the community to be involved as we continue our role as stewards of this wonderful area.

Our meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each odd month at 6:30 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at the Municipal Center. To stay connected, join our group on Facebook, 'Stratham Hill Park' and follow us on Twitter 'cowflopnh'.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Crow  
Park Association President

## **PARKS & RECREATION**

The Stratham Hill Park hosted many special events in 2012. Weddings, reunions, birthday parties and corporate parties were some of the most common types of events this year. The Park welcomed back annual events like the SPCA Paw's Walk, the Stratham Fair and the Great Bay 5K. The Recreation Department also had great success hosting our own events at the Park and there was significant growth in participation for all of our events. In March, we held our annual egg hunt and in the warmer months we hosted the summer concerts and family performances. October was a very busy month with our annual Fire Tower 5K and the Gordon Barker "No Brakes" mountain bike race. Both races saw great success even with cold, rainy weather. The 'Kids Run' had a record number of participants from the elementary school and this year we also added a kids bike race. We are planning to change things up a bit for the race in 2013, but stay true to our roots of a fun family event. Our Harvest Festival had over 500 people attend this annual event. The growth in recent years has been hard to predict. The Department looks to continue to add special events to host at Stratham Hill Park as this is an excellent venue for the community to all come together and have fun!

This historic Park requires ongoing maintenance and improvements. Thanks to businesses like Liberty Mutual, Lindt, and Timberland, we were able to complete many projects this year at the Park. Painting the majority of the buildings at the Park was a huge accomplishment, thank you Liberty Mutual! Our dedicated Park Ranger, Kim Woods, coordinated many of these short and long term projects. Kim was fortunate this year to have additional seasonal help to assist with the day to day tasks and general maintenance and, of course, mowing.

In the fall, Kim worked with the Highway Department to install a new water line to the ice rink for two water hydrants to provide access to water for resurfacing the ice. The water line project was funded by the Stratham Hill Park Association through funds that were raised at the October races. As we continue to make improvements to the ice rink, please refrain from sledding or walking on the ice surface. One individual can damage the ice skating surface for the entire community.

In the spring of 2013, the Department is planning on starting the repaving of the main parking lot at the Park, which we anticipate taking two years to complete. The pad under the 4-H pavilion will also be repaved at the same time. These two projects are necessary to complete as soon as possible as these are now becoming a safety concern.

The Department was awarded a small grant from the State to improve signage throughout the trail network at the Park and to publish the recently revised trail maps. The new maps are currently available at the Parks and Recreation office and at locations within the Park.

Smaller projects to the facilities and structures at the Park are ongoing and the list just continues to grow. The Department is always seeking alternative options for funding these projects and is always appreciative of the support we receive from the residents of Stratham.

One Recreation program that the residents of Stratham enjoyed in 2012 was our revamped summer camp. The camp experienced substantial growth in 2012. For our second year, this

program was hosted at the Stratham Memorial School. We would like to thank the school for providing a space for the program to thrive. In 2013, we anticipate more children participating in the program, so we are planning on using the cafeteria space at the school. For the upcoming summer, we will be adding one week of camp, to make it a five week program.

Growth was also seen in 2012 in our adult Pilates class, Coyote Club and the Pat's Peak ski program. With these increases in participation, a UNH intern was a welcomed addition for the Department for a few months in the fall. We hope that is a partnership that can continue into the future as it is an excellent way to provide necessary services to the community while at the same time keeping our tax footprint to a minimum.

The Recreation Department offered a variety of community trips across New England all the way from the summit of Mount Washington, to a performance of the Nutcracker at the Boston Opera House; we had an exciting selection of trips. Many of our trips welcomed residents from other communities. In the future, we will be working with other local Recreation Departments to ensure that the buses are full and we are taking complete advantage of each trip.

Each successful program and activity can be traced back to the volunteer boards that are the backbone of the Recreation Department. The Parks and Recreation Department would like to thank the Soccer, Basketball, Softball and Baseball Boards, as well as the Recreation Commission. These five boards are volunteer run boards that strive to maintain excellent programs and services to the Stratham community. These Boards are always in need of additional support, so if you would like to get involved, please let us know.

A new ad hoc committee was established late in 2012 to start planning for a new and fresh outdoor community space in what was the old playground at the Municipal Center. We are hoping to create walking paths, natural play structures and outdoor sitting areas. This will be a space that is enjoyed by all residents of the community. If you would like to participate in the creation of this park, please contact us.

We are always looking for new and creative programming to offer the community. If you have an idea or skill to share, please don't be shy!

Respectfully submitted,

Seth Hickey, Director

## WIGGIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

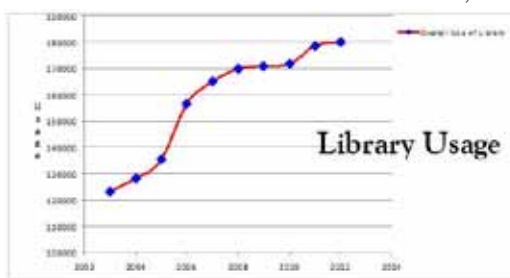
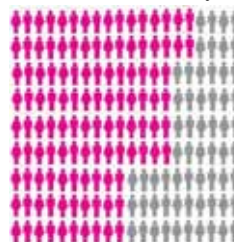
### Your Library – Discover the Possibilities!

The community's use of the Wiggin Memorial Library continues to rise and continues to expand into new services. We've been working hard to spread the word about the new library space, new library services, and everything that is still available to Stratham residents with their library card. We average about 25 new library card registrations per month (including those who have let their memberships lapse for a long time) and our active library cards equal 64% of the community!

Overall use of the library continued to climb in 2013 as people attended a library program for the first time, began using the library's free ebook & audiobook downloads, reserved the library's meeting room for their organization, and checked out a record number of DVDs, music CDs, and books.

Active Library Cards=

**64%** community



**22%** Adult Program Audience =  
1st Timers

And we heard over and over again that **the library's helpful, knowledgeable, and welcoming staff makes this library the best one you have ever been a part of.** In

addition to the usual praise for staff help in finding good books to read, assistance with research and job searching, and the wide variety of interesting and fun programs, 2013 saw many of you taking advantage of our drop-in tech help and ebook training. **The library staff provided more than 72 total hours of ebook help alone, saving community members over \$2,400.**



For every tax dollar paid for library services, the average resident gets over \$30 in value. Great return on investment & effective use of tax dollars! Want to know more about what your library use is worth? Use the Value Calculator at [library.strathamnh.gov](http://library.strathamnh.gov).

That's not the only way that cost-sharing through the library saves you money:

In 2012, Library Staff provided services in:	
Reader's Advisory	1 hardcover book = \$26
Research	Subscriptions = \$70-\$300
Health Information	Harvard Health Letter = \$49.00
Job Searching	Resume review, other services = \$179
ILL books for college students	Avg student spends \$1,000/yr
SAT, PSAT, & Other tests	Sylvan online test prep = \$295
Web site management	Monthly site management = \$600
Language Learning	Rosetta Stone Spanish = \$179
Legal Information and Documents	Power of Attorney Creation = \$250
each resident pays only: using each of these once:	
<b>\$55.21/yr \$2,648.00</b>	

Respectfully submitted,

Lesley Kimball, Director

## HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

In 2012, we said goodbye to Fred Hutton after 30 years of dedicated service and thanked him for his accomplishments and commitment to the Town.

In July, I was hired as the new Highway Agent for the Town. My team and I achieved several key accomplishments, including the Paving & Reconstruction Phase I of Stratham Heights Road (Portsmouth Ave. to Guinea Road), along with maintaining subsurface drainage systems, catch basins, and culverts.

In addition, the team accomplished several Transfer Station improvements. The Highway Department removed the settled concrete pad reserved for metal. We removed the concrete and replaced it with a gravel base and asphalt, along with correcting drainage swales to allow for water to flow properly.

Several improvements to the ice rink at Stratham Hill Park were completed. The Highway Department installed a new waterline and two hydrants to help maintain the ice at the Park, as well as removed 1800 yards of fill and regraded the rink so that it would retain water in the winter months.

Three Town Center signs were installed at key locations and improvements to the cemetery landscaping were completed.

Looking ahead to 2013, the Highway Department's focus will be on Stratham Heights Phase II paving from Guinea Road to Bunker Hill Ave., the expansion and reconstruction of the Municipal Center parking lot, as well as fire station and cemetery grounds improvements.

The Highway Department is looking forward to a productive 2013. Thank you to the citizens of the Town of Stratham for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

Colin P. Laverty  
Highway Agent



## MOSQUITO CONTROL

Dry conditions favor West Nile Virus (WNV). That was apparent in NH and across the country last season. There were 5387 human cases of WNV with 243 deaths nationwide. In NH, there were 41 WNV positive mosquito batches in eight communities and a human case in Manchester. The WNV positive mosquitoes were trapped in Stratham, Brentwood, North Hampton, Exeter, Seabrook, Salem, Manchester and Nashua.

Mosquitoes carrying EEE were found in Newfields, Sandown, Manchester, Brentwood, Newton and Danville last season. Two horses and two emus died of EEE. The horses lived in Durham and Derry while the emus were from Fitzwilliam. Massachusetts had an active season with 266 mosquito batches testing positive for EEE and seven human cases of the disease. EEE may be on the rise again after two previously quiet years in NH. I would expect to see more EEE activity next year in the state.

Dragon has identified 103 larval mosquito habitats in the Town of Stratham. Crews checked larval habitats 243 times throughout the season. There were 146 sites treated to eliminate mosquito larvae. In addition, 689 catch basin treatments were made to combat disease carrying mosquitoes. Adult mosquitoes were monitored at four locations throughout town. Over 2500 mosquitoes were collected in light traps, identified to species, and select species were sent to the State Lab to be tested for diseases. Mosquitoes collected in Stratham tested positive for disease in 2012. Spraying to control adult mosquitoes was conducted along roadways, the schools, Stratham Hill Park and Stevens Park last season.

The proposed 2013 Mosquito Control plan for Stratham includes trapping mosquitoes for disease testing, sampling wetlands for larval mosquito activity, larviciding where mosquito larvae are found, efficacy monitoring, roadside spraying and emergency spraying when a public health threat exists. The control program begins in April when mosquito larvae are found in stagnant water such as red maple and cedar swamps, ditches, and woodland pools. Trapping adult mosquitoes begins in July. The mosquito control program ends in October when temperatures drop and daylight diminishes.

Homeowners can reduce the number of mosquitoes in their yard by emptying any outdoor containers that hold standing water such as buckets, trash barrels, and boats. Tires collect enough water for mosquitoes to survive. It is also a good idea to change the water in bird baths every two or three days.

Residents who do not want their wetlands treated may use our No-Spray Registry online at [www.DragonMosquito.com/No-Spray-Registry](http://www.DragonMosquito.com/No-Spray-Registry) or write to Dragon Mosquito Control, P.O. Box 46, Stratham, NH 03885. Be sure to include your name, physical address, phone number, and a description of your property with boundaries. Otherwise, your property may be treated. Anyone who submitted a request in 2012 may contact the office to reaffirm your request. Inquiries may be emailed to [info@dragonmosquito.com](mailto:info@dragonmosquito.com) or call the office at 734-4144. You may call or email our office for assistance regarding mosquitoes, insecticides or questions about EEE or WNV. Check out our website: [www.dragonmosquito.com](http://www.dragonmosquito.com) where you can request a larval survey, sign up for email alerts or follow us on Twitter.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah MacGregor, President  
Dragon Mosquito Control, Inc.

## STRATHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

In 2012, we entered our 43<sup>rd</sup> season collecting and preserving historical memories for the Town of Stratham. We had fourteen contributors of articles for our collections during the year. The outstanding acquisition of the year was a book, which was the personal property of Capt. Andrew Wiggin, Jr., including two of his signatures and personal notes on the flyleaf. We were able to purchase the book with the help of donations from members to whom we are very grateful.

It has been a busy year, which started with our January program by Bill Copeley of the NH Historical Society on genealogical research. In March, Stephen Taylor brought us the Humanities Council program titled "How the Lowly Bovine Has Nurtured NH Through Four Centuries". April brought our usual successful Annual Appraisal Day and also a special program by Joyce Wiggin-Robbins, 9<sup>th</sup> great granddaughter of our Thomas Wiggin, first resident of the area now known as Stratham. In May, we had our Annual Meeting and potluck supper which is always enjoyable. During our so-called summer break, we had much activity. In June, we dedicated a granite bench in the garden to Jerry Batchelder, founder and first President of the Society. It was attended by dozens of family members and as many friends and residents. In July, we celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Wiggin Memorial Library with an open house at the George A. and Emma B. Wiggin Public Library Building, which we have occupied since 1990 when the library moved to larger quarters. As part of the celebration, a plaque was presented designating that the building is now listed on the NH Register of Historic Places. This was facilitated by the Heritage Commission. The building was added to the National Register in 1993. For the Fair in July, we had our displays in the "Celebrate Stratham Tent" as well as in the 4-H building. We sold pizza as usual, but with a new supplier. Many thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who stepped up to help. For our September program, we returned to an old tradition of a house tour before the meeting. We enjoyed seeing a beautifully restored old Wiggin homestead near the river. For our November program, Mike Pride discussed his book, "Our War" about the impact of the Civil War on NH. In December, we had our Holiday Open House in conjunction with the Town Tree Lighting. All of our regular programs were co-hosted by the Wiggin Memorial Library.

Our scholarship program continues to thrive. The \$1,000 Winfield L. Foote Scholarships went to four rising high school seniors, three from Stratham and one from Exeter. Two scholarships of \$3,000 and \$1,500 went to rising junior and senior college students. We continue to have qualified and very deserving applicants each year.

During 2012, nearly all the work was done to finish off the lower level of the building. Moisture resistant drywall was installed as well as an air vent, sprinkler heads and a metal door for the furnace room. The walls were painted. Baseboards & trim were installed and painted. Vinyl flooring was installed in the hallway by the furnace room as well as carpeting in the main room. All this was accomplished with help from the Town and many volunteer hours. We now have space for archiving the growing collections. Our moisture problems have been solved at last. We continue to add to the gardens around the building. In the spring, we received a grant from the Exeter Area Garden Club, which enabled us to add some azaleas and perennials to the front and sides of the building. We thank the residents of the Town for your support.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Sapienza, President



## **HERITAGE COMMISSION**

The Heritage Commission was established by the Town to be responsible for “the proper recognition, use and protection of resources, tangible or intangible, primarily man-made, that are valued for their historic, cultural, aesthetic, or community significance within their natural, built, or cultural contexts and to exercise such authority as authorized under RAS 674:44-b.”

**HERITAGE RECOGNITION:** In February, the Commission presented a well-attended program, “Off the Shelf and Down from the Attic.” Panelists were joined by audience members presenting objects from Stratham homes that told stories about the nature of everyday life in our Town and how that has changed over the centuries. Maggie Stier, Field Service Representative of the NH Preservation Alliance, moderated the program. DVD recordings of the evening, produced by John Hazekamp, are available at the Library and for sale from the Commission.

The Town Center display of maps, old photographs and explanatory text that the Commission prepared to support the work of the Planning Office and the Town Center Committee was on display at the Municipal Center and at the Stratham Fair.

To commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the construction of the Wiggin Memorial Library at the corner of Portsmouth Avenue and Winnicutt Road, the Commission successfully completed and submitted an application nominating the historic stone building to the NH Register of Historical Places. A plaque and certificate marking the designation, the first building to be so honored in Stratham, were presented at the anniversary celebration on July 14.

**ADVISE AND ASSIST:** In April, at the Commission’s invitation, Nadine Petersen, Preservation Planner at the NH Division of Historical Resources, met with Commission members and Lincoln Daley, the Town Planner. Starting at the Town Center the group toured areas of historic significance and discussed the existing challenges facing planning for preservation in Stratham. In June, the Commission met with the Town Planner to discuss the Town’s application for a NH Community Planning Grant.

**HERITAGE PROTECTION:** Residents voted at the 2011 Town Meeting to establish the Heritage Preservation Fund, but it remains unfunded. Lack of appropriations for capital projects hampers the Commission’s ability to take timely and concrete action to protect historic resources. Citing its responsibility for recognizing and protecting places of historic and community significance the Commission sent a letter to the Planning Board in October responding to the proposed rezoning of the small lot at 5 Emery Lane. The Commission stated that it could not recommend rezoning because of the potential for detrimental impact upon the Emery Lane neighborhood, an area of value to the Town for its historic, aesthetic and community significance.

**VETERANS’ GARDEN AND REGISTRY:** In the spring of 2012, the Commission supervised the installation of new, more effective lighting for the flags and monuments. The Commission is grateful for the cooperation and care given to the garden by Kim Woods, Park Ranger. Forms for submitting names for engraving on monuments and bricks, and for inclusion in the veterans’



registry, are available at the Town Clerk's Office and at the Wiggin Memorial Library. Honorably discharged veterans are encouraged to submit a form.

The Heritage Commission meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7 PM. We welcome visitors at our meetings and volunteers for short or long term projects.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Mitchell, Chair (778-7979)

## STRATHAM 300<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

In 2012, the Stratham 300th Anniversary Committee continued its transformation from brainstorming group to one with purpose and determination. This focus can be seen in the group's numerous accomplishments.

Following affirmative support of the Committee's Town History Warrant Article, the group began working with author Craig Brandon. Initial efforts have focused on identifying volunteers and developing a process for conducting research. Work on the Town History will continue through 2013.

The Committee continued its fundraising and outreach efforts in 2012 with a Mother's Day yard sale at Stratham Hill Park, and a concert at Exeter High School featuring the Navy Pops Ensemble (*attended by over seven hundred people*). The Committee also participated and sold commemorative caps, shirts, and bags at the Stratham Fair, Election Day, Christmas Tree Lighting, and the Gordon Barker No Brakes Bike Race. Our involvement in these events helps spread awareness of our Town's milestone anniversary and also helps fund future 300th Anniversary celebrations.

In 2013, the Committee's focus will be to support the efforts of Town History author Craig Brandon, expand fundraising efforts, increase public awareness, and begin planning and implementing larger fundraising events. Please visit our web page located within the Town website or visit our Facebook page to learn of upcoming activities.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey R. Hyland, Chair



## WELFARE ADMINISTRATION

The Town of Stratham provides temporary assistance to individuals and families with identified and verified needs as required by law. Assistance is given for basic living needs such as shelter, utilities, and medical needs in compliance with NH RSA 165. In 2012, the Town received 23 total requests for assistance and of those, 5 requests were paid by the Town.

THREE YEAR HISTORY OF WELFARE EXPENDITURES							
MONTH		2010		2011		2012	
January		\$2,009.86					
February		\$4,913.47		\$700.38			
March		\$4,609.74				\$481.29	
April		\$975.00					
May		\$3,095.78		\$231.52		\$850.00	
June		\$3,542.45		\$750.00			
July		\$2,100.16		\$550.00			
August		\$975.00		\$425.00			
September		\$2,839.23					
October		\$1,475.00		\$1,000.00		\$259.86	
November		\$1,925.00		\$975.00		\$25.00	
December		\$375.00		\$2,100.00		\$715.00	
TOTALS:		\$28,835.69		\$6,731.90		\$2,331.15	
SUMMARY OF WELFARE PAYMENTS - 2012							
MONTH	FOOD	RENT	HEAT	ELECTRIC	MEDICAL	MISC	TOTAL
January	\$40						\$40.00
February							
March			\$441.29				\$441.29
April							
May		\$850					\$850
June							
July							
August							
September							
October						\$259.86	\$259.86
November						\$25	\$25
December		\$715.00					\$715
Total Expenditures	\$40	\$1,565	\$441.29			\$284.86	\$2,331.15
Budget Amount:	\$750	\$20,000	\$4,250	\$3,000	\$1,500	\$500	\$30,000
BALANCE:	\$710	\$18,435	\$3,808.71	\$3,000	\$1,500	\$215.14	\$27,668.85

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey J. Grella  
Welfare Administrator



**TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**REPORT ON AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**DECEMBER 31, 2011**

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
DECEMBER 31, 2011

Within this section of the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire's (Town) annual financial report, the Town's management provides narrative discussion and analysis of the financial activities of the Town for the year ended December 31, 2011. The Town's financial performance is discussed and analyzed within the context of the accompanying financial statements and disclosures following this section. The discussion focuses on the Town's primary government and, unless otherwise noted, component units reported separately from the primary government are not included.

***Financial Highlights***

- The Town's assets exceeded its liabilities by \$19,356,486 (net assets) for the fiscal year reported. This compares to the previous year when the assets exceeded liabilities by \$17,235,974.
- The Town had total revenue of \$26,168,969, in which \$22,575,961 came from the collection of taxes. This is a \$1,315,191 increase from last year's revenue.
- The Town had total expenditures of \$27,094,905, which is a \$2,762,165 increase from last year. The increase in expenditures is due largely to the increase in capital outlays and special warrants.
- At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance for the General Fund was \$1,513,528 or 5.6% of total General Fund expenditures including transfers and 5.8% of total General Fund revenues including transfers.
- Total liabilities of the Town increased by \$135,844 to \$18,295,787 during the year. The increase in liabilities is due to the increase in the amounts due for the bond anticipation note and the school districts.

***Overview of the Financial Statements***

Management's discussion and analysis introduces the Town's basic financial statements. The basic financial statements include: (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) fund financial statements, and (3) notes to the financial statements. The Town also includes in this report additional information to supplement the basic financial statements.

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
DECEMBER 31, 2011  
(Continued)

***Government-wide Financial Statements***

The Town's annual report includes two government-wide financial statements. These statements provide both long-term and short-term information about the Town's overall status. Financial reporting at this level uses a perspective similar to that found in the private sector with its basis in full accrual accounting and elimination or reclassification of internal activities.

The first of these government-wide statements is the Statement of Net Assets. This is the Town-wide statement of financial position presenting information that includes all of the Town's assets and liabilities, with the difference reported as net assets. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Town as a whole is improving or deteriorating. Evaluation of the overall economic health of the Town would extend to other non-financial factors such as diversification of the taxpayer base or the condition of Town infrastructure in addition to the financial information provided in this report.

The second government-wide statement is the statement of activities which reports how the Town's net assets changed during the current year. All current year revenues and expenses are included regardless of when cash is received or paid. An important purpose of the design of the statement of activities is to show the financial reliance of the Town's distinct activities or functions on revenues provided by the Town's taxpayers.

Both governmental-wide financial statements distinguish governmental activities of the Town that are periodically supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, such as grants, and from business type activities that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges. Governmental activities included general government, public safety, public services, education, and culture and recreation.

***Notes to the Financial Statements***

The accompanying notes to the financial statements provide information essential to a full understanding of the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements begin immediately following the basic financial statements.

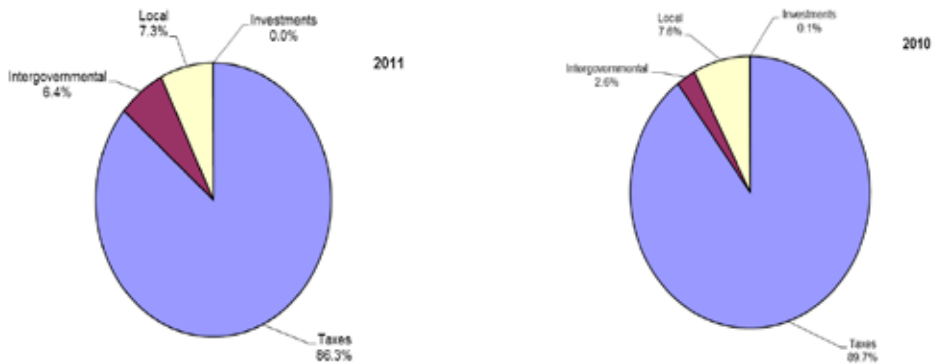
***Financial Analysis of the Town as a Whole***

As year-to-year financial information is accumulated on a consistent basis, changes in net assets may be used to monitor the changing financial position of the Town as a whole.

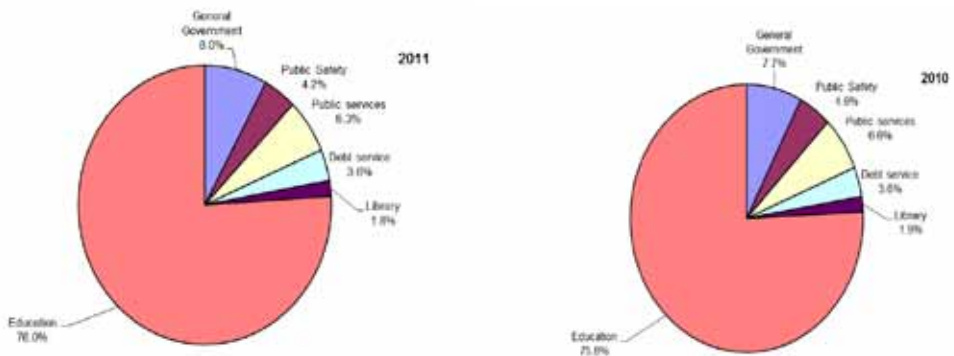
TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
DECEMBER 31, 2011  
(Continued)

Graphic presentations of selected data from the summary tables follow to assist in the analysis of the Town's activities for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010.

GOVERNMENTAL REVENUES



GOVERNMENTAL EXPENDITURES





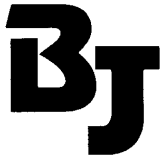
TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
DECEMBER 31, 2011  
*(Continued)*

**Long-term Debt**

At year-end the Town had \$8,501,000 in bonds outstanding, of which \$489,000 will be due in the year 2012. More detail is provided in the notes to financial statements.

**Request for Information**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, and investors with a general overview of the Town's finances and to show the Town's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need any additional financial information, contact the appropriate financial official (Town Treasurer or Town Administrator) at 10 Bunker Hill Avenue, Stratham, New Hampshire, 03885.



## **Bernard, Johnson & Company, P.C.**

Certified Public Accountants and Business Advisors

### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Selectman  
Town Of Stratham, New Hampshire

We have audited the accompanying government-wide and governmental fund financial statements of the Town Of Stratham, New Hampshire as of and for the year ended December 31, 2011, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Town's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the Town Of Stratham, New Hampshire as of December 31, 2011, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

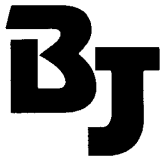
In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 27, 2012, on our consideration of the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*, and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and related directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

The management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consist principally of inquiries of management regarding methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

*Barard Johnson & Company P.C.*

Topsfield, Massachusetts  
June 27, 2012



## **Bernard, Johnson & Company, P.C.**

Certified Public Accountants and Business Advisors

### **REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

To the Board of Selectman  
Town Of Stratham, New Hampshire

We have audited the accompanying government-wide and governmental fund financial statements of the Town Of Stratham, New Hampshire as of and for the year ended December 31, 2011, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 27, 2012. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Town of Stratham's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that misstatement of the Town's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the Town of Stratham's internal control.

#### **Ancillary Accountability**

The Town provides facilities, equipment, insurance and staff to several ancillary groups during the year, including, but not limited to various sports boards, the Stratham Hill Park Association and the volunteer fire department association. In addition, appropriations are made from the Town budget to fund these groups' activities to a certain degree. In the past, these organizations have operated independently from the Town. Therefore, we recommend the tax status (501 (c) 3 organizations) and filing requirements (990's) of these groups be identified in order to properly include or properly exclude these groups from the Town's general fund for accounting purposes.

#### **Management's Response**

Management has had some success in bringing the activity of these groups on the books of the Town and under management of the Recreational Revolving fund. However, management is still working with some groups to establish them as part of the Town or as separate legal entities. Management believes these issues will be resolved in the near future.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the Town's internal control.

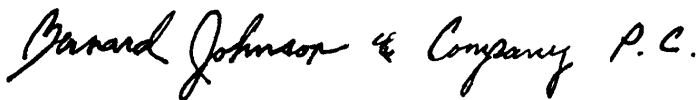
Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

#### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We noted certain matters that we reported to management of the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire, in a separate letter dated June 27, 2012.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, Town Selectmen, and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bernard Johnson & Company P.C." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Topsfield, Massachusetts  
June 27, 2012

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS  
DECEMBER 31, 2011

	Governmental Activities
ASSETS:	
Current:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 11,082,062
Investments - at market	508,695
Receivables:	
Taxes - uncollected	1,359,976
Taxes - unredeemed	260,188
Other	92,504
Noncurrent:	<u>13,303,425</u>
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation:	
Roads	6,230,730
Land	9,287,542
Buildings and improvements	8,316,340
Equipment and vehicles	514,236
	<u>24,348,848</u>
 TOTAL ASSETS	 <u>\$ 37,652,273</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
LIABILITIES:	
Current:	
Due to school districts	\$ 8,550,621
Accrued liabilities	67,889
Deferred revenue	1,176,277
Bond anticipation note	1,430,000
Current portion of long-term liabilities -	
Bonds payable	489,000
Noncurrent -	
Bonds payable, net of current portion	<u>6,582,000</u>
 TOTAL LIABILITIES	 <u>18,295,787</u>
NET ASSETS:	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	15,847,848
Restricted for:	
Trust principal	388,302
Other purposes	1,048,970
Unrestricted	<u>2,071,366</u>
 TOTAL NET ASSETS	 <u>19,356,486</u>
 TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	 <u>\$ 37,652,273</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

Government Operations	Expenses	Charge for Services	Grants	Net
General government	\$ 1,823,891	\$ (183,243)	\$ -	\$ 1,640,648
Public safety	953,864	(10,387)	(2,449)	941,028
Highway and streets	402,969	-	-	402,969
Sanitation	601,927	-	-	601,927
Health and welfare	113,270	-	-	113,270
Parks and recreation	175,657	(12,539)	-	163,118
Debt service interest	336,811	-	-	336,811
Library	369,957	(24,233)	-	345,724
County	1,198,645	-	-	1,198,645
School districts	17,281,689	-	-	17,281,689
Depreciation	570,441	-	-	570,441
Total governmental operations	\$ 23,829,121	\$ (230,402)	\$ (2,449)	\$ 23,596,270
General Revenues:				
Taxes				22,575,961
Intergovernmental				1,556,725
Motor vehicle registration				1,271,904
Other				310,014
Investments				2,178
Total general revenue				25,716,782
Change in net assets				2,120,512
Net Assets - Beginning				17,235,974
Net Assets - Ending				\$ 19,356,486

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

BALANCE SHEET  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
DECEMBER 31, 2011

	Governmental Fund Types				Total Government
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Expendable Trusts	2011
<b>ASSETS:</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8,756,512	\$ 1,228,972	\$ -	\$ 1,216,971	\$ 11,202,455
Taxes receivable	1,620,164	-	-	-	1,620,164
Other receivables	92,504	-	-	-	92,504
Tax dedeed property	18,300	-	-	-	18,300
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 10,487,480</b>	<b>\$ 1,228,972</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,216,971</b>	<b>\$ 12,933,423</b>
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>					
Due to school districts	\$ 8,550,621	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,550,621
Accrued expenses	67,889	-	-	-	67,889
Deferred revenue	-	1,176,277	-	-	1,176,277
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>8,618,510</b>	<b>1,176,277</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,794,787</b>
<b>FUND EQUITY:</b>					
Assigned	355,442	-	-	693,528	1,048,970
Unassigned	1,513,528	52,695	-	523,443	2,089,666
<b>TOTAL FUND EQUITY</b>	<b>1,868,970</b>	<b>52,695</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,216,971</b>	<b>3,138,636</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$ 10,487,480</b>	<b>\$ 1,228,972</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,216,971</b>	<b>\$ 12,933,423</b>
Net Assets - Governmental Funds					\$ 3,138,636
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different due to:					
Non-current capital assets					24,330,548
Non-expendable trusts					388,302
Non-current long-term debt					(8,501,000)
<b>Net Assets</b>					<b>\$ 19,356,486</b>

The accompany notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

COMBINED BALANCE SHEET  
ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUPS  
DECEMBER 31, 2011

	Governmental Fund Types			Fiduciary Fund	Account Group	Totals (Memorandum only)	
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Trust	General Long-Term Debt		
						2011	2010
ASSETS:							
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8,756,512	\$ 1,228,972	\$ -	\$ 1,096,578	\$ -	\$ 11,082,062	\$ 11,739,280
Investments - at market	-	-	-	508,695	-	508,695	500,803
Receivables:							
Taxes - uncollected	1,359,976	-	-	-	-	1,359,976	1,012,796
Taxes - unredeemed	260,188	-	-	-	-	260,188	340,377
Tax deeded property	18,300	-	-	-	-	18,300	18,300
Other	92,504	-	-	-	-	92,504	75,000
Amount to be provided for the retirement of long term debt	-	-	-	-	8,501,000	8,501,000	7,560,000
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 10,487,480</b>	<b>\$ 1,228,972</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,605,273</b>	<b>\$ 8,501,000</b>	<b>\$ 21,822,725</b>	<b>\$ 21,246,556</b>
LIABILITIES:							
Due to school districts	\$ 8,550,621	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,550,621	\$ 8,265,587
Bond anticipation note payable	-	-	-	-	1,430,000	1,430,000	1,430,000
Bonds payable	-	-	-	-	7,071,000	7,071,000	7,560,000
Accrued expenses	67,889	-	-	-	-	67,889	34,821
Deferred revenue	-	1,176,277	-	-	-	1,176,277	869,535
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>8,618,510</b>	<b>1,176,277</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,501,000</b>	<b>18,295,787</b>	<b>18,159,943</b>
FUND EQUITY:							
Assigned	355,442	-	-	693,528	-	1,048,970	995,117
Unassigned	1,513,528	52,695	-	-	-	1,566,223	1,397,243
Unexpendable trust principal	-	-	-	388,302	-	388,302	385,102
Expendable trust income	-	-	-	523,443	-	523,443	309,151
<b>TOTAL FUND EQUITY</b>	<b>1,868,970</b>	<b>52,695</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,605,273</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,526,938</b>	<b>3,086,613</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$ 10,487,480</b>	<b>\$ 1,228,972</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,605,273</b>	<b>\$ 8,501,000</b>	<b>\$ 21,822,725</b>	<b>\$ 21,246,556</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN  
FUND BALANCES – ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES AND EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

	Governmental Fund Types			Fiduciary Fund
	General Fund	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Expendable Trust
REVENUE:				
Taxes	\$ 22,575,961	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Intergovernmental sources	1,559,174	-	-	115,000
Local sources	1,882,569	24,233	-	-
Investments	2,178	-	15	9,839
TOTAL REVENUE	26,019,882	24,233	15	124,839
EXPENDITURES:				
General government	1,823,891	-	-	-
Public safety	953,864	-	2,631	-
Highway and streets	549,769	-	-	-
Sanitation	601,927	-	-	-
Health & welfare	113,270	-	-	-
Parks & recreation	175,696	-	-	-
Debt service	825,811	-	-	-
Capital outlay & special warrants	3,155,933	-	-	-
Library	-	411,779	-	-
County	1,198,645	-	-	-
School districts	17,281,689	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	26,680,495	411,779	2,631	-
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(660,613)	(387,546)	(2,616)	124,839
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):				
Operating transfers in	1,446,814	380,064	-	104,387
Operating transfers out	(470,392)	-	(16,814)	(80,998)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	976,422	380,064	(16,814)	23,389
EXCESS OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES	315,809	(7,482)	(19,430)	148,228
FUND BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,553,161	60,177	19,430	1,068,743
FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	\$ 1,868,970	\$ 52,695	\$ -	\$ 1,216,971

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN  
FUND BALANCES – ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES AND EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

	Totals (Memorandum Only)	
	2011	2010
REVENUE:		
Taxes	\$ 22,575,961	\$ 22,292,586
Intergovernmental sources	1,674,174	646,054
Local sources	1,906,802	1,894,678
Investments	12,032	20,460
TOTAL REVENUE	26,168,969	26,323,767
EXPENDITURES:		
General government	1,823,891	1,727,777
Public Safety	956,495	1,023,076
Highway and streets	549,769	566,528
Sanitation	601,927	610,938
Health & welfare	113,270	141,820
Parks & recreation	175,696	155,935
Debt service	825,811	801,800
Capital outlay & special warrants	3,155,933	667,474
Library	411,779	416,937
County	1,198,645	1,209,443
School districts	17,281,689	17,010,801
Other	-	211
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	27,094,905	25,802,729
EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES OVER REVENUES	(925,936)	521,038
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):		
Operating transfers in	1,931,265	544,379
Operating transfers out	(568,204)	(537,758)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	1,363,061	6,621
EXCESS OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES	437,125	527,659
FUND BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	2,701,511	2,173,852
FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	\$ 3,138,636	\$ 2,701,511

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN  
FUND BALANCES – BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
GENERAL AND SPECIAL REVENUE FUND TYPES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

	General Fund		
	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUE:			
Taxes	\$ 22,588,314	\$ 22,575,961	\$ (12,353)
Intergovernmental sources	1,543,649	1,559,174	15,525
Local sources	1,799,474	1,882,569	83,095
Investments	2,500	2,178	(322)
TOTAL REVENUE	25,933,937	26,019,882	85,945
EXPENDITURES:			
General government	1,807,603	1,823,891	(16,288)
Public safety	1,027,468	953,864	73,604
Highway and streets	619,464	549,769	69,695
Sanitation	622,848	601,927	20,921
Health & welfare	144,398	113,270	31,128
Parks & recreation	195,242	175,696	19,546
Debt service	823,300	825,811	(2,511)
Capital outlay & special warrants	3,083,026	3,155,933	(72,907)
Library	-	-	-
County	1,198,645	1,198,645	-
School districts	17,281,689	17,281,689	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	26,803,683	26,680,495	123,188
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	(869,746)	(660,613)	209,133
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):			
Operating transfers in	-	1,446,814	1,446,814
Operating transfers out	(70,000)	(470,392)	(400,392)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING USES	(70,000)	976,422	1,046,422
EXCESS OF REVENUES AND OTHER SOURCES OVER EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES	(939,746)	315,809	1,255,555
FUND BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,553,161	1,553,161	-
FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	\$ 613,415	\$ 1,868,970	\$ 1,255,555

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN  
FUND BALANCES – BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
GENERAL AND SPECIAL REVENUE FUND TYPES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

	Special Revenue Fund Types		
	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUE:			
Taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Intergovernmental sources	-	-	-
Local sources	-	24,233	24,233
Investments	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,233</b>	<b>24,233</b>
EXPENDITURES:			
General government	-	-	-
Public safety	-	-	-
Highway and streets	-	-	-
Sanitation	-	-	-
Health & welfare	-	-	-
Parks & recreation	-	-	-
Debt service	-	-	-
Capital outlay & special warrants	-	-	-
Library	373,669	411,779	(38,110)
County	-	-	-
School districts	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>373,669</b>	<b>411,779</b>	<b>(38,110)</b>
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	<b>(373,669)</b>	<b>(387,546)</b>	<b>(13,877)</b>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):			
Operating transfers in	373,669	380,064	6,395
Operating transfers out	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>	<b>373,669</b>	<b>380,064</b>	<b>6,395</b>
EXCESS OF REVENUES AND OTHER SOURCES OVER EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES	<b>-</b>	<b>(7,482)</b>	<b>(7,482)</b>
FUND BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	<b>60,177</b>	<b>60,177</b>	<b>-</b>
FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	<b>\$ 60,177</b>	<b>\$ 52,695</b>	<b>\$ (7,482)</b>

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN  
FUND BALANCES – ALL PROPRIETARY FUND TYPES AND SIMILAR TRUST FUNDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

	Fiduciary Fund Type Non-Expendable Trusts
REVENUES:	
New trusts	\$ 3,200
Realized and unrealized gain on investments	-
TOTAL REVENUES	3,200
EXPENDITURES	-
EXCESS REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	3,200
FUND BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	385,102
FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	\$ 388,302

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
ALL PROPRIETARY FUND TYPES AND SIMILAR TRUST FUNDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

	Fiduciary Fund Type Non-Expendable Trusts
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES -	
Operating Income	\$ 466
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATIONS	466
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:	
Purchase of securities	-
Unrealized/realized gain on securities	(427)
NET CASH PROVIDED BY INVESTING ACTIVITIES	(427)
NET INCREASE IN CASH	39
CASH AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	52,951
CASH AT END OF YEAR	\$ 52,990

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

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1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

The financial statements of the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire, (the Town) have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applicable to governmental units. The following is a summary of the more significant accounting policies.

A. Reporting Entity

The Town was incorporated in 1716 under the laws of the State of New Hampshire and operates under an elected three-member Board of Selectmen.

The Town meets the criteria established by the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) as a primary governmental entity for financial reporting purposes, and has determined that no entities met the required GASB 39 criteria for component units.

B. Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e. the statement of net assets and the statement of changes in net assets) report information on all non-fiduciary activities of the primary government. For the most part, the effect of inter-fund activity has been removed from these statements.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or activity is offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function. Program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services or privileges provided by a given function or activity and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital function of a particular function or activity. Taxes and other items not considered property, included among program revenues are reported instead as *general revenues*.

(Continued)



TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011  
(Continued)

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C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide statements are reported using the *economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the *current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences are recorded only when payment is made.

The following are the Town's governmental fund types:

General Fund - The General Fund is the general operating fund of the Town. All general appropriations that are not allocated by law or contractual agreement to another fund are accounted for in this fund. From the fund are paid the general operating expenditures, the fixed charges and the capital improvement costs that are not paid through other funds. Activities are generally financed through property taxes, motor vehicle registrations and other general revenue.

Special Revenue Funds - Special Revenue Funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources (other than expendable trust or major capital projects) requiring separate accounting because of legal or regulatory provisions or administrative action. The funds included in this group include the operation of the public library.

Capital Projects Funds - The Capital Projects Fund accounts for the acquisition of land for, and the construction of, the new Safety Complex as approved by Town Meeting.

Expendable Trust - Expendable trusts are used to account for assets held in a trustee capacity. Expendable trusts (in which the corpus can be spent) are accounted for in a similar fashion to governmental fund types.

(Continued)

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011  
(Continued)

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D. Compensated Absences

Upon termination, employees are paid for all unused time in their paid leave bank and compensatory time. Accumulated paid leave and compensatory time for employees paid out of governmental funds are recorded as an expenditure when due for payment. Accordingly, the Town has established a termination trust to pay unfunded compensation liabilities when incurred.

E. Accounting for Encumbrances

Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of funds are recorded in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, is employed in the governmental funds. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are reported as reservations of fund balance since they do not yet constitute expenditures or liabilities. There were no outstanding encumbrances at year end.

F. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

G. Investments

Marketable equity securities and debt securities are classified as either held to maturity, trading, or available-for-sale. Debt securities classified as held-to-maturity should be reported in the balance sheet at amortized cost. Trading securities and available-for-sale securities are reported at fair value.

H. Budgetary Control

An annual appropriated budget is adopted for the Town's general fund. Budgets are prepared by department and character (salaries, utilities, supplies, etc.). The budget is voted on and enacted at the Town Meeting in the aggregate. The final budget is then presented to the Department of Revenue Administration for their review and approval of the tax rate. Certain limitations set by state statute must be adhered to before the rate is established. Since the budget is voted on in the aggregate the total becomes the legal level of control. Within this control level, the selectmen may transfer appropriations without further action from the Town.

(Continued)

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011  
(Continued)

I. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment and certain infrastructure assets, are reported in the governmental activities in the government-wide statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial individual cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of one year. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized. Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. The Town has only capitalized governmental infrastructure assets acquired since 2003. Depreciation is recorded on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of each asset. The estimated useful lives range from 5-50 years.

CHANGES IN FIXED ASSETS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2011

Governmental Activities:

	ASSETS			
	Balance 12-31-10	Additions	Retirements	Balance 12-31-11
Land	\$ 6,764,129	\$2,523,413	\$ -	\$ 9,287,542
Buildings and improvements	9,400,594	300,860	-	9,701,454
Roads	6,897,513	324,101	-	7,221,614
Equipment and vehicles	2,482,746	43,254	26,650	2,499,350
Totals	<u>\$25,544,982</u>	<u>\$3,191,628</u>	<u>\$ 26,650</u>	<u>\$28,709,960</u>
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION				
Buildings and improvements	\$ 1,120,939	\$ 264,173	\$ -	\$ 1,385,112
Roads	849,693	141,191	-	990,884
Equipment and vehicles	1,846,689	165,077	26,650	1,985,116
Totals	<u>\$ 3,817,321</u>	<u>\$ 570,441</u>	<u>\$ 26,650</u>	<u>\$ 4,361,112</u>

During the year ended December 31, 2011 the Town spent \$3,155,933 in capital outlays and special warrants. Included in this amount is \$2,363,663 and \$355,000 for a land easement and purchased property, respectively. See page 30 for a breakdown of the current year capital outlay and special warrants.

(Continued)

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011  
(Continued)

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2. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS:

The Town's cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

RSA 48:16 requires that all funds belonging to the Town be deposited in solvent banks within the state, except funds may be deposited in banks outside the state if such banks pledge and deliver collateral to the state treasurer of equal value as the funds deposited. There is no requirement of an in-state bank to collateralize deposits in excess of FDIC insurance.

3. ASSIGNED FUND BALANCE:

The balance in the general fund account - assigned fund balance - represents unexpended funds for current and previous years' special appropriations for the following purposes:

Energy efficient improvements	\$ 92,504
MC parking lot improvements	88,970
Office technologies	56,715
Cemetery improvements	47,500
Town center plan	29,600
Highway vehicle	13,568
Playing field improvements	10,653
Library computers	6,500
Reassessment	6,470
Library renovations	1,703
Municipal permitting	1,000
Road construction	259
	<hr/>
	\$ 355,442

The balance in the trust funds represents unexpended capital reserve accounts established for the following:

Land conservation	\$429,001
Radio replacement	86,531
Fire department	177,996
	<hr/>
	\$693,528

4. TOTAL COLUMNS ON STATEMENTS - OVERVIEW:

Total columns on the Combined Statements are captioned "memorandum only" to indicate that they are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. Data in these columns do not present financial position, results of operations or changes in financial position in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

(Continued)

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011  
(Continued)

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5. PROPERTY TAXES:

Property taxes are based on values assessed as of April 1, and are billed semi-annually. The taxes are normally due by July 1 and December 1, respectively, or thirty days subsequent to the mailing date, whichever is later. Taxes due and unpaid after the respective due date are subject to interest at 12%. The Town has an ultimate right to foreclose on property for which taxes have not been paid. Thirty days after the taxes become delinquent the tax collector can initiate the tax lien/sale procedure by notifying the taxpayer by certified mail that they have 32 days to pay the bill or a lien shall be recorded against the property at the Registrar of Deeds. Once such lien is placed, interest increases to 18%. If full redemption of such outstanding tax lien is not timely made within two years of the execution of the lien, including statutory interest and costs accrued thereon, a tax deed may be issued to the holder of such lien pursuant to RSA 80:38 or RSA 80:76, and disposed of as the deed holder shall determine within the limits outlined in RSA 80.

6. SPECIAL REVENUE CASH:

Special revenue cash consists of the following:

Road bonds	\$ 679,069
EMS	246,671
Recreation revolving fund	73,654
Police details	68,301
Fire protection fund	46,308
SHP Recreational revolving fund	23,028
SHPA recreation funds	15,537
Lindt impact	10,030
Heritage funds	6,435
Security deposits	4,405
Drug forfeiture funds	2,135
Cemetery funds	704
	<u>\$1,176,277</u>

7. CASH AND INVESTMENTS:

The Town's cash deposits and investments at December 31, 2011, are categorized by maturity date and by the level of risk assumed by the Town. The risk categories are defined as follows:

- (1) Insured or collateralized with securities held by the Town or its agent in Town's name;
- (2) Collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent in the Town's name;
- (3) Uncollateralized or uninsured for which securities are held by the financial institution's trust department or agent but not in the Town's name.

(Continued)

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011  
(Continued)

7. CASH AND INVESTMENTS: (Continued)

At December 31, 2011, the Town's deposits and investments consisted of the following:

	Categories			Total Cost	Market Value
	1	2	3		
Demand deposits	\$247,400	\$ -	\$ 10,043,650	\$ 10,291,050	\$ 10,291,050
Securities	-	-	417,065	417,065	508,695
New Hampshire Public Deposit and Investment Pool	-	791,012	-	791,012	791,012
	<u>\$247,400</u>	<u>\$ 791,012</u>	<u>\$ 10,460,715</u>	<u>\$ 11,499,127</u>	<u>\$ 11,590,757</u>

8. RECONCILIATION OF BUDGET AS APPROVED AT TOWN MEETING TO GAAP BASIS BUDGET:

Total appropriations - Town Meeting	\$7,149,941
Add: Prior years' appropriations expended	
Road construction	84,360
Gateway district	17,000
Library renovations	14,220
Municipal center parking lot	8,030
Stevens Park	5,860
Reassessment	4,661
Office technologies	2,566
Computer replacement	1,160
Less: 2011 Appropriations carried forward	
Municipal center parking lot	(50,000)
Computer replacement	(44,312)
Cemetery improvements	(32,000)
Town Center plan	(25,000)
Highway vehicle replacement	(13,568)
Playing field improvements	(10,653)
Library computers	(6,500)
Office technologies	(1,408)
Municipal permitting	(1,000)
Road construction	(259)
	<u>\$7,103,098</u>

(Continued)

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011  
(Continued)

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9. DUE TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS:

The school district assessments for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 were \$8,864,386 for Exeter Regional Cooperative and \$8,417,303 for Stratham School. The School District assessments are paid in monthly installments. As of December 31, 2011 \$4,631,068 and \$4,100,000 was paid respectively, leaving a total balance of \$8,550,621 to be paid through June 30, 2012.

10. BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE:

On December 31, 2010 the Town entered into a bond anticipation note agreement in the principal amount of \$1,430,000 to finance the acquisition of a conservation easement. The Bonds original terms incurred interest from its original issue date at 2.71%, maturing June 15, 2011. During the year ended December 31, 2011 this note was extended bearing interest at 2.97% with a new maturity date of June 15, 2012. Interest was paid in the amount of \$17,654 at the original maturity date. No interest or principal is due under this agreement until maturity. As of December 31, 2011 there was \$22,923 of accrued interest related to this note. In addition, management intends to refinance this BAN with a long-term bond prior to the maturity date. Accordingly, the BAN has been classified as long-term.

11. GENERAL LONG-TERM DEBT:

General governmental liabilities for retirement of long-term debts are accounted for in the general long-term debt group. Amounts due in future periods on long-term debt recorded in the account group are provided by appropriation each year.

At December 31, 2011, the general long-term debt of the Town consists of general obligation bonds with an original issue amount of \$5,000,000 for the acquisition and construction of major capital facilities for the safety complex, general obligation bonds with an original issue amount of \$140,000 for Gifford house renovations, and general obligation bonds with an original issue amount of \$4,444,000 for the construction of the fire house and purchase of conservation land. In addition, the Town has an outstanding debt for the purchase of conservation easement property in the amount of \$1,430,000. The total amount outstanding under these agreements at December 31, 2011 is 8,501,000.

2007 Serial Bonds, with the first installment due in the amount of \$229,000, then annual installments of \$225,000 through 2016, decreasing to annual installments of \$220,000 through January, 2028 with scheduled interest increasing from 3.75% to 4.25% (3.75% in January, 2011). The amount outstanding under this bond at December 31, 2011 is \$3,765,000.

2003 Serial Bonds, due in annual installments of \$250,000 through January 2024, with scheduled interest increasing from 2.5% to 4.25% (3.25% in January 2011). The amount outstanding under this bond at December 31, 2011 is \$3,250,000.

(Continued)

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011  
(Continued)

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11. GENERAL LONG-TERM DEBT: *(Continued)*

2006 Serial Bonds, due in annual installments of \$14,000 through December, 2015, with interest fixed at 4.75%. The amount outstanding under this bond at December 31, 2011 is \$56,000.

Principal payments with terms in excess of one year mature as follows:

December, 2011, payable January 2012	489,000
December, 2012	489,000
December, 2013	489,000
December, 2014	489,000
Beyond	5,115,000



TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

DETAILED STATEMENT OF GENERAL FUND REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE – BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
<b>REVENUES:</b>			
<b>TAXES:</b>			
Property	\$ 22,547,114	\$ 22,534,716	\$ (12,398)
Land use change	41,000	41,000	-
Yield tax	200	245	45
	<u>22,588,314</u>	<u>22,575,961</u>	<u>(12,353)</u>
<b>INTERGOVERNMENTAL SOURCES:</b>			
Shared revenues-state	324,069	324,069	-
Highway subsidies-state	173,076	172,965	(111)
Police grants-federal	4,000	2,449	(1,551)
Conservation & other-state	1,042,504	1,059,691	17,187
	<u>1,543,649</u>	<u>1,559,174</u>	<u>15,525</u>
<b>LOCAL SOURCES:</b>			
Police department	-	5,767	5,767
Motor vehicle registrations	1,260,000	1,271,904	11,904
Franchise fee	126,574	126,574	-
Interest on deposits	1,400	2,178	778
Rent & sale of town property	49,000	59,269	10,269
Permits, filing fees	32,000	47,362	15,362
Dog licenses	9,000	8,733	(267)
Building permits	90,000	116,174	26,174
Interest & penalties on taxes	60,000	148,248	88,248
Income from departments	150,000	76,612	(73,388)
Reimbursements & other	24,000	21,926	(2,074)
	<u>1,801,974</u>	<u>1,884,747</u>	<u>82,773</u>
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<u>\$ 25,933,937</u>	<u>\$ 26,019,882</u>	<u>\$ 85,945</u>

(Continued)

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

DETAILED STATEMENT OF GENERAL FUND REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE – BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

*(Continued)*

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
EXPENDITURES:			
GENERAL GOVERNMENT:			
Executive	\$ 161,373	\$ 159,420	\$ 1,953
Election, registration, and vital statistics	5,575	5,112	463
Financial administration	352,491	356,636	(4,145)
Legal	40,000	35,193	4,807
Personnel administration	806,763	717,662	89,101
Planning and zoning	211,619	207,904	3,715
General government buildings	119,346	109,825	9,521
Cemeteries	31,892	19,619	12,273
Insurance	78,544	78,544	-
Abatements/refunds	-	133,976	(133,976)
	<u>1,807,603</u>	<u>1,823,891</u>	<u>(16,288)</u>
PUBLIC SAFETY:			
Police	851,628	818,299	33,329
Fire	140,440	118,364	22,076
Dispatch service	20,700	11,218	9,482
Emergency management	14,700	5,983	8,717
	<u>1,027,468</u>	<u>953,864</u>	<u>73,604</u>
HIGHWAYS & STREETS:			
Town maintenance	547,664	515,895	31,769
Public works commission	64,800	26,800	38,000
Street lights	7,000	7,074	(74)
	<u>619,464</u>	<u>549,769</u>	<u>69,695</u>
SANITATION:			
Trash pick-up	622,848	601,927	20,921
HEALTH & WELFARE:			
General assistance	36,500	6,732	29,768
Health department	47,398	45,978	1,420
Water treatment	-	-	-
Animal control	500	560	(60)
Mosquito control	60,000	60,000	-
	<u>144,398</u>	<u>113,270</u>	<u>31,128</u>
PARKS & RECREATION:			
Parks	80,779	73,913	6,866
Recreation	94,528	91,298	3,230
Patriotic	1,035	1,803	(768)
Heritage & other	18,900	8,682	10,218
	<u>195,242</u>	<u>175,696</u>	<u>19,546</u>

(Continued)

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

DETAILED STATEMENT OF GENERAL FUND REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE – BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

(Continued)

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
EXPENDITURES (Continued):			
DEBT SERVICE:			
Bond principal	489,000	489,000	-
Interest-long term	295,547	296,234	(687)
Interest-short term	38,753	40,577	(1,824)
	<u>823,300</u>	<u>825,811</u>	<u>(2,511)</u>
CAPITAL OUTLAY & SPECIAL WARRANTS:			
Conservation easement	2,365,166	2,365,166	-
Foss property	355,000	355,000	-
Computers	5,000	1,848	3,152
Office technology	10,000	12,658	(2,658)
Fire tower maintenance	11,000	11,000	-
Reassessment	-	4,661	(4,661)
Highway reconstruction	204,360	204,101	259
Highway vehicle	50,000	36,432	13,568
Municipal center lot expansion	7,500	8,030	(530)
Municipal improvements	50,000	119,830	(69,830)
Playing fields	25,000	20,207	4,793
Gateway district	-	17,000	(17,000)
	<u>3,083,026</u>	<u>3,155,933</u>	<u>(72,907)</u>
COUNTY	<u>1,198,645</u>	<u>1,198,645</u>	<u>-</u>
SCHOOL DISTRICT	<u>17,281,689</u>	<u>17,281,689</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>26,803,683</u>	<u>26,680,495</u>	<u>123,188</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	<u>(869,746)</u>	<u>(660,613)</u>	<u>209,133</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Operating transfers-in	-	1,446,814	1,446,814
Operating transfers-out	(70,000)	(470,392)	(400,392)
TOTAL OTHER SOURCES (USES)	<u>(70,000)</u>	<u>976,422</u>	<u>1,046,422</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES AND OTHER SOURCES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES	<u>(939,746)</u>	<u>315,809</u>	<u>1,255,555</u>
FUND BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>1,553,161</u>	<u>1,553,161</u>	<u>-</u>
FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 613,415</u>	<u>\$ 1,868,970</u>	<u>\$ 1,255,555</u>

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

Federal Grantor Pass-Through Grantor Program Title	Federal CFDA Number	Pass-Through Grantor Federal Number	Expenditures
U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service - Farm and Ranch Lands Protection	10.913		\$950,000
U.S. Department of Energy Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program -	81.128		92,504
Total expenditures of Federal awards			\$1,042,504

Notes to schedule of expenditures of Federal awards:

Significant accounting policies:

The schedule of Federal awards presented above is prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

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1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

- a) An unqualified opinion was issued on the financial statements of the auditee.
- b) The audit disclosed no instances of noncompliance which would be material to the financial statements of the auditee.
- c) An unqualified opinion was issued in the report on compliance for major programs.
- d) The audit disclosed no reportable audit findings.
- e) Major Federal Program(s):

<u>Program Title</u>	<u>Federal CFDA Number</u>
Farm and Ranch Lands Protection	10.913

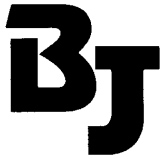
- f) The dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs was \$300,000.
- g) The auditee did not qualify as a Low-Risk Auditee.

2. FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

None

3. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

None



## Bernard, Johnson & Company, P.C.

Certified Public Accountants and Business Advisors

### REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133

To the Board of Selectman  
Town Of Stratham  
Stratham, NH 03885

#### Compliance

We have audited the compliance of the Town Of Stratham, New Hampshire, with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 *Compliance Supplement* that are applicable to each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2011. Town of Stratham, New Hampshire's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. Compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to each of its major federal programs is the responsibility of the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire's compliance based on our audit.

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; OMB Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire's compliance with those requirements.

In our opinion, the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire, complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that are applicable to each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2011.

#### Internal Control Over Compliance

The management of the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire, is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to federal programs. In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire's internal control over compliance with the requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the compliance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire's internal control over compliance.

A control deficiency in an entity's internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to administer a federal program such that there is more than a remote likelihood that noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, Town Selectmen, and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

*Barard Johnson & Company P.C.*

Topsfield, Massachusetts  
June 27, 2012





# **BIRTHS REGISTERED IN STRATHAM FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2012**

<b>CHILD'S NAME</b>	<b>BIRTH DATE</b>	<b>BIRTH PLACE (NH)</b>	<b>FATHER'S NAME</b>	<b>MOTHER'S NAME</b>
CORNETTA WEST, CADENCE E.	01/26/12	EXETER	WEST, CARROLL	CORNETTA, CHRISTINA
BLATCHFORD, BENJAMIN THOMAS	02/23/12	PORTSMOUTH	BLATCHFORD, DANIEL	BLATCHFORD, AMY
DROST, Ayla ELIZABETH	03/01/12	EXETER	DROST, MICHAEL	FITTON, STEPHANIE
REPPUCCI, SAMANTHA EMILY	03/22/12	EXETER	REPPUCCI, PAUL	REPPUCCI, JACQUELINE
DUNN, MATTHEW LAIRD	04/05/12	EXETER	DUNN, ELLIOT	DUNN, JENNIFER
FULLER, BRAYDEN CHRISTOPHER	06/08/12	PORTSMOUTH	FULLER, ERIC	FULLER, JESSICA
JUSSEAUME, TAYLOR KATHRYN	06/28/12	PORTSMOUTH	JUSSEAUME, BRIAN	JUSSEAUME, JENNIFER
FLETCHER, LEXI JENEE	07/19/12	PORTSMOUTH	FLETCHER, CHAD	FLETCHER, KERRI
MENEZES, AVA MARIE	07/23/12	PORTSMOUTH	MENEZES, DUSTIN	OBRIEN, AMANDA
JAMIESON, GUNNAR THOMAS	10/11/12	EXETER	JAMIESON JR, HAROLD	JAMIESON, JESSICA
DANIELS, GEORGE RYAN	10/16/12	PORTSMOUTH	DANIELS, GEORGE	DANIELS, STEPHANIE
HITCHMOTH, CORALINE CLARKE	11/02/12	PORTSMOUTH	HITCHMOTH, PETER	HITCHMOTH, HAYLEY
SULLIVAN, EMERSON PAIGE	11/13/12	PORTSMOUTH	SULLIVAN, FORD	SULLIVAN, ASHLEIGH
DOLCE, BENJAMIN STANLEY	11/25/12	PORTSMOUTH	DOLCE, FREDERICK	DOLCE, KERRI
MOSLEY, TAYLOR EMMA	12/21/12	PORTSMOUTH	MOSLEY, ANDREW	MOSLEY, ANDREA

# DEATH REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2012

DATE OF		DEATH			MOTHER'S NAME	
DECEDENT'S NAME	DEATH	PLACE OF DEATH	FATHER'S NAME	MOTHER'S NAME		
DEVORE, JOHN	01/26/12	BRENTWOOD	DEVORE, CHARLES	GOODRICH, GRACE		
BILLY, JOHN	02/10/12	STRATHAM	BILLY, GEORGE	LOCHIATTO, ROSEMARIE		
BURGESS, MARIAN	02/25/12	EXETER	EKBORG, FRANZ	HAGSTROM, OLGA		
DUNKERLEY, THERESA	02/26/12	EXETER	GUILFOYLE, DENNIS	KAELIN, WILMA		
VARRONE, ROSE	03/10/12	STRATHAM	FERRARA, GIACOMO	CALIENDO, MADELINE		
DACKERMAN, ELIZABETH	03/14/12	STRATHAM	CHRISTIAN, FLOYD	HOLTON, JESSIE		
PANASYUK, LILYA	03/19/12	STRATHAM	PANASYUK, ALEXEI	ZINGERMAN, FAINA		
ROLLINS, RICHARD	03/21/12	MANCHESTER	ROLLINS, CHARLES	AUSTIN, EVELYN		
LAMBERTSON, EDITH	04/02/12	STRATHAM	TUCKER, WARREN	ROGERS, LUCY		
DALRYMPLE, HERBERT	04/20/12	EXETER	DALRYMPLE, EDWARD	DEOJAY, GRETA		
NUGENT SR., JAMES	04/21/12	STRATHAM	NUGENT, WILLIAM	REYNOLDS, ELSIE		
POYDAR, CATHARINE	05/18/12	PORTSMOUTH	ALEXANDER, GEORGE	HAMILTON, HENRIETTA		
LITZELMAN, DONALD	05/24/12	STRATHAM	LITZELMAN, JOHN	RIDGEWAY, MARGARET		
ANDERSON, GWENDOLYN	06/04/12	DOVER	DE ROCHEMONT, JAMES	MANSON, GLADYS		
TOLINI, EVA	07/17/12	STRATHAM	TEDESCHI, VICTOR	CRISPI, MARY		
ABBOTT, THERESA	07/17/12	DOVER	CASSIDY, PATRICK	COSENTINO, MARY		
BENTLEY, MARGARET	07/24/12	STRATHAM	BENSINGER, ALAN	DYE, FLORENCE		
WARK, D. CRAIG JR.	07/29/12	PORTSMOUTH	WARK, DONALD C.	PATTEE, MILDRED		
CUSHMAN, ROBERT	08/08/12	PORTSMOUTH	CUSHMAN, OTIS	LINDQUIST, ELIZABETH		
DOAN, MARIETTE	08/12/12	PORTSMOUTH	LONG, HERBERT	PILGRIM, LILLIAN		
RYAN, PATRICIA	08/15/12	STRATHAM	ANDREWS, ROBERT	MCCAUSLAND, RUTH		
CHENEY SR., HENRY	08/31/12	STRATHAM	CHENEY, EDWARD	HEBERT, GLORIA		
SURRETTE, ESTELLE	09/05/12	PORTSMOUTH	LEBLANC, BARTHELEMI	COTE, ROSE		
ANGELAKIS, PETER	09/24/12	STRATHAM	ANGELAKIS, THEODORE	KLEROS, YANNOULA		
BRADY JR., EARL	11/05/12	STRATHAM	BRADY SR., EARL	EVITTS, EVELYN		
LAFFERTY JR., JAMES	11/27/12	PORTSMOUTH	LAFFERTY, JAMES	KRATT, EMMA		
SHANLEY, JOSEPH	11/28/12	PORTSMOUTH	SHANLEY, JAMES	HAZZARD, JOANNE		

**MARRIAGES REPORTED FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2012**

<b>PERSON A'S NAME</b>	<b>PERSON A'S RESIDENCE</b>	<b>PERSON B'S NAME</b>	<b>PERSON B'S RESIDENCE</b>	<b>TOWN OF ISSUANCE</b>	<b>PLACE OF MARRIAGE</b>	<b>DATE OF MARRIAGE</b>
HARPER, MARIALAINA	STRATHAM	LEFEBVRE, BERTRAND E	STRATHAM	STRATHAM	JACKSON	04/21/12
BROWER, BRIAN L	STRATHAM	MCKEON, MEGHAN M	RYE	RYE	RYE BEACH	05/05/12
MARA, ERIC J	AVON, CT	MOORE, ALLIE B	STRATHAM	STRATHAM	NO. CONWAY	05/26/12
CHAMBERS, JOHN E	PORTSMOUTH	ELLIOTT, CHELSEA M	STRATHAM	STRATHAM	NEW CASTLE	06/15/12
CONRAD, BRETT M	STRATHAM	NEILD, SHANNON L	STRATHAM	STRATHAM	NEW CASTLE	07/07/12
CLARK, MARK W	STRATHAM	BURKE, KELLY C	STRATHAM	STRATHAM	HAMPSTEAD	07/21/12
SIMEONE, STEFANIE W	STRATHAM	SKELLEY III, ALAN F	HOLDERNESS	HOLDERNESS	PORTSMOUTH	07/28/12
ISSERTELL, JASON W	STRATHAM	COTE, ALLISON J	STRATHAM	STRATHAM	RYE	08/11/12
STALKER, WILFRED F	STRATHAM	ZBAWIONY, MARIA T	STRATHAM	STRATHAM	PORTSMOUTH	08/23/12
CORDIALINI JR, DAMIAN A	STRATHAM	ROBERTS, LARISSA R	STRATHAM	STRATHAM	PORTSMOUTH	08/25/12
FILLION, LESLIE J	LITTLETON	CHARTIER, RICHARD J	STRATHAM	BEDFORD	MILFORD	09/02/12
WOODS, BRITTANY L	STRATHAM	SCHULTHESS, DREW M	PORTSMOUTH	PORTSMOUTH	BETHLEHEM	09/15/12
HOLT, MARIE A	STRATHAM	HELTON, AMY L	STRATHAM	STRATHAM	EXETER	09/22/12
WIGGIN, ABIGAIL H	STRATHAM	CRAMER, COREY J	STRATHAM	STRATHAM	STRATHAM	10/14/12
LAPOINTE, DENISE M	STRATHAM	TRAMALONI, TEDD J	STRATHAM	STRATHAM	GREENLAND	10/27/12
BOHN JR, HENRY J	STRATHAM	STONE, DEBORAH A	STRATHAM	STRATHAM	NEWFIELDS	12/12/12
MATHESON, JOANN	STRATHAM	CLARK, ADRIAN M	STRATHAM	STRATHAM	HAMPTON FALLS	12/12/12
ELMORE, JOHN P	STRATHAM	ZENG, XIAOHUI	STRATHAM	STRATHAM	LONDONDERRY	12/24/12

# ANNUAL REPORTS

<p>For the school year ending June 29, 2012 With the Proposed 2013-2014 Budgets</p>
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OF

STRATHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT  
STRATHAM NEW HAMPSHIRE

COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
(EXETER REGION / ERCSD)

AND

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #16  
(SAU 16)

MARCH 2013

### STRATHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT

Grades Pre-School through 5<sup>th</sup> for Stratham School District

#### Stratham School Board

Travis Thompson, Chair.....	Term expires 2015
Heidi Hanson, Vice Chair .....	Term expires 2015
Bob O'Sullivan .....	Term expires 2014
Eric von der Linden.....	Term expires 2013
Everett Lamm .....	Term expires 2014

#### Moderator

David Emanuel .....	Term expires 2013
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#### Clerk

Mikki Deschaine .....	Term expires 2012
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#### Treasurer

John Hazekamp .....	Term expires 2013
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#### Stratham Memorial School

Tom Foshier – Principal	Elizabeth LaCasse – Nurse
Rebecca Ruel – Vice Principal	Plodzick & Sanderson – Auditor

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### COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT / Exeter Region (ERCSD)

Grades 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> for: Brentwood, Exeter, East Kingston, Kensington, Newfields and Stratham

#### Cooperative School Board

Dave Miller, Chair.....	East Kingston term expires 2014
Kate Segal, Vice Chair.....	Exeter term expires 2014
Maggie Bishop .....	Exeter term expires 2015
Elizabeth “Liz” Faria .....	Brentwood term expires 2013
Alicia Heslop .....	Newfields term expires 2015
Helen Joyce .....	Stratham term expires 2015
Kate Miller (SAU Joint Board Chair) .....	Exeter term expires 2013
Mark Portu .....	Stratham term expires 2014
Joni Reynolds.....	Kensington term expires 2013

#### Moderator

Charles Tucker.....	Term expires 2013
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#### Clerk

Sue Bendroth .....	Appointed position
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#### Treasurer

Luke Breton .....	Appointed position
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### SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT 16

Superintendent services for school districts of:

Brentwood, Cooperative (ERCSD), Exeter, East Kingston Kensington, Newfields and Stratham

Michael A. Morgan  
Superintendent of Schools

Paul A. Flynn  
Associate Superintendent

Sandra MacDonald  
Assistant Superintendent

Esther A. Asbell  
Assistant Superintendent

Carol Y. Andre  
Special Education Administrator

Amy R. Ransom  
Business Administrator

**SCHOOL WARRANT 2013  
STRATHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT  
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

To the inhabitants of the School District of the Town of Stratham, County of Rockingham, State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote upon District affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Stratham Memorial School in said District on Friday, the eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) day of March, 2013 at seven o'clock in the evening (7:00 pm) to act on the following subjects:

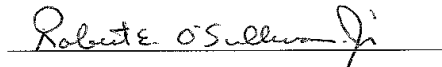
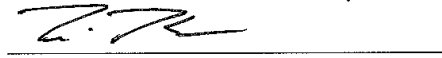
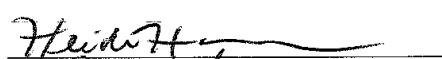

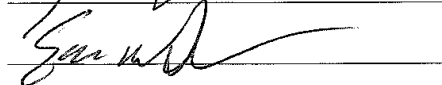
1. To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,964,011 for the support of the schools, for payment of salaries of School District officials and agents, and for payment of the statutory obligations of the School District. This article does not include appropriations voted in other warrant articles. The School Board recommends this appropriation by a vote of 5 for and 0 against. (Majority Vote Required)
2. To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$75,000 to be added to the Special Education Trust Fund previously established in 2009. This sum to come from June 30, 2013 surplus fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2013. No amount to be raised from taxation. The School Board recommends this appropriation by a vote of 5 for and 0 against. (Majority Vote Required)
3. To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 to be added to the Maintenance Trust Fund previously established in 2009. The School Board recommends this appropriation by a vote of 5 for and 0 against. (Majority Vote Required)
4. To hear reports of Agents, Auditors, Committees, or Officers heretofore chosen and pass any vote relating thereto.
5. To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting.

Given under our hands at said Stratham on this sixth day of February 2013.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

TRUE COPY OF WARRANT – ATTEST:

STRATHAM SCHOOL BOARD

**SCHOOL WARRANT 2013  
STRATHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT  
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

To the inhabitants of the School District of the Town of Stratham, County of Rockingham, State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote upon District affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Municipal Center in said District on the twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) day of March, 2013 between the hours of eight o'clock in the morning (8:00 AM) and eight o'clock in the evening (8:00 PM) to act on the following subjects:

1. To choose one (1) Member of the School Board for the ensuing one (1) year.
2. To choose one (1) Member of the School Board for the ensuing three (3) years.
3. To choose one (1) School District Treasurer for the ensuing three (3) years.
4. To choose one (1) School District Moderator for the ensuing three (3) years.

Given under our hands at said Stratham on this 6<sup>TH</sup> day of February, 2013.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

TRUE COPY OF WARRANT – ATTEST:

STRATHAM SCHOOL BOARD


# SCHOOL BUDGET FORM

OF: Stratham \_\_\_\_\_ NH

Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue for the Fiscal Year From July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014

## IMPORTANT:

Please read RSA 32:5 applicable to all municipalities.

1. Use this form to list ALL APPROPRIATIONS in the appropriate recommended and not recommended area. This means the operating budget and all special and individual warrant articles must be posted.
2. Hold at least one public hearing on this budget.
3. When completed, a copy of the budget must be posted with the warrant. Another copy must be placed on file with the school clerk, and a copy sent to the Department of Revenue Administration at the address below within 20 days after the meeting.

This form was posted with the warrant on (Date): \_\_\_\_\_

### SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

*Please sign in ink.*

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## THIS BUDGET SHALL BE POSTED WITH THE SCHOOL WARRANT

FOR DRA USE ONLY

NH DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION  
MUNICIPAL SERVICES DIVISION  
P.O. BOX 487, CONCORD, NH 03302-0487  
(603)230-5090

MS-26  
Rev.12/11



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Acct.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)	OP Bud. WARR. ART.#	Expenditures for Year 7/1/11 to 6/30/12	Appropriations Current Year As Approved by DRA	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Recommended)	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Not Recommended)
<b>INSTRUCTION</b>						
1100-1199	Regular Programs		2,976,128.00	3,385,534.00	3,371,753.00	
1200-1299	Special Programs		1,082,863.00	1,240,181.00	1,292,432.00	
1300-1399	Vocational Programs					
1400-1499	Other Programs		1,830.00	3,375.00	3,023.00	
1500-1599	Non-Public Programs					
1600-1699	Adult/Continuing Ed. Programs					
1700-1799	Community/Jr.College Ed. Programs					
1800-1899	Community Service Programs					
<b>SUPPORT SERVICES</b>						
2000-2199	Student Support Services		680,909.00	670,181.00	701,016.00	
2200-2299	Instructional Staff Services		854,727.00	393,826.00	483,174.00	
<b>GENERAL ADMINISTRATION</b>						
2310 840	School Board Contingency					
2310-2399	Other School Board		30,910.00	33,500.00	33,500.00	
<b>EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION</b>						
2320-310	SAU Management Services		224,982.00	213,812.00	211,512.00	
2320-2399	All Other Administration					
2400-2499	School Administration Service		309,935.00	315,416.00	361,830.00	
2500-2599	Business					
2600-2699	Operation & Maintenance of Plant		415,933.00	435,366.00	452,932.00	
2700-2799	Student Transportation		359,705.00	396,391.00	398,058.00	
2800-2999	Support Service, Central & Other		2,159,725.00	2,324,072.00	2,440,477.00	
<b>NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES</b>						
3100	Food Service Operations			198,620.00	203,104.00	
3200	Enterprise Operations					
<b>FACILITIES ACQUISITIONS &amp; CONSTRUCTION</b>						
4100	Site Acquisition					
4200	Site Improvement		-	7,500.00	11,200.00	
4300	Architectural/Engineering					
4400	Educational Specification Development					
4500	Building Acquisition/Construction					
4600	Building Improvement Services					
4900	Other Facilities Acquisition and Construction Services					
<b>OTHER OUTLAYS (5000-5999)</b>						
5110	Debt Service - Principal					
5120	Debt Service - Interest					
<b>FUND TRANSFERS</b>						
5220-5221	To Food Service					
5222-5229	To Other Special Revenue					
5230-5239	To Capital Projects					
5254	To Agency Funds					
5300-5399	Intergovernmental Agency Alloc.					
<b>SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION</b>						
<b>DEFICIT APPROPRIATION</b>						
<b>OPERATING BUDGET TOTAL</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>9,097,647.00</b>	<b>9,617,774.00</b>	<b>9,964,011.00</b>	

**\*\*SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES\*\***

Special warrant articles are defined in RSA 32:3,VI, as: 1) appropriations in petitioned warrant articles; 2) appropriations raised by bonds or notes; 3) appropriations to a separate fund created pursuant to law, such as capital reserve funds or trust funds ; 4) an appropriation designated on the warrant as a special article or as a nonlapsing or nontransferable article.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Acct.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)	Expenditures for Year 7/1/11 to 6/30/12	Appropriations Current Year As Approved by DRA	WARR. ART.#	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Recommended)	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Not Recommended)
5251	To Capital Reserves					
5252	To Expendable Trust	115,000.00	175,000.00	2,3	175,000.00	
5253	To Non-Expendable Trusts					
<b>SPECIAL ARTICLES RECOMMENDED</b>			175,000.00		175,000.00	

**\*\*INDIVIDUAL WARRANT ARTICLES\*\***

"Individual" warrant articles are not necessarily the same as "special warrant articles". Examples of individual warrant articles might be: 1) Negotiated cost items for labor agreements; 2) Leases; 3) Supplemental appropriations for the current year for which funding is already available; or 4) Deficit appropriations for the current year which must be funded through taxation.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Acct.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)	Expenditures for Year 7/1/11 to 6/30/12	Appropriations Current Year As Approved by DRA	WARR. ART.#	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Recommended)	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Not Recommended)
<b>INDIVIDUAL ARTICLES RECOMMENDED</b>						

1	2	3	4	5	6
Acct.#	SOURCE OF REVENUE	WARR. ART.#	Actual Revenues Prior Year	Revised Revenues Current Year	Estimated Revenues ENSUING FISCAL YEAR
<b>REVENUE FROM LOCAL SOURCES</b>					
1300-1349	Tuition		14,925.00	14,000.00	14,000.00
1400-1449	Transportation Fees				
1500-1599	Earnings on Investments		882.00	800.00	800.00
1600-1699	Food Service Sales			158,620.00	163,104.00
1700-1799	Student Activities				
1800-1899	Community Services Activities				
1900-1999	Other Local Sources		4,782.64		
<b>REVENUE FROM STATE SOURCES</b>					
3210	School Building Aid				
3215	Kindergarten Building Aid				
3220	Kindergarten Aid				
3230	Catastrophic Aid		-	13,915.00	15,000.00
3240-3249	Vocational Aid				
3250	Adult Education				
3260	Child Nutrition			3,000.00	3,000.00
3270	Driver Education				
3290-3299	Other State Sources				
<b>REVENUE FROM FEDERAL SOURCES</b>					
4100-4539	Federal Program Grants				
4540	Vocational Education				
4550	Adult Education				
4560	Child Nutrition			37,000.00	37,000.00
4570	Disabilities Programs				
4580	Medicaid Distribution		14,596.00	15,000.00	14,000.00
4590-4999	Other Federal Sources (except 4810)		40,040.35		
4810	Federal Forest Reserve				
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>					
5110-5139	Sale of Bonds or Notes				
5221	Transfer from Food Service-Spec.Rev.Fund				
5222	Transfer from Other Special Revenue Funds				
5230	Transfer from Capital Project Funds				
5251	Transfer from Capital Reserve Funds				

1	2	3	4	5	6
Acct.#	SOURCE OF REVENUE	WARR. ART.#	Actual Revenues Prior Year	Revised Revenues Current Year	ESTIMATED REVENUES ENSUING FISCAL YEAR
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES cont.</b>					
5252	Transfer from Expendable Trust Funds				
5253	Transfer from Non-Expendable Trust Funds				
5300-5699	Other Financing Sources				
5140	This Section for Calculation of RAN's (Reimbursement Anticipation Notes) Per RSA 198:20-d for Catastrophic Aid Borrowing RAN, Revenue This FY_____less RAN, Revenue Last FY_____ =NET RAN				
	<b>Supplemental Appropriation (Contra)</b>				
	Voted From Fund Balance		25,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00
	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes		340,099.00	209,565.00	200,000.00
<b>Total Estimated Revenue &amp; Credits</b>			<b>440,326.00</b>	<b>526,900.00</b>	<b>521,904.00</b>

<b>**BUDGET SUMMARY**</b>
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	Current Year	Ensuing Year
Operating Budget Appropriations Recommended (from page 2)	9,617,774.00	9,964,011.00
Special Warrant Articles Recommended (from page 3)	175,000.00	175,000.00
Individual Warrant Articles Recommended (from page 3)	-	-
<b>TOTAL Appropriations Recommended</b>	<b>9,792,774.00</b>	<b>10,139,011.00</b>
Less: Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits (from above)	526,900.00	521,904.00
Less: Amount of State Education Tax/Grant	637,837.00	687,641.57
<b>Estimated Amount of Local Taxes to be Raised For Education</b>	<b>8,628,037.00</b>	<b>8,929,465.43</b>

Fellow Citizens of Stratham,

Unfortunately, 2012 came to a close with a tragedy that hit very close to home for everyone in the education community, and the wonderful educators at Stratham Memorial School were no exception. Our thoughts, prayers and condolences go out to those affected by the events at Sandy Hook Elementary School.

Stratham Memorial School continues to provide an outstanding education to the students of our community. This is a testament to the dedicated team of administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals and support staff that work tirelessly to ensure our students receive the high quality education that our community has come to expect. I would like to thank them for everything that they do for our students on a daily basis.

This past year the Board has had some turnover in its members due to a variety of reasons. I would be remiss to not thank Mark Sykas and Luke Pickett for their years of service on the Board and their dedication toward helping the students of Stratham. As a result of these changes, we welcomed two new members to the Board during the year. Dr. Everett Lamm and Eric von der Linden volunteered to be appointed to the empty seats for the remainder of the year and run for the open seats in our next election. Thank you for your willingness to step onto the Board and to serve the Stratham community. I would also like to welcome the new Assistant Superintendent who works with Stratham, Sandra MacDonald.

The operating budget being brought forth by the Board represents a 1.75% increase from the previous year. The Administration, Board and Budget Advisory Committee continue to try and maximize what we can provide the students while being mindful of the increasing costs associated with the operation of the school. The primary drivers of the increase continue to fall in the areas of retirement costs, health care, technology and specialized services, as well as the increases in the everyday operation of the school. Everyone involved works very hard to minimize these increases and we have developed the budget with those thoughts in mind. Thank you to the members of our Budget Advisory Committee for their time and efforts in constructing the budget: Susan Canada, Bruno Federico, Sue Hunter, Charles Wagner, Patty Philbrook and Howard Rubin. Their input is an important part of the process and greatly appreciated.

Looking forward to next year, the Board will continue to focus on the implementation of the SAU Strategic Plan and how we can incorporate this into Stratham Memorial School. Technology continues to be a big part of this initiative and is a key component in all aspects of education in the twenty first century curriculum. Interactive white boards, Chromebook laptops and iPads have taken the place of the books, paper and pencils that many of us used in our elementary school days. These are no longer “extras,” but rather key tools in today’s education. Incorporating those tools into the curriculum at Stratham Memorial School is critical in preparing our students for the Cooperative Middle School, Exeter High School and beyond.

The warrant this year will have three articles from the School Board. The first warrant article is the budget. The second and third warrant articles are related to the Special Education and Maintenance Trust Funds. The Special Education Trust Fund is a mechanism to help with unknown and unanticipated Special Education expenses. The use of the Maintenance Trust Fund continues to be in line with the independent facility evaluation conducted three years ago. The maintenance plan continues to follow that outline and is designed to maintain the exceptional facility the town has provided for the students of Stratham.

It is a great pleasure and honor to serve the residents of Stratham as a member of the Board. I would like to thank my fellow Board members and their families for their hard work and dedication to the community and Stratham Memorial School. Heidi Hanson, Dr. Everett Lamm, Eric von der Linden and Bob O'Sullivan, thank you for all you do. I would also like to thank the community of Stratham for its ongoing support of our school, staff and students.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,

Travis Thompson  
Chairperson



**STRATHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

**PREVIOUS TWO FISCAL YEARS PER RSA 32:11-a**

<b><u>SPECIAL EDUCATION EXPENSES</u></b>		<b>2010-2011</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>
1210	Special Programs	1,014,715	1,082,862
1430	Summer School	0	0
2140	Psychological Services	79,905	79,905
2140	Vision / Hearing Svs	0	0
2150	Speech and Audiology	186,155	197,017
2159	Speech-Summer School	0	0
2160	Physical Therapy	17,192	11,804
2150	Occupational Therapy	169,744	171,126
2722	Special Transportation	47,369	51,311
2729	Summer School Transportation	0	0
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>1,515,080</b>	<b>1,594,025</b>

<b><u>SPECIAL EDUCATION REVENUE</u></b>			
1950	Services to other LEAs	0	0
3110	Special Ed. Portion Adequacy funds	112,529	112,529
3110	Foundation Aid	0	0
3111	Catastrophic Aid	0	0
3190	Medicaid	18,588	14,596
<b>Total Revenues</b>		<b>131,117</b>	<b>127,125</b>

<b>ACTUAL DISTRICT COST FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION</b>	<b>1,383,963</b>	<b>1,466,900</b>
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**TABLE I**  
**STRATHAM PUPILS**  
**TOTAL ENROLLMENT JANUARY 1, 2012**

YEAR	PRE	K	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL
2004-05	20	99	108	98	94	123	102	644
2005-06	19	95	112	112	95	99	120	652
2006-07	18	92	108	110	108	93	104	633
2007-08	19	83	96	106	111	108	100	623
2008-09	16	97	89	102	107	116	104	631
2009-10	19	91	107	92	106	106	116	637
2010-11	18	86	101	112	93	111	107	628
2011-12	21	101	93	104	119	99	116	653

**TABLE II**  
**STRATHAM MEMORIAL SCHOOL OUTSTANDING ATTENDANCE**  
**FOR 2011-2012**

Elizabeth Baldasaro  
Abigail Boisvert  
Nicholas Brown  
Makena Gahr  
Fiona Grace  
Owen Grace  
Walker Labrasca  
Samantha Lazev  
Amber Lussier  
Syngsak Nachampassak  
Maya Parker  
Catherine Parmelee  
Dominic Portelli  
Olivia Stella  
Sydney Taylor  
Mia Walston  
Connor Welts  
Jack Woodard



<u>Professional</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>2012-2013</u> <u>Wages</u>	<u>Professional</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>2012-2013</u> <u>Wages</u>
Adler, Susan	75,015.00	Moreno, Laurie (60%)	48,713.00
Armstrong, Caroline	55,172.00	Morrison, Linda	80,939.00
Atherton, Diane	75,015.00	O'Connor, Mary Lou	79,189.00
Audet, Rebecca	55,172.00	Page, Ashley	57,230.00
August, June	81,689.00	Pinsonnault, Karen	79,689.00
Batchelder, Laura	75,015.00	Rochford, Megan	46,861.00
Bates, Yvonne	70,188.00	Ruel, Jennifer	81,970.00
Beauchesne, Amy	73,113.00	Saltuss, Edgar	73,113.00
Bucklin, Katherine	59,614.00	Silvester, Kerry	79,689.00
Caldwell, Jessica	67,489.00	Snow, Jennifer	79,189.00
Caporello, Laurie	81,189.00	Spencer, Frank	81,689.00
Chartier, R. Melody	76,015.00	Stringham, Carol (70%)	48,888.00
Christilles, Tracey	80,689.00	Sullivan, Kristen	76,760.00
Craig, Deborah	81,189.00	Tierney, Janis	81,689.00
Curry, Julie	70,188.00	Valenti, Jessica	62,098.00
Driscoll, Margaret	89,117.00	Warner, Cathy	69,840.00
Durant, Karen (60%)	31,779.00	Wigode, Lucinda	81,189.00
Eitler, Judith	81,689.00		
Fennessy, Debra	69,340.00		
Fitzgerald, Cindy	73,515.00		
Fosher, Thomas	104,056.00		
Gagnon, Stephen	80,939.00		
Gaudet, Christine	81,689.00		
Gaynor, Chris	52,549.00		
Griffith, Diane (60%)	45,009.00		
Guilbert, Nancy	80,939.00		
Hackett, Jennifer	76,260.00		
Hadfield, Karen	69,840.00		
Hale, Gwen	80,189.00		
Harrison, Gary	79,689.00		
Hazeltine, Mary Ann	77,260.00		
Lacasse, Elizabeth	49,881.00		
Lee, Donna	76,515.00		
Leonard, Anne	79,189.00		
Lewald-Ratta, Cindy (60%)	44,709.00		
MacLean-Smith, Cheryl	73,515.00		
Maher, Donna	82,189.00		
Mastin, Melissa	76,159.00		
McIntosh, Laurie (60%)	44,109.00		
Megan, Sue Ann	82,189.00		
Miller, Suzette	75,515.00		
		<u>Full Time Support Staff</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>2012-2013</u> <u>Wages</u>
		Aiken, Michelle	25,877.25
		Breton, Robert	33,864.90
		Gebo, Patricia	40,677.60
		Greene, Benjamin	33,864.90
		Horan, Thomas	23,570.98
		McAlpine, Robert	63,347.00
		Ryan, Marlo	47,164.80



## **STRATHAM MEMORIAL SCHOOL**

**39 Gifford Farm Road Stratham, NH 03885**

**Tel: 772-5413 fax: 772-0021**

**Mr. Thomas J. Foshier**  
**Principal**

**Mrs. Jennifer Ruel**  
**Assistant Principal**

### **Regular Education Report**

January 11, 2013

August arrived a little quicker than usual and the doors to SMS were opened for 638 students in levels of Preschool through Grade Five. The 120 member staff had classrooms organized, materials prepared and lunches ready for consumption. All were set to commence the first step of a ten month journey, learning to grow socially, emotionally, and academically.

The faculty has implemented the Common Core Curriculum Standards (CCSS) in the primary grades, while grades 4 and 5 have focused on the Language Arts and Mathematics sections of the mandate. The intention of this process is to provide students with standards that are aligned with college and work; are clear, consistent and understandable; include rigorous content; application of knowledge through higher order thinking skills; build on strengths and lessons of current state expectations; and are evidenced based.

The SMS faculty maintained their effort in the teaching of Mathematics. The adoption of the e-Suite Every Day Math Program provided many facets for teaching and learning. Professional Development was lead by SERESC Math Specialist Betty Erickson. Our Response to Intervention (RTI) efforts have provided students with support in math and reading, aiding those children that may require more direct instruction to meet grade level expectations and proficiencies.

Longtime educators, Cathy Wansart, Connie Gilman and Nurse Judy Lewis submitted their retirements from SMS. Combined, the three individuals had over 75 years of educational service to the district. We were fortunate to have such dedicated and warm individuals. New to the SMS faculty are Caroline Ganier, Cindy Fitzgerald and Lilly LaCasse. Michelle Aiken was hired at the beginning of the school year as our school secretary.

The Champions for Children Award began its third term, recognizing those people in the Stratham community that have had an impact on our local youth. Receiving the prestigious award from our community were Arts Booster Club members Connie Adams and Linda Johansson.

The school year centered around five school goals emphasizing: student achievement; emphasis on a framework for a positive school climate through the Responsive Classroom and HEART principles; communication; implementation of the SINI/DINI plan; and the integration of technology via interactive whiteboards.

The school received the Annual School Volunteer Blue Ribbon Award for the seventeenth time as many of our community members have volunteered to assist the school in multiple capacities. Serving as presenters at conferences were Becky Ruel (Crisis Intervention), Susan Adler (CPI), J. Stephen Gagnon (Technology), Jessica Valenti (Technology) and I (School Safety and Bullying Prevention). Julia Tennant was the Spelling Bee Champion, making her way to the Regional contest in Concord. Our Geography Bee winner was Grayson Brockelbank. After school programming provided children with multiple choices to participate in; amongst their favorites were Mountain Biking, Geocaching, Blogging, Watercolor Painting, Knitting, Cross-country and the One World Language School.

Programs that continue to enrich our students included the visits to or from: NH Theatre Project, Mainely Stars, Portland Symphony, Portsmouth Music Hall, Old Yorke, Odiorne Point, Coppal Farm, Lego Robotics, Wildlife Encounters, Plimoth Docents and Jeff Warner. These terrific programs, along with our local field trips, aid in assuring our children receive a well-rounded education.

Please take the time to visit us, read my blog 'Stories from Stratham' or check us out at [www.sms.sau16.org](http://www.sms.sau16.org)!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tom Foshier

## STRATHAM MEMORIAL SCHOOL

39 Gifford Farm Road  
Stratham, New Hampshire 03885

Thomas J. Fosher  
*Principal*

J. Rebecca Ruel  
*Assistant Principal*

Patricia M. Gebo  
*Administrative Assistant*

Margaret E. Driscoll  
*Director of Special Services*

### **Stratham Memorial School Special Education Report**

At Stratham Memorial School, we continue to provide special education services to children with educational disabilities who qualify for these supports. The *NH Rules for the Education of Children with Disabilities* outline the requirements and procedures utilized to make decisions about eligibility for services so that all children receive a free and appropriate public education (FAPE). Typically, about 11% of our K-5 students qualify for special education support. During the 2011-2012 school year, 89 children were in the program. Federal and state law also requires us to provide services to our preschoolers, ages 3-5 who meet the criteria for identification. Last year we served 18 young children with disabilities. During the year, we held 273 meetings with families to review their children's needs, discuss evaluation options, and develop individualized educational programs (IEPs) for those students who qualified for special education.

Last spring we were designated as a "School in Need of Improvement" for not making Average Yearly Progress in reading on the NECAP testing. As a result, we have developed a comprehensive school improvement plan to address the literacy needs of our students. Teams are working together to identify factors associated with assessment, curriculum and instruction that will lead to more proficient skills for all learners. Special education staff is also reviewing other specialized reading programs that might be beneficial for some students to build their vocabulary and comprehension skills. We are also providing more focused instruction on constructing written responses to text to promote clear and coherent writing, an important component of our English Language Arts & Literacy standards.

Staff members continue to seek professional development to ensure we offer to our students evidenced-based instructional practices to build their skills as learners. Laurie McIntosh, OTR, received RESNA certification which enables her to effectively manage the assistive technology needs of children who need support to access the curriculum more independently. Jen Snow and Julie Curry, SLPs, have continued with advanced training in social thinking curriculums which support students with problem solving and self-regulation, areas that often require intervention for children with educational disabilities. Other staff members have sought continuing education in behavior management, reading and math interventions, and the use of technology to enhance instruction.

Building partnerships with parents as we work together to support children's development and learning is critical to our work. Ongoing communication about students' involvement in both the school and community settings enables us to set priority goals for each learner that will build competence and independence. We celebrate positive gains every day at SMS for all of our students, knowing they will become better self-advocates as they mature in this supportive educational environment.

Margaret E. Driscoll, M.Ed.  
Director of Special Services

## **STRATHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES**

**March 9, 2012**

Members Present: Claire Ellis, Robert O'Sullivan, Luke Pickett, Mark Sykas, and Travis Thompson.

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by School District Moderator David Emanuel.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Lucy Cushman.

The Moderator called for a moment of silence for those serving our country overseas.

Mr. Emanuel recognized the School Board Members and School District Clerk, as well as the Stratham Memorial School and SAU #16 administrators in attendance. He also noted that the meeting was being videotaped for Exeter Channel 22.

Mr. Emanuel then explained that he would follow simple parliamentary procedures, and highlighted some procedural items. He asked that everyone be courteous and respectful of one another.

The Moderator then recognized Tom Fosher, Principal of Stratham Memorial School, for a State of the School Report. Mr. Fosher gave an overview of the 2011-2012 school year thus far. He also shared the school's 2011-2012 goals and the School and Community Guiding Statement, as well as a number of photos of students, teachers and volunteers working together in the classrooms, the computer lab and outdoors.

ARTICLE 1: To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,584,502.50 for the support of the schools, for payment of salaries of School District officials and agents, and for payment of the statutory obligations of the School District, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately. (The School Board recommends this appropriation by a vote of 4-0.)

The Moderator asked if there was a motion to accept this article. Bob O'Sullivan moved to adopt Article 1 as read, and Luke Pickett seconded the motion. The Moderator then recognized Mr. O'Sullivan, who asked permission to yield the floor to Amy Ransom, Business Manager of SAU #16, for a presentation regarding the budget; there were no objections. Ms. Ransom noted that the proposed budget represented a 1.5% overall increase in the general fund. She highlighted some areas that reflected increases over last year: Retirement/Sick Accrual, based on teacher retirements and contractual obligations; SPED Aide Salaries, due to a new student in the District that requires a one-on-one aide; S.E. Tuition Outside NH, due to an anticipated out-of-district placement, and Ms. Ransom noted that the difference between this line item and funds coming out of the Special Education Trust Fund is that this is an anticipated expense, whereas the Special Education Trust Fund is for unanticipated special education costs; Computer Equipment, for replacement of equipment with net-books; Office of the Principal Salaries, due to

a merit increase of up to 5% for the principal, not to be added to the base per his contract with the District, and also a 1% salary increase to the base for the principal and assistant principal; Electricity, due to this having been under-budgeted in the past and also to reflect an increase in consumption due to running the summer program; Fuel Oil, based on the anticipated increase in fuel costs next year; Retirement-Employer Contribution, based on the increase to the employer contribution to the NH Retirement System, since this item was under-budgeted this fiscal year because the State had increased this District's budgeted portion from 9.07% to 11.3% after the budget had already been passed and voted on.

Ms. Ransom then outlined some reductions from last year's budget: Teacher Salaries, based on anticipated savings due to teacher retirements; Regular Education Aide Salaries, due to staffing changes; Health Salaries, as the board anticipates savings in this function since the school nurse is retiring; Occupational Therapist, due to reduction in contracted services based on current IEP programs; Computer Tech Salaries, reflecting a decrease in hours; Legal-Negotiations, based on anticipating no need for negotiations next year; Office of the Superintendent, due to a decrease in the overall SAU budget; S.E. Transportation, based on current IEP requirements; Dental Insurance, based on rates and enrollment; Life Insurance and Disability Insurance, due to a change in the vendor that has allowed the District to receive a lower rate on premiums; FICA, a calculation based on salaries; and Food Service Management, based on historical numbers.

The Moderator noted, for those not familiar with the budgeting process, that the school administrators work together with the School District Financial Advisory Committee. He asked those committee members present to stand and be recognized, and thanked them for their service.

The floor was then opened for questions and comments. Susan Canada of 47 Bunker Hill Avenue, chair of the Financial Advisory Committee, spoke on behalf of the Financial Advisory Committee, whose other members were Sue Hunter, Patty Philbrick, Howard Rubin, Charles Wagner, and Selectmen's representative Bruno Federico. Mrs. Canada outlined the work of the committee, and noted that the committee felt that Article 1 reflected a commitment to education while being mindful of the difficult economic times. She said that the committee recommended the adoption of Article 1.

There being no further questions or comments, the Moderator read Article 1 and called for a vote. The article passed with a majority voice vote in favor of adopting Article 1.

The Moderator then recognized Travis Thompson, who moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 1; Claire Ellis seconded the motion. There being no discussion, Mr. Emanuel called for a vote, and the motion to restrict reconsideration of Article 1 passed by a unanimous voice vote.

**ARTICLE 2:** To see if the School District will vote to enter into a collective bargaining agreement with the Stratham Teachers' Association (the union representing the teachers in the School District school) covering the three year period from September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2015, and approve cost items included therein containing, in summary: continuation of other non-salary benefits; and salary increases so that the approximate increase in the cost of teacher salaries and salary related expenses because of this agreement and step increases for each of the three years (subject to change resulting from changes in the number of and in the educational

degrees and years experience of teachers employed) over the preceding year will be:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Estimated Increase</u>
2012-2013	\$ 33,271
2013-2014	\$118,939
2014-2015	\$130,591

And, further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$33,271.00 for the 2012-2013 year, such sum representing the net additional costs attributable to the increase in the salaries and salary related benefits over those included as part of Article 1, the 2012-2013 operating budget. (The School Board recommends adoption of this article by a vote of 4-0.)

The Moderator asked if there was a motion to accept this article. Travis Thompson moved to adopt Article 2 as read, and Claire Ellis seconded the motion. The Moderator then recognized Mr. Thompson to speak to his motion.

Mr. Thompson noted that, after last year's vote, the School Board sat down with the leaders of the Stratham Teachers Association in September, and that they had all heard the voice of the community and knew that they had to work together to develop an agreement that met the expectations of the taxpayers of Stratham. He commended the STA for stepping up to the plate and doing what needed to be done, and he felt the result was a very positive contract to put forth to the voters. He also noted that, although the warrant article is listed as being recommended 4-0 by the School Board because one member was not present, this warrant article has the full support of all Board members.

Mr. Thompson then gave an overview of some of the provisions of the proposed three-year contract: the \$1.00 prescription plan will be immediately eliminated; employee cost sharing for health insurance increases each year for all offered plans; the employee contribution for the primary health care plan will exceed 20% by year three of the contract; salary increases will now be tied to a known index, COLA, with the first year being capped at 1%, and years two and three having a base of 1% with a cap of 2.5% for each year; salary steps missed in 2011-2012 will not be made up; the tax impact of the agreement in the first year is 2.8¢ per thousand.

The floor was then opened for questions and comments. David Canada of 47 Bunker Hill Avenue, Chair of the Stratham Board of Selectmen, stated that since the Selectmen had felt the need to comment upon last year's proposed contract, they felt they should do so again this year. He noted that the Selectmen applauded the STA for respecting the voter's wishes, and stated that the Board of Selectmen supported the adoption of Article 2. The Moderator then recognized Susan Canada of 47 Bunker Hill Avenue, who stated that the Financial Advisory Committee did not support last year's proposed contract, and that the voters had also spoken. She said that the STA had heard the voters, and she thanked them for their work on this proposed agreement. She then stated that the Financial Advisory Committee unanimously supported Article 2.

Kevin Henry of Chisholm Farm Road then asked, if the tax impact was for year one of the proposed contract was to be 2.8¢ per thousand, what would the increase for years two and three be. Mr. Thompson replied that this would be difficult to estimate since those figures would be based on teachers' salaries for those two years, but his guess off the top of his head was 5¢ to 6¢

per thousand. The Moderator then recognized Michael Morgan, Superintendent of SAU #16, who suggested that since 2.8¢ represented 1%, then 2% would be 5.6¢, so one could extrapolate that 2.5% would translate to approximately 7¢ per thousand. Mr. Henry then asked if, given last year's voter concerns regarding the teacher contract's impact on the tax rate, whether there was a contingency built into this proposed contract in the event of another economic downturn. Mr. Thompson replied that tying salary increases to COLA was designed to address that, noting that there was a 1% floor on salary increases in each of the three years of the contract. Martin Wool of Winnicutt Road stated that since the impact on taxes is also based on assessed property values and the Town's tax rate, it would be very difficult to calculate the projected tax impact beyond one year. He also asked whether step increases are included in this proposed contract, and Mr. Thompson replied in the affirmative. Mr. Wool then asked whether this meant that teachers would receive a 1% increase in addition to step increases. Mr. Thompson answered yes, but noted that since approximately 80% of the staff were already at their maximum step, only a handful of staff would be eligible for step increases. Mr. Wool then commended everyone involved in the negotiations for a great job in bringing a favorable contract to the taxpayers.

There being no further questions or comments, the Moderator read Article 2 and called for a vote. The article passed with a unanimous voice vote in favor of adopting Article 2.

The Moderator then recognized Travis Thompson, who moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 2; Bob O'Sullivan seconded the motion. There being no discussion, Mr. Emanuel called for a vote, and the motion to restrict reconsideration of Article 2 passed by a unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 to be added to the expendable trust fund known as the "Special Education Trust Fund" (established by the 2009 District meeting under RSA 198:20-c for the purpose of funding unanticipated special education expenditures for services, supplies, equipment, or tuitions) this sum to come from the June 30, 2012 fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2012. No amount to be raised from taxation. (The School Board recommends adoption of this article by a vote of 4-0.)

The Moderator asked if there was a motion to accept Article 3. Mark Sykas moved to adopt Article 3 as read, and Luke Pickett seconded the motion. The Moderator then recognized Mr. Sykas to speak to his motion.

Mr. Sykas noted that the Special Education Trust Fund had been approved by the voters several years ago since unanticipated special education costs can quickly accelerate; the School District cannot foresee the school population or special needs of new students in the district, and therefore such unforeseen special education expenses could be catastrophic to the school's operating budget. He also noted that although the article states that no funds will be raised from taxation due to State requirements for the wording of such warrant articles, for practical purposes the funds are coming from this year's surplus that would normally be returned to the general fund to offset next year's taxes.

The floor was then opened for questions and comments. Kevin Henry of Chisholm Farm Road questioned why increases in the Special Education line items had been requested and approved in Article 1, and now taxpayers were being asked to fund \$75,000 for special education in Article 3, and requested an explanation. Mr. Sykas explained that Article 3 was for unanticipated special education needs; for example, if a child new to the District required out-of-district education, this could lead to substantial unbudgeted costs; the Special Education Trust Fund is for those kinds of unanticipated costs.

There being no further questions or comments, the Moderator read Article 3 and called for a vote. The article passed by a unanimous voice vote in favor of adopting Article 3.

ARTICLE 4: To see of the School District will vote to raise and appropriate to the expendable trust fund known as the Maintenance Trust Fund” (established by the 2009 District meeting under RSA 198:20-c for the purpose of funding facility maintenance and improvement) the sum of \$100,000. (The School Board recommends adoption of this article by a vote of 4-0.)

The Moderator asked if there was a motion to accept Article r. Bob O’Sullivan moved to adopt Article 4 as read, and Travis Thompson seconded the motion. The Moderator then recognized Mr. O’Sullivan to speak to his motion.

Mr. O’Sullivan stated that although the school building bond had been paid off for several years, the costs associated with maintenance and upkeep of the facility continued to require attention; for example, the building’s 20-year warranty on the roof was almost up and it will need to be replaced in two years. He also noted that a new law pertaining to oil tank maintenance had been enacted in New Hampshire, which mandates that the current underground oil tank piping at Stratham Memorial School must be replaced with double-wall piping. He noted that the School Board believes that accelerating the amount allocated to the Maintenance Trust Fund will allow the School District to be able to complete the statutorily-required oil tank line replacement and still be able to fund the new school roof in two years.

There being no questions or comments, the Moderator read Article 4 and called for a vote. The article passed by a unanimous voice vote in favor of adopting Article 4.

ARTICLE 5: To hear reports of Agents, Auditors, Committees, or Officers heretofore chosen and pass any vote relating thereto.

The Moderator again recognized Mr. Fosher, who presented a gift to Claire Ellis, who is finishing her term as Stratham School District Board member.

There were no further reports.

ARTICLE 6: To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting.

The Moderator reminded everyone that Tuesday, March 13 was Election Day, and the polls at the Stratham Municipal Center on Bunker Hill Avenue would be open from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00



p.m. Stratham Town Meeting was also on Friday, March 16 at the Stratham Memorial School beginning at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mikki Deschaine  
Stratham School District Clerk

#### 2012 STRATHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION RESULTS

School Board Member for Three Years:

Heidi Hanson

School Board Member for Three Years:

Travis Thompson

School District Clerk for Three Years:

Mikki Deschaine

## 2012-2013 REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

With some strong trends of economic growth reported regionally and nationwide, it does appear that the lengthy fiscal “downturn” is now moving upward. Unemployment rates have slowed and more jobs are available. Greater numbers of home sales have been reported in southeastern New Hampshire. During the November 2012 elections, President Barak Obama was re-elected and our state earned the unique distinction of having six women in key positions in all three branches of government. Exeter resident Maggie Hassan was elected Governor; Kelly Ayotte and Jeanne Shaheen are continuing US Senators; Annie Kuster and Carol Shea-Porter were elected to the US House of Representatives; and Linda Dalianis is the Chief Justice of the NH Supreme Court. Today 20% of the US Senate is comprised of women. It is a new era on many fronts!

There is a new and revitalized era within SAU 16 as well. Greater emphasis on curriculum, instruction, and assessment, in line with the SAU Strategic Plan, are more and more evident as the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) begin to be implemented. As in the past, teachers and administrators from all seven districts within the SAU are collaborating. However, now there is greater common focus on what needs to be accomplished because of the adoption of new and more stringent academic standards. This common focus is joined with the creativity of better and different instruction along with the national “Smarter Balance” assessment protocols which will replace the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) within the next two years.

Technology is also playing an increased role as schools are making preparations for more wireless connections to the Internet while districts continue to move toward a one-device-to-one-student platform. This demands increased accessibility to both equipment and “the cloud” where access to information is far easier than the days of note cards, periodicals, and encyclopedias. Thanks to the support of the Exeter Region Cooperative School District, and the leadership of Assistant Superintendent Sandra MacDonald, an SAU-wide study was completed in late 2012 by the Massachusetts-based firm, CELT (Connecting Education, Leadership, and Technology.) This study highlighted several key commendations including:

1. SAU Strategic Plan includes technology goals and objectives.
2. SAU leadership and individual school districts are committed to the infusion of technology tools and support their Informational Technology (IT) staff.
3. SAU 16 is in the process of transitioning to cloud-based Google Apps for education productivity and related communications tools.
4. Expertise and quality of support provided by the district-level technical staff is exemplary.
5. SAU 16 has developed and published exemplary technology policies.

To help move the SAU forward even more, this CELT study is also providing a series of key recommendations that will help to guide the focus in this area. Included among the recommendations are:

1. Review and revise Vision, Mission, and Technology Goals to ensure that they align with each other and provide a consistent technology program direction.
2. Develop and implement a collaborative model to engage SAU district schools to cooperatively analyze and align current curriculum with the technology competencies integrated into the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).
3. Convene a one-to-one Bring-Your-Own-Technology (BYOT) committee to a) define one-to-one and BYOT pilot content areas and potential devices; b) set pilot policies,

- procedures, priorities, timelines, and evaluation metrics; and c) research funding, ownership strategies, and develop a budget for a phased full scale implementation.
4. Continue to offer and expand a diverse array of professional development options to all staff that support the attainment of the National Education Technology Standards (NETS) for teachers and administrators.
  5. Continue to develop and adopt technology proficiencies for all staff. As positions become available, revise job descriptions to reflect required technology responsibilities, proficiencies, qualifications, certifications, and experience.

It is a new era on many fronts!

Even with all of these changes—and an exponential pattern of growth—our students today still need to be exposed to—and need to develop—strong citizenship skills that will more than adequately equip them for the “future shocks” which have yet to be anticipated. This is part of the reason why SAU 16 remains committed to developing solid communication skills and community service action to serve others. After all, I contend, that in the long run our students are going to remember far more about how we treat them than what we teach them!

Even with all of these changes, the safety and security of our students remains the highest priority of our schools because learning and teaching cannot take place successfully unless this basic need is met. In December 2012, a tragedy of absolutely horrific proportion took place when 26 students, teachers, and administrators were violently murdered by a young, lone, mentally ill, gunman in Newtown, CT. That event brought our nation to our knees as we struggled to learn “Why?” while also wanting to guarantee the well-being of all of those who cross the thresholds into our schools each day. SAU 16 serves approximately 6,000 students with 1,200 regular employees. Although there is no absolute guarantee that everyone is safe from harm 100% of the time, the public may rest assured that our administrators and staff are working closely with law enforcement personnel to provide the safest possible environment for all who are in and around our schools each day.

The community at large, including the eighty percent of our families who do not have children in our schools, has an ethical responsibility to support public education in a reasonable and prudent manner. We, as educators, have an equally important moral obligation to provide the best possible education to the students entrusted to us. “*Schools Cannot Do It Alone*” as the businessman, attorney, and author Jamie Vollmer has made so clear in his 2010 book with that title.

## **SAU 16 VISION STATEMENT**

To provide a rigorous and comprehensive education that will prepare our students for diverse post-secondary educational opportunities, a competitive workplace, and active civic participation.

## **SAU 16 MISSION STATEMENT**

To help students gain knowledge and skills that build intellect, character, and a lifelong thirst for learning.

## **SAU 16 STRATEGIC PLAN**

One of the most significant driving forces of the continuing work in SAU 16 is the Strategic Plan that was adopted by the SAU Joint Boards in October 2010. This document emphasizes work in seven key areas: Communications; Community Involvement; Curriculum and Assessment; Design and Philosophy; Governance; Lifestyles; and Special Education. Local Boards have selected various components within these areas to stress in their respective schools and regularly reported those to the SAU Joint Board.

Three major trends have emerged and are being implemented at this time: Curriculum, Communications, and Community Service.

### **Curriculum, Communications, and Community Service**

Curriculum, instruction, and assessment each play a key role in the educational process. Much of this work today is driven by New Hampshire's adoption of the Common Core State Standards which lay the foundation for the national Smarter Balance assessment that will begin in 2015 in at least 27 states. SAU 16 educators are well underway in making the transition from the NH Curriculum Frameworks to the more vigorous demands of CCSS. Its implementation in math and language arts has already begun. The SAU is facilitating both a language arts committee and a math committee which are comprised of teachers and administrators from each school within the SAU. These committees meet regularly to create common assessments that address the major standards in each content area. They are also identifying the professional development plans that are needed to support the required instructional shifts within the curriculum areas.

It is important to note that one of the key components of the CCSS transition is increased depth within the curriculum. Essentially, it means exposing and challenging students with more frequent and more difficult reading and writing works. It means more complex and informational texts. It means effective and well-grounded writing. It means more research and inquiry to analyze. Even though the primary focus of the CCSS appears to be language arts and math instruction, the shift to the Common Core State Standards is primarily a shift to more overall depth across the entire curriculum. SAU 16 has always prided itself at being on the forefront of educational "rigor" and this important work fits well with that philosophy and that goal.

Music, guidance, library/media, and health committees are also meeting on a regular basis this year. The goal of these committees is to review and revise their respective curricula to ensure alignment with state and national standards. This curriculum mapping process also includes creating common assessments and identifying possible instructional resources for teachers. The schools and the SAU are committed to preparing elementary students for the transition to a large middle school and for making the transition from middle school to high school.

As educational initiatives continue to unfold around the country, it is important to note that students and teachers in SAU 16 are finding more extensive and creative ways to meet the growing individual needs of each student. This includes having students involved in learning outside of the traditional classroom through online learning with the Virtual Learning Academy Charter School (VLACS) or through Extended Learning Opportunities (ELO). Consideration is also being given to establishing an Exeter High School Summer Institute where students may earn additional high school credits in a variety of non-traditional courses that will serve to expand their learning. Remember: It was long ago when Mark Twain stressed that "schooling should not interfere with one's education!"

Middle and high school students are challenged in ways that help them to gain high school and college credit aside from the traditional ways. Students in the Cooperative Middle School (CMS) who choose to take and successfully complete Algebra I as eighth graders earn high school credit. Similarly, CMS students who successfully complete two years of the same world language (French, Latin, and Spanish are available) in grades seven and eight also earn high school credit. In addition to the traditional Advanced Placement (AP) courses taken at Exeter High School (EHS) to earn college credit, both EHS and the Seacoast School of Technology (SST) offer Project Running Start courses that allow students to simultaneously earn high school and college credit. In many cases, these alternatives help graduates to "jumpstart" their college career and reduce overall costs in the long run.

At the elementary school level, many teachers are also creating and enhancing diverse opportunities to engage students more in their own learning. Using the benefits of technology, introducing students to writing blogs, and developing a variety of innovations in classroom that extend the teaching of basic skills for implementation in 21<sup>st</sup> century learning is happening every day in SAU 16 schools. Students are able to share their work beyond their own classroom walls and among other schools. This is the world in which these students will flourish and many teachers are actively preparing our students for their present and future.

Please refer to the SAU 16 website ([www.sau16.org](http://www.sau16.org)) for regular news and updates about some of the curriculum and learning that is taking place in our schools.

**Communication** is more important and more easily available today than at any other time in our history. For this reason, individual schools and the SAU offices choose a variety of methods to communicate with students, parents, staff, and the community. The use of traditional newsletters has expanded to enhanced websites, principal blogs, extensive coverage in local newspapers, 24-hour availability of the SAU cable access educational channel (Channel 13 for all Comcast subscribers), AlertNow messages, and email.

Please note that SAU 16 schools have worked over the past two years to build robust school websites that are informative, up-to-date, and user-friendly. This has been a large project and has involved dozens of people throughout our schools. Visit our main SAU 16 site at [www.sau16.org](http://www.sau16.org) to gain access to the various schools' sites.

Keeping news current about school programs and services was a priority of the SAU Strategic Plan and efforts in this area are constantly emphasized. The substance and length of this Superintendent's Report is one more link that the community has to gather and synthesize information provided. After all, SAU 16 is comprised of six towns, seven independent school districts, eight school boards, 33 school board members, four budget committees, and 11 collective bargaining groups. It is the third largest SAU in New Hampshire when considering total enrollment of students. (Only Manchester and Nashua serve more students than does SAU 16.) The size of our SAU alone is another reason why communication is so important!

**Community Service** is vital to the lifeblood of any town or city. Each of our schools actively and aggressively supports a wide variety of projects which lead to helping others. Local food pantries have been the largest recipient of student and staff efforts. However, there are many consistent strategies used to support the organizations such as the SPCA, the Pease Greeters, and NH Special Olympics. At holiday times, schools go out of their way to help individual families as this strongly reinforces the need for each of us to be good citizens. I am extremely grateful to all of the students, families, staff members, and administrators who commit themselves to these very important efforts each year.

## **EXETER HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL CHANGE**

Mr. Sean Kiley of Merrimac, MA, was selected by the Exeter Region Cooperative School Board to be the new principal of Exeter High School beginning in July 2012. Originally from Methuen, MA, Mr. Kiley earned his BS degree in Sports Biology from Springfield (MA) College in 1992 and then completed his M.Ed. degree in Health Studies from Springfield College in 1996, during which time he was a Graduate Teaching Fellow for the college. This provided him experience in teaching undergraduate students for two years while he also served as assistant coach of the intercollegiate varsity wrestling team. He completed his certification for school principal through the Educational Leadership Program at Northeastern University in Boston.

Mr. Kiley replaced Mr. Vic Sokul who retired on June 30, 2012 after seven years of service to the students, faculty, staff, and parents of Exeter High School.

### **SWASEY CENTRAL SCHOOL GETS NEW PRINCIPAL**

Mr. Ronald Kew of Manchester, NH was selected as the new principal of Swasey Central School (SCS) in Brentwood. Mr. Kew most recently served as the principal of Gossler Park Elementary School in Manchester. He earned his BS degree in Elementary Education from Saint Joseph College in Standish, ME and his M.Ed. degree in Educational Administration and Supervision from the University of New Hampshire. Mr. Kew has 17 years of experience teaching at the elementary level and was a school administrator in Manchester for the past five years. He began his new position in July 2012 and replaced Mrs. Joan Ostrowski who served SCS faithfully for 12 years.

### **CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN**

The SAU 16 Champions for Children award was established two years ago as an opportunity for each school district to recognize individuals who have distinguished themselves by demonstrating significant involvement in programs and/or services that directly benefit the students and families of SAU 16.

Since its inception, 70 individuals have been recognized for their outstanding contributions to our districts. This year's award recipients include the following school board recognitions: SAU 16—Susie Taylor, Officer Dan D'Amato and Officer Michael Oliveira; Exeter Region Cooperative – Bob Bailey; Exeter – Helen Benedetto; Kensington – American Legion Post #105, Mary Knightly, and Mary Jane Solomon; Brentwood—Tammy Heath; Newfields—Alyssa Caggiano; Stratham – Connie Adams and Linda Johansson. These individuals have significantly impacted their respective schools and communities. Congratulations to each of them!

### **CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS**

There are now eleven formal collective bargaining associations within SAU 16; two of them were open to negotiations with their respective school boards during the current school year. These involved the teacher association in Kensington and the paraprofessional association in Exeter. Both groups reached tentative agreements which will be presented to the voters on their respective Warrants in March 2013. Associate Superintendent Paul Flynn is commended for his outstanding role in dealing with contract negotiations.

### **THE IMPORTANCE OF VOTING**

Generally speaking, voter turnout in each of our communities is relatively low. This means that a small percentage of eligible voters actually participate in the "school district meeting process" and they make important financial decisions for the majority of residents and taxpayers. Brentwood and Stratham each host traditional school district meetings in March 2012. Of the 2494 registered voters in Brentwood, only 135 people (5.41%) attended the meeting; in Stratham, of the 5159 voters, 117 people (2.27%) attended the meeting. In each case, more than 94% of the registered voters did not participate in this important process.

Each of the other five districts uses the "SB 2" voting format and people may cast ballots throughout an entire day in March. In East Kingston, 435 (27.39%) of the 1588 voters participated; in Exeter, 2128 (21.90%) of the 9716 voters participated; in Kensington, 476 (31.59%) of the 1507 voters participated; in Newfields, 338 (28.24%) of the 1197 registered voters participated; for the Exeter Region Cooperative, 4262 (19.68%) of the 21,661 registered voters participated. For the SB 2 voting in the Coop, Brentwood



and Stratham did have a larger voter turnout than at its regular District Meeting with 20.73% (517 voters) and 11.79% (608 voters) participation respectively.

It is extremely important that residents take their civic responsibility of voting seriously.

### **RX REBATE PROGRAM**

Due to the significant efforts of Associate Superintendent Paul Flynn, the Rx Rebate Program offered by the federal government for school districts who have retirees who do not participate in Medicare Part D is continuing to pay dividends. Since enrolling in the rebate program in March 2009, SAU districts have been reimbursed \$247,000. This money helps to reduce overall health care costs to the districts. Unfortunately, because of some eligibility requirements, our participation in this program ended at the end of the last school year.

### **E-RATE FUNDING**

Under the direction of Assistant Superintendent Saundra MacDonald and the work of Patti-Jo Roy in the SAU Business Office, SAU 16 was approved to receive over \$114,000 to help defray the costs associated with telecommunications services that include telephones, paging services, website hosting, and cell phones. The SAU has made significant improvements in securing funds from this federal program over the past two years.

### **BLUE RIBBON AWARDS**

For more than 30 consecutive years, New Hampshire Partners in Education has recognized the volunteer efforts of parents and community members who are directly involved in local schools. Every elementary school in SAU 16 and the Seacoast School of Technology distinguished itself by achieving this prestigious award. This is an outstanding accomplishment and a clear acknowledgement of the positive relationships that exist between our schools and their local communities.

### **CRITICAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT**

Thanks to the outstanding work of Assistant Superintendent Esther Asbell, SAU 16 continues to focus on how to deal with “critical incidents” in our schools. During the summer of 2012, over 60 administrators and teachers participated in extensive training conducted by Harvard University expert, Dr. Robert Macy. This training included significant work on suicide prevention. SAU Special Education Administrator Carol Andre also worked closely on this initiative and spearheaded regional work for school officials on “post-vention” training. From January 2010 through September 2012, Exeter High School had to deal with five student deaths. This fact has impacted the school community in a dramatic way. School and SAU leadership teams have worked closely with the New Hampshire Alliance on Mental Illness and are expanding training in this regard for parents, community members, law enforcement personnel, and students during the current school year.

### **STUDENT ASSESSMENT/NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND**

Once again this past fall, all students in grades 3-8 and 11 participated in the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) exams in reading and mathematics. Fifth, eighth and eleventh graders participated in a writing component as well. In May 2011 and 2012, the NECAP Science Test was administered to all students in grades 4, 8 and 11. The results of those tests indicate that the performance of SAU 16 students continues to be strong relative to their statewide peers.

In addition to her other duties and responsibilities, Assistant Superintendent Esther Asbell coordinates the follow-up to these tests that have resulted in School in Need of Improvement (SINI) and/or District In Need of Improvement (DINI) status under the requirements established by the federal *No Child Left Behind* legislation. School Improvement Teams worked very hard over the 2012 summer to address issues related to student assessment data and performance. Various schools and districts in the SAU submitted plans to the NH Department of Education indicating how improvements were being made. All of the submitted plans were approved by state officials who added the comment that they were among the best in the state! That is a compliment to the administrators and teachers who have worked very hard in this regard and emphasizes why SAU 16 is a strong educational community.

In addition to the assessment information gleaned from the NECAP tests, it is important to note that in all of our schools, all students are assessed in a variety of ways including teacher-developed tests, projects, displays, and presentations. Elementary teachers use a variety of assessments such as the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS), California Achievement Tests, Terra Nova Tests, Gates MacGinitie Reading Tests, and other benchmark assessments to diagnose individual strengths and weaknesses to improve their instructional practice. Many schools are also implementing a Response to Intervention (RtI) framework in order to more effectively meet individual student learning needs. The RtI process has teachers constantly reviewing student data in order to inform day-to-day instruction. Any standardized test is one indicator and one type of assessment. In addition to using multiple measures, our teachers encourage and provide opportunities for students to demonstrate what they "know and are able to do."

## NUMBERS

The business operation of SAU 16 includes budgets, payrolls, federal grants management, accounts receivables and payables, insurance programs, audits, trust funds oversight, and accounting services for seven independent school districts plus the School Administrative Unit (SAU) itself. Under the watchful eye and very capable leadership of Business Administrator Amy Ransom, these important services are provided for 1,200 regular employees plus 300 temporary/substitute employees. The total budgets are approximately \$90 million. The SAU is committed to the respectful and ethical delivery of these services on behalf of the citizens of our communities who have placed their trust in us.

## TUCK LEARNING

The diverse educational avenues provided through the SAU continue to manifest the collective commitment to meet the many individual needs of our secondary school students. Consider the on-going success of the project-based **Great Bay eLearning Charter School (GBeCS)** that currently serves 158 students in grades 8-12 with approximately 46% of those students coming from one of our six towns. The Exeter Region Cooperative School District continues to provide substantial funding (\$300,000) for its students at GBeCS.

The **Exeter Adult Education** program captures the interest of over 900 students who choose from courses that enrich their lives to courses leading to high school diplomas or GED (General Educational Development). It is important to note that the Enrichment Program is now in its 46th year!

The **Exeter High School Alternative Education** program provides another educational opportunity that includes a combination of academic, behavioral, social, civic, and work based learning experiences. The goal of their program is to empower students to succeed as knowledgeable graduates leading productive lives within the community. Each year approximately 30 students participate in this program.



**The Seacoast School of Technology (SST)** offers an excellent array of career and technical education programs for students from six area high schools, including Exeter. The outstanding success of these programs is measured in both the consistent and regular work opportunities provided to students, and the significant community involvement by area businesses and leaders who provide support and serve on advisory boards that assist with funding and public relations for the school. Approximately 650 students are enrolled with 38% of those coming from Exeter High School.

**The Seacoast Professional Development Center (SPDC)** regularly provides college courses and a wide variety of workshops, especially designed to meet the needs of educational professionals from the entire state of New Hampshire. This local resource is invaluable for training and assistance to busy teachers and administrators. Many of its offerings are also available to the public, especially for those individuals who seek professional development credit for certification.

This is my fifth year working with you in this important educational process. I am very pleased to have this opportunity to work with you. I am most grateful to the outstanding teachers, support staff members, administrators, and school board members who share our common goal of providing the best possible education and facilities for our students and their families at a reasonable cost to taxpayers. Public education has changed dramatically over the past 50 years, but SAU 16 remains committed to preparing students to be good citizens who will emerge as powerful leaders and dedicated workers in our society.

Respectfully submitted,

**MICHAEL A. MORGAN**  
Superintendent of Schools

**THE EXETER REGION**

**COOPERATIVE**

**SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**For the Year Ending June 30, 2012  
For the Proposed 2013-2014 Budget**

## **EXETER REGION COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### **BOARD MEMBERS AND DISTRICT OFFICERS**

Chair of the School Board: Dave Miller

NAME	TERM EXPIRES	TOWN
Maggie Bishop	2015	Exeter
Elizabeth "Liz" Faria	2013	Brentwood
Alicia Heslop	2015	Newfields
Helen Joyce	2015	Stratham
Dave Miller	2014	East Kingston
Katherine "Kate" Miller	2013	Exeter
Mark Portu	2014	Stratham
Joni Reynolds	2013	Kensington
Kate Segal	2014	Exeter

School District Website: [www.sau16.org](http://www.sau16.org)

Moderator: Charles Tucker

School District Clerk: Susan EH Bendroth

School District Treasurer: Luke Breton

### **BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Chair of the Budget Advisory Committee: David Pendell

NAME	TERM EXPIRES	TOWN
Susan Canada	2015	Stratham
Lucy Cushman	2013	Stratham
Simon Heslop	2013	Newfields
Roy Morrisette	2014	Exeter
David Pendell	2015	East Kingston
Carl Robertson	2015	Exeter
Elyse Gallo Seeley	2014	Brentwood
Mark Portu		ERCSD Board Rep

# **EXETER REGION COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE**

**Michael A. Morgan**  
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**Paul A. Flynn**  
Associate Superintendent of Schools  
Director of Human Resources  
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**Amy R. Ransom**  
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**Esther T. Asbell**  
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**Carol Y. Andre**  
Special Education Administrator  
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[candre@sau16.org](mailto:candre@sau16.org)

**January 10, 2013 Public Hearing**  
**WARRANT**  
**EXETER REGION COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**To the inhabitants of the Exeter Region Cooperative School District,  
County of Rockingham, State of New Hampshire qualified to vote upon  
District affairs:**

**You are hereby notified to meet as follows:**

**FIRST SESSION OF THE ANNUAL MEETING (Deliberative Session):** In the Arthur L. Hanson III Center for the Performing Arts at Exeter High School, 1 Blue Hawk Drive in Exeter, New Hampshire on Thursday, February 7, 2013, at 7:00 PM for explanation, discussion, debate, and possible amendment of the following warrant articles:

1. Shall the District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant, or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$52,700,000? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$53,048,087, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (The School Board and Budget Advisory Committee both recommend \$52,700,000 as set forth on said budget.)
2. To hear reports of agents, auditors, and committees or officers heretofore chosen.
3. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

**SECOND SESSION:** At the polling places designated below on **Tuesday, March 12, 2013**, to choose the following School District Officers:

School District Board Member (Exeter)	3-year Term Expiring 2016,
School District Board Member (Brentwood)	3-year Term Expiring 2016,
School District Board Member (Kensington)	3-year Term Expiring 2016,
School District Moderator	1-year Term Expiring 2014,
Budget Committee Member (Newfields)	3-year Term Expiring 2016,
Budget Committee Member (Exeter)	3-year Term Expiring 2016,
Budget Committee Member (Stratham)	3-year Term Expiring 2016;
Budget Committee Member (Kensington)	1-year Term Expiring 2014

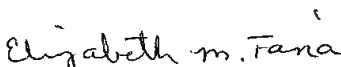
and vote on the article listed as "1" as that article may be amended at the First Session; by ballot, the polls to be open at the polling places at the hours designated below:

<u>VOTERS IN TOWN OF</u>	<u>POLLING PLACE</u>	<u>POLLING HOURS</u>
Brentwood	Recreation Center	8:00 AM to 7:00 PM
East Kingston	East Kingston Elementary School Multi-purpose Room	8:00 AM to 7:00 PM
Exeter	Talbot Gym Tuck Learning Campus	7:00 AM to 8:00 PM
Kensington	Kensington Town Hall	8:00 AM to 7:30 PM
Newfields	Newfields Town Hall	8:00 AM to 7:00 PM
Stratham	Stratham Municipal Center	8:00 AM to 8:00 PM

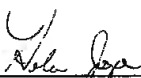
Given under our hands at Exeter on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2013.

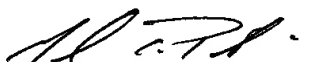
#### EXETER REGION COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

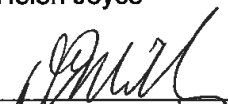
  
Margaret Bishop

  
Elizabeth Faria

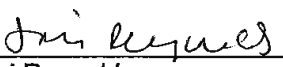
  
Alicia Heslop

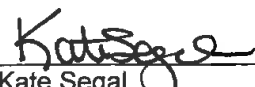
  
Helen Joyce

  
Mark Portu

  
David Miller

  
Kate Miller

  
Joni Reynolds

  
Kate Segal

# SCHOOL BUDGET FORM

OF: Exeter Region Cooperative School District NH

### Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue for the Fiscal Year From July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014

**IMPORTANT:**

**Please read RSA 32:5 applicable to all municipalities.**

1. Use this form to list ALL APPROPRIATIONS in the appropriate recommended and not recommended area. This means the operating budget and all special and individual warrant articles must be posted.
2. Hold at least one public hearing on this budget.
3. When completed, a copy of the budget must be posted with the warrant. Another copy must be placed on file with the school clerk, and a copy sent to the Department of Revenue Administration at the address below within 20 days after the meeting.

This form was posted with the warrant on (Date): 1/17/13

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS**

***Please sign in ink.***

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

K Bull  
Elizabeth m. Fina  
Alicia Heslop  
Katie  
Jan Reynolds

Vele Jure  
 H. H.  
 Mager-Bauer  
 W. M. H.

**THIS BUDGET SHALL BE POSTED WITH THE SCHOOL WARRANT**

**FOR DRA USE ONLY**

NH DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION  
MUNICIPAL SERVICES DIVISION  
P.O. BOX 487, CONCORD, NH 03302-0487  
(603)230-5090

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Acct.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)	OP Bud. WARR. ART.#	Expenditures for Year 7/1/11 to 6/30/12	Appropriations Current Year As Approved by DRA	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Recommended)	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Not Recommended)
<b>INSTRUCTION</b>						
1100-1199	Regular Programs		13,766,605.55	15,077,696.00	15,266,914.00	
1200-1299	Special Programs		3,998,795.88	4,154,065.00	4,798,515.87	
1300-1399	Vocational Programs		1,321,208.70	1,456,885.00	1,513,500.40	
1400-1499	Other Programs		718,781.66	770,829.00	815,784.00	
1500-1599	Non-Public Programs					
1600-1699	Adult/Continuing Ed. Programs		113,802.51	135,712.00	145,940.55	
1700-1799	Community/Jr.College Ed. Programs					
1800-1899	Community Service Programs					
<b>SUPPORT SERVICES</b>						
2000-2199	Student Support Services		1,950,180.49	2,267,565.00	2,338,253.28	
2200-2299	Instructional Staff Services		369,096.96	373,359.00	440,009.20	
<b>GENERAL ADMINISTRATION</b>						
2310-840	School Board Contingency					
2310-2399	Other School Board		85,501.00	99,500.00	99,500.00	
<b>EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION</b>						
2320-310	SAU Management Services		1,022,535.00	964,442.00	980,032.00	
2320-2399	All Other Administration		207,482.09	256,466.00	247,123.60	
2400-2499	School Administration Service		1,813,987.00	1,784,255.00	1,815,985.73	
2500-2599	Business					
2600-2699	Operation & Maintenance of Plant		3,896,262.37	4,092,589.00	4,290,366.37	
2700-2799	Student Transportation		1,638,213.98	1,723,735.00	1,803,965.00	
2800-2999	Support Service, Central & Other		9,937,040.65	10,503,368.00	11,406,722.00	
<b>NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES</b>						
3100	Food Service Operations		999,985.00	1,100,000.00	1,100,000.00	
3200	Enterprise Operations		924,385.15	818,510.00	818,510.00	
<b>FACILITIES ACQUISITIONS &amp; CONSTRUCTION</b>						
4100	Site Acquisition					
4200	Site Improvement					
4300	Architectural/Engineering					
4400	Educational Specification Development					
4500	Building Acquisition/Construction					
4600	Building Improvement Services					
4900	Other Facilities Acquisition and Construction Services					
<b>OTHER OUTLAYS (5000-5999)</b>						
5110	Debt Service - Principal		2,795,558.00	2,664,791.00	2,541,720.00	
5120	Debt Service - Interest		1,697,436.00	1,832,837.00	1,957,158.00	
<b>FUND TRANSFERS</b>						
5220-5221	To Food Service					
5222-5229	To Other Special Revenue					
5230-5239	To Capital Projects		40,000.00			
5254	To Agency Funds					
5300-5399	Intergovernmental Agency Alloc.		431,295.00	300,000.00	300,000.00	
<b>SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION</b>						
<b>DEFICIT APPROPRIATION</b>						
<b>OPERATING BUDGET TOTAL</b>			47,731,153.00	50,376,606.00	52,700,000.00	



**\*\*SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES\*\***

Special warrant articles are defined in RSA 32:3, VI, as: 1) appropriations in petitioned warrant articles; 2) appropriations raised by bonds or notes; 3) appropriations to a separate fund created pursuant to law, such as capital reserve funds or trust funds; 4) an appropriation designated on the warrant as a special article or as a nonlapsing or nontransferable article.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Acct.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)	Expenditures for Year 7/1/11 to 6/30/12	Appropriations Current Year As Approved by DRA	WARR. ART.#	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Recommended)	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Not Recommended)
5251	To Capital Reserves					
5252	To Expendable Trust		150,000.00			
5253	To Non-Expendable Trusts					
<b>SPECIAL ARTICLES RECOMMENDED</b>			150,000.00		-	

**\*\*INDIVIDUAL WARRANT ARTICLES\*\***

"Individual" warrant articles are not necessarily the same as "special warrant articles". Examples of individual warrant articles might be: 1) Negotiated cost items for labor agreements; 2) Leases; 3) Supplemental appropriations for the current year for which funding is already available; or 4) Deficit appropriations for the current year which must be funded through taxation.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Acct.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)	Expenditures for Year 7/1/___ to 6/30/___	Appropriations Current Year As Approved by DRA	WARR. ART.#	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Recommended)	Appropriations Ensuing FY (Not Recommended)
<b>INDIVIDUAL ARTICLES RECOMMENDED</b>						

1	2	3	4	5	6
Acct.#	SOURCE OF REVENUE	WARR. ART.#	Actual Revenues Prior Year	Revised Revenues Current Year	Estimated Revenues ENSUING FISCAL YEAR
<b>REVENUE FROM LOCAL SOURCES</b>					
1300-1349	Tuition		947,510.00	1,100,000.00	1,100,000.00
1400-1449	Transportation Fees				
1500-1599	Earnings on Investments		646.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
1600-1699	Food Service Sales		726,359.00	910,000.00	910,000.00
1700-1799	Student Activities			300,000.00	300,000.00
1800-1899	Community Services Activities				
1900-1999	Other Local Sources		455,187.00	475,183.00	455,000.00
<b>REVENUE FROM STATE SOURCES</b>					
3210	School Building Aid		2,070,755.00	1,693,574.00	1,397,945.00
3215	Kindergarten Building Aid				
3220	Kindergarten Aid				
3230	Catastrophic Aid		183,480.00	274,555.00	275,000.00
3240-3249	Vocational Aid		1,228,108.00	942,650.00	942,650.00
3250	Adult Education				
3260	Child Nutrition		8,237.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
3270	Driver Education				
3290-3299	Other State Sources				
<b>REVENUE FROM FEDERAL SOURCES</b>					
4100-4539	Federal Program Grants		991,114.00	443,510.00	478,510.00
4540	Vocational Education				
4550	Adult Education		243,724.00	325,000.00	340,000.00
4560	Child Nutrition		175,986.00	180,000.00	180,000.00
4570	Disabilities Programs				
4580	Medicaid Distribution		187,336.00	200,000.00	200,000.00
4590-4999	Other Federal Sources (except 4810)		93,668.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
4810	Federal Forest Reserve		-		
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>					
5110-5139	Sale of Bonds or Notes				
5221	Transfer from Food Service-Spec.Rev.Fund				
5222	Transfer from Other Special Revenue Funds				
5230	Transfer from Capital Project Funds				
5251	Transfer from Capital Reserve Funds				

1	2	3	4	5	6
Acct.#	SOURCE OF REVENUE	WARR. ART.#	Actual Revenues Prior Year	Revised Revenues Current Year	ESTIMATED REVENUES ENSUING FISCAL YEAR
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES cont.</b>					
5252	Transfer from Expendable Trust Funds				
5253	Transfer from Non-Expendable Trust Funds				
5300-5699	Other Financing Sources				
5140	This Section for Calculation of RAN's (Reimbursement Anticipation Notes) Per RSA 198:20-d for Catastrophic Aid Borrowing RAN, Revenue This FY _____ less RAN, Revenue Last FY _____ =NET RAN				
	<b>Supplemental Appropriation (Contra)</b>				
	Voted From Fund Balance			150,000.00	
	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes		1,080,880.00	1,242,070.00	850,000.00
<b>Total Estimated Revenue &amp; Credits</b>			<b>8,692,990.00</b>	<b>8,297,542.00</b>	<b>7,490,105.00</b>

**\*\*BUDGET SUMMARY\*\***

	Current Year	Ensuing Year
Operating Budget Appropriations Recommended (from page 2)	50,376,606.00	52,700,000.00
Special Warrant Articles Recommended (from page 3)	150,000.00	-
Individual Warrant Articles Recommended (from page 3)	-	-
<b>TOTAL Appropriations Recommended</b>	<b>50,526,606.00</b>	<b>52,700,000.00</b>
Less: Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits (from above)	8,297,542.00	7,490,105.00
Less: Amount of State Education Tax/Grant	5,116,249.00	5,356,428.00
<b>Estimated Amount of Local Taxes to be Raised For Education</b>	<b>37,112,815.00</b>	<b>39,853,467.00</b>

# DEFAULT BUDGET OF THE SCHOOL

OF: Exeter Region Cooperative School \_\_\_\_\_ NH

Fiscal Year From July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014

RSA 40:13, IX (b) "Default budget" as used in this subdivision means the amount of the same appropriations as contained in the operating budget authorized for the previous year, reduced and increased, as the case may be, by debt service, contracts, and other obligations previously incurred or mandated by law, and reduced by one-time expenditures contained in the operating budget. For the purposes of this paragraph, one-time expenditures shall be appropriations not likely to recur in the succeeding budget, as determined by the governing body, unless the provisions of RSA 40:14-b are adopted, of the local political subdivision.

1. Use this form to list the default budget calculation in the appropriate columns.
2. Post this form or any amended version with proposed operating budget (MS-26 or MS-27) and the warrant.
3. Per RSA 40:13, XI, (a), the default budget shall be disclosed at the first budget hearing.

## SCHOOL BOARD

or

Budget Committee if RSA 40:14-b is adopted

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

K. B. Mullis  
Elizabeth M. Faria  
John J. Lee  
Alicia Harlap  
[Signature]

[Signature]  
[Signature]  
Kab Segar  
Joni Reynolds

NH DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION  
 MUNICIPAL SERVICES DIVISION  
 P.O. BOX 487, CONCORD, NH 03302-0487  
 (603)230-5090

MS-DS  
 Rev. 12/11

**Default Budget - School District of: Exeter Region Cooperative School FY 2013-14**

1	2	3	4	5	6
Acct.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)	Prior Year Adopted Operating Budget	Reductions & Increases	Minus 1-Time Appropriations	DEFAULT BUDGET
<b>INSTRUCTION</b>					
1100-1199	Regular Programs	15,077,698.00	209,216.00		15,286,914.00
1200-1299	Special Programs	4,154,065.00	644,450.87		4,798,515.87
1300-1399	Vocational Programs	1,456,885.00	56,615.40		1,513,500.40
1400-1499	Other Programs	770,829.00	44,955.00		815,784.00
1500-1599	Non-Public Programs				
1600-1699	Adult/Continuing Ed. Programs	135,712.00	10,228.55		145,940.55
1700-1799	Community/Jr.College Ed. Programs				
1800-1899	Community Service Programs				
<b>SUPPORT SERVICES (2000-2999)</b>					
2000-2199	Student Support Services	2,267,565.00	70,688.28		2,338,253.28
2200-2299	Instructional Staff Services	373,359.00	66,650.20		440,009.20
<b>GENERAL ADMINISTRATION</b>					
2310 840	School Board Contingency				
2310-2319	Other School Board	99,500.00	-		99,500.00
<b>EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION</b>					
2320-310	SAU Management Services	964,442.00	15,590.00		980,032.00
2320-2399	All Other Administration	256,466.00	(9,342.40)		247,123.60
2400-2499	School Administration Service	1,784,255.00	31,730.73		1,815,985.73
2500-2599	Business				
2600-2699	Operation & Maintenance of Plant	4,092,589.00	197,777.37		4,290,366.37
2700-2799	Student Transportation	1,723,735.00	80,230.00		1,803,965.00
2800-2999	Support Service Central & Other	10,503,368.00	1,251,440.00		11,754,808.00
<b>NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES</b>					
3100	Food Service Operations	1,100,000.00	-		1,100,000.00
3200	Enterprise Operations	818,510.00	-		818,510.00
<b>FACILITIES ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION</b>					
4100	Site Acquisition				
4200	Site Improvement				
4300	Architectural/Engineering				
4400	Educational Specification Develop.				
4500	Building Acquisition/Construction				
4600	Building Improvement Services				
4900	Other Facilities Acquisition and Construction Services				

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Rev. 10/10

**Default Budget - School District of: Exeter Region Cooperative School FY 2013-14**

1	2	3	4	5	6
Acct.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)	Prior Year Adopted Operating Budget	Reductions & Increases	Minus 4-Time Appropriations	DEFAULT BUDGET
<b>OTHER OUTLAYS (5000-5999)</b>					
5110	Debt Service - Principal	2,664,791.00	(123,071.00)		2,541,720.00
5120	Debt Service - Interest	1,832,837.00	124,321.00		1,957,158.00
<b>FUND TRANSFERS</b>					
5220-5221	To Food Service				
5222-5229	To Other Special Revenue				
5230-5239	To Capital Projects				
5254	To Agency Funds				
5300-5399	Intergovernmental Agency Alloc.	300,000.00	-		300,000.00
	<b>SUPPLEMENTAL</b>				
	<b>DEFICIT</b>				
	<b>TOTAL</b>	50,376,606.00	2,671,481.00		53,048,087.00

Please use the box below to explain increases or reductions in columns 4 & 5.

Acct #	Explanation for Increases	Acct #	Explanation for Reductions
1100-1199	Increase in salary based on current staffing and contract obl	2320-2399	Reduction based on current staff salaries
1200-1299	Increase in salary based on current staffing and student needs		
1300-1399	Increase in salary based current staff and on program costs		
1400-1499	Increase in salary based on current staff and program costs		
1600-1699	Increase in salary based on current staff and program costs		
2000-2199	Increase in salary and student need		
2200-2299	Increases in salary and student need		
2320-310	Change in assessment		
2400-2499	Increase per contracts and salaries		
2600-2699	Increase to contracts and utilities		
2700-2799	Increases in contract and student transportation needs		
2800-2999	Increase to NH Retirement, Benefits, and FICA		

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Rev. 10/10



January 11, 2013

Stephen D. Plodzik, PA

Edward T. Perry, CPA

James A. Sojka, CPA

Gregory A. Colby, CPA

Sheryl A. Pratt, CPA

Members of the School Board  
Exeter Region Cooperative School District  
30 Linden Street  
Exeter, NH 03833

Dear Members of the School Board:

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Exeter Region Cooperative School District for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* and OMB Circular A-133, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated June 4, 2012. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Melodie A. Frazer, CPA

Donna M. LaClair, CPA\*

Kathryn C. Sanders, CPA

Ashley J. Miller, CPA

Tyler A. Paine, CPA

Kyle G. Gingras, CPA

\* Also licensed in Massachusetts

### Significant Audit Findings

#### *Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices*

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by Exeter Region Cooperative School District are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2011-12. We noted no transactions entered into by the School District during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimate affecting the government-wide financial statements was:

Management's estimate of the useful lives of the capital assets is based on historical information and guidance provided by the industry. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the useful lives of the capital assets in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

#### *Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit*

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

#### *Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements*

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to each opinion unit's financial statements taken as a whole.

**PLODZIK & SANDERSON**  
*Professional Association / Accountants & Auditors*

102 North Main Street • Concord • New Hampshire • (603) 225-5000 • (603) 225-5001

*Disagreements with Management*

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

*Management Representations*

We have requested certain representations from management that have been included in the management representation letter, dated January 11, 2013.

*Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants*

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the School District's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

*Other Audit Findings or Issues*

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the School District's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

The following other matters were noted during the course of our audit:

- During our review of the School District's financial records, we noted the following departures:
  - Upon review of the School District's investment policy it was noted that the policy had not been reviewed or updated since 2004. RSA 197:23-a states that the School Board shall review and adopt the investment policy on an annual basis. In addition, the policy does not reflect the necessary language to be in compliance with GASB Statement No. 40, which states that the policy should address issues involving custodial, investment and credit risk. We recommend that the School Board review and adopt the investment policy on an annual basis and that the policy be rewritten to incorporate the necessary GASB Statement No. 40 language.
  - Athletic officials are presently being paid from general fund appropriations which have been transferred to the student activity funds for ease and timeliness of payments to officials. At year-end the unspent balance remained in the activity fund which caused an overexpenditure of these funds in the general fund. Fortunately, an interfund receivable was recorded in the general fund for this item at year-end. We recommend that any balance remaining of this appropriation be transferred back to the general fund at year-end.

These matters have been discussed with the Business Administrator.

This information is intended solely for the use of School Board and management of the Exeter Region Cooperative School District and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,



PLODZIK & SANDERSON  
Professional Association





**EXETER REGION COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SPECIAL EDUCATION EXPENSES/REVENUES  
PREVIOUS TWO FISCAL YEARS PER RSA 32:11-a**

<b><u>SPECIAL EDUCATION EXPENSES</u></b>	<b><u>2010-2011</u></b>	<b><u>2011-2012</u></b>
1200/1230 Special Programs	3,721,236	3,995,126
1430 Summer School**	32,638	3,670
2140 Psychological Services	149,023	146,398
2150 Speech and Audiology	216,853	266,473
2159 Speech Summer School	0	0
2162 Physical Therapy	22,630	23,150
2163 Occupational Therapy	13,902	4,473
2332 Administration Costs	138,317	141,592
2722 Special Transportation	368,203	337,108
2729 Summer School Transp	12,934	11,045
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>4,675,736</b>	<b>4,929,035</b>
<b><u>SPECIAL EDUCATION REVENUES</u></b>		
1950 Service to other LEAs	0	0
3110 Special Ed Portion Adequacy Funds	863,688	863,688
3240 Catastrophic Aid	193,199	183,481
4580 Medicaid	209,991	187,336
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>1,266,878</b>	<b>1,234,505</b>
<b>ACTUAL DISTRICT COST FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION</b>	<b><u>3,408,858</u></b>	<b><u>3,694,530</u></b>

\*\* Summer School received ARRA Grant funds in 2011-2012  
These funds reduced Summer School Expense by \$28,374.95

**MINUTES OF THE EXETER REGION COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
FIRST SESSION OF THE 2012 ANNUAL MEETING  
DELIBERATIVE SESSION – THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2012 – 7:00 PM  
EXETER HIGH SCHOOL ARTHUR HANSON III CENTER**

**ERCSD BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Patty Lovejoy – Chair - Stratham  
Elizabeth Faria - Brentwood  
Kate Miller - Exeter  
Joni Reynolds - Kensington  
Mark Portu – Stratham

David Miller – Vice Chair East Kingston  
Townley Chisholm - Exeter  
Kate Segal - Exeter  
Mike Grant - Newfields

**ADMINISTRATION:** Michael Morgan, Amy Ransom

**ACTING CHAIR OF BUDGET ADVISORY:** Lucy Cushman

**MODERATOR:** Charles Tucker, Esq.

**ERCSD CLERK:** Susan Bendroth

Moderator Charles Tucker called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, introduction of board members, administration and other parties. He explained the purpose of the meeting was to read, debate and amend the following warrant articles, which would then be voted on by paper ballot on Tuesday, March 13, 2012 at the respective voting locations in each SAU 16 town. Moderator Tucker reviewed the procedures for a deliberative session that would be followed for the evening.

Moderator Tucker read Warrant Article #1:

Warrant Article 1. *Shall the District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant, or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$49,945,945? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$49,365,552, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (The School Board and Budget Advisory Committee both recommend \$49,945,945 as set forth on said budget.)*

Kate Miller, Exeter, acknowledged the hard work of both the Board and Budget Advisory Committee and asked if Amy Ransom, Business Administrator could be recognized to review the budget. She was recognized.

Amy Ransom, Business Administrator, reviewed her power point presentation on the proposed operating budget and default budget highlighting the increases and savings.

Arthur Baillargeon, Exeter, questioned the significant decrease in the SST proposed budget.

Amy Ransom responded saying because of less funding from the state programs have had to be cut.

Moderator Tucker noted that with no further questions, the article would be placed on the ballot as presented.

Moderator Tucker read Warrant Article #2:

Warrant Article #2: *Shall the District approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Exeter Region Cooperative School Board and the Exeter Area Administrators' Association covering the two-year period from September 1, 2012 to August 21, 2014 which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:*

<i>Year</i>	<i>Estimated Increase</i>
<i>2012-13</i>	<i>\$ 27,863</i>
<i>2013-14</i>	<i>\$ 30,592</i>

*and further raise and appropriate the sum of \$27,863, for the 2012-13 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year? Pursuant of the RSA 273-A:12, if approved, the terms of this collective bargaining agreement, including the pay plan, but excluding cost of living increases, will continue in force and effect until a new agreement is executed, (The School Board and the Budget Advisory Committee both recommend this appropriation.)*

Patty Lovejoy, Stratham explained that this contract covers all the administration at the SAU, Cooperative Middle School, Exeter High School, Seacoast School of Technology and the Alternative Learning Environment for 2 years. This contract is different from the paraprofessional and teacher contracts in that there are no steps only pay ranges for each position. This contract calls for a 2% raise and the Board maintains the right to change health plans as long as the plans are comparable. Presently the District pays 100% on an HMO which will be reduced to 95%. Group Choice is presently 90% and will be reduced to 87% in the first year and 85% in the second.

Jim Burlo questioned the 2% raise which would translate into a 5% with COLA.

Patty Lovejoy, Stratham re-clarified that the total raise was 2% as there is no COLA included in the contract.

Moderator Tucker noted that with no further questions, the article would be placed on the ballot as presented.

Moderator Tucker read Warrant Article #3:

Warrant Article #3: *Shall the District approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Exeter Region Cooperative School Board and the Exeter Cooperative Paraprofessional Association covering the three-year period from September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2015 which calls for the following increases and benefits at the current staffing levels:*

<i>Year</i>	<i>Estimated Increases</i>
<i>2012-13</i>	<i>\$ 44,962</i>
<i>2013-14</i>	<i>\$ 69,641</i>
<i>2014-15</i>	<i>\$70,863</i>

*and further raise and appropriate the sum of \$44,962 for the 2012-13 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year? Pursuant to RSA 273-A:12, if approved, the terms of this collective bargaining agreement, including the pay plan, but excluding cost of living increases, will continue in force and effect until a new agreement is executed. (The School Board and the Budget Advisory Committee both recommend this appropriation.)*

Patty Lovejoy, Stratham, explained that this warrant article covers the paraprofessionals working at the Cooperative Middle School, Exeter High School and Seacoast School of Technology for

three years. Paraprofessionals have a 13 step grid and went on to explain the steps, health insurance (70% for a single person with the employee paying the differential if they purchase a family plan) and the changes in the prescription plan going to 10/20/30 the first year and in the second and third year going to 10/20/45. She noted that there are 34 paraprofessionals taking advantage of a health plan.

Moderator Tucker noted that with no further questions, the article would be placed on the ballot as presented.

Moderator Tucker read Warrant Article #4:

**Warrant Article #4: *Shall the District approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Exeter Region Cooperative School Board and the Exeter Education Association covering the two-year period from September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2014 which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:***

<i>Year</i>	<i>Estimated Increases</i>
<b>2012-13</b>	<b>\$ 357,836</b>
<b>2013-14</b>	<b>\$ 601,800</b>

***and further raise and appropriate the sum of \$357,836 for the 2012-13 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year? Pursuant to RSA 273-A:12, if approved, the terms of the collective bargaining agreement, including the pay plan, but excluding cost of living increases, will continue in force and effect until anew agreement is executed. (The School Board and the Budget Advisory Committee both recommend this appropriation.)***

Mike Grant, Newfields stated this is the third attempt with the teachers going without a contract for two years. This contract represents a 2.15% increase in salary with no retroactive step pay. He highlighted the current health plan allows for a 88%/12% split with the new contract going to 85%/15% split in the first year and a 84%/16% split in the second year. If the teachers move to a HMO the split would be 90%/10% in the first year with a 95%/5% the second year attempting to get the teachers to move to less expensive plan.

Arthur Baillargeon, Exeter asked what we might be looking at in three years and what is the percentage increase.

Mike Grant, Newfields, responded by saying it is an average of about 5%.

Mike Morgan, Superintendent, added that about 75% of the teachers are at the top of the grid so they would only be realizing 2.15% with the other 25% of the teachers recognizing 6.15%. He also clarified the health premiums presently they are 12% and with the new contract they would be at 15% for the first year followed by 16% for the second year.

Elyse Seely, Brentwood, and member of the Budget Advisory noted that the Budget Advisory Committee voted unanimously to approve this contract understanding that 70% of the teachers were at the top. This contract would recognize the District significant savings.

Kim Houghtaling, EATA president was recognized and spoke thanking the 255 teachers within the cooperative for making education a priority. She spoke about the negotiations being mindful of the taxpayers and fair to the teachers. She noted that many teachers carry a second job to off set the more expensive health plan and that volunteering at the schools may be impacted as the teachers have not seen an increase or step movement in two years. She asked the public to stand behind the teachers and maintain the quality of education by voting yes.

Bill Faria, Brentwood asked for clarification that the average increase was 5 to 6 % for about 30% of the teachers with the rest receiving 2.15% with health premiums being 12% presently and with this new contract going to 15% in the first year and 16% in the second.

Jim Johnson, Brentwood asked what the average pay is.

Mike Morgan, Superintendent, answered \$64,000 on the average.

Jim Johnson, Brentwood, took issue with not being able to support this not because he was anti-school or anti-teacher but because he could not afford it. People in Brentwood have seen no increase in their pay yet an increase in health costs and are experiencing foreclosures on their homes. He took issue with SST and no funding. He is tired of using no contract as weapon and feels it is an awful mistake to bring this before the taxpayers.

Patty Lovejoy, Stratham thanked the Board and Budget Advisory for being very cognizant of the financial conditions that affect us all and pointed out that there is only a 4.4% total increase over the last five budgets.

Charlie Tucker at this point asked the audience how many individuals in the audience were present without any direct connection or requirement to be there – the response was twenty (20) citizens out of 23,000 voters.

Moderator Tucker noted that with no further questions, the article would be placed on the ballot as presented.

Moderator Tucker read Warrant Article #5:

**Warrant Article #5: *Shall the District raise and appropriate to the expendable trust fund known as the "Maintenance Fund" (established by the 2001 District meeting under RSA 198:20-c for the purpose of funding long term and/or unexpected maintenance/repair projects of school buildings and grounds) the sum of the amount of the June 30, 2012 undesignated fund balance (surplus) up to \$150,000? (The School Board and Budget Advisory Committee recommends this appropriation.)***

Dave Miller, East Kingston, felt the warrant article speaks well for itself. The money requested would come from any surplus so there are no additional monies. It would increase the fund from \$350,000 to \$500,000 which is felt to be appropriate in the event of an emergency and would minimize the impact of maintenance expenses.

Elyse Seely, Brentwood, added that this gives some stability and assists in the five year improvement plan for the Cooperative Middle School and Tuck Campus.

Arthur Baillargeon, Exeter, asked if these monies would be used for maintenance only and not new projects and if the cap was \$500,000.

Jim Johnson, Brentwood, expressed confusion over Elyse Seely's comment and Dave Miller's explanation.

Dick Wendell, Head of Maintenance, was recognized to help clarify this request. He added that this fund has been established so that the taxpayers do not get hit hard in any particular year with anticipated and unanticipated maintenance issues.

Jim Johnson, Brentwood, responded by stating that it was already explained that regular maintenance items were already budgeted in the regular budget and he takes serious issue with money being taken out of this fund for those items.

Arthur Baillargeon, Exeter, stated he was in 100% favor of maintenance as there are a number of properties to maintain.

Dave Miller, East Kingston, confirmed that there are three major campuses.

Moderator Tucker noted that with no further questions, the article would be placed on the ballot as presented.

Moderator Tucker read Warrant Article #6:

**Warrant Article #6: *Shall the District approve the transfer of duties for the Trustee of Trust Funds for the Cooperative School District from the East Kingston Trustees to the Exeter Trustees?***

Kate Miller, Exeter, stated that as the Cooperative School District doesn't have trustees to oversee the trust funds and capital reserve funds the East Kingston Trustees have been overseeing them. This article requests that the Exeter trustees take over.

Bill Faria, Brentwood, asked if there is any cost associated with this.

Mike Morgan, Superintendent, stated there is none.

Moderator Tucker noted that with no further questions, the article would be placed on the ballot as presented.

Moderator Tucker read Warrant Article #7:

Warrant Article #7: ***To hear reports of agents, auditors, and committees or officers heretofore chosen.***

Moderator Tucker noted there were no reports as the audit was printed in the report.

Moderator Tucker read Warrant Article #8:

Warrant Article #8: ***To transact any other business which may legally come before the meeting.***

Elyse Seeley, Brentwood, recognized Bobby Aldrich as the Chairman of the Budget Advisory Committee and thanked him publicly for his time served.

Arthur Baillargeon, Exeter, noted that even though he has no children in the school he urges all to get out and vote. He thanked the Board, Mike Morgan and the members of the Budget Advisory committee for their time in preparing these articles.

Moderator Tucker adjourned the meeting at 8:03 PM with 51 voters from the six towns present at the meeting.

Respectively submitted,

Susan E.H. Bendroth, Exeter Region Cooperative School District Clerk  
February 9, 2012.

**MINUTES OF THE EXETER REGION COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SECOND SESSION OF THE 2012 ANNUAL MEETING  
VOTING SESSION – MARCH 13, 2012**

The polls were open at the polling places at the hours designated below to choose the following District Officers: School District Board Member (Exeter), School District Board Member (Newfields), School District Board Member (Stratham), School District Moderator, School District Budget Committee Member (East Kingston), School District Budget Committee Member (Exeter), School District Budget Committee Member (Stratham) and vote by ballot on articles listed as 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

VOTERS IN TOWN OF	POLLING PLACE	POLLING HOURS
Brentwood	Community Center	8:00 AM to 7:00 PM
East Kingston	East Kingston Elementary	8:00 AM to 7:00 PM
	School Multi-Purpose Room	
Exeter	Talbot Gymnasium	7:00 AM to 8:00 PM
Kensington	Kensington Town Hall	8:00 AM to 7:30 PM
Newfields	Newfields Town Hall	8:00 AM to 7:00 PM
Stratham	Stratham Municipal Center	8:00 Am to 8:00 PM

Results of the election of Exeter Region Cooperative School District Officers:

Exeter Board Member, term ending 2015 election:

Townley Chisholm 1,705      **Margaret Bishop 1,913**

Newfields Board Member, term ending 2015 election:

**Alicia K. Heslop 3,115**

Stratham Board Member, term ending 2015 election:

**Helen M. Joyce 3,137**

School District Moderator, term ending 2013 election:

**Charles F. Tucker 3,591**

East Kingston Budget Committee Member, term ending 2015 election:

**David Pendell 2,987**

Exeter Budget Committee Member, term ending 2015 election:

**Carl Robertson 3,375**

Stratham Budget Committee Member, term ending 2015 election:

**Susan Canada 3,160**

Article 1. Shall the District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant, or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$49,945,945? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$49,365,552, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (The School Board and Budget Advisory Committee both recommend \$49,945,945 as set forth on said budget.)

Yes	2,626	No	1,618
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Article 2: Shall the District approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Exeter Region Cooperative School Board and the Exeter Area Administrators' Association covering the two-year period from September 1, 2012 to August 21, 2014 which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Year	Estimated Increase
2012-13	\$ 27,863
2013-14	\$ 30,592

and further raise and appropriate the sum of \$27,863, for the 2012-13 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year? Pursuant of the RSA 273-A:12, if approved, the terms of this collective bargaining agreement, including the pay plan, but excluding cost of living increases, will continue in force and effect until a new agreement is executed, (The School Board and the Budget Advisory Committee both recommend this appropriation.)

Yes	2,469	No	1,757
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Article 3: Shall the District approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Exeter Region Cooperative School Board and the Exeter Cooperative Paraprofessional Association covering the three-year period from September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2015 which calls for the following increases and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Year	Estimated Increases
2012-13	\$ 44,962
2013-14	\$ 69,641
2014-15	\$70,863

and further raise and appropriate the sum of \$44,962 for the 2012-13 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year? Pursuant to RSA 273-A:12, if approved, the terms of this collective bargaining agreement, including the pay plan, but excluding cost of living increases, will continue in force and effect until a new agreement is executed. (The School Board and the Budget Advisory Committee both recommend this appropriation.)

Yes	2,385	No	1,859
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Article 4: Shall the District approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Exeter Region Cooperative School Board and the Exeter Education Association covering the two-year period from September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2014 which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Year	Estimated Increases
2012-13	\$ 357,836
2013-14	\$ 601,800

and further raise and appropriate the sum of \$357,836 for the 2012-13 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year? Pursuant to RSA 273-A:12, if approved, the terms of the collective bargaining agreement, including the pay plan, but excluding cost of living increases, will continue in force and effect until a new agreement is executed. (The School Board and the Budget Advisory Committee both recommend this appropriation.)

Yes	2,271	No	1,992
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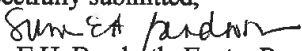
Article 5: Shall the District raise and appropriate to the expendable trust fund known as the "Maintenance Fund" (established by the 2001 District meeting under RSA 198:20-c for the purpose of funding long term and/or unexpected maintenance/repair projects of school buildings and grounds) the sum of the amount of the June 30, 2012 undesignated fund balance (surplus) up to \$150,000? (The School Board and Budget Advisory Committee both recommend this appropriation.)

Yes	2,889	No	1,257
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Article 6: Shall the District approve the transfer of duties for the Trustee of Trust Funds for the Cooperative School District from the East Kingston Trustees to the Exeter Trustees?

Yes	2,792	No	1,118
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Respectfully submitted,

  
Susan E.H. Bendroth, Exeter Region Cooperative School District Clerk

  
3-26-12

KIMBERLY F. WILLIAMS  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
State of New Hampshire  
My Commission Expires  
December 3, 2013

## SAU 16 Superintendent Salaries

### SUPERINTENDENT'S PRORATED SALARY 2012-2013

<b>BRENTWOOD</b>	<b>\$8,304.00</b>
<b>EAST KINGSTON</b>	<b>\$4,777.00</b>
<b>EXETER</b>	<b>\$24,246.00</b>
<b>EXETER REGION COOP</b>	<b>\$77,867.00</b>
<b>KENSINGTON</b>	<b>\$5,120.00</b>
<b>NEWFIELDS</b>	<b>\$4,016.00</b>
<b>STRATHAM</b>	<b>\$17,130.00</b>
	<b>\$141,460.00</b>

### ASSOCIATE AND ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S SALARIES (Total reflects 3.0 positions, \$119,857, \$102,500, \$95,000)

2012-2013

<b>BRENTWOOD</b>	<b>\$18,627.00</b>
<b>EAST KINGSTON</b>	<b>\$10,696.00</b>
<b>EXETER</b>	<b>\$54,394.00</b>
<b>EXETER REGION COOP</b>	<b>\$174,706.00</b>
<b>KENSINGTON</b>	<b>\$11,488.00</b>
<b>NEWFIELDS</b>	<b>\$9,013.00</b>
<b>STRATHAM</b>	<b>\$38,433.00</b>
	<b>\$317,357.00</b>

SAU# 16 BUDGET							
FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014							
ACCT#	ITEM DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL FY 2010-11	ACTUAL FY 2011-12	BUDGET FY 2012-13	PROPOSED FY 2013-14	CHANGE IN \$\$	NOTES
<b>CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATION</b>							
11-2320-110	ADMINISTRATIVE SALARIES	379,129.25	403,676.13	413,300.00	411,770.00	(1,530.00)	2.0% incr
11-2320-112	ADJUSTMENT/MERIT FUNDS	10,600.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	
11-2320-111	TREASURER & BRD MINUTES	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,500.00	1,000.00	(500.00)	
11-2320-113	SPECIAL ED ADMIN SALARIES	99,481.00	92,000.00	94,300.00	97,190.00	2,890.00	2.0% incr
11-2320-114	SUPPLEMENTAL SALARIES	1,624.50	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	
11-2320-115	SECRETARIES SALARIES	142,419.00	143,761.44	147,550.00	150,500.00	2,950.00	2.0% incr
11-2320-117	HUMAN RESOURCES	57,546.05	58,467.02	59,930.00	62,130.00	2,200.00	2.0% incr
11-2320-211	HEALTH INSURANCE	107,224.63	110,469.59	114,370.00	114,250.00	(120.00)	15% average incr
11-2320-212	DENTAL INSURANCE	833.71	7,046.03	6,520.00	7,780.00	1,260.00	1.2% increase
11-2320-213	LIFE INSURANCE	4,861.19	1,844.20	1,530.00	1,530.00	0.00	per agreement
11-2320-214	DISABILITY INSURANCE	4,102.78	2,095.12	2,550.00	2,550.00	0.00	per agreement
11-2320-231	LONGEVITY	2,000.00	3,855.01	3,620.00	3,540.00	(80.00)	per salaries
11-2320-232	RETIREMENT (10.77%)	57,551.36	59,751.40	63,470.00	79,390.00	15,920.00	per salaries
11-2320-220	FICA (7.65%)	50,728.20	51,827.81	55,180.00	55,630.00	450.00	per salaries
11-2320-250	WORKERS COMPENSATION	3,230.00	1,638.44	3,470.00	3,500.00	30.00	per salaries
11-2320-260	UNEMPLOYMENT COMP.	360.03	1,523.40	960.00	960.00	0.00	per staffing
11-2320-290	CONFERENCES	4,612.81	4,916.72	6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00	
11-2320-270	COURSE REIMBURSEMENTS	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	
11-2320-320	STAFF TRAINING	7,602.49	16,256.20	10,000.00	12,500.00	2,500.00	
11-2320-371	AUDIT EXPENSE	12,350.00	14,000.00	11,450.00	13,781.00	2,331.00	per agreement
11-2320-372	LEGAL EXPENSE	4,412.00	4,618.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	
11-2320-373	MENTOR TRAINING	6,400.00	5,255.55	6,500.00	6,500.00	0.00	
11-2320-440	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE	7,999.11	4,899.95	9,355.00	6,355.00	(3,000.00)	
11-2320-521	PROPERTY INSURANCE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
11-2320-531	TELEPHONE	15,223.60	12,526.56	16,075.00	15,225.00	(850.00)	
11-2320-532	POSTAGE	(218.41)	4,873.09	3,000.00	4,500.00	1,500.00	
11-2320-580	TRAVEL	17,838.03	22,207.50	22,080.00	24,480.00	2,400.00	per contract
11-2320-610	SUPPLIES	16,476.90	19,364.72	12,000.00	16,250.00	4,250.00	
11-2320-611	MAINTENANCE CONTRACTED	4,500.00	4,344.26	4,500.00	4,500.00	0.00	
11-2320-733	LEASED EQUIPMENT	16,933.77	11,577.66	17,500.00	15,500.00	(2,000.00)	
11-2320-810	DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	10,414.27	3,478.52	12,755.00	12,755.00	0.00	
11-2320-870	CONTINGENCY	16,509.00	5,513.70	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	
		1,064,745.27	1,073,788.02	1,111,465.00	1,152,066.00	40,601.00	
					3.65%		
					% Change 13-14		

SAU# 16 BUDGET							
FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014							
ACCT#	ITEM DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL FY 2010-11	ACTUAL FY 2011-12	BUDGET FY 2012-13	PROPOSED FY 2013-14	CHANGE IN \$\$	NOTES
<b>FISCAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION</b>							
11-2321-110	BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	107,804.13	101,000.00	92,250.00	96,100.00	3,850.00	2.0% incr
11-2321-116	FISCAL SRV MGR/ACCOUNTANT	98,720.00	101,517.00	104,060.00	109,050.00	4,990.00	2.0% incr - chg in
11-2321-130	PAYROLL/A/P SALARIES	169,325.00	161,812.48	162,850.00	166,110.00	3,260.00	2.0% incr - chg in
11-2321-211	HEALTH INSURANCE	116,613.79	99,171.54	100,920.00	144,150.00	43,230.00	15% average incr
11-2321-212	DENTAL INSURANCE	4,214.04	4,445.76	3,660.00	3,660.00	0.00	1.2% increase
11-2321-213	LIFE INSURANCE	927.40	403.08	330.00	330.00	0.00	per agreement
11-2321-214	DISABILITY INSURANCE	2,647.86	1,137.93	1,250.00	1,250.00	0.00	per salaries
11-2321-220	FICA (7.65%)	28,690.37	27,923.40	27,960.00	28,860.00	900.00	per salaries
11-2321-231	LONGEVITY	6,930.00	5,979.30	6,220.00	5,980.00	(240.00)	per salaries
11-2321-232	RETIREMENT (10.77%)	29,939.16	27,002.44	32,160.00	40,630.00	8,470.00	per salaries
11-2321-250	WORKERS COMPENSATION	2,012.00	1,850.00	1,760.00	1,820.00	60.00	per salaries
11-2321-260	UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATIO	410.00	720.00	840.00	840.00	0.00	per staffing
11-2321-290	CONFERENCES	1,021.50	2,806.65	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00	
11-2321-330	COMPUTER SUPPORT SERVICES	16,279.50	17,386.91	17,000.00	17,500.00	500.00	per contract
11-2321-440	REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE	442.26	2,007.16	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	
11-2321-531	TELEPHONE EXPENSE	600.00	600.00	3,000.00	600.00	(2,400.00)	
11-2321-580	MILEAGE	3,875.11	1,217.88	4,470.00	2,750.00	(1,720.00)	
11-2321-610	SUPPLIES EXPENSE	1,668.28	2,484.49	4,000.00	3,000.00	(1,000.00)	
11-2321-741	EQUIPMENT	0.00	449.00	600.00	600.00	0.00	
	<b>FISCAL SVS TOTALS</b>	<b>592,120.40</b>	<b>559,915.02</b>	<b>568,330.00</b>	<b>628,230.00</b>	<b>59,900.00</b>	
					10.54%		
					% Change 13-14		

SAU# 16 BUDGET							
FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014							
ACCT#	ITEM DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL FY 2010-11	ACTUAL FY 2011-12	BUDGET FY 2012-13	PROPOSED FY 2013-14	CHANGE IN \$\$	NOTES
<b>TECHNOLOGY</b>							
2820-110	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SALARY	64,376.59	47,798.91	57,160.00	47,390.00	(9,770.00)	2.0% incr/new pos
2820-321	TECHNICAL CONSULTANT	17,553.58	15,290.74	19,500.00	19,500.00	0.00	
2820-329	TECHNICAL TRAINING	26,437.12	16,235.93	25,350.00	21,850.00	(3,500.00)	
2320-531	TELEPHONE	1,211.61	69.43	2,880.00	1,380.00	(1,500.00)	
2320-580	MILEAGE	3,807.61	5,211.16	7,490.00	4,300.00	(3,190.00)	
2820-610	SUPPLIES	4,858.23	2,453.61	6,200.00	4,000.00	(2,200.00)	reduction
2820-611	SHIPPING	39.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
2820-641	BOOKS AND PERIODICALS	0.00	426.00	250.00	100.00	(150.00)	0.00
2820-650	SOFTWARE	20,348.01	15,324.78	24,500.00	18,900.00	(5,600.00)	
2820-738	REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT	1,992.80	1,831.82	4,500.00	4,500.00	0.00	
2820-739	EQUIPMENT	13,618.40	5,184.95	5,500.00	5,500.00	0.00	
2900-211	HEALTH INSURANCE	18,642.70	16,755.04	17,580.00	24,380.00	6,800.00	15% average incr
2900-212	DENTAL INSURANCE	475.09	541.68	500.00	500.00	0.00	1.2% increase
2900-213	LIFE INSURANCE	57.68	28.56	30.00	30.00	0.00	per agreement
2900-214	DISABILITY INSURANCE	259.13	149.52	160.00	160.00	0.00	per salaries
2900-220	FICA (7.65%)	6,576.95	4,722.49	4,760.00	4,010.00	(750.00)	per salaries
2900-221	RETIREMENT (10.77%)	4,442.64	4,067.98	5,920.00	6,190.00	270.00	per salaries
2900-250	WORKERS COMPENSATION	400.00	400.00	330.00	280.00	(50.00)	per salaries
2900-260	UNEMPLOYMENT COMP.	250.00	200.00	120.00	120.00	0.00	per salaries
<b>TECHNOLOGY TOTAL</b>		<b>185,347.80</b>	<b>136,692.60</b>	<b>182,730.00</b>	<b>163,090.00</b>	<b>(19,640.00)</b>	
					-10.75%		
					% Change 13-14		
<b>TOTAL - Central Office, Fiscal</b>		<b>1,842,213.47</b>	<b>1,770,395.64</b>	<b>1,862,525.00</b>	<b>1,943,386.00</b>	<b>80,861.00</b>	
<b>Services and Technology</b>							
					4.34%		
					% Change 13-14		
<b>Savings Returned from Prior Years Budget</b>		<b>(64,010.00)</b>	<b>(87,610.00)</b>	<b>(100,000.00)</b>	<b>(175,000.00)</b>		
<b>Revised SAU Total to be raised from</b>		<b>1,778,203.47</b>	<b>1,682,785.64</b>	<b>1,762,525.00</b>	<b>1,768,386.00</b>	<b>5,861.00</b>	
					0.33%		
					% Change in 13-14 Assessment		

SAU# 16 BUDGET							
FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014							
ACCT#	ITEM DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL FY 2010-11	ACTUAL FY 2011-12	BUDGET FY 2012-13	PROPOSED FY 2013-14	CHANGE IN \$\$	NOTES
	OTHERWISE FUNDED						
	INDIRECT COSTS	14,791.86	29,890.70	60,000.00	60,000.00		
	NON-ASSESSMENT IMPACT	29,465.09	0.00	21,375.00	20,445.00		
	GRAND TOTALS	1,886,470.42	1,800,286.34	1,943,900.00	2,023,831.00		
	TITLE I ADMINISTRATOR	48,368.42	50,567.16	48,000.00	48,000.00		
	SUBSTITUTE COORDINATOR	13,023.10	13,714.87	15,000.00	15,000.00		
	FEDERAL FUNDS						
	IDEA/PRESCHOOL ENTITLEMENT	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00		
	DRUG FREE SCHOOLS						
	BEST SCHOOLS						
	SLIVER/SIG						
	CLASSROOM REDUCTION						
	TITLE I, TITLE II, TITLE V						
	ARRA FUNDS						
	GRAND TOTAL APPROPRIATION - ALL FUNDS	4,947,862.00	4,864,569.00	5,006,900.00	5,086,831.00		

SAU #16 Budget - FY 2013-14									
Town	2011 Equalized val.	Valuation Percentage	# Pupils ADM 11-12	Pupil %	Combined Percentage	FY 2013-14 Assessment	Change from 12-13 %	Change from 12-13 \$\$	
Brentwood	\$ 207,883,628	5.15%	367.02	6.672%	5.91%	\$ 104,546	-0.2%	\$ 107	
East Kingston	135,900,305	3.37%	194.04	3.528%	3.45%	\$ 60,968	-0.3%	\$ 22	
Exeter	713,706,575	17.69%	950.36	17.277%	17.48%	\$ 309,147	-0.7%	\$ (1,068)	
Kensington	129,226,740	3.20%	176.82	3.214%	3.21%	\$ 56,738	-10.1%	\$ (6,167)	
Newfields	107,548,531	2.67%	136.10	2.474%	2.57%	\$ 45,443	-3.8%	\$ (1,641)	
Stratham	502,285,598	12.45%	631.16	11.474%	11.96%	\$ 211,512	-0.8%	\$ (988)	
Co Op	2,238,706,973	55.48%	3,045.24	55.361%	55.42%	\$ 980,032	1.3%	\$ 15,596	
TOTAL	\$ 4,035,258,350	100.00%	5,500.74	100.00%	100.00%	\$ 1,768,386		\$ 5,861	

# SAU 16 CALENDAR 2013-2014

Approved  
12/17/12

## 2013

JULY							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
	1	2	3	4	5	6	0
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Staff
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	0
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30	31				

AUGUST							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
			1	2	3		5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Staff
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	7
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

SEPTEMBER							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
							20
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Staff
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	20
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30						

OCTOBER							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
		1	2	3	4	5	22
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Staff
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	22
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31			

NOVEMBER							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
						1	16
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Staff
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

DECEMBER							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
							15
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Staff
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30	31					

### Symbol Key

- = No School / Holiday / Vacation
- [ ] = Teacher In-Service (No School)
- < > = SAU Early Release

## 2014

JANUARY							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
			1	2	3	4	21
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Staff
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	21
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30	31		

FEBRUARY							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
						1	15
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Staff
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28		

MARCH							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
						1	20
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Staff
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	21
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						

APRIL							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
		1	2	3	4	5	17
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Staff
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	17
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30				

MAY							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
				1	2	3	21
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Staff
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	21
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

JUNE							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
							8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Staff
8	9	10	11**	[12]	13	14	8 or 9
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30						

Totals
Student
180
Staff
185

## Important Dates

2013	NS = No School	
<u>August</u>		
Teacher In-Service	NS	Aug 22-23
School Opens - All Students		Aug 26
School Days		5

<u>September</u>		
Labor Day	NS	Sept 2
School Days		20

<u>October</u>		
Columbus Day	NS	14
School Days		22

<u>November</u>		
Teacher In-Service	NS	Nov 8
Veterans' Day	NS	Nov 11
Thanksgiving Recess	NS	Nov 27-29
School Days		16

<u>December</u>		
Holiday Break	NS	Dec 23-31
School Days		15

## 2014

<u>January</u>		
Holiday Break	NS	Jan 1
MLK, Jr. Day	NS	Jan 20
School Days		21

<u>February</u>		
Winter Vacation	NS	Feb 24-28
School Days		15

<u>March</u>		
Teacher In-Service	NS	March 14
School Days	NS	20

<u>April</u>		
Spring Vacation	NS	Apr 21-25
School Days		17

<u>May</u>		
Memorial Day	NS	May 26
School Days		21

<u>June</u>		
Last day for students		June 11**
Teacher In-service	NS	June 12
School days		8

**Graduation - to be  
announced after  
February vacation**



## MEETINGS/SCHEDULES

Selectmen's Meetings:	Mondays 7:30 pm (except legal holidays)
Volunteer Fire Department:	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays 7:30 pm Business Meeting 2 <sup>nd</sup> (firefighter) & 4 <sup>th</sup> (EMS) Tuesdays Training
Planning Board:	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 pm
Board of Adjustment:	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 pm. Upon request.
Ad-Hoc Conservation Bond Subcommittee:	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm
Conservation Commission:	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 pm
Heritage Commission:	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm
Library Trustees:	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at the Library
Recreation Commission:	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm
Stratham Hill Park Association:	Last Monday of the odd months at 6:30 pm
300 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee:	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Library
Economic Development Committee:	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm
Public Works Commission:	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm
Trustees of the Trust Funds:	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 6:00 pm at the Library
Stratham Fair Committee:	Last Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Firehouse (January-July)
Town Center Committee:	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm
Energy Commission:	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm

*Note: Unless noted otherwise, all meetings are in the Municipal Center at 10 Bunker Hill Ave.*