

ESSEX, MASSACHUSETTS

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

2003

1819

2003

ANNUAL REPORT

Of the

TOWN OFFICERS

of

ESSEX, MASSACHUSETTS

IN MEMORIAM

of those who have served the Town

David Choate

Paul Mugford

Rose Osborne

Abby Stoddard

Joseph Wyatt

**TOWN OF ESSEX
ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS
2003-2004**

MODERATOR

David J. Lane Term Expires 2004

SELECTMEN

Rolf P. Madsen, Chairman Term Expires 2005
 David L. Folsom Term Expires 2004
 Jeffrey D. Jones Term Expires 2006

TOWN CLERK

Sally A. Soucy Term Expires 2004

ASSESSORS

Paul H. Mugford* Term Expires 2004
 Richard S. Cairns Term Expires 2006
 David E. Trask Term Expires 2005
 *Kurt Wilhelm (Appointed to serve until May '04 election)

BOARD OF HEALTH

Paul T. Rullo Term Expires 2004
 Sandra L. Pelkie Term Expires 2006
 Karin Stati-Carroll Term Expires 2005

CONSTABLE

Ronald E. Feener Term Expires 2004
 Roger W. Lander Term Expires 2004

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Susan Gould-Coviello* Term Expires 2004
 Aldred A. Dente Term Expires 2006
 Edward T. Neal** Term Expires 2005
 * James J. Barrett, Jr. (Appointed to serve until May '04 election)
 ** Karen A. Gaudiano (Appointed to serve until May '04 election)

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Lynda Story Seppala Term Expires 2004
 Gillian Palumbo Term Expires 2006
 Mary Hickey Term Expires 2005

CONOMO POINT COMMISSIONERS

Rolf P. Madsen Term Expires 2005
 David L. Folsom Term Expires 2004
 Jeffrey D. Jones Term Expires 2006

PLANNING BOARD

Judson A. Lane	Term Expires 2006
Andrew St. John	Term Expires 2007
Michael Cataldo	Term Expires 2003
Westley C. Burnham	Term Expires 2004
Susan Scott Robinson	Term Expires 2005
Robert S. Fitzgibbon	Term Expires 2008
Elisabeth L. Shields	Term Expires 2004

HOUSING AUTHORITY

Gloria Story (State Appointee)	Term Expires 2005
Diane R. Polley	Term Expires 2006
Jeffrey S. Butler	Term Expires 2008
Nancy L. Marchant (Appointed)	Term Expires 2007
Carolyn M. Clarke	Term Expires 2004

**TOWN OF ESSEX
APPOINTED TOWN OFFICERS
2003/2004**

	Date of Expiration
ADA COORDINATOR William Sanborn	June 30, 2004
APPEALS BOARD Richard Carter	Feb. 1, 2004
R. Jeffrey Lyman*	Feb. 1, 2005
Michael Davis	Feb. 1, 2006
*Edwin Perkins (Appointed to serve remaining term)	
BUILDING INSPECTOR William Sanborn	June 30, 2004
ASSISTANT BUILDING INSPECTOR Walter Rich	June 30, 2004
BURIAL AGENT Blake Story	June 30, 2004
CABLE TV REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE Richard Ross	June 30, 2004

CENSUS LIAISON
Sally Soucy

CENTENNIAL GROVE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Rolf Madsen
Donna Roy
Allan McCoy
Sandy Patrican
Robert Coviello
Michael Cataldo

CIVIL DEFENSE DIRECTOR

Richard Carter June 30, 2004

ASST. TO CIVIL DEFENSE DIRECTOR

Glenn Boutchie June 30, 2004

COMMUNITY OIL SPILL

Warren Grant June 30, 2004

Richard Carter June 30, 2004

Damon Boutchie June 30, 2004

David Folsom, Selectman June 30, 2004

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Stephan Gersh June 30, 2006

Robert Brophy June 30, 2006

Philip Lake June 30, 2004

Philip Caponigro June 30, 2005

Samuel Hoar June 30, 2005

Wallace Bruce June 30, 2005

COUNCIL ON AGING

Margaret Nelson June 30, 2006

Margaret Deveau June 30, 2005

Effie Andrews June 30, 2005

Walter Andrews June 30, 2005

David Elwell June 30, 2005

Brian Browning June 30, 2004

Grace O'Donnell June 30, 2006

Roger Lander June 30, 2006

Robert Wolfe June 30, 2006

Irene Bowman June 30, 2006

ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR

Lawrence O'Maley June 30, 2004

ASSISTANT ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR

Ramie Reader June 30, 2004

ESSEX CULTURAL COUNCIL

Isabelle Parlee	June 30, 2006
Anne White	June 30, 2004
Jane Ellsworth	June 30, 2004
Daisy Nell Means	June 30, 2005
Megan Houser	June 30, 2004
Kim Pederson	June 30, 2005
Gail Pepe	June 30, 2005

FENCE VIEWERS

Board of Selectmen	June 30, 2004
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FIELD DRIVERS

All Patrolmen	June 30, 2004
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FIELD UTILIZATION COMMITTEE

Anthony Sanchez	Alan McCoy
Richard Merullo	Michael Stroman

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mary Koop	May, 2005
Edward Lafferty	May, 2003
Gordon Martin	May, 2006
Marian Keeler	May, 2004
Ray Randall	May, 2006

FIRE CHIEF

Richard Carter (Appointed by Fire Engineers)

FIRE DEPARTMENT ENGINEERS

Richard Carter	June 30, 2004
Raymond Maxfield	June 30, 2004
James Mulcahy	June 30, 2004

FOREST FIRE WARDEN

Richard Carter	June 30, 2004
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HANDICAP COORDINATOR

William Sanborn	June 30, 2004
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HARBORMASTER

David Harrell

HARBORMASTER ASSTS.	
Arnold Thistlewood	June 30, 2004
David Deinstadt	June 30, 2006
James Platt	June 30, 2006
James O'Brien	June 30, 2005
 HAZARDOUS WASTE ADVISOR	
James Mulcahy	June 30, 2004
 HISTORICAL COMMISSION	
Kurt Wilhelm	June 30, 2004
Frederick Ames	June 30, 2004
Susan Toleos	June 30, 2004
Michael Cataldo	June 30, 2004
Robert Coveillo	June 30, 2005
 INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS	
Pamela Stone	March 1, 2004
 OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE	
Daphne Borden	June 30, 2004
Martha Hoar	June 30, 2004
Tudi Bartlett	June 30, 2004
Linda Osburn	June 30, 2004
Mimi Storey	June 30, 2004
Stephan Gersh (Ex Officio)	June 30, 2004
 PERSONNEL BOARD	
Mark Osburn	June 30, 2004
Russell W. Copeland, Jr.	June 30, 2005
Jeffrey Brewer	June 30, 2006
 PLUMBING & GAS INSPECTOR	
Mark Osborn	June 30, 2004
 POUND KEEPER	
Chris Venti	June 30, 2004
 PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION	
Sandy Patrican	May, 2004
William Perkins	May, 2005
Trescott DeWitt	May, 2006
 RANGERS, CRANE WILDLIFE REFUGE	
Donald A. Paquin	June 30, 2004
Walter Swan	June 30, 2004

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Dawn Burnham June 30, 2004
Marilyn Browning June 30, 2004
Virginia Boutchie June 30, 2005

SCOUT HOUSE COMMITTEE

Evelyn Hickey (Friends of COA) June 30, 2004
Georgeann Lane (Girl Scouts) June 30, 2004
Debbie French (Brownies) June 30, 2004
Harold Addison June 30, 2004
Warren Grant June 30, 2004
Walter Andrews June 30, 2004

SHELLFISH ADVISORY BOARD

Keith Woodman June 30, 2005
Leonard Woodman June 30, 2006
Michael Matheson June 30, 2005
Bill Pascucci June 30, 2006

SHELLFISH WARDEN

Arnold A. Thistlewood June 30, 2005

SHELLFISH WARDEN DEPUTIES

Robert Knowles (Glouc. Warden) June 30, 2006
Edwin Bjork June 30, 2004
Stephen Hartley June 30, 2004

SURVEYORS OF LUMBER, WOOD & BARK

Dana Story June 30, 2004

TOWN CLERK'S ASSISTANT

Dorothy Brown June 30, 2005

TOWN COUNSEL

Kopelman and Paige June 30, 2004

TREASURER/TAX COLLECTOR

Nancy Swallow May 8, 2004

YOUTH COMMISSION

Heidi McKeon June 30, 2004
Susan Kane June 30, 2004
Brenda King June 30, 2004
Roger B. Tyler June 30, 2004
Jennifer Painter June 30, 2004

BOARD OF SELECTMEN & CONOMO POINT COMMISSIONERS

2003 has been a very busy year for the Board of Selectmen and as a community we made great strides towards solving problems that we have faced for years. We continue to make progress with our sewer project, all four contracts for the four stages of the contract have been awarded and the project is tracking on budget. We have dealt with a variety of other issues, dog complaints, official's appointments, personnel changes, personnel contracts, litigation against the Town, grant requests, boundary disputes and collective bargaining negotiations.

We still face some huge financial issues, We continue to experience an economic downturn, resulting in continued reductions in state aid and revenues, which has put enormous strains on the Town's budgeting process. In 2004 we are facing an economic squeeze and our community will have to be careful in the way it manages its expenditures. As a community, we will need to work together with our boards to continue to make Essex the place that we want it to be.

Contract Negotiations: Beginning in 2003, we have entered into contract negotiations with the Town's two bargaining units, EPBA and AFSCME.

Centennial Grove: 2003 was a productive year for Centennial Grove. Recreational use by various groups continues to increase as people realize how nice Centennial Grove can be. We continue to make improvements on the athletic fields, dock, and beach and recognize that many more improvements are needed to complete its revitalization. The Grove continues to exemplify the true Essex spirit that by working together we can make a difference. The Select Board will continue to support the revitalization of the Grove and wish to give our thanks to everyone that has contributed to make this happen.

In 2003 the Select Board voted to rename the pavilion the "Folsom Pavilion" in recognition of David Folsom and other Town volunteers for their time and effort that they have given in the revitalization of the Centennial Grove.

Covanta Contract: In 2003 the Town entered, after lengthy negotiations that involved the Department of Public Works, into a new ten year agreement with Covanta Haverhill, Inc. for a contract to operate the Town's transfer station and to receive, process and dispose the municipal solid waste generated by the Town

Grants: Brendhan Zubricki continues to work with other Town boards to seek and receive grants that help the Town offset the current economic climate.

Boat Ramp Attendant: The Town has experienced a significant increase in the use of our boat ramp during the past years. With this increase has come parking congestion and chaos. The Board, in an effort to help bring order to the ramp area, had decided to hire an assistant harbormaster whose responsibility will be to maintain order and collect a new \$25.00 ramp fee. We have had difficulty in filling the position in 2003, and are still seeking to fill the position in 2004. We still see the need, especially with the completion of the new Town parking lot.

Police Chief Contract: During the year, Chief Harrell has informed us of his decision to retire in November of 2005 and sought only a one- year's extension, which was granted to his employment contract. David Harrell has served the Town for over thirty years as an officer, Sergeant and it's Chief. The Town will miss Chief Harrell and the Select Board wishes to thank him for his service and wish him good luck in the future.

Municipal Parking Facility: The new Town parking facility and playground behind the Fire Station will be completed this year. The project, completely financed by a Public Works Economic Development Grant, will provide parking for the nearby churches and businesses, as well as provide a relocated playground with new equipment. The Board wishes to recognize Brendhan Zubricki for his efforts in the grant preparation and construction oversight that has made this project work.

Manchester Essex Regional School District Apportionment: The Manchester Essex Regional School Agreement was modified at Town meeting to correct a deficiency within the agreement.

Wastewater: The Town awarded the first of its four sewer project contracts (the portion of the project that is within the City of Gloucester) to Albanese Brothers, Inc. in 2002 for a total of \$3,960,184. During 2003 the Town awarded the remaining three contracts (all of the work in Essex) to the same contractor – the lowest responsive and responsible bidder on each of them – and the first contract was substantially completed. The awarding of all of the major contracts fully met the expectations of the Department of Environmental Protection under the Town's consent order and major construction activity is expected in Essex for 2004 with project completion expected by the end of 2005. Contract totals as awarded are as follows: Contract 2 - \$4,844,723, Contract 3 - \$2,224,452, and Contract 4 - \$8,445,289.

The Town continued to collect preliminary sewer betterments from residents in 2003 and two additional preliminary betterments and one final betterment will be collected between 2004 and 2006. The concept of collecting funds during the project as opposed to after the completion of the project has allowed the Town to avoid new borrowing and to make substantial extra payments on pre-betterment borrowing. This financial tool will continue to translate into substantial interest savings and ultimately lower the overall project cost for betterment payers and taxpayers alike.

Dog Complaints: Unfortunately, the Board of Selectman has had to continue to handle an increasing number of dog complaints this year which has created adversarial relationships among neighbors. Town residents must take responsibility for their pets, especially in a community without a leash law. Or, if the hearings and complaints continue to grow in volume, the Town will have to decide to implement a leash law to control the problem.

Legal: Fortunately, our legal expenses in 2003 have not increased. Kopelman & Paige have continued to provide excellent service for the Town's legal matters this past year.

Conomo Point: Through the year, the Board, acting as the Conomo Point Commissioners, has continued to vigorously enforce the terms of the Conomo Point leases. There were five lease transfers during the year and with each transfer, the Board explained that the current situation could not guarantee the extension of leases beyond 2011.

The Board wishes to thank Pat Laskowski, the Selectman's Assistant, Kathleen J. Benevento, the Town Accountant, Nancy Swallow, the Town's Tax Collector & Treasurer, Brendhan Zubricki, Town Administrator and, most of all, all of the Town's employees. As a small community with a small staff, they make a huge contribution in assuring the Town runs right. We also wish to thank all the volunteers who serve on Town committees that deal with issues that face Essex.

Respectfully submitted,

Rolf P. Madsen, Chairman
David L. Folsom
Jeffrey D. Jones

ACCOUNTANT

The following reports of the accounts of the Town of Essex for the Fiscal Year 2002 are submitted in compliance with Section 61 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws of Massachusetts. Contained herein are statements of: Revenue, Expenditures, Balance Sheets and Town Debt.

I am available to any citizen who desires more detailed information, so please feel free to call upon me at any time.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen J. Benevento, Town Accountant

ACTION, INC.

Action, Inc. has been serving the Town of Essex since 1965. Our goal is helping people in need. Following is a brief summary of our service to Essex residents in need of help.

We gave Home Care help to 8 elderly residents. This help allows them to stay in their homes rather than a nursing home. This help amounted to 2,236 hours of care and would value at \$38,236.00. One Essex resident is a homemaker providing this service.

We provided fuel assistance to 44 families. This amounted to \$17,573.67. We arranged for 7 families to receive fuel from Citizens Energy. We help 15 residents with weatherizing needs i.e. furnace repairs and new furnaces.

We served 5 Essex residents in our Advocacy service dealing in such areas as family law and housing.

Our Employment and Training Program helped 10 individuals from Essex. Some received training in medical billing and coding. We also placed two residents in full time jobs and gave two college scholarships valued at \$1,000.00 each.

Two young students participated in our compass youth educational program.

The Emergency Homeless Shelter on Main Street in Gloucester serves those in need from Gloucester, Rockport, Essex, Ipswich and Manchester. During the past year fifteen guests have indicated Essex roots. Their nights of stay total approximately 175 and include some combination of dinner, case management, over-night stay, breakfast and carry out lunch. At our standard cost rate of \$15.00 per guest this cost Action \$2,625.00.

With the Town of Essex assistance we are able to provide many more services that otherwise we could not afford.

Respectfully submitted,
William C. Rochford, Executive Director

ADULT LEARNING CENTER

The Adult Learning Center has completed 14 years of free one-on-one tutoring of Cape Ann residents who want to improve their reading, writing, or math skills; prepare for the high school equivalency exams—the GED; or learn to speak English in order to integrate with their new American society. This year these learners were helped by 39 volunteer tutors who donated a total of 3,143 hours of intense academic assistance

Between October 1, 2002 and October 1, 2003, 118 people came to the ALC for tutoring. Fifty-nine were foreign-born residents who strove to gain English fluency. Six foreign-born learners

studied for citizenship; and during the year five of our learners became U.S. citizens: Valerio Passalacqua, Rosalia Sanchez, Tamara Leland, Jeong Wha Jung, and Maria Taormina.

Forty-seven Cape Ann residents studied for the GED exams. Thirteen passed the exams this year. These included one young man who got three perfect scores out of the five exams. And one young woman born and raised in Estonia who married a Gloucester Air Force officer also passed the exams and started a career in the medical field by training with the North Shore Visiting Nurse Association as a certified nursing assistant.

Six people studied at the ALC this year to simply increase their literacy with words and numbers. One woman came to Gloucester from Sicily 42 years ago. After raising six children in a fishing family she has come to the ALC to learn what she had little chance to learn as a child. Her work ethic is remarkable as she applies herself to master the basics of math.

All these people—tutors and learners—are a joy to work with.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret McBride, Teacher/Coordinator

ANIMAL HEALTH INSPECTOR

During 2003 there were no confirmed case of rabies in Essex. Rabies has been on the increase in surrounding towns and State officials still urge pet owners to keep their animals current on rabies vaccines as required by law.

Twelve dog bites involving people were reported in 2003. All these dogs were quarantined and were negative for rabies. Eighteen cats were quarantined for rabies observations, as required by State law, for having “wounds of unknown origin” and were also negative for rabies. The coyote population continues to increase in Essex causing concerns with pet and livestock owners. Pet owners are encouraged to keep their cats in at night.

In November 2003 I attended the annual Animal Health Inspection meeting held at Essex Aggie. Along with the annual rabies updates, topics discussed included current Zoonotic diseases, barn inspections, and continued discussions on terrorism. These meetings are always interesting and informative.

Routine barn inspections were done and the barn book was turned into the Department of Animal Health in Boston.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Stone, CVT, Animal Health Inspector

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Board of Assessors completed its triennial revaluation of property in October and received State certification of our values by the Department of Revenue (DOR) in November. Values continued to rise based on sales analysis completed during the revaluation. Increases continue to be driven in large part by the rising value of land. As a result of rising values the tax rate was adjusted downward to \$10.19 from \$12.13.

The Board grieves the passing of Paul Mugford in September who served faithfully as an assessor for over twenty years. Paul's dedication, skills, and knowledge will be greatly missed. In his absence we appreciate even more the tremendous contribution he has made to the Town throughout his years of service. The Board of Selectmen appointed Kurt Wilhelm to the Board of Assessors to complete the remainder of Mr. Mugford's term of office.

I would like to thank our clerk, Gillian Palumbo, for her efforts during a difficult period of transition after the loss of Paul. I would also like to thank board member David Trask, Town Accountant, Kathy Benevento and other Town board members who assisted in our efforts to complete our revaluation for the DOR and set the tax rate in a timely fashion.

Respectfully submitted
Richard Cairns, Chairman

BUILDING INSPECTOR

A total of 128 permits were issued in 2003. The following is a breakdown of the number and description of permits issued:

24	-Additions	6	-Deck
2	-Fences	3	-Foundation
7	-Garages/Barns	10	-New Dwellings
3	-Signs	4	-Pool
17	-Remodel	31	-Repair/Replacement
6	-Roof	8	-Sheds
7	-Stoves		

The hours for the Building Inspector are from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Wednesday evenings. You may pick up Building Permits and Wood Stove applications during regular business hours at the Town Hall Monday through Thursday. Guidelines for the permit procedures are available at the Building Inspector's office in the Town Hall.

Please note that should anyone have issues with accessibility to the Town Hall, they need only give me a call at 978-768-2514 (or 978-768-6531) so that I can make special arrangements to meet with them.

Respectfully submitted,
William Sanborn, Building Inspector

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

I. Rivers Protection Act

The Riverfront Area extends 200 feet from any perennial river or stream and is considered in the Wetland Protection Act as a resource area in itself and not a buffer to the perennial river/stream. There are very limited exceptions (certain agricultural projects and urbanized areas) to the width of this resource area. No part of Essex is considered an urbanized area under the Rivers Protection Act. The Riverfront area does not apply to a river/stream classified as intermittent. A perennial river/stream is one that flows throughout the year, except in periods of extreme drought when indicated by a Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) notification. Visual observation of flow or no flow during a site visit or as reported by an applicant is not a determining factor as to whether the river/stream is perennial or intermittent. The Commission uses a number of sources of information to determine if a river/stream is perennial, including: USGS maps, a determined watershed exceeding three square miles, presence of upstream tributaries and groundwater elevation at or near the surface, and historical data.

Any work proposed in a Notice Of Intent within the 200- foot resource area to a perennial river / stream must be evaluated using the following four standards: 1) meeting the performance standards for every other resource area that is present in the Riverfront Area; 2) meeting the same standards for protection of rare species and vernal pool habitat ; 3) undergoing a formal alternatives analysis and proving "no practical and substantially equivalent economic alternative" to the project; 4) having no significant adverse impact on the Riverfront Area as a resource area providing habitat for dependent species.

The review process for work proposed within a Riverfront Area is complicated, time consuming and costly in comparison to other issues regarding jurisdictional review by the Commission. It is strongly suggested that any applicant meet with the Commission on an informal basis to discuss the work they propose to do. The Commission can assist them in understanding what they have to do to meet the review requirements of the Rivers Protection Act.

II. Environmental Consultants

In July of 2003, the Lieutenant Governor signed into law M.G.L. Chapters 44 and 53G giving Conservation Commissions the authority to hire outside consultants. A set of guidelines is required to serve as a basis for the hiring of consultants. Outside consultants are selected by the Commission and paid for by the applicant who has a proposed project before the Commission. Some of the projects reviewed by the Commission are complicated and require expert advice to render an accurate and fair judgment. The Essex Conservation Commission held a Public Hearing for public comment on February 3, 2004 and the Commission voted in favor of the 'Guidelines For The Hiring Of Outside Consultants'. These guidelines are available in the Assessor's Office as well as at the meetings of the Commission.

Respectfully Submitted,
Wallace Bruce, Chairman Stephan Gersh Philip Lake
Shirley Singleton Robert Brophy
Samuel Hoar Philip Caponigro

COUNCIL ON AGING

During the year 2003, the Essex Council on Aging continued to provide services to the senior population of Essex. These services include a Shopping Bus to the Malls, Dominoes, and a Movie every month; Blood Pressure Clinics and Cribbage twice a month; and Arts & Crafts every week. These programs are all free. Line Dancing every week and Crazy Whist once a month require a very nominal fee.

The Council on Aging publishes and mails a newsletter 4 times a year and with the Board of Health and VNA provides a flu clinic. Together with the Friends of the COA the annual Picnic at Centennial Grove is held in June, the annual Cruise Down River in August and the annual Christmas Luncheon in December. We also participate in the annual Essex Clam Fest in September.

During 2003 former Council Chairman, Margaret Deveau, stepped down from that position. A Recognition Luncheon was held in her honor in January and she was presented with a thank-you gift for her work as Council Chairman. She will continue to serve as a member of the Council.

As your new Council Chairman, with your help and support, I will do my best to continue in the praiseworthy traditions of our past Chairmen.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret E. Nelson, Chairman

ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR

In 2003 a total of 138 electrical permits were issued:

New Homes (complete wiring).....	14
New Pre-Fabricated Homes.....	2
Additions.....	16
New Services.....	18
Underground Services.....	16
Temporary Services.....	9
Commercial remodeling.....	4
Remodeling and wiring updates.....	34
Garages/Barns.....	6
Swimming Pools.....	3
Security/Fire Alarms.....	16

Electrical permits must be obtained before any electrical work begins and no work shall be covered until an inspection is made. All electrical work must meet the requirements of the Massachusetts Electrical Code. The Electrical Inspector has 24 hours for exterior excavations and 72 hours for interior installations after proper notice to the Inspector. This excludes Saturdays, Sundays and holidays per the Massachusetts Electrical Code.

A total of 30 Certificates of Liability insurance are on file for 2003. All electrical and alarm companies must have proof of liability insurance on files with the Inspector.

Permit applications are available in the office of the Board of Selectman, Town Hall, during regular business hours or by calling my home, Monday through Friday, 978-768-6609.

Respectfully submitted,
Lawrence E. O'Maley, Electrical Inspector

ESSEX CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Essex Cultural Council awarded 4 grants for fiscal 2004, totaling \$4000.00. Recipients were: Essex Elementary/Middle School, Manchester Parks and Recreation Department Summer Concert Series, Essex Historical Society & Shipbuilding Museum, and Music at Eden's Edge (for a program in Essex Elementary and Middle School). Further information can be obtained from the website www.mass-culture.org.

Respectfully submitted,
Daisy Nell Collinson, Chair

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Essex Fire Department is comprised of thirty-three members and an auxiliary of eighteen members (Firemen and EMTs). During 2003 the Department made 175 fire calls and 245 ambulance calls for a total of 420 calls. The Department assisted neighboring towns by participating in 12 mutual aid calls.

The Fire Department applied for and received a \$2,300.00 grant from the Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) grant program and a \$900.00 Emergency Operations Planning (EOP) grant.

During 2003, members of the Department participated in 65 days of various training initiatives; live fire training at the Mass Fire Academy, ice rescue training, gas training, first aid and CPR. Four firefighters attended Firefighter I and Firefighter II classes over the course of nine months at the Manchester Fire Station. Three firefighters are members of the Cape Ann Dive Team and attended dive team training classes.

In closing, we would like to personally thank each member of the Fire Department, Auxiliary Fire Department and the EMTs for their hard work and dedication during 2003. In addition, we want to thank the ECO dispatchers and the Essex Police Department for their professional manner in handling calls and Lyons Ambulance Service for providing the Town with Advanced Life Support (ALS).

Respectfully Submitted,
Richard Carter, James Mulcahy and Raymond Maxfield
Board of Engineers

HARBORMASTER

The 2003 boating season was busy but relatively routine for Harbormaster personnel. In March, we began the boating season by mailing and processing mooring renewals and Deputy Harbormaster Jim Platt began the task of repairing or replacing the navigational markers. He also began the yearly ritual of repairing the piers and floats at the Main Street landing.

During the season, Harbormaster personnel logged in 788 hours of patrol on the river and Chebacco Lake providing assistance to boaters, placing moorings, setting navigational markers and enforcing the boating laws. Several times during the season, Harbormaster personnel were called on to locate lost or overdue boaters and to assist boaters in distress.

The Harbormaster Department took in \$16, 433.00 in mooring renewal fees during the year. In November, the navigational markers were removed and the boat was hauled to end our season.

On April 15, 2003 a lottery was held to choose the recipients of four boat slips at the Main Street Dock. These slip rentals are for a period of five years at a current cost of \$500.00 per year.

I extend my thanks to the Assistant Harbormasters who provide the daily patrols and emergency responses during the season and look forward to working with them in the coming season.

Respectfully submitted,
David Harrell, Harbormaster

BOARD OF HEALTH

Board membership and personnel remained consistent for the 2003 fiscal year. Board Members were; Chairman, Paul Rullo; Clerk, Sandra Pelkie; and Karin Staiti Carroll, Member. After the Board's reorganization, Sandra Pelkie took over Board Chairmanship. Staff consisted of Elaine Wozny, Board Administrator and Margaret Davies, Clerk. Partners Home Care was contracted to provide Public Health Nursing Services and Tom Corcoran provided supplemental food service establishment inspections.

The Board had an active year. We took proactive steps to protect those who live in and visit our community. Lauren Hefferan, past Northeast Regional Lyme Disease Prevention Educator for MA Dept. of Public Health, spoke on Lyme Disease at an informational evening hosted by the BOH. We sponsored flu vaccination clinics for seniors and high- risk residents. Routine monitoring of town swimming areas resulted in the closing of two areas for several days until the return to acceptable bacterial limits. We adopted regulations to protect workers and patrons of Manicuring/Nail Salons. We adopted strict regulations to protect workers in Essex from the dangers of second hand tobacco smoke. The Environmental Tobacco Smoke Regulations also serve to protect those who frequent places affected by these regulations, including restaurants. Copies of these, and all BOH regulations are available at the Board of Health office.

We continued to provide professional and prompt services including on site septic system review, water quality monitoring of town swimming areas, restaurant inspections, vaccination programs, enforcement of tobacco regulations, investigation of housing complaints, animal health issues, review of building permit applications, investigation of nuisance complaints, and dissemination of information to the public and those who request it. For part of this year we took advantage of the newly available grant money to contribute toward monitoring of the water quality of our recreational waters.

In FY 2003, we continued to work toward the clean up of a longstanding waste storage site in town. Our efforts were rewarded when the State Superior Court appointed a receiver to control the clean up of this site.

Along with our gains came a loss. We felt the effects of the state budget cuts when the highly successful Regional Tobacco Control Collaborative was dissolved due to lack of state funding. The loss of the Collaborative's work and dedication creates a gap in tobacco control efforts in the entire Cape Ann region. We fear that their strides against America's number one preventable disease causing agent will be lost, especially among the youth.

The Town and Board of Health continue toward the goal of correcting our longstanding issue of inadequate sewage disposal. We continue the witnessing of soil testing, design plan review and approval, and system installation inspections as part of our standard duties. While the Selectmen's office and DPW address the construction of the municipal sewer system, we continue to concentrate on private septic systems. As a result of the Modified Final Judgment between Essex and MA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), we revoked the existing Seven Year Inspection Program, and Essex again adheres to septic system inspections as mandated under Title 5. Ordered repair of properties with failed septic systems outside of the future sewer area, previously held in abeyance, have now been issued orders to complete repairs by January 15, 2005. As part of the terms of the Final Judgment between Essex and MA DEP, we submit the following information pertaining to property transfers in the Town of Essex for the *calendar year* 2003 –

	Address	Date Insp	Insp Result	Inspector	Trans. Date
127	Apple	7/24/2002	P	D. Johnson	1/29/2003
35	Addison St.	6/12/1995	P	J. Duncan	2/3/2003
26	Story St.	1/16/2003	P	M. Godwin	2/14/2003
206	Western Ave(unit F)	8/27/2002	P	Divendienzo	2/27/2003
206	Western Ave(unit E)	8/27/2002	P	Divendienzo	2/21/2003
27	Martin St.	V. upgrade	F	n/a	3/3/2003
22	Main St.	2/26/2003	P	J. Ginn	3/3/2003
19	Wood Dr.	10/16/2002	C.P.	D. Johnson	3/6/2003
8	Lufkin Point Rd.	10/1/2002	P	M. Goodwin	3/14/2003
21	Gregory Island Rd	n/a	COC	n/a	3/27/2003
206	Western Ave(unit C)	8/27/2002	P	Divendienzo	3/31/2003
29	Lufkin Point Lane	4/26/1997	P	M. Godwin	3/31/2003
110	Southern Ave.	6/30/1997	P	C. Morin	4/3/2003
10	Harry Homan's Dr.	4/29/2003	F	R. Burley	5/14/2003
6	Essex Park Rd.	6/9/2003	P	L. Demond	5/19/2003
11	Lakeview Rd.	8/27/2002	P	Divendienzo	5/22/2003
25	John Wise Ave.	V. upgrade	F	n/a	5/23/2003
147	Eastern Ave.	5/23/2003	P	R. Hobbs	6/3/2003
17	Addison St.	V. upgtade	F	n/a	6/18/2003
159	Main St.	10/6/1997	P	Whalen	6/27/2003
67R	Pond St	2/4/2003	P	J. Ginn	7/1/2003
1	Dodge St.	6/20/2003	P	Ginn	7/15/2003
25	Centennial Grove Rd	7/16/2003	P	M. Godwin	7/15/2003
25	Centennial Grove Rd	7/16/2003	P	M. Godwin	7/15/2003
2	Main St.	6/19/2003	P	Demond	7/17/2003
85	John Wise Ave.	3/5/2003	F	D. Johnson	7/17/2003
2	Main St.	6/19/2003	P	Demond	7/17/2003
1	Southern Heights	V. upgrade	F	n/a	7/19/2003
39	Lufkin St.	V. upgrade	F	n/a	7/31/2003
233	Western Ave.	6/4/2003	P	D. Johnson	8/21/2003
195	John Wise Ave.	4-19 & 6-24-02	P	M. Godwin	9/5/2003
1	John Wise Ave.	V. upgrade	F	n/a	9/9/2003
67	Western Ave.	8/23/2003	P	Demond	9/10/2003
93	Martin St.	6/30/1998	F	Duncan	9/16/2003
206	Western Ave(unit A)	8/27/2002	P	Divendienzo	9/10/2003
180/168	Southern Ave.	6/21/2003	P	Ginn	9/30/2003
4	Ice House Lane	v. upgrade	F	n/a	10/6/2003

52	Western Ave.	required			10/7/2003
98	Western Ave.	5/3/2003	F	M. Godwin	10/9/2003
102	Choate St.	5/29/2003	F	S. Busa	10/21/2003
15	School St	11/1/2003	P	C. Morin	11/24/2003
77	Southern Ave.	n/a	temp. tight tank		11/25/2003
59	Wood Dr.	required			11/29/2003
81	Choate St.	10/31/2003	P	M. Godwin	12/4/2003
112	Southern Ave.	11/7/2003	P	G. Norris	12/5/2003
52	Western Ave.	required			12/12/2003
52	Belcher St.	required			12/3/2003
25	Pond St	required			12/3/2003
5	Lufkin Point Rd.	6/22/1999	F	Whalen	12/31/2003

The Board of Health continues to meet every two weeks. The public is welcome to attend these meetings. If you would like to discuss an issue, please call our office in advance to be placed on the agenda.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Pelkie MacIntyre, Chairman

HEALTH & EDUCATION SERVICES

Health & Education Services, Inc. is a private, non-profit integral behavioral health network serving 27 communities in the Greater North Shore and Merrimack Valley areas. HES's mission is *"to promote the well-being that builds healthy individuals, families, and communities through integration of quality health, behavioral health, education and human service programs. We are a community-based network of prevention, intervention, and treatment services. We provide a comprehensive continuum of care for all, especially those whose needs are otherwise unmet."* Services include primary prevention, outpatient mental health & substance abuse treatment, emergency & crisis services, and residential placement for clients whose ages range from childhood to elder years.

The following is a representation of to whom services were provided over the one-year period from January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003.

Total Number of Children, Aged 0 – 18	26
Total Females – 12	Total Males – 14
 Total Number of Adults, Aged 19 – 64	 45
Total Females – 27	Total Males – 18
 Total Number of Adults, Aged 65+	
Total Females 1	Total Males - 0

Total Clients Seen from Essex	726
Total Number of Session	1126

In general, clients from Essex present with a wide range of behavioral, emotional, mental health, and substance abuse issues. These include children and adults with acute and persistent mental illness, sexual abuse/trauma, and families coping with substance abuse addictions.

Health & Education Services, Inc. thanks the Town of Essex for their support over the past several years.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul C. O'Shea, President & CEO

HELP FOR ABUSED WOMEN & THEIR CHILDREN

2003 marked HAWC's 25th year as the only agency providing comprehensive domestic violence services to women from 23 North Shore cities and towns. From Saugus to Gloucester, HAWC assists women with a range of services, including: a 24-hour hotline, emergency shelter, legal and medical advocacy, counseling and support groups. HAWC addresses the issue of teen dating violence through our school-based Teen REACH Project, and works to dispel myths about abuse through community presentations.

Since our founding in 1979, HAWC has grown tremendously, in terms of programs and the number of women served. With the assistance of more than 100 trained volunteers, HAWC provided over 12,500 points of service to battered women and more than 5,700 teenagers last year. All of HAWC's services were provided free of charge.

Of the women served by HAWC in 2003, 5 were from Essex:

- 3 women called HAWC's 25-hour hotline. The hotline is staffed by trained volunteers who provide information, advice, referral and assistance securing shelter for women in crisis.
- 2 woman received help and support from HAWC in the form of services that could have included counseling, legal and/or medical advocacy or participation in our weekly support group meetings.

As noted in last year's annual report, HAWC no longer records numbers of clients served by specific programs on a town by town basis. With the exception of the Hotline statistics which are recorded separately, HAWC's statistics now only reflect total numbers of clients receiving services (irrespective of the specific service) in any given community.

In addition, HAWC's educators are available upon request to make presentations and conducts workshops revolving around issues of domestic abuse both in the schools and in the community.

Currently, high-school students from the town of Essex who are attending the Manchester High School are participating in HAWC's Youth Outreach Program at the High School.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie B. Neal, Associate Director of Development

REPORT OF THE TOHP BURNHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY

In January, the Library held a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new handicap ramp, designed and built by students from the North Shore Vocational School. Prisoners from Middleton Jail had renovated the new entryway. The library is now accessible to all. The entryway at the stone steps in front of the Town Hall is no longer used. A beautiful view of the marsh now greets everyone as they enter and many have commented how picturesque it is.

This accessibility also makes it possible for the Selectmen to once again hold their meetings in the building using the library. Other Town committees have met here, too.

A learning to knit class was started in January by Connie Perrigo with help from Marianne Allen and Bette Mello. This program was very successful: there were 15 attendees and everyone enjoyed the hours spent together. The Library Trustees and I extend many thanks to these 3 women for their support, help and gentle instruction.

A new program for babies and their caregivers was held weekly during the month of March. 'Babies and Books' provided an opportunity for children 0-2 years old to enjoy stories, songs, and nursery rhymes. It offers support for new mothers/new residents and an introduction to the resources of the library.

Our summer program began once again with a Root Beer Float Party following the last day of school. Vehicle Night in June generated lots of excitement. A dump truck, trash truck, flat bed truck, boat hauler, tractor, police car, ambulance, antique police car, and 2 fire engines were made available for hands on display at Memorial Park. It was great to see the families arrive and the kids had a wonderful time climbing all over and pretending to drive each vehicle. The highlight may have been when the fire engine hoses sprayed water over the field for the kids to play in. To all the owners/drivers of the vehicles, we extend again our thanks for giving your time and resources and providing excitement for us all.

The children who completed the requirements for the summer reading program received a free pass and 6 ride tickets to the Topsfield Fair. Our thanks to Sally O'Maley and Patti Byrne for helping out with the promotion and tickets.

Deborah French resigned in early September. We wish her well in her new position even as we miss her cheerful presence and helpfulness.

Throughout the year gifts were received and were used to purchase new books. Memorial gifts were given in memory of Paul Mugford and Meredith Heussey.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Cairns

TOHP BURNHAM LIBRARY

INCOME

Interest	\$ 403.73
Checking account interest	1.95
Fines	80.88
Copier	198.00
Replace	58.00
Book sales	72.50
Gifts	6093.00
Total	\$6,908.06

EXPENDITURES

Books	\$3382.60
Subscriptions	781.26
Videos	304.98
Audio/CD's	992.20
Bank charges	32.00
Programming	59.95
Supplies	147.15
Petty cash	31.50
Total	\$5,810.04

7/1/02	Income.	Expense	Bal.6/30/03
153.91	6908.06	5810.04	1251.92

RECEIPTS

Interest	\$ 756.14
Checking account interest	1.76
Fines	410.63
Copier	363.70
Replace	25.00
Gifts	6985.00
Lost cards	20.00
Book sales	226.50
Total	\$ 8,788.73

METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council is the regional planning and economic development district representing 101 cities and towns in metropolitan Boston. In addition, the Council shares oversight responsibility for the region's federally funded transportation program as one of 14 members of the Boston Metropolitan Planning Organization. The Council's legislative mandate is to provide technical and professional resources to improve the physical, social and economic condition of its district, and to develop sound responses to issues of regional significance. The Council provides research, studies, publications, facilitation and technical assistance in the areas of land use and the environment, housing, transportation, water resources management, economic development, demographic and socioeconomic data, legislative policy and interlocal partnerships that strengthen the operation of local governments.

The Council is governed by 101 municipal government representatives, 21 gubernatorial appointees, and 10 state and 3 city of Boston officials. An Executive Committee composed of 25 members oversees agency operations and appoints an executive director. The agency employs approximately 30 professional and administrative staff. Funding for Council activities is derived from contracts with government agencies and private entities, foundation grants, and a per-capita assessment charged to municipalities within the district.

In the past year, the Council has focused on initiatives that respond to regional challenges, some of which include:

- **Municipal planning:** working with more than 25 communities under the Executive Order 418 program. EO 418 provides communities with up to \$30,000 in state funding to undertake overall visioning on local planning issues, including housing, economic development, natural resources, and transportation.
- **Bringing advanced technology to cities and towns in the region:** a contract with Pictometry International will provide aerial photographic images that municipal departments, including police and fire, can utilize to improve service delivery.
- **Adoption of smart growth principles:** MAPC developed and adopted principles of good planning practice that will encourage sustainable patterns of growth to benefit people living throughout the metro Boston region. MAPC is also a founding member of the Massachusetts Smart Growth Alliance.
- **Metro Data Center:** The Center is an official US Census affiliate, helping to distribute demographic data throughout the region, including demographic, economic, and housing profiles for all 101 communities in metro Boston.
- **Transportation planning:** as vice chair of the Boston Metropolitan Planning Organization, MAPC worked to develop the 25-year Regional Transportation Plan as well as the annual Transportation Improvement Program, including transportation spending priorities for the region. We also spearheaded development of transportation spending criteria, taking into account environmental, economic, and equity considerations.
- **Metropolitan Highway System Advisory Board:** MAPC staffs this board, established in 1997 by the Commonwealth to advise the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority on issues

relative to land use, air rights, zoning, and environmental impacts associated with development of land owned by the authority.

- **Regional Services Consortia:** The four regional consortia established by MAPC collectively purchased \$18 million in office supplies and highway maintenance services for its 31 member municipalities. The project also facilitates collegial forums among members' chief administrative officers focused on collaborative problem solving and resource sharing.
- **Metro Mayors Coalition:** Working with the mayors and city managers of 10 municipalities in the urban core on issues such as group purchasing, employee health insurance, security and emergency coordination, and municipal relief legislation.
- **Homeland security:** addressing homeland security issues by facilitating cross-municipal partnerships between police, fire, and emergency management departments to acquire and share equipment, and more generally to plan for emergencies involving multiple municipalities.
- **Hazard mitigation:** initiating a federally-funded partnership to produce a hazard mitigation plan to protect nine coastal communities in the event of natural disasters, including flood, winter storm, wind, fire, and geologic hazards.

Please visit our website, www.mapc.org, for more details about these and other activities.

Metrofuture: Making A Greater Boston Region

MAPC has launched a new civic process, called MetroFuture, to create an updated regional vision and growth strategy for metropolitan Boston. MetroFuture engages city and town governments, state agencies, non-profits, business, labor and academic groups in this planning process. The outcome will be a vision and growth strategy that puts the region on a sustainable path in terms of land use, economic, environmental and social issues. MAPC will need the support of a broad range of organizations in the region to help plan, fund and implement this new framework for addressing the challenges facing metropolitan Boston.

The effort to create this new strategy was launched on October 29, 2003 at a Boston College Citizens Seminar. More than 400 citizens from a wide range of local and regional groups attended the event, and expressed their opinions on the region's resources and challenges as well as their own visions for the future. This input will be critical as we move to the next phase of this exciting multi-year project. Please visit the project web site, www.metrofuture.org, for more information.

North Shore Task Force (Beverly, Danvers, Essex, Gloucester, Ipswich, Manchester by the Sea, Marblehead, Middleton, Peabody, Rowley, Salem, Swampscott, Topsfield, Wenham)

During the past year the members of the North Shore Task Force took part in a variety of activities, including the following: learned about the availability of obtaining environmental technical resources through Coastal Zone Management and the Massachusetts Bays Program; learned about Pictometry from MAPC staff; took part in a Transportation Improvement Program criteria session with MAPC and the Central Transportation Planning Staff (CTPS); was presented MAPC's Decade of Change presentation by MAPC staff outlining demographic changes gleaned from the 2000 census; offered comments to and heard presentation from CTPS staff on operational improvements planned for Route 128 from Beverly to Gloucester; learned about the

Ipswich River Watershed Management Plan and how they could contribute to it; heard from MAPC staff on how to take advantage of savings offered under the MAPC Regional Services Consortium; took part in a presentation and commented on proposed changes to MGL 40A under the Land Use Reform Act; in conjunction with CTPS staff, helped to develop and then review final results of the North Shore Congested Signalized Intersection Study; commented on the Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Plan and Unified Planning Work Program, began to learn how North Shore area municipalities can learn more about alternative energy options from the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative and actively participated in developing a participation strategy for the North Shore region for the “Visions Across the Region” Regional Vision and Growth Strategy.

ESSEX OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

The Open Space Committee’s mandate is to preserve and protect open space in Essex. Our Town is blessed with a combination of special landscapes including the Essex River estuary, fresh water habitats, farmlands, pristine wooded areas – open space! All of which add immeasurably to our local character, treasured by residents and tourists alike.

In the fall of 2002, our new walking path along Conomo Point Road was completed, offering a safe and attractive alternative to the busy road. It starts just west of the Harlow Street/Concord Street junction, and ends near the beginning of Lufkin Point Road. There is off-road parking at both ends of the trail. Anyone walking this trail will want to join us in thanking Daphne Borden without whose project leadership this would not have been accomplished.

Also in the fall, as previously reported, our survey on Growth and Open Space was distributed to 1350 residents and businesses. 278 (21%) were returned: an excellent response, including several who indicated a willingness to help, three of whom have since joined the committee as associate members. The work of tabulating the responses has recently been concluded, and the results will soon be published on the town website. The survey results are important because they will become the base of our new Open Space and Recreation Plan, ensuring that it will reflect the interests of Essex residents.

In April the Massachusetts Area Planning Council presented the Essex Natural Resources Forum as part of state-mandated Project 418, the Community Development Plan. Committee members and volunteers from the survey responses played a hands-on role in marketing and participating in this forum which resulted in a list of themes (conservation, development, history, agriculture, recreation, etc.) and natural resource areas, each prioritized by the 57 attendees. These results are consistent with the findings of the Growth and Open Space survey and indicate strong support for both land conservation and a planned approach to future growth.

The committee continued its work on the new Open Space Plan, which is nearing completion. This spring representatives of the Open Space Committee will initiate meetings with other Town committees to invite questions, comment and support, and to help shape the final section on specific goals for Essex.

The creation of an Open Space and Recreation Plan is an enormous task for which most towns rely on professional help. Our volunteer committee is fortunate to have a talented and willing

group of associates to help us. We welcome public attendance at our meetings and participation in our work

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Dawson
Martha Hoar, Chair

PERSONNEL BOARD

The Personnel Board met on a regular basis during fiscal year 2003 and transacted much routine business including the monitoring of various personnel-related actions, programs, and day-to-day issues. Highlights of the major Personnel Board actions taken over the past fiscal year include the following:

- The setting of the Wage & Salary scale prior to last year's Annual Town meeting.
- Monitoring of contract grievances and other issues related to the EPBA and AFSCME contracts.
- Revisions to the Personnel Rules & Regulations related to Sunday pay and to recommendations made by the Town's insurer, MIIA.
- The approval of a new Assistant Building Inspector position description and expense/training budget.
- The approval of a new Collection Systems Operator-Technician position description.
- The approval of a new, Assistant DPW Superintendent position description.
- The approval of a new DPW Specialist position description (part-time expert help).
- The revision of the existing DPW Superintendent position description.
- The revision of the existing Town Accountant position description.
- The endorsement of a new seatbelt policy for riding in Town vehicles.

We have accomplished much over the past year and we wish to thank departing Board Members Eloise Hodges and Andrew LeStage for their service to the Town.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Osburn, Chair
Russell "Rusty" Copeland, Jr.
Andrew LeStage

ESSEX PLANNING BOARD

The Essex Planning Board was extremely busy with the consideration of applications presented this fiscal year. Because of its heavy review-of -applications schedule, the Board was unable to continue work on meaningful revision of bylaws or introduction of new bylaws integral to

maintaining the healthy and attractive atmosphere in Essex, so valued by residents and business owners.

No fewer than seven special permits were requested this year. Two were withdrawn without prejudice after the time-consuming public hearings and Board consideration had begun. Five were completed and approved, including one addition to an existing cell-tower array and one siting of a new cell tower. The other special permits approved concerned new uses or expansions of properties already developed, and one set of permits was issued in connection with the Town's sewer project.

There were no new subdivisions approved, although the Board did approve one preliminary subdivision plan which included four new lots, and approved one subdivision modification, which limited potential development on a large undeveloped parcel.

Two approval not required (ANR) applications were acted upon this year, altering lot lines of parcels not in subdivision projects.

One bylaw change was introduced and passed at the 2003 Annual Meeting: to incorporate state building code standards into the Essex Zoning Bylaws concerning swimming pool fencing and safety.

Improved communication among Town boards and officials has been effected this year, with more consistent contact and regular communication about applications pending and individual departmental concerns for specific projects. This has assisted the Planning Board's review process and applicants as well.

Thanks to the other six elected Board members and to all who participated in the public hearings and other meetings of the Planning Board. Meetings are regularly scheduled for 7:30 pm at the School, or the Scout House during school vacation periods including the summer. Your participation is appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Scott Robinson, Chair

PLUMBING & GAS INSPECTOR

There has been a slight decline in the total number of permits issued in 2003 and, as you know, there has been a slight raise in the fees.

The number of Plumbing permits issued in 2003: 61
20 permits for new construction
41 permits for renovation/replacement

The number of Gas permits issued in 2003: 82
16 permits for new construction

66 permits for renovation/replacement

Once again I remind you that whoever is doing the work must make sure the permit is taken out before starting the job.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Osborn, Plumbing & Gas Inspector

POLICE DEPARTMENT

During 2003 the Police Department logged 4132 incidents. The following is a breakdown of the incidents responded to or reported:

209A	10	Missing Person	7
Alarm	294	Murder and Non-Neglect	0
Alarm (Fire)	30	MV Towed	22
Alarm Security	264	MVA	94
Ambulance Calls	228	MVA Fatal	0
Animal Calls	53	MVA Hit and Run	13
Annoying Phone Calls	7	Noise Complaint	24
Area Checks	814	Numbers and Lottery	0
Arson	0	Odor/Pollution Etc.	0
Arrests	39	Offense Against Family or Child	1
Assault	7	Officer Out Sick	45
Bikes or Mini-Bike Complaints	7	Operating Under the Influence	5
Burglary B&E	13	Other Assaults	0
By-Law Violation	3	Possession of Controlled Substance	0
Check Investigation	12	Property Damage	12
Check Well-being	44	Report from Gloucester Police	14
Complaint General	17	Report from Hamilton Police	11
Convey Message	6	Report from Ipswich Police	12
Cruiser Down Time	1	Report from Manchester Police	13
Cruiser out of Town	111	Report from State Police	1
Curfew & Loitering	0	Report Received	233
Dead Body	1	Report Received Wenham PD	0
Department Business	8	Road Condition Complaints	56
Department Equipment	64	Robbery	0
Disorderly Conduct	6	Runaways	5
Disturbance - General	16	S/M Dangerous Non-Narcotic	0
Dog Complaint	18	S/M Marijuana	0

Domestic	11	Safety Officer	0
Door or Window Open	37	Sex Offender Registration	0
E- 9-1-1- Calls	255	Sex Offense Except Rape	0
Embezzlement	0	Shellfish Enforcement	0
Emergency 209A Requests	6	Shoplifting	0
Erratic Operation	49	Skate Boarder Complaints	0
Escorts	6	Stolen License Plate	4
Fire Calls	61	Stolen Property/Buy/Receive	2
Forcible Rape	0	Subpoena	0
Forgery and Counterfeit	1	Suicide or Attempted Suicide	2
Fraud	6	Summons Received	1
Gambling	0	Suspicion	0
General Disturbance	11	Suspicious Activity	93
General Services	200	Tenant Landlord Dispute	4
Harbormaster Activity	42	Threats	10
Harassment	20	Traffic Enforcement	9
Illegally Parked M/V	418	Trespass	9
Incapacitated Person	0	Unwanted Person	8
Intra-Department	3	Vacation Watch	22
Kidnapping	0	Vagrancy	0
Larceny Except M/V	20	Vandalism	30
Liquor Laws	2	Warrant Received	1
Littering/Trash	1	Weapons Carry & Possession	0
Lost or Found Property	21	Wires Down	9
M/V Abandoned	2		
M/V Disabled	69		
M/V Lockout	2		
M/V Stop by Cruiser	1387		
M/V Theft	4		
Manslaughter Negligent	0		
Misc. Investigation	16		
Misc. Report Received	54		

In March of 2003 we received a grant for \$15, 500 through the Local Law Enforcement Public Safety Equipment Grant Program. These funds were used to purchase two Honda ATVs and a trailer to transport them. This equipment proved to be useful during the fall, when a 12-year-old Beverly boy was reported missing in the area of Chebacco Lake. Officers from Essex spent three days searching the difficult terrain in this wooded area. In October we applied for and received a grant for \$12,000.00 from the Executive Office of Public Safety Community Policing Program. This grant will be used for traffic enforcement and the purchase of two new radar units for the cruisers.

Again this year, all officers attended an annual firearms training and qualifications course held at the Hamilton Rod and Gun Club under the direction of Inspector Peter Silva.

The lack of sufficient public safety facilities continues to be a problem for all departments involved. It is difficult to perform day-to-day operations and provide adequate service to the community in a space that fails to meet even our basic needs.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all of the groups and individuals who have helped in keeping Essex a safe community.

Respectfully Submitted,
David Harrell, Chief of Police

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The changes to the Department that were initiated last year have taken hold and, along with some personnel changes, we can see improvements in all of our operations. The Department has serious equipment problems that need to be addressed to enhance the efficiency of operations. We are working with the Finance Committee and Selectmen to find innovative methods of replacing some of our ageing and high maintenance problems. The present tight fiscal situation creates concern as to how we can provide basic service. Regulatory and insurance compliance issues are putting ever-increasing demands on our operations. Regulatory requirements from the Commonwealth seldom come with funding and usually require expenditures that show up as local obligations.

The Parking lot behind the Fire Station is mostly complete. The only major issues are the landscaping and the completion of the stairway. All of the infrastructure work under the area was completed before the park work commenced. MADEP was called to the site to oversee the removal of some drums containing asphalt. The parking area should relieve some of the congestion in the downtown area and provide public space for residents and visitors as well. The area should provide additional space during sewer construction. We expect completion in early spring.

The construction of the Municipal Garage has been delayed by MADEP over regulatory compliance. The Department has retained site professionals as well as enlisting the assistance of our legislators to clear the red tape. We hope to get MADEP's cooperation and start construction

in the near future. As most of you have probably observed, we have temporary facilities that are far from adequate. The DPW would like to thank the many local contractors, carpenters, electricians etc. that have made this facility as user friendly as possible under the circumstances. Going through the winter outdoors affects not only the employees, but causes many equipment issues that can be costly.

Water rates were increased for the first time since 1994. This increase was due to increased regulatory compliance especially since the 9/11 event and the assumed vulnerability of water supplies, increased water supply protection, ten years of slowly increasing costs, and insurance costs. Although our water supply is adequate for the near term, the regulators are always demanding that we take water conservation measures. The net result of this is the less water sold, the higher cost per gallon. We make every effort to stay in compliance for your protection and to avoid any legal or monetary penalties.

There has been a significant underground home heating oil leak on Western Avenue near the Town wells. This spill poses a threat to our water supply and we are working with a Licensed Site Professional (LSP), MADEP, and our legal counsel to protect our water supply. In the course of remedial action, another type of threat was discovered. MTBE, a gasoline additive was found at the oil leak site and in one of the observation wells relating to the oil leak. At the present time, we think that this contamination is being generated by gasoline either being spilled or leaking from boats or motor vehicles parked in a separate area, not from the gas station on Western Avenue. This product presently has been removed from the remediation well at the oil leak, but still is showing up in the monitoring well. Work will continue at both sites until we have eliminated any risk to our water supply. MTBE replaced lead in gasoline, and is suspected by some of being a possible carcinogen. It is in the media on a regular basis throughout the country. The MTBE part of gasoline doesn't evaporate when gasoline is spilled (or pumped) and works its way into the ground water or washes into surface water supplies. Everyone should be cognizant of the potential threat from MTBE.

The last concern involving water issues is the ageing infrastructure. Most of our water mains are 50 to 55 years old, and there are still some service pipes (the ones that feed your house) that are original. The mains are at the end of their design life. The old iron service pipes are 2-1/2 times beyond theirs. Most of the old service pipes that are left are the responsibility of the homeowner. We certainly hope that these old service pipes will be replaced during the sewer construction. As for the water mains, we expect some damage during sewer construction, but in the long term, replacing them should be part of our plan. A project of this scope would cost about what the sewer project costs, and in spite of the Federal Government and EPA's oversight, there is little funding to do this.

A contract extension for ten years was negotiated with Covanta, present owners of the trash to electricity facility in Haverhill to remove our solid waste. Essex still has one of the lowest cost operations in the area. Other realistic rubbish removal options were investigated and reviewed, and this was still by far the best available solution for the Town. There are other options including curbside pickup, however cost and service seemed to be the constant difference for satisfactory regulatory compliance.

Snow/ice removal was carried out in the usual manner. We are adjusting our ice control to meet the latest standards. This is still as much art as science due to the many variables in not only the weather in general, but local conditions. Every winter day brings about different conditions. We have equipment needs to maintain our present level of operation. Our front line sander is a 1990. One of our backhoes is a 1986.

Some of our plows predate this. Snow/ice removal is a high maintenance operation. These pieces of equipment need replacement. We are not geared up to handle more than 2 feet of snow in a single event. Multiple events that occur within a couple of weeks and exceed 2 to 3 feet are beyond our present capability to deal with. The President's Day 2003 storm highlights this. If it was not already school vacation week, the school may have been shut down for a number of days. Snow removal contractors seem to come as either real good and reliable, or no good at all. We have problems getting and holding the good ones. The State bid process makes this more problematic.

Parts of Island Road, Centennial Grove Road, Belcher Street, Sumac Drive, and Kings Court were reconstructed and repaved in 2003. The majority of the funding for these projects came from Ch 90 funds. These funds are diminishing every year, and more significantly since the "Big Dig" and the current budget crisis. A part of Southern Avenue was resurfaced by the original contractor where his treatment failed. Until the Sewer project is completed, we will be working outside of the "Sewer Area" as funds permit. Right now, we prioritize work areas based on road conditions, reconstruction costs, funding availability, and traffic. The present level of funding will not maintain our roads in acceptable condition. Drainage work, catch basin repair/replacement was done to avoid major problems. We plan to be replacing guardrails around town as funding permits. The ball fields at the park need a lot of work to be put into acceptable condition. There are numerous trees in town that need attention, and a replacement program would be greatly appreciated. A "Hot Box" was purchased to facilitate a modern method of pothole patching. We are now capable of having a hot mixture to do winter patching. This method is also compliant with Mass Highway regulations.

The culvert replacement on Island Road was delayed again due to design changes and permitting delays. It is still scheduled for spring 2004.

The Town's storm water program was approved by MADEP, and we will be instituting the required elements as required. We already have components in place such as street sweeping, catch basin cleaning and environmental sampling. This is another EPA/MADEP required program funded by the Town.

The Wastewater project is progressing on time and within budget. Major construction will begin in earnest in town in the spring of 2004. It is expected that there will be traffic delays, utility disruptions and the usual dust and noise associated with the construction. So far, the project has proceeded reasonably well, and delays, conflicts and the usual problems associated with a project of this magnitude have been dealt with in a professional manner. 2004 should be the year of most disruption even though work will continue into 2005. All four contracts will be in progress for most of 2004. The plan is to have service starting by the end of 2004. We certainly appreciate the patience and cooperation of the citizenry during this disruptive time. Staff time will be in great

demand until substantial completion. In the long run, the town will benefit significantly from the lack of pollution.

We hope to continue improvements at the Cemetery this year. There are sunken graves to repair, stonework and road repairs to be made as well as the usual mowing and trimming. There were only 16 burials in 2003, the lowest in recent history.

We certainly appreciate the cooperation of all departments and the people of Essex not only to successfully complete the Wastewater project, but in all of the activities that we undertake.

Respectfully submitted,
Herman A. Patrican, Jr., Chairman
William A. Perkins
Trescott Dewitt

MANCHESTER ESSEX REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The Manchester Essex Regional School District's School Committee experienced an interesting voyage in '02-'03 fiscal year. They charted a course that included changes and visions as it completed its third year as a district.

The resignations of Meredith Tufts (Manchester) as chair left Susan Beckmann (Manchester) at the helm and Alfred Dente (Essex) replaced Jodi Harris (Essex) as Vice-Chair. Due to the Manchester opening left by Meredith, Sarah Hammond-Creighton (Manchester) joined the ranks along with James Barrett, Jr. (Essex) who replaced Susan Gould-Coviello (Essex) when she relinquished her seat. Edward Neal (Essex), James Aldrich (Manchester) and Bruce Warren (Manchester) completed the seven-member School Committee. It is with appreciation that we mention these elected town officials who volunteered countless hours of dedicated service, who shared ideas to improve the educational experience for our children and who provided and supported a plan to build a new regional high school facility to replace the tired one that is in need of repair and updating.

Change continued within the district when David Connolly retired as Superintendent in March after serving three years as Superintendent of Manchester Public Schools and then nearly three years as Superintendent of the newly created Manchester Essex Regional School District. The Director of Curriculum, Eric Conti, was appointed to serve out the remainder of the contract year as the Superintendent. He brought with him enthusiasm and great support from our staff. On July 1st Robert Shaps moved to the central office as Superintendent after successfully serving three years as principal of the Manchester Essex Regional High School, recognized as a top two hundred high school in the nation as reported by *Newsweek* magazine. He was hired as the new Superintendent to lead and direct the school system, addressing exciting, as well as, difficult issues attached to the growth of the region.

The major accomplishments of the 02-03 year were the completion of the region's first audit; the vote for an amendment to the original regional agreement; the vote of both towns to support the

building and funding of a new regional high school and middle school; and the implementation of the first regional district teachers' contract.

The firm of Powers and Sullivan was hired to complete the region's first audit. As a result, financial management was a key factor that led to the reexamination of the funding mechanism that led to the vote by Essex on June 24, 2003 for an amendment to the regional agreement for reapportionment with the Town of Manchester voting on October 13, 2003.

The most sensitive issue of the school district could be seen as "democracy at work". Funding a new regional high school and middle school was brought forth to a vote in both towns. It was a resounding victory in April for Manchester, however, the results in May for Essex were not as positive. The questions of state reimbursement, the location of the facility, the facility itself overwhelmed the fact that there is a need for a new building.

MANCHESTER ESSEX REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

2002-2003 marked the third year of operation of the Manchester Essex Regional School District. The Manchester Essex Regional High School and Manchester Middle School welcomed 474 students in grades 7-12 back for the school year. The student population continued to be comprised of Manchester and Essex students along with 75 students from other towns under the state's School Choice program. Only one new teacher was hired this past year, a stark contrast from the eleven who were hired the year before. Seventy-four students crossed the stage for graduation. The class of 2003 had 94 percent of its graduates continue on to some form of post-secondary education.

MERHS continues to expand the number of students participating in Advanced Placement courses. This past May, 71 students took a total of 172 Advanced Placement examinations as part of eleven Advanced Placement courses. Advanced Placement courses are equivalent to freshman college instruction; they are graded on a 5-point scale. 74% of student scores were three or higher allowing these students to either receive college credit or advance immediately to an upper level course in their first year of college. 19 students were recognized as National AP Scholars. This past year two students qualified as Finalists and two students were Commended Students as part of the National Merit Scholarship Program. These students were among the top 1% of juniors from over one million high school students who took the PSAT in October 2002.

In the area of standardized testing, MERHS continues to improve on their overall performance on the SAT I and II. The mean verbal score on the SAT I was 583, 20 points higher than the previous year and the mean math score of 568, was 6 points higher than the previous year. MERHS continues to excel on the SAT II subject exams and those scores were as follows:

Writing	660
Literature	683
U.S. History	626
Math I	599
Math II	623

Biology	716
Spanish	715

MERHS continued to report strong scores on the standardized state mandated MCAS tests. Beginning with the class of 2003 all students must pass the English and Math portion of the MCAS in order to be eligible to receive a high school diploma. The entire class of 2003 passed both the English and the Math MCAS exams thus meeting the state requirement. A two-year analysis of grade 10 MCAS scores shows continued success in improving student performance. This past year 90 percent of 10th graders scored in the proficient/advanced range in English Language/Arts, while in math 71 percent of 10th graders scored proficient/advanced.

Almost 20% of the MERHS student body participated in the nationally recognized debate program which was once again honored by the National Forensic League for being in the top 5 percent of all schools for participation. MERHS Debaters won the Bronx High School Science Invitational debates and qualified to attend all three national debate tournaments. Debaters traveled extensively on the New York – New England debate circuit as well as attending tournaments in Boulder, Colorado, Nashville, Tennessee, Atlanta, Georgia and Chicago, Illinois. At the National Forensic League tournament in June 2003, MERHS debaters John-Paul Kwasi and Lincoln Pasquina competed in a new event, Public Forum Debating. MERHS debate also began a series of public audience debates that included intergenerational debates against teams from area senior citizen communities. MERHS' initiatives in intergenerational debate were heralded in the *ROSTRUM*, the national debate magazine. MERHS also hosted a new series of novice scrimmages to promote debate within Massachusetts, and it also hosted its annual national qualifying debates in October and January.

In the area of Fine Arts, MERHS students entered various art contests including the Boston Globe Art competition with two students earning silver keys and two honorable mention awards. Six students had art work exhibited at the Sixth Congressional District Art Show; six exhibited art work in the Annual Wenham Museum Art Show and also in the school's spring National Art Honor Society Art Show.

The MERHS Drama Club treated the community to three dramatic productions during the school year. In the fall the students presented the play "The Skin of our Teeth". The MERHS thespians achieved added success in the statewide drama competition presenting an original one-act play "Who brought the Cool Kids" winning the preliminary and went to the semi-finals. The group completed a successful year with a presentation of the spring musical "Bye, Bye Birdie".

The Science Department, with its strong philosophy that the way to effectively teach science is through an active process of inquiry, started a program called Authentic Science Research. This is a 3-year sequence for those students who are passionate about science, and is offered nowhere else in the state. Students receive instruction in the classroom about research methods and skills and find mentors at universities or private labs who will guide summer research in highly technical fields. Students will write their research in their senior year for the Intel Science Talent Search which is considered to be the Junior Nobel prize. The Spaulding Foundation was instrumental in funding training for this program.

Yearly the Boston University School of Medicine Mobile Biotechnology Lab spends a week in the parking lot of MERHS. Biology students performed genetic engineering techniques, such as making recombinant DNA, performing electrophoresis to identify DNA segments, and for our AP Bio students polymerase chain reaction, in which students harvested their own DNA and made billions of copies of it and then ran it on electrophoresis gels. The Spaulding Foundation funded materials for follow up classroom activities in DNA topics.

Three teachers at the high school were involved in an intensive year long process to become National Board Certified Teachers – two in Science and one in Foreign Language.

Several seniors received special awards including the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award and the Jewish War Veterans Brotherhood Award. In March, eighteen students were inducted in the school's chapter of the National Honor Society.

At the May Awards Assembly 10 book awards were given to outstanding juniors in recognition of their dedication to academic endeavors. The Journalism class published nine issues of the "Independent" and received several newspaper awards based on the quality of school news reporting.

During the graduation ceremony for the class of 2003 Principal Shaps announced scholarship awards in excess of \$100,000.00 provided through the generosity of various committee organizations and individuals.

A recap of the 2002-2003 school year would not be complete if we did not mention the multiple responsibilities that Principal Bob Shaps assumed toward the end of the school year as he was appointed Interim Superintendent of Schools. A sincere thanks to the committed and devoted faculty who worked tirelessly to assist their students in achieving a high level of academic performance.

ESSEX ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL

Entering the 2003-2004 school year, Essex Elementary and Middle School enrolled 343 students in grades K-8. From a budget standpoint these are leaner times than before, reflected in reductions and/or elimination of funding in technology, equipment, textbooks and library. Staffing, however, remains intact and therefore class size remains small and students receive strong academics, a lively specialist program (library, PE, art, music, technology) and academic and social support, when needed.

Each year the EEMS School Council develops a school improvement plan which sets forth goals for the year. Accomplishments include:

- . significant staff training in math; enhanced algebra instruction for 8th graders
- . co-teaching in kindergarten among kindergarten and reading teachers to bring enhanced literacy instruction to kindergartners - just one of many examples of staff collegiality in action

- . twice a year, district-wide teacher-developed benchmark assessments in writing and math; monthly district-wide grade level meetings to coordinate and examine results
- . the establishment of teacher study-groups in math, technology and digital photography. the establishment of a mentor program for new teachers
- . a PTO sponsored theater program for middle school students; a dynamic first production entitled, "It's All About Theater"
- . continued attention to core values; increasingly responsible student behavior
- . major expansion of the library; integration of research, library and technology instruction
- . vastly increased participation in middle school band and chorus; continuation of stage band; promotion of private music lessons through arrangement with Gordon College
- . continuation of co-curricular program including Drama Club, College Bowl, Math Team, Newspaper, Yearbook and Junior Art Honor Society

EEMS pays close attention to standardized test scores as an important way of gauging student performance and the effectiveness of educational programs. EEMS exceeded its MCAS target scores, thus making its Annual Yearly Progress (A YP) under the federal "No Child Left Behind" law. As seventh graders, the current EEMS eighth graders placed 3rd in the state out of 465 schools in the 2003 English MCAS test. Fourth graders made a significant leap in their MCAS scores and EEMS significantly surpassed the state averages in third grade reading, science (fifth and eighth grades) and sixth grade math.

EEMS continues to benefit from its partnership with parents who support education with their time, money, wisdom and commitment to student learning and adherence to core values and expectations for responsible student behavior. Parents remain involved in every facet of school life from substitute teaching to governance, from coaching sports to publishing newsletters and from fundraising to student enrichment.

Submitted by,
Eric Gordon, Principal

MANCHESTER MEMORIAL SCHOOL

Memorial School has a total enrollment of 395 students in grades K-6. In the late spring of 2003, the Principal Search Committee concluded its charge by bringing forward a nominee to the Superintendent and the School Committee. The new Memorial School Principal, Jack Mara, has had 31 years of experience in education and came to Memorial by way of Maine where he had served as a teacher, coach, elementary school principal, and superintendent of schools.

Another major task last spring was to review the data from a pilot project that gradually introduced all day kindergarten to Memorial School. The data showed strong support from parents for daylong kindergarten. More and more school districts across Massachusetts and across the country have found that by giving students a full-day experience in school, the students are much

more ready to read, have better social skills and be more inclined to succeed in school. Last year's pilot introduced the all day process in small increments, with the first two full days starting in October and the last two full days starting in April. During the current school year, that process will be moved up somewhat so that by the first full week in February, our kindergarten students will be in all day sessions Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, with Wednesday being a half-day session. Judging from the smooth transition that occurred this fall and how well our kindergarteners appear to be doing already, the all day kindergarten program seems to be a big success.

Memorial School continues to provide a quality educational experience for our children. Our MCAS scores for the past year have remained exceptionally strong, thanks in large part due to a hard working and dedicated staff. In order to maintain that high level of performance and professional skills, many Memorial staff members have actively pursued additional training and education. A number of the staff members are attending Saturday morning sessions in the nationally acclaimed program, *"The Skillful Teacher"*. Another group of Memorial teachers, the principal, and other teachers across the district are meeting with Dr. Walter Stone every month as part of the district's goal to have staff stay current in mathematics training and "best practice".

The School Council has also worked hard this past year to maintain a set of highly focused goals to help Memorial School. "Brick and stick" issues, that is, the repair upkeep, and renovation of our facilities, will continue to remain a very high priority for the foreseeable future.

Finally, it should be noted that the Memorial School experience includes much more than high quality instruction and a stimulating learning environment. Through both classroom instruction and a vigorous blend of PTO-sponsored enrichment activities and after school and summer programs, our students can gain exposure to choral music, traditional and jazz band, interpretive dance, Spanish and French, student summer theater, a 5th grade musical, and a 6th grade wilderness experience at Camp Merrowvista. This year our students are also well on their way to meeting the principal's challenge of reading 1,000,000 pages, above and beyond their classroom reading. We all try hard to make learning come to life at Memorial School.

**NORTH SHORE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL COMMITTEE
JANUARY 1, 2003 – DECEMBER 31, 2003**

George R. Harvey, Chairman - Essex Representative
Amelia P. O'Malley, Superintendent-Director
North Shore Regional Vocational School District

Enrollment

Student enrollment as of October 1, 2003 was 449. Students cite the interpersonal relationships with teachers, counselors, and administration, and the vocational programs as the reasons for application. There continues to be a shortage of space for classrooms, shop areas, the library and the cafeteria. In addition, an auditorium is needed.

Students participate in programs in Automotive Technology, Carpentry, Commercial Art, Collision Repair, Cosmetology, Culinary Arts, Information Systems Technology, CISCO, Graphic Arts, Health Technology, Machine Technology, Marketing and Information Systems and Masonry. In addition, our Job Skills Training, a special education program, also encourages inclusion into many of the technical/vocational areas.

Curriculum

The mathematics curriculum continues to evolve, with the addition of two new courses. Integrated Mathematics is a course for 11th graders, all of whom have had some level of algebra and geometry. It affords those who need further development before attempting Algebra II that opportunity. It also allows those who have not yet passed the MCAS Mathematics Test a year of further experience within the regular mathematics curriculum. The new addition in the 12th grade is a course in Discrete Mathematics. This is a college preparatory course for those students who have completed Algebra II successfully, but who do not have the skill or the interest for the rigor of Pre-Calculus. The course includes numerous important, interesting, but little known applications of mathematics to the operation of a complex modern society. Given the fact that there are more than fifty (50) 11th graders taking Algebra II, there should be a solid base of student interest for this course in the future.

MCAS scores in mathematics continue to improve, in spite of the difficulty of the test. Tenth graders, who took the test in May 2003, improved the school's first attempt passing rate from 68% to 75%. Additionally, 20 of the students who failed were in the highest score band beneath passing and should do better on their second attempt. * The two-year MCAS Prep sequence of classes appears to be paying off, as students become better grounded in the material required by the test. Perhaps more impressive is the fact that almost twice as many students (27%) scored in the "Proficient" range than last year (14%).

***Retest results brought passing rate to 87%**

This achievement reflects the larger number of students taking higher-level mathematics courses and the quality of instruction in those classes.

The Mathematics Team is becoming more popular and more successful, as well. Two teams from the 11th and 12th grades competed in the annual spring vocational school mathematics competition and gave a good account of them. A solid nucleus returns this year, as well as an indication of more widespread interest in participation. A representative from North Shore Tech also won the silver medal in the state VICA mathematics competition in each of the previous years, and, while she has graduated, her success has generated interest in the younger students in carrying on our success.

Teachers in the English Department continue to access the present curriculum, through regular meetings, and discussions. Several teachers have attended workshops and conferences on the use of technology in English classes. In addition, teachers have received training on the use of wireless laptops. Teachers have begun to incorporate this new technology into their curriculum. Teachers continue to work with students to develop work to be included in portfolios. This year, the portfolio program has been expanded to include grades nine through eleven. As part of an overall review of department standards, teachers are assigning more outside reading at all grade

levels. The academic coordinator developed a new annotated list of summer reading for each grade level. Teachers continue to analyze the most recent MCAS scores as a means of determining weak areas in the curriculum. To date, there is only one student within the class of 2005 who has not passed MCAS. Honors English classes continue in grades ten through twelve, with an in-depth study of the material, as well as further use of technology for research and analysis.

The Social Studies Department will continue to work on the new standards for their discipline. This will involve an analysis of the new guidelines, an examination of current curriculum, and discussions on how best to integrate the two.

The Technical Writing Program continues to be upgraded. An English teacher, with an extensive background in business, continues to work with vocational instructors to develop relevant writing assignments. Small projects, integrating writing and reading, are being incorporated into several vocational areas.

The foundation of the Title I program is a fifteen station computer lab dedicated to helping students to improve in spelling, reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills. Students also strive to improve basic mathematical skills and concepts.

Each student's academic history is reviewed and an individualized program utilizing a variety of software programs is implemented. The software library includes curriculum materials that range from grade 1 to post high school, an SAT vocabulary review, and an ESL program. Students are required to read independently each day. High interest books written at various reading levels are

provided. In addition, students are reading current articles provided by an online subscription provider. This format offers students a wide variety of current reading materials, which include various vocational topics. Thus, students are given the opportunity to learn about topics that interest them, while they are improving their comprehension skills. Students are serviced by a certified reading instructor and a paraprofessional. The tutorial and small group instruction format has resulted in raising students' reading and comprehension levels. A mathematics component was added to the program last year to aid students deficient in that area.

Vocational -- Service Cluster

The portfolio initiative has also expanded into the junior year allowing students to reflect back on their achievements and to allow employers, teachers and parents a form of authentic assessment. The English Department has continued to develop technical writing assignments with the vocational teachers therefore integrating writing as part of the educational process in the shop. This enables students to see the importance of writing and communication skills. All of these initiatives continue to help us provide students with the tools necessary to be successful in both the workplace and post secondary opportunities upon graduation.

Culinary Arts

Culinary is one of the programs that has piloted the "trade specific related." Chef Comeau is working with juniors and Chef DeSando has created a related curriculum with the seniors. The related class allows these talented Chefs to introduce concepts in a classroom setting and reinforce

them during shop. These curricula will be adapted to include requirements from the Pro Start and Serve Safe national certification programs. The enthusiasm that exists in this shop is demonstrated by the fact that they have reactivated the Gourmet Club.

Graphics Arts

Graphics has purchased new PC's to allow students to work on both platforms. In addition, new design software has been purchased to allow students the opportunity to enhance their educational experience. The off set component of the Graphics program has also seen the addition of a new film to plate machine.

Health Tech

The Department of Education has approved our program to meet the criteria of Chapter 74. Students can now be trained to become a Certified Nursing Assistant in addition to the CPR and First Aid. An entry-level mental health-training program has been coordinated with Hogan Rehabilitation Center. Two additional computers with Internet access have been added to the shop allowing students the opportunity to perform research.

Marketing

In addition to the school store/bakery/copy center, which allows the students the opportunity to understand a retail operation the shop has expanded to include a video media component. Students will be exposed to the state of the art in video photography and editing equipment. Students are currently creating sports highlight videos and will be creating a video on each shop to be used as a marketing tool.

Vocational – Technical Cluster Carpentry/Masonry

The carpentry crews have completed a 12'x20' storage building for the Middleton Fire Department. They are currently rehabilitating a building at Lynch Park for the City of Beverly Parks and Recreation Department. The scope of the job includes: stripping and re-roofing, stripping and re-siding, re-framing and replacing exterior trim as required, and installing replacement windows.

The masonry crews have completed a stonewall for a resident of Middleton and have removed deteriorated entrance stairs from the St. Agnes Church, also in Middleton. The old brick stairs were replaced with a more appropriate and impressive granite stairway entrance. The masonry crews are currently working on a 20'x32' addition at North Shore Tech. The project is adjacent to and behind the masonry and machine shops. The construction consists of 8" concrete block walls with a wood framed shed style roof. The resulting related classroom will be utilized by the Machine Technology, Carpentry, and Masonry departments

Automotive/Collision Repair

This year the Automotive shop continues to re-organize and improve its' curriculum and facilities. This year the Junior and Senior students have an additional period of related instruction. The purpose of which is to expand on the electronics element of the curriculum in order to better prepare students for employment or further education.

The shop has also obtained an additional national certification. Automotive Youth Educational System (AYES) is a program that collaborates schools with local auto dealers. Qualified students will be partnered with a local dealership and be assigned a mentor. This partnership will continue throughout the students' high school years and hopefully will develop into employment and/or educational opportunities. The participating dealerships and manufacturers further assist the school by providing equipment and vehicles for student training.

Information Systems Technology

The Information Systems Technology (hereinafter I.S.T.) Department recently completed Phase 1 of the Chapter 74 approval process. The I.S.T. instructors made a presentation of their curriculum content to the General Advisory Committee at the fall meeting on October 16, 2003. In addition to the presentation, a labor market survey has been mailed to local businesses in order to determine the job market in the field. Upon completion of Phase 1, the program will qualify for Perkins funding. The funding will be used to make changes necessary to complete the approval process.

The goal for the junior year is to complete the Cisco curriculum training allowing the senior year to be devoted to preparation and successful completion of the A+, Net Plus, and Cisco CCNA certifications. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors are all receiving programming instruction three afternoons during their shop cycle. Sophomores and juniors receive one hour each while seniors receive one and one half hours.

In addition to this, an I.S.T. "Help Desk" has been established. Junior and senior I.S.T. students offer "in house" trouble shooting, repair, and service for North Shore Tech computer hard and software.

Technology

We made system upgrades replacing our home built main server with a more reliable Dell Power Edge 2500 server and upgraded the Network Operating System to Netware 6.0. We installed system wide networked virus protection. We converted from a "hubbed" network to a "switched" network, replacing eight hubs with switches. This means that most of our users will get the full bandwidth available instead of sharing the bandwidth, hence increasing speed as they browse/use the Internet/Intranet. We replaced our in-house built "financial" server and the "NAV/DHCP" server with more reliable Dell Power Edge servers. These servers have Windows 2000 or 2003 server software for their respective network operating systems. The internal network has made a quantum leap in reliability and speed.

With the help of a SATL grant, we set up a "Help Desk" staffed by our Information Systems Technology students. This provides students with "hands-on training" servicing our faculty and staff with hardware and software related issues.

We received a Title IID No Child Left Behind grant and we have completed phase 1. We set up a "Itinerant Computer Lab" that provides us with "wireless laptop capability". We purchased sixteen (16) laptop computers and the associated hardware to bring the computer lab to the general classroom; these are well received by faculty and students. We performed an extensive amount of professional development in "Assistive Technology," exposing our faculty with the various

“software/hardware” tools that supports computer applications for students with learning deficiencies. In September, we received the approval of the second phase of a “No Child Left Behind” grant for \$125,000. This allows us to continue expanding our “wireless laptop” capability. We plan to purchase two more carts to house sixteen (16) and twenty-four (24) laptops respectively. We will have three wireless carts with fifty-six (56) laptops. Incorporated in this grant is extensive professional development to train the faculty and staff in basic and advanced skills utilizing technology in the classroom that should result in improved student performance. Approximately two hundred-fifty seven (257) computers are in use in the District, twenty-five (25) are laptops. One hundred eighty-one (181) are used for instruction and seventy-six (76) by the Administration/Faculty. The student to computer ratio is 2.24:1 well within the 5:1 requirements by year 2003 from Department of Education. We meet all the major “Local Technology Plan Benchmark Standards for Year 2003” from the Department of Education; we have an approved Technology Plan from the Department of Education.

The schools web page (<http://www.mec.edu/nsths>) is updated daily.

Special Education Department

In conjunction with our school-wide professional development program, both special education and general education teachers are receiving a series of district-wide trainings throughout the year on a variety of special education topics. Teachers have, thus far, attended a presentation given by Dr. Kent Rude and Dr. Mark Steward on Non-Verbal Learning Disabilities. Upcoming topics planned are adolescent depression, attention deficit disorder, and language-based learning disabilities.

The Special Education Department is evaluated annually, as required by the law of all public schools, to measure the effectiveness of our programs in assisting students to achieve and goals set forth in their IEPs in the least restrictive environment. A variety of data is examined and analyzed to delineate possible administrative and service areas in need of improvement and/or development. In addition, the Department of Education conducts regular coordinated program reviews. Our mid-cycle program review occurred this past January. North Shore Technical High School’s overall compliance with PL 94-142, IDEA, and Chapter 766 continues to be excellent. Parents are ensured due process rights and special education programs fulfill all requirements of state and federal laws. In our evaluations, the special education staff is commended for their flexibility, dedication and willingness to work and collaborate to provide appropriate services for all students with special needs, while maintaining high academic standards.

Athletic Department

The Boy’s Basketball experienced a re-birth during the 2002-03 season. Under the direction of first year head coach, Paul Worth, the basketball program grew both in numbers of participants and in its competitive level of play. There were enough players to support three teams; varsity, junior varsity, and freshmen.

The spring of 2003 saw the start of co-op baseball and softball with Essex Aggie. Although there were no boys that came over to play baseball, there were plenty of athletes to field three teams. The varsity baseball team took home a League Championship and qualified for the state tournament.

Over seventy (70) students participated in Football over the season. Once again, the varsity team played a very hard non-league schedule and although losing those games, fared well and helped to raise the level of play. The team finished with a 6 – 5 record and finished 2nd in the division.

The Co-op program with Essex Aggie continues to develop. This year we added soccer, baseball and softball to the sports for which we co-op with Essex. The additional athletes allowed us to start a Junior Varsity program for the first time in soccer.

School-to-Work/Placement

The class of 2003 saw 35% of the graduates matriculate at two or four year post-secondary institutions, 45% were placed in jobs related to their vocational/technical program and 6% began a full-time military commitment. North Shore Technical High School continues to offer permanent placement service including career guidance to all graduates.

The Cooperative Program is now linked to the school's web site, which enables the employers and parents to view this resource. New and creative initiatives are an on going process for the Cooperative Education Program.

School Social Worker

The School Social Worker is the coordinator and supervisor of a Peer Mediation Program at North Shore Tech, now into its third year. The School Social Worker does the recruitment of new student peer mediators and provides the training of new and returning students. The School Social Worker is the coordinator of school's Crisis Response Team, is one of the Title IX (Sexual Harassment) Coordinators, serves on the school Safety Committee, and is the Homeless Education Liaison to the Department of Education.

Health Office - School Nurse

The 2002-2003 school year brought exciting changes to the health office. The health office was relocated to room 127. Office space was tripled and windows now provide natural lighting. There is plenty of space to treat injuries and illnesses, counsel students privately, and for student's to wait. The separate cot room is furnished with two cots with a privacy curtain available if needed. The size of the room has proven to be adequate during emergencies requiring the assistance of the Middleton Fire Department. The treatment area is open and furnished with a space saving exam table. The cabinets and counter space provides ample working and storage space for the treatment area. The Enhanced School Health Grant through the School Health Division of the Department of Public Health awarded \$6485 for use in the relocation and furnishing of the new health office. These funds were received May 2002. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts did not fund the grant for the 2002-2003 school year.

The health component of the MMS system was used exclusively to document student visits and nursing care. Computerization of immunization records for all students was completed.

Building and Grounds

The areas under the front and back staircases were enclosed to create storage spaces. The front is used for bulk paper and the back is used for Health Technology storage. This created more classroom space for this newly certified vocational program.

A related classroom was built in the back of the machine shop and airlines were installed at every work area to reduce the clutter from air hoses on the floor.

New ceiling tiles were installed in the kitchen area and the lighting was upgraded as well.

Transportation Department

The Transportation Department has a fleet consisting of 16 buses, eleven-71 passenger buses, four-16 passenger buses, and one-35 passenger bus. The Transportation Department provided transportation to and from school on a daily basis for approximately 420 students. The number of late buses and sports late buses remained at four. The number of students involved in sports, MCAS Prep, driver's education, Drama Club, and other after school activities continues to increase, therefore the number of students using the late buses and sports buses has increased again this year.

Adult Education

Adult Evening Education at North Shore is a self-supporting program that offers more than sixty (60) vocational-technical classes that enhance the professional and personal lives of the adult members of our community. The Program serves nearly one thousand (1,000) adult students participating in a wide variety of courses. Popular fields of study include: computers, health, construction, welding and machine technology, culinary, automotive, business and personal finance. A number of courses have state approval for professional and trade license preparation.

Business Office

We are in the process of implementing GASB 34. We purchased and installed the fixed asset application for our accounting software and are finalizing the fixed asset inventory. We will be in compliance with GASB 34 by June 2004.

The Department of Revenue has certified the amount in our excess and deficiency account as of July 1, 2003 at \$463,038. We will be reducing the fiscal year 2004 community assessments by \$68,066. The final billing in March 2004 will reflect the reduction.

Funding Issues

The Fiscal 2005 Budget preparation is currently in process and will be presented to the District's Finance & Property Policy Sub committee in February and subsequently to the District's School Committee. At this point, we have not received any financial data pertaining to fiscal 2005 from the Department of Education.

North Shore Regional Vocational School District Committee

Beverly	Dean Porteous
Boxford	
Danvers	Russell Fravel
Essex	George R. Harvey, Chairman
Gloucester	Joseph Parisi, III
Hamilton	David W. Ketcham
Lynnfield	Paul Anderson
Manchester-by-the-Sea	Joseph Sabella
Marblehead	Marcia Sweeney, Vice Chairman
Middleton	James E. Vining
Nahant	Thomas F. Johnson
Rockport	G. Stanley Patey, III
Salem	Thomas St. Pierre
Swampscott	Mary Marrs, Secretary
Topsfield	Richard Darrah
Wenham	William O. Nichols

SENIORCARE

Program Planning, Coordination, Administration & Care Management

One of the functions of SeniorCare, Inc. as an area agency on aging and State designated Ageing Services Access Point, is to assure that services to elders are properly funded, Coordinated and monitored and service gaps are filled whenever possible.

Care Management services were provided to over 28 Essex elder resident per month. This service includes assessments of individual's needs for other services such as homemaker, chore, meals, personal care, etc. in addition to referrals to other service] providers, help with SSI, housing problems, counseling and assistance to families and elders as well as Protective Services when needed.

The cost of this service for Essex elders during this year was estimated to be \$17,765.00.

Homemaking, Chore, Personal Care, Home Health, Nursing Services and other Home Care Services

Twenty-eight (28) Essex elders received one or more of the above named services during each month of this year. Homemaking services include light housekeeping, errands and meal preparation. Chore service consists of heavy cleaning and/or minor repairs. The other services speak for themselves. Total cost of these services was estimated to be \$62,612.00.

Nutrition Program

Essex residents were served 1,748 home delivered meals in 2003.

The total cost of this nutrition service to Essex for this year was estimated to be over \$7,866.00.

Transportation

Over 230 rides were provided to Essex elders this year. Types of trips included transportation to meal sites. Adult day health centers, social day care, doctors' offices, shopping trips and friendly visiting. Total cost of transportation services was estimated to be \$920.00.

Adult Day Health Services

This program provides elders and disabled people an alternative to living in a nursing home when medical supervision and social support is required during the day. The Center provides this by medical supervision and social support is required during the day. The Center provides this by offering a program of daily activities, nutrition, and medical Care. Eight (8) days of this program were utilized by elders. The residents were serviced by this program for an estimated cost of \$392.00.

Outreach

SeniorCare provides \$1,800.00 to the Essex Council on Aging for outreach to community elders.

Other Services

Other services that were provided to Essex elders included legal assistance, personal Emergency response systems, health education, laundry, nursing home pre-screening, and the services of the Nursing Home Ombudsman Program, which advocates on behalf of elders in nursing homes and rest homes. The costs of these programs were estimated to be over \$3,500.00.

Total costs of services provided to elders of Essex in 2003 are estimated to be \$94,855.00.

Respectfully submitted,
Guntis Licis, Executive Director

SHELLFISH CONSTABLE

Unfortunately, due to a series of illnesses and injuries a considerable portion of my time this year was spent in convalescence and recuperation. In this regard, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Board of Selectmen for their patience and understanding. I would also like to thank Deputy Shellfish Constable Steve Hartley for devoting so much of his personnel time to overseeing clam fishery enforcement and management.

Due to my extended sick leave, little work was conducted on the collection of clam spat and protection of captured juvenile clams. Much to my dismay, one of several individuals, in light of my absence, took it upon themselves to remove protective netting covering clams collected the previous year and harvest clams there from. This kind of behavior only serves to diminish any benefits this experimental program may have for the fishery and Essex citizens as a whole as well as curb enthusiasm for future shellfish propagation efforts.

In the past years I have reported on decreasing levels of clam harvests as a result of poor clam sets. For the first time in 3 to 4 years I can now report an increase, albeit modest, of seed clams present on the flats. Reasons for the increase of observed seed are not known with any certainty. It is hoped our propagation efforts have, to some small degree, contributed to the increased numbers of seed clams seen around Essex Bay. A more likely explanation, however, is the colder than average winter temperatures we have experienced over the past two years. It is believed these cold winters kill large numbers of one of the principle clam predators, green crabs.

Respectfully submitted,
Arnold "Pick" Thistlewood, Shellfish Constable

TOWN CLERK

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

January 6, 2003

The January 6, 2003 Special Town Meeting of the Town of Essex, held at the Essex Elementary and Middle School, was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Moderator David J. Lane. A quorum of 51 voters was present.

The Posting and Return of the Warrant were read.

A motion was made and duly seconded to waive the reading of the Warrant.

Voted unanimously.

Article 1. STATE AID TO HIGHWAYS

Motion by Herman A. Patrican, Jr., duly seconded, that the Town vote to borrow the sum of \$35,194.04 to be repaid from funds made available from Chapter 53 of the Acts of 1999 and the sum of \$70,388.08 to be repaid from funds made available from Chapter 246 of the Acts of 2002 and under the provisions of Section 34(2)(a) Chapter 90 providing State Aid for maintaining, repairing, improving and constructing Town and county ways, sidewalks and bridges; for the repair, replacement or removal of underground municipal public works fuel tanks; for salt storage sheds; public use of off street parking facilities related to mass transportation; for engineering

services and expenses related to highway transportation, enhancement and mass transportation purposes; for the care, repair, storage, replacement, purchase and long-term leasing of road building machinery, equipment and tools; and for the erection and maintenance of direction signs and warning signs.

Voted unanimously.

Article 2. PUBLIC WORKS OPERATIONS FACILITY

Motion by Rolf P. Madsen, duly seconded, that the Town appropriate the sum of \$858,000.00 to site, design, and construct a new Department of Public Works operations facility, including all cost incidental and related thereto, that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is hereby authorized to borrow the sum of \$858,000.00, and issue bonds and notes therefor under Chapter 44 of Massachusetts General Laws, Sections 7 and 8, or any other enabling authority, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take all actions necessary to carry out the project, provided, however, that this appropriation shall be contingent upon the passage of a proposition two and one-half debt exclusion vote in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(m).

After lengthy discussion, motion made and duly seconded, to terminate debate.

Passed –
Declared 2/3's
vote.

Declared 2/3's vote on main motion was challenged by more than 7 voters.

Standing Vote - Yes – 39
No - 11
Voted.

(Note: the ballot question to fund this article passed)

Article 3. DEBT SERVICE/INSURANCE COSTS

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone Article 3 of the Warrant.

Voted unanimously.

Article 4. VETERANS' BENEFITS COSTS

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone Article 4 of the Warrant.

Voted unanimously.

Article 5. SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL COSTS

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone Article 5 of the Warrant.

Voted unanimously.

Article 6. FUNDING CHANGE – UNDERGROUND TANKS

Motion by Joseph P. Davis, III, duly seconded, that the Town vote to rescind a past authorization to borrow in the amount of \$120,000, for the purpose of removing underground oil storage tanks and repairing boilers at the Essex Elementary & Middle School and to re-appropriate funds from the interest/short-term notes account in the amount of \$11,470.00 for the purpose of paying in full the cost of the already completed underground oil storage tank removal project at the Essex Elementary & Middle School.

Voted unanimously.

Article 7. POLICE BUDGETS

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone Article 7 of the Warrant. Voted unanimously.

Article 8. DPW MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone Article 8 of the Warrant. Voted unanimously.

Article 9. FIRE DEPARTMENT MAINTENANCE BUDGET

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone Article 9 of the Warrant. Voted unanimously.

Article 10. DPW SALARY RE-DISTRIBUTION

Motion by William A. Perkins, duly seconded, that the Town vote to redistribute the salaries of the Superintendent of Public Works and the Chief Operator-Assistant Superintendent of Public Works to allow time worked by those employees to be split among the various departments for which they serve by amending the vote under Article 6 of the Annual Town Meeting held on May 6, 2002 as follows:

1. Under the Water Department delete the line item "Chief Operator" and add new line items "Superintendent" and "Chief Operator-Assistant Superintendent",
2. Under the Department of Public Works, General Department Budget add new line item "Chief Operator-Assistant Superintendent Salary";
3. From the Department of Public Works, General Operating Budget, Superintendent Salary line item transfer \$13,222.00 to the Department of Public Works, General Operating Budget, Chief Operator-Assistant Superintendent Salary line item;
4. From the Water Department, Chief Operator line item transfer \$10,769.50 to Water Department, Superintendent and \$10,818.00 to Water Department, Chief Operator-Assistant Superintendent.

Voted unanimously.

Article 11. SICK TIME BUY-BACK

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone Article 11 of the Warrant. Voted unanimously.

Article 12. CONOMO POINT CULVERT

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone Article 12 of the Warrant. Voted unanimously.

Article 13. OVERTIME PAY

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone Article 13 of the Warrant. Voted unanimously.

Article 14. FIXED ASSET INVENTORY

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone Article 14 of the Warrant. Voted unanimously.

Article 15. RESERVE FUND

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone Article 15 of the Warrant. Voted unanimously.

Article 16. REVISION – IMA with THE CITY OF GLOUCESTER

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to revise the Intermunicipal Agreement for Wastewater Collection, Treatment, and Disposal (IMA) with the City of Gloucester by replacing the fifth, sixth, and seventh sentences of Section 17.1(a) of said IMA that presently read:

“The City will hire a mutually agreed upon Clerk of the Works to monitor construction activity. The City of Gloucester will pay \$20,000 towards the Clerk of the Works’ salary. Essex will pay any additional salary due to the Clerk of the Works.”

with the following sentence:

“The City of Gloucester will hire and pay for all costs associated with the Clerk of the Works.” Voted unanimously.

A motion was made and duly seconded to dissolve the Town Meeting at 8:30 p.m. Voted unanimously.

A true copy.

Attest:

Sally A. Soucy, Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

February 10, 2003

The February 10, 2003 Special Town Meeting of the Town of Essex was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Moderator David J. Lane. A quorum of 31 voters was present. Following the Salute to the flag, there was a moment of silence in memory of Abby B. Stoddard.

The Posting and Return of the Warrant were read by the Moderator. A motion was made and duly seconded, to waive the reading of the Warrant.

Voted unanimously.

Article 1. FUNDING DEBT SERVICE/INSUANCE COSTS

Motion by Rolf P. Madsen, duly seconded, the Town vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$1,500, for the purpose of funding debt service or issuance costs incurred by the Town for the remainder of fiscal year 2003.

Voted unanimously.

Article 2. SOLID WASTE CONTRACT EXTENSION

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a contract extension with Covanta Haverhill, Inc. for a term of ten years, for the receipt, processing, and disposal of municipal solid waste and the operation of the Town's transfer station; and to transfer from free cash the sum of \$71,500 to meet the Town's contract obligations under the extension agreement for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2003.

Voted unanimously.

Article 3. POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET TRANSFERS

Motion by Joseph P. Davis, III, duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from free cash the sums of \$3,200 for the purpose of funding part-time police labor costs and \$800 for the purpose of funding police prisoner lockup costs; to transfer from the fiscal year 2003 police gas and repairs account the sum of \$1,000 for the purpose of funding police prisoner lockup costs; and to transfer from the police cruiser purchase appropriation (Article 24 at the Annual Town Meeting of May 5, 2002) the sum of \$2,000 for the purpose of funding police court detail costs incurred by the Town for the remainder of fiscal year 2003.

Voted unanimously.

Article 4. FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET TRANSFERS

Motion by Richard C. Carter, duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$5,000 for the purpose of funding the Fire Department maintenance budget for the remainder of fiscal year 2003.

Voted unanimously.

Article 5. CONOMO POINT CULVERT FUNDING

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$4,588.58, for the purpose of funding the Conomo Point culvert installation project.

Voted by majority.

Article 6. D P W BUDGET TRANSFERS

Motion by Joseph P. Davis, III, duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$1,934 for the purpose of funding back overtime pay for Mr. Alfred Stanton from October 8, 2000 through the present.

Voted unanimously.

Article 7. GASB 34 FIXED ASSET INVENTORY

Motion by Rolf P. Madsen, duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$5,000 for a GASB 34 fixed asset inventory.

Voted unanimously.

Article 8. RESERVE FUND

Motion by Mark W. Lynch, duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$16,800 to replenish the Finance Committee's Reserve Fund for fiscal year 2003.

Voted unanimously.

A motion was made and duly seconded to dissolve the Special Town Meeting at 7:43 p.m.
Voted unanimously.

A true copy. Attest: _____
Sally A. Soucy, Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
May 5, 2003

The May 5, 2003 Special Town Meeting of the Town of Essex was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Moderator David A. Lane. A quorum of 45 voters was present at that time.

The Posting and Return of the Warrant were read.

A motion was made and duly seconded to waive the reading of the Warrant.
Voted unanimously.

Article 1. COVANTA CONTRACT FUNDING

Motion by Jeffrey D. Jones, duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$5,000.00 for the purpose of funding the Covanta solid waste contract for the remainder of fiscal year 2003.

Voted unanimously.

Article 2. FIREMEN SALERIES FUNDING

Motion by Richard C. Carter, duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$15,000.00 for the purpose of funding the Firemen Salaries budget line item for the remainder of fiscal year 2003.

Voted unanimously.

Article 3. POLICE PART-TIME LABOR BUDGET

Motion by Joseph P. Davis, III, duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$8,386.72 for the purpose of funding the Police Part-time Labor budget line item for the remainder of fiscal year 2003.

Voted unanimously.

Article 4. SEWER BUDGET FUNDING

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$550,000 for the purpose of funding the Sewer Budget for fiscal year 2003.

Voted unanimously.

Article 5. BOARD OF HEALTH PAYROLL BUDGET

Motion by Paul Rullo, duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$300.00 for the purpose of funding the Board of Health Administrative Clerk payroll budget line item for the remainder of fiscal year 2003.

Voted unanimously.

Article 6. TRANSFER TO GENERAL FUND

Motion by Mark W. Lynch, duly seconded, that the town vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$26,145 to be used as an other financing source in the general fund for fiscal year 2003.

Voted unanimously.

A motion was made and duly seconded to dissolve the Special Town Meeting at 7:15 p.m.

A true copy. Attest:

Sally A. Soucy, Town Clerk

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

May 5, 2003

The 184th Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Essex was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Moderator David J. Lane. A quorum of 116 voters was present at that time. Following the salute to our national flag, a moment of silence was observed in memory of

The Posting and Return of the Warrant were read.

A motion was made and duly seconded to waive the reading of the Warrant.

Voted unanimously.

Article 1. TOWN ELECTION

Motion by Joseph P. Davis, III, duly seconded, that the Town bring to ballot the following elected positions, all in one ballot:

- Moderator for one year
- Selectman for three years
- Assessor for three years
- Board of Health Member for three years
- Board of Health Member for two years
- Two Constables for one year
- Regional School Committee Member for three years
- Trustee of Library Funds for three years
- Two Planning Board Members for five years
- Housing Authority Member for five years
- Housing Authority Member for four years

AND to do this by vote on one ballot. The polls will be open on May 12, 2003 at 7:00 o'clock a.m. and will close at 8:00 o'clock p.m. at the Essex Fire and Police Headquarters.

Voted unanimously.

Article 2. SELECTION OF TOWN OFFICERS

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to appoint a Surveyor of Bark and Lumber.

Voted unanimously.

Article 3. REPORTS OF TOWN OFFICIALS

Motion by Joseph P. Davis, III, duly seconded, that the Town accept the Reports of the Town Officials, Boards, and Committees contained in the Annual Town Report.

Voted unanimously.

Article 4. PERSONNEL BOARD REPORT

Motion by Mark D. Osburn, duly seconded, that the Town approve the Town Wage and Salary scale in accordance with the recommendations of the Personnel Board Report.

Voted unanimously.

Article 5. COMPENSATION OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

Motion by Mark D. Osburn, duly seconded, that the Town fix the salary and compensation of each of the elected officers of the Town as required by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 41, Section 108, as amended, for FY 2004 in accordance with the recommendations of the Personnel Board Report.

Voted.

Article 6. FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Motion by Mark W. Lynch, duly seconded, that the Town

- a) raise and appropriate the sum of \$242,498 for debt repayment., principal and interest.
- b) transfer from the Cemetery Perpetual Care, Sale of Lots, and Lot Care Funds the sum of \$35,826 to the Department of Public Works,
- c) transfer from the Waterways Improvement Fund the sum of \$3,000 to the Harbormaster Department, and
- d) transfer from free cash the sum of \$141,894.42, transfer from the Board of Assessors' Overlay Account the sum of \$86,875, and raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,076,710.58 to be allocated between the salaries and expenses among the various departments as indicated in the Finance Committee Report.
- e)

The vote on this article was delayed until after Article 7 while the members of the Finance Committee conferred. At that time it was-----

Voted unanimously.

Article 7. SCHOOL BUDGET

Motion by Edward T. Neal, duly seconded, that the Town vote to approve the Fiscal 2004 Gross Operating and Maintenance Budget of the Manchester Essex Regional School District in the amount of \$14,189,544 and raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,396,022 for the Town's assessment from the district.

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, to amend the main motion to delete after \$14,189,544 (“and raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,396,022 for the Town's assessment from the district.”)

Motion by Frederick J. Fawcett, 2nd, duly seconded, to move the question of the amendment. Voted by declared 2/3's vote.

Vote on the amendment.

Voted.

Main motion as amended – that the Town vote to approve the Fiscal 2004 Gross Operating and Maintenance Budget of the Manchester Essex Regional School District in the amount of \$14,189,544.

Motion by Frederick J. Fawcett, duly seconded, to terminate debate.

Voted by declared 2/3's vote.

Vote on Main Motion as amended.

Voted.

Article 8. NORTH SHORE REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

Motion by George R. Harvey, duly seconded, that the Town vote to approve the Gross Operating and Maintenance Budget of the North Shore Regional Vocational School District and raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,672 for the Town's assessment from the District.

Voted unanimously.

Article 9. BY-LAW CHANGE-FENCING OF SWIMMING POOLS

Motion by Judson A. Lane, duly seconded, that the Town vote to amend Essex Zoning By-laws Section 6-5.7 by replacing the present section, in its entirety, which currently reads:

6-5.7 *FENCING OF SWIMMING POOLS.* No person owning land on which there is situated a permanent artificial sunken swimming pool containing 24 inches or more in depth of water at any point shall fail to erect and maintain thereon an adequate enclosure either surrounding the property or pool area, sufficient to make such a body of water inaccessible to small children.

Such enclosure, including gates therein, must be not less than four feet above the underlying ground, all gates must be self-latching with latches placed four feet above the underlying ground or otherwise made inaccessible from the outside to small children. A pool cover or other protective device approved by the board of selectmen may be used so long as the degree of protection afforded by the alteration devices, or structure is not less than the protection offered by the enclosure, gate and latch, described herein.

with the following:

- a. Any person owning land in the Town on which there is situated a swimming pool, in-ground or above-ground, shall erect and maintain thereon an adequate enclosure either surrounding the property or pool area, sufficient to make the pool inaccessible to small children. Any such enclosure, including gates therein, must be not less than four (4) feet above the underlying ground. All gates must be self-latching with latches placed at least four (4) feet above the underlying ground or otherwise made inaccessible from the outside to small children. Any such enclosure shall be located at least a distance of five (5) feet away from the pool. Fences located on above-ground pool decks shall not be considered as meeting the requirements of this section unless specifically approved by the inspector of buildings. Above-ground pools with a wall height of five (5) feet or

more will be exempt from the fencing requirement, but a gate must be placed around the access to any such pool.

- b. Any and all doors opening directly into the enclosed pool area from the living area of the dwelling shall be equipped with an audible alarm which will sound for at least ten seconds when the door and/or screen door is opened.
- c. This section shall apply retroactively to all in-ground and above-ground pools within the Town. Pre-existing, lawfully installed pools may be exempt from the above requirements if enclosures are provided which offer the same degree of protection as above and are acceptable to the inspector of buildings.

Passed by declared 2/3's vote.

Article 10. SCHOOL REPAIRS

Motion by Joseph P. Davis, III, duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from the Board of Assessors' Overlay Account the sum of \$63,125 for repairs to the Essex Elementary and Middle School as agreed to in Exhibit B of the lease document allowing said school to be leased by the Town to the Manchester-Essex Regional School District after said lease document has been fully executed.

Voted.

Article 11. SEWER BUDGET

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$550,000 for the purpose of funding the Sewer Budget for fiscal year 2004.

Voted.

Article 12. BY-LAW CHANGE - FALSE ALARMS

Motion by Richard C. Carter, duly seconded, that the Town vote to amend the Essex By-laws by adding the following Section 4-14 related to false fire alarms:

Section 4-14. FALSE FIRE ALARMS. The owner of any fire alarm system that generates more than three false fire alarms in any given twelve-month period shall be assessed a fine of \$150.00 for the fourth and each subsequent false alarm within said period. A false fire alarm as used in this section shall mean the sounding of an alarm that summons the Fire Department to the property in the absence of any smoke or fire.

Voted unanimously.

Article 13. BY-LAW CHANGE - ELECTRICAL, BUILDING, PLUMBING, GAS FEES

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to amend the electrical, building, plumbing, and gas fees contained in Essex By-Law Section 2-7A that presently read as presented in Article 13 of the warrant by replacing said present fees with the revised fees subsequently presented in article 13 of the warrant. (Article 13 of the warrant printed on next page)

Voted unanimously.

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to amend the electrical, building, plumbing, and gas fees contained in Essex By-law Section 2-7A that presently read:

ELECTRICAL FEE SCHEDULE:

New construction – All fees to be based on total construction cost of the project.

All new construction-residential and commercial, new buildings and additions.

1. Cost of construction 0 to \$50,000	\$50.00
2. Cost of construction \$50,000 to \$100,000	75.00
3. Cost of construction \$100,000 and above	100.00
New Service	\$15.00
Temporary Service	12.00
Underground Service	15.00
220-volt outlets:	
range, dryer – each outlet	5.00
Oil Burner, gas burner	5.00
Swimming Pools	15.00
Recall Inspections	6.00
Permits for any electrical installations	
Not specified	10.00

BUILDING FEE SCHEDULE:

Any construction work including new buildings, additions, etc.

Permit Application	\$25.00
Cost of construction \$1,000 to \$100,000	\$2 per \$1,000
Cost of construction \$100,000 and above	\$3 per \$1,000

For the purpose of determining the building permit fee, the “cost of construction” shall be generally determined by the Inspector of Buildings to be an amount equal to the product of the square footage area of the construction multiplied by seventy-five dollars (\$75.00). Square footage of any second story shall, for the purpose herein, be deemed to be one-half of the actual square footage of such second story. In cases where it is impossible or impractical to determine the “cost of construction” by the above method, then such “cost of construction” shall be as the Inspector of Buildings shall in his discretion determine.

PLUMBING FEE SCHEDULE:

New Construction Permit	\$50.00 plus \$2.00 per fixture
Renovation/remodeling	
First 3 Fixtures	\$24.00
Each additional	\$2.00 per fixture
Hot Water Heater Replacement	\$10.00
Solar Hot Water Tank	\$10.00
Plumbing fixtures and appliances	
For each fixture or appliance	\$10.00

Swimming pool (Inground), Cisterns,	
Lawn Sprinklers	\$20.00
Re-inspection charge	\$15.00

GAS FEES:

Boiler-Central Heat -Residential	\$20.00
- Commercial	\$50.00
Gas fired hot water heater	\$10.00
L.P.Tank	\$20.00
Gas fixtures and appliances	\$10.00 each
Unit heater	\$10.00
Re-inspection charge	\$15.00

by replacing the foregoing fee schedule with the following fee schedule:

ELECTRICAL FEE SCHEDULE:

New construction – All fees to be based on total construction cost of the project.

All new construction-residential and commercial, new buildings and additions.

1. Cost of construction 0 to \$50,000 \$75.00
2. Cost of construction \$50,000 to \$100,000 \$100.00
3. Cost of construction \$100,000 and above \$150.00

New service	\$25.00
Temporary Service	\$20.00
Underground Service	\$25.00
220-volt outlets:	
range, dryer – each outlet	\$10.00
Oil burner, gas burner	\$10.00
Swimming Pools	\$25.00
Recall Inspections	\$10.00
Permits for any electrical installations	
not specified	call inspector for fee

BUILDING FEE SCHEDULE;

Any construction work including new building, additions, etc.

Permit Application Minimum	\$35.00
Cost of Construction	\$6.00 per \$1,000 plus minimum fee
Building Demolition Fee	\$75.00 per story
Reinspection Fee	\$25.00 per reinspection
Stop Work Order Release Fee	\$50.00

For the purpose of determining the building permit fee, the “cost of construction” shall be generally be determined by the Inspector of Buildings to be an amount equal to the product of the square footage area of the construction multiplied by seventy-five dollars (\$75.00). Square footage of any second story shall, for the purpose herein, be deemed to be one-half of the actual square footage of such second story. In cases where it is impossible or impractical to determine the “cost

of construction” by the above method, then such “cost of construction” shall be as the Inspector of Buildings shall in his discretion determine.

PLUMBING FEE SCHEDULE:

New Construction - Residential	\$75.00, plus \$5.00 per fixture
Commercial	\$100.00, plus \$5.00 per fixture
Renovation/remodeling	
First 3 Fixtures	\$35.00
Each additional	\$5.00 per fixture
Hot Water Heater Replacement	\$20.00
Solar Hot Water Tank	\$25.00
Plumbing fixtures and appliances	
For each fixture or appliance	\$20.00
Piping	\$30.00
Swimming pool (In ground), Cisterns	
Lawn Sprinklers	\$25.00
Septic/Sewer Connection	\$25.00
Drainage Pipe/Rain Leaders	\$25.00
Re-inspection charge	\$25.00
GAS FEES:	
Boiler-Central Heat -Residential	\$30.00
-Commercial	\$60.00
Gas fired hot water heater	\$20.00
L.P. Tank	\$30.00
Gas fixtures and appliances	\$15.00 each
Unit Heater	\$15.00
Re-inspection charge	\$25.00

Article 14. TOWN DUMP REGULATIONS

Motion by Herman A. Patrican, Jr., duly seconded, that the Town vote to amend Section 7-2 of the Town By-laws TOWN DUMP REGULATIONS that presently reads:

7-2 TOWN DUMP REGULATIONS.

The Department of Public Works Commissioners shall formulate and post regulations concerning the use of the Town Dump.

The power to impose user fees shall be reserved to the Annual Town Meeting.

by replacing the section in its entirety, with the following:

7-2 TOWN TRANSFER STATION AND RECYCLING CENTER REGULATIONS.

The Board of Public Works shall formulate and post regulations concerning the use of the Town Transfer Station and Recycling Center. Said regulations shall include a user fee for transfer station stickers not to exceed the transfer station sticker fee last approved by the Town at an

Annual Town Meeting. The regulations may also include user fees for the disposal and/or recycling of items that are prohibited from disposal by deposit into the transfer station. Categories of such items and their associated fees may be added, removed, increased, decreased, or otherwise revised from time to time by the Board of Public Works in order to accommodate new prohibitions, regulations, market conditions, or other relevant circumstances at the sole discretion of the Board of Public Works and shall not be contingent upon any Town Meeting vote.

Failed.

Article 15. DODGE STREET LAND-CHOATE

Motion by Joseph P. Davis, III, duly seconded, that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept the deed, by gift, of a fee simple interest in a parcel of land on Dodge Street, Assessor's Map 41, Lot 28, Essex South Registry of Deeds Certificate Number 63154, Document Number 283520(first parcel) from David F. and Elizabeth M. Choate, upon such terms and conditions as the Board shall determine appropriate, for the purposes of improving the efficiency of the Town's storm drain system in the surrounding area.

Voted unanimously.

Article 16. BY-LAW CHANGE – CONTRACTING AUTHORITY

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to revise Section 2-5.4 CONTRACTING AUTHORITY of the Town by-laws, that presently reads as presented in Article 16 in the warrant (printed below) by amending the second paragraph of the Section as follows:

Any contracts by any elected or appointed board or officer in excess of \$5,000 or which require a signature from the vendor binding the Town to the transaction must also be executed by the Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to enter into contracts for all matters not specifically under the jurisdiction or responsibility of any other elected board or officer. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board of Public Works established under chapter 501 of the Acts of 1973 may enter into contracts a) for the procurement of supplies and services related to matters involving water supply and distribution as authorized by Chapter 262 of the Acts of 1934 without limitation as to contract value, and b) for any other purpose up to a contract value of \$50,000. No board or officer of the Town shall contract for any purpose, on any terms, or under any conditions inconsistent with any applicable provision of any general or special law.

Voted.

ARTICLE 16

To see it the Town will vote to revise Section 2-5.4 CONTRACTING AUTHORITY of the Town By-laws, that presently reads:

2-5.4 CONTRACTING AUTHORITY. Unless otherwise provided by a vote of Town Meeting, each elected board or officer having authority for a particular appropriation is hereby authorized to enter into any contract not exceeding \$5,000 and not requiring a signature from the vendor binding the Town to the transaction for the expenditure of such appropriation, on such terms and conditions, including the length of contracts, which such board or officer deems appropriate.

Any contracts by an elected board or officer in excess of \$5,000 or which require a signature from the vendor binding the Town to the transaction must also be executed by the Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to enter into contracts for all matters not specifically under the jurisdiction or responsibility of any other elected board or officer. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board of Public Works established under Chapter 501 of the Acts of 1973 may enter into contracts for the procurement of supplies and services related to matters involving water supply and distribution as authorized by Chapter 262 of the Acts of 1934. No board or officer of the Town shall contract for any purpose, on any terms, or under any conditions inconsistent with any applicable provision of any general or special law.

Article 17. TRANSFER FROM TOWN SEPTIC BETTERMENT FUND

Motion by Gordon Martin, duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from the Town Septic Betterment Fund the sum of \$5,395 for the purpose of making necessary payments to the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust in accordance with the terms of repayment for Community Septic Management Program loan funds.

Voted unanimously.

Article 18. SNOW REMOVAL

Motion by William A. Perkins, duly seconded, that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for the removal of snow from Town Accepted ways, bridges, and sidewalks of the Town.

Voted unanimously.

Article 19. RESERVE FUND

Motion by Mary A. Koop, duly seconded, that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the Finance Committee's Reserve Fund.

Voted.

Article 20. STABILIZATION FUND

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone action on this article.

Voted unanimously.

Article 21. SERVICE ORGANIZATION APPROPRIATIONS

Motion by Joseph P. Davis, III, duly seconded, that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the following sums:

\$1,700 for SeniorCare

\$1,000 for Action, Inc.

\$1,117 for the mental health services of Health & Education Services, Inc.

\$2,000 for participating in Help for Abused Women and Their Children

\$1,000 for participation in the Adult Learning Center for Cape Ann

Voted unanimously.

Article 22. POLICE DEPARTMENT REVOLVING FUND

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote pursuant to G.L. c.44, sect. 53E ½ to re-authorize the revolving fund used by the Police Department for the purpose of purchasing photographic supplies and equipment for the taking of firearms permit identification photographs, the fee for such photographs shall be credited to the fund and expenditures from the fund, up to a maximum of \$2,000, shall be authorized by the Chief of Police.

Voted unanimously.

A motion was made and duly seconded to adjourn the Annual Town Meeting at 10:20 p.m.

Voted unanimously.

A true copy. Attest:

Sally A. Soucy, Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

June 3, 2003

The June 3, 2003 Special Town Meeting of the Town of Essex was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Town Clerk Sally A. Soucy. Over 300 voters were present at that time.

A motion was made and duly seconded to appoint Sam Hoar as acting Moderator.

Voted.

Michael Stroman, Priscilla Doucette, Mary Koop, and Roland Adams were appointed tellers for this meeting.

The Posting and Return of the Warrant were read by the Moderator.

A motion was made and duly seconded to waive the reading of the Warrant.

Voted unanimously.

Article 1. SCHOOL BUILDING INDEBTEDNESS

Motion by Joseph P. Davis, III, duly seconded, that the Town vote to approve the \$35,541,000 indebtedness authorized by the Regional District School Committee of the Manchester Essex Regional School District on May 27, 2003 for the purpose of constructing, originally equipping and furnishing a new district high school/middle school on Lincoln Street in Manchester-by-the-Sea and for site preparation, development and equipping of related outdoor athletic and recreational facilities and for the acquisition of athletic fields as need, including costs of design and construction supervision and costs of demolition of any existing buildings necessary in connection therewith, which authorization shall not take effect until each member town votes to exempt from the limitation on total taxes imposed by G.L.c.59, sect.21C (Proposition 2 ½)

amounts required to pay its share of the principal of and interest on the borrowing authorized by the District.

A motion was made and duly seconded to terminate debate.

Voted.

Confusion on the floor prohibited the tellers from obtaining an accurate count from a standing vote; a secret ballot was called for.

Results of that balloting were:

Yes – 232

No - 105

Passed by 2/3's vote.

Article 2. TOWN CHARGES AND EXPENDITURES

Motion by Jeffrey D. Jones, duly seconded, that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone

Article 2.

Voted unanimously.

Article 3. SCHOOL BUDGET

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone action on this article.

Voted unanimously.

Article 4. NORTH SHORE REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL BUDGET

Motion by Rolf P. Madsen, duly seconded, that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone action on this article.

Voted unanimously.

Article 5. WATER DEPARTMENT BUDGET

Motion by Herman A. Patrican, Jr., duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer \$3,960 from the Water Department Surplus Fund to the fiscal year 2003 Water Department Maintenance budget line item.

Voted.

A motion was made and duly seconded to dissolve the Special Town Meeting.

Voted unanimously.

A true copy.

Attest:

Sally A. Soucy, Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

June 24, 2003

The June 24, 2003 Special Town Meeting of the Town of Essex was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Moderator David J. Lane. 139 voters were present at that time.

The Posting and Return of the Warrant were read.

A motion was made and duly seconded to waive the reading of the Warrant.

Voted unanimously.

Article 1. AMENDMENT TO REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AGREEMENT

Motion by Alfred A. Dente, duly seconded, that the Town vote to amend the “Agreement Between the Towns of Essex and Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts with Respect to the Formation of a Regional School district” by deleting Section 4(c) of the Agreement in its entirety and the substituting the language found in Article 1 (copy attached) of the warrant in lieu thereof (said amendment to be effective commencing July 1, 2003) and to ratify and confirm the Agreement in all respects except as amended hereby.

Vote was taken by secret ballot and the results were:

Yes - 90

No - 60

Voted.

Article 2. SCHOOL DISTRICT ASSESSMENT

Motion by David L. Folsom, duly seconded, that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,103,492 for the Town’s fiscal year 2004 assessment from the Manchester Essex Regional School District calculated solely in accordance with the “Agreement Between the Towns of Essex and Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts with Respect to the Formation of a Regional School District”, as amended by the Town of Essex by vote under Article 1 of the warrant, by invoking and approving the provision found in paragraph four of G.L. Ch. 71 sect. 16B allowing District members “to reallocate the sum of their required local contributions to the district in accordance with the regional agreement”.

Motion by Bruce E. Fortier, duly seconded, to amend the main motion by deleting the motion from the word “calculated” in line three above to the end.

Motion made and duly seconded to terminate debate on the amendment.

Declared 2/3’s vote.

Vote on the amendment.

Defeated by Declared 2/3’s vote.

Vote on the main motion.

Voted by majority.

Article 3. APPROPRIATION TO NEW LINE ITEM – “SCHOOL EXPENSE ESCROW”

Motion by Rolf P. Madsen, duly seconded, that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$292,530 to be placed in a new line item in the Town’s fiscal year 2004 operating budget entitled “School Expense Escrow”.

The Moderator was in doubt; standing vote taken:

Yes - 80

No - 41

Voted.

A motion was made and duly seconded to dissolve the Town Meeting at 10:02 P.M.
Voted unanimously.

A true copy. Attest:

Sally A. Soucy, Town Clerk

ARTICLE 1

To see if the Town will vote to amend the “Agreement Between the Towns of Essex and Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts with Respect to the Formation of a Regional School District” by deleting Section 4 (c) of the Agreement in its entirety and then substituting the following in lieu thereof (said amendment to be effective commencing July 1, 2003):

(c) Apportionment of Operating Costs

Operating costs shall be expressed as “instructional costs” and “non-instructional costs”, and the categorization of costs into either of these sub-categories are to be determined by the Regional District School Committee.

A. Non-instructional operating costs shall be apportioned to the member towns as follows:

(i) Twenty-five percent (25%) on the basis of equalized valuation of the of the member towns pursuant to the latest equalized valuation of such town, as set forth in Chapter 559 of the Acts of 1945 entitled “An Act Establishing the basis of Apportionment of State and County Taxes”, or any later equalized valuations as may be enacted by the Commonwealth next preceding each bond issue; and

(ii) Seventy-five percent (75%) on the basis of their respective populations of each member town on October 1 of the year in which the apportionment is determined bears to the total combined populations of all member towns on the same date.

B. Instructional operating costs shall be apportioned to the member towns as follows:

(i) Twenty-five percent (25%) on the basis of equalized valuation of the member towns pursuant to the latest equalized valuation of such town, as set forth in Chapter 559 of the Acts of 1945 entitled “An Act Establishing the Basis of Apportionment of State and County Taxes”, or any later equalized valuations as may be enacted by the Commonwealth next preceding each bond issue: and

(ii) Seventy-five percent (75%) on the basis of the respective pupil enrollments in all Regional School District schools. The share of each member town for each fiscal year shall be determined by computing the ration of each town’s pupil enrollment in the Regional School District on October 1 of the year in which the apportionment is determined bears to the total pupil enrollment from all member towns in the regional School District on the same date.”

SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION

JAN. 13, 2003

Question #1 Shall the Town of Essex be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to site, design, and construct a new Department of Public Works operations facility, including all costs incidental and related thereto?

Yes 141 No 108 Blanks 0 Passed.

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION

MAY 12, 2003

MODERATOR

David J. Lane 192
Blanks 24

SELECTMAN

Jeffrey D. Jones 187
Blanks 31

ASSESSOR

Richard S. Cairns 192
Blanks 26

BOARD OF HEALTH-3 YRS.

Sandra L. Pelkie 23
Blanks 188
Scattered 7

BOARD OF HEALTH-2 YRS

Karin M. Staiti Carroll 160
Blanks 58

CONSTABLE (2)

Ronald E. Feener 181
Roger W. Lander 177
Blanks 78

REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Alfred A. Dente 156
Blanks 47
Sarah Willworth Dyer 13
Scattered 2

TRUSTEE OF LIBRARY FUNDS

Gillian B. Palumbo 196
Blanks 22

PLANNING BOARD (2)

Michael Cataldo 161
Robert S. Fitzgibbon 135
Blanks 140

HOUSING AUTHORITY-5 YRS	
Jeffrey S. Butler	195
Blanks	23
HOUSING AUTHORITY-4 YRS	
Nancy L. Marchant	188
Blanks	30

SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION
JUNE 9, 2003

Shall the Town of Essex be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for its apportioned share of the bonds to be issued by the Manchester Essex Regional School District in order to finance constructing, originally equipping and furnishing a new district high school/middle school on Lincoln Street in Manchester-by-the-Sea and for site preparation, development and equipping of related outdoor athletic and recreational facilities and for the acquisition of athletic field as needed, including costs of design and construction supervision and costs of demolition of any existing buildings necessary in connection therewith?

Yes 613 No 624

SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION
JULY 22, 2003

Shall the Town of Essex be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for its apportioned share of the bonds to be issued by the Manchester Essex Regional School District in order to finance constructing, originally equipping and furnishing a new district high school/middle school on Lincoln Street in Manchester-by-the-Sea and for site preparation, development and equipping of related outdoor athletic and recreational facilities and for the acquisition of athletic fields as needed, including costs of design and construction supervision and costs of demolition of any existing buildings necessary in connection therewith?

Yes 619 No 1,044

TREASURER

The following is a report of the Town Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Swallow, Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT
07/01/2002-06/30/2003

FUNDS	7/1/2002				6/30/2003	
	BALANCE	RECEIPTS	WARRANTS	ADJUSTMENT	BALANCE	
GENERAL	\$ 1,643,942.89	\$ 12,770,673.53	\$ (12,936,476.64)	\$ (12,243.21)	\$ 1,465,896.57	
CONSERVATION	\$ 20,111.03	\$ 721.52	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,832.55	
WATER	\$ 25,647.52	\$ 787,747.40	\$ (829,144.06)	\$ 7,901.53	\$ (7,847.61)	
SEPTIC RP FUND	\$ 2,523.91	\$ 20.79	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,544.70	
AMBULANCE FUND	\$ 154,510.88	\$ 57,489.41	\$ (17,869.91)	\$ (489.28)	\$ 193,641.10	
CLK OF WORKS/BRADLEY	\$ 9,598.64	\$ 79.08	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,677.72	
CLK OF WORKS/BUCKLIN	\$ 285.49	\$ 0.78	\$ (207.50)	\$ (227.57)	\$ (148.80)	
CLK OF WORKS/DOYLE	\$ 1,485.05	\$ 12.22	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,497.27	
CLK OF WORKS/SMB	\$ 758.05	\$ 6.26	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 764.31	
CLK OF WORKS/VANWYCK	\$ 29,760.18	\$ 230.66	\$ (2,210.00)	\$ (621.25)	\$ 27,159.59	
CLK OF WORKS/WARREN WAY	\$ -	\$ 30,011.71	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,011.71	
PLAN BD/KEMPSKI	\$ 5,034.78	\$ 41.48	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,076.26	
VANWYCK/CONSERVATION	\$ -	\$ 800.11	\$ (793.00)	\$ 2.91	\$ 10.02	
TOTALS:	\$1,893,658.42	\$13,647,834.95	(\$13,786,701.11)	(\$5,676.87)	\$1,749,115.39	

BANK BALANCES		
GENERAL FUND		
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BANK OF IPSWICH		
INVESTMENT	\$	(15,936.62)
PAYROLL	\$	3,807.23
VENDOR	\$	5,140.10
BEVERLY NATIONAL BANK	\$	99,052.82
EASTERN BANK	\$	343,596.71
FLEET BANK	\$	136,930.22
FLEET BANK	\$	105,109.07
CITIZENS BANK	\$	175,579.31
BOSTON SAFE	\$	250,102.40
BOSTON SAFE VENDOR	\$	115.80
FIRST TRADE UNION	\$	47,237.37
MASS MUNICIPAL	\$	51,909.65
STATE STREET BK & TRUST	\$	159,125.11
UNIBANK	\$	104,127.40
TOTALS	\$	1,465,896.57
OTHER FUNDS		
PRUDENTIAL FIN/CONSERVATION FUND	\$	20,832.55
FIRST NATIONAL/WATER FUND	\$	(7,847.61)
FIRST NATIONAL/SEPTIC RP FUND	\$	2,544.70
FIRST UNION TRADE/AMBULANCE FUND	\$	193,641.10
FIRST NAT'L/CLK OF WORKS/BRADLEY	\$	9,677.72
FIRST NAT'L/CLK OF WORKS/BUCKLIN	\$	(148.80)
FIRST NAT'L/CLK OF WORKS/DOYLE	\$	1,497.27
FIRST NAT'L/CLK OF WORKS/SMB	\$	764.31
FIRST NAT'L/CLK OF WORKS/WARREN WAY	\$	27,159.59
FIRST NAT'L/CLK OF WORKS/VANWYCK	\$	30,011.71
FIRST NAT'L/PLANNING BOARD/KEMPSKI	\$	5,076.26
FIRST NAT'L/VANWYCK/CONSERVATION	\$	10.02
TOTALS:	\$	283,218.82
GRAND TOTALS:	\$	1,749,115.39
STABILIZATION FUND:	TRUST FUND BALANCES	ALBERT E. COGSWELL FUND:

SOLOMON SMITH BARNEY
 PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL
 BALANCE 07/01/2002 \$ 279,398.26
 EARNINGS \$ 9,425.33

 BALANCE 06/30/2003 \$ 288,823.59
 =====

JEFFERSON COOLIDGE FUND:

SALOMON SMITH BARNEY
 PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL
 BALANCE 07/01/2002 \$ 29,454.69
 INTEREST \$ 1,323.85

 BALANCE 06/30/2003 \$ 30,778.54
 =====

ESTATE OF LUTHER T. BURNHAM:

SALOMON SMITH BARNEY
 PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL
 BALANCE 07/01/2002 \$ 117,561.13
 MISC REPAIRS \$ (2,426.29)
 EARNINGS \$ 2,317.82

 BALANCE 06/30/2003 \$ 117,452.66
 =====

RYDER ESTATE FUND:

SALOMON SMITH BARNEY
 PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL
 BALANCE 07/01/2002 \$ 143,688.77
 EARNINGS \$ 9,425.33

 BALANCE 06/30/2003 \$ 153,114.10
 =====

SOLOMON SMITH BARNEY
 PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL
 BALANCE 07/01/2002 \$ 59,711.61
 EARNINGS \$ 3,358.73

 BALANCE 06/30/2003 \$ 63,070.34
 =====

ESSEX SELECTMEN'S COMMISSION:

SALOMON SMITH BARNEY
 PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL
 BALANCE 07/01/2002 \$ 2,199.01
 EARNINGS \$ (53.08)

 BALANCE 06/30/2003 \$ 2,145.93
 =====

MUNICIPAL BUILDING INSURANCE:

SALOMON SMITH BARNEY
 PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL
 BALANCE 07/01/2002 \$ 21,576.80
 EARNINGS \$ 578.48

 BALANCE 06/30/2003 \$ 22,155.28
 =====

CEMETERY FUNDS

CEMETERY FLOWER FUND:

SALOMON SMITH BARNEY
PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL
BALANCE 07/01/2002 \$ 8,639.28
INCOME \$ -
EXPENSE \$ (687.69)
EARNINGS \$ 247.49
ADJUST FRM 1999-2003 \$ (342.79)

BALANCE 06/30/2003 \$ 7,856.29
=====

CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE:

SALOMON SMITH BARNEY
PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL
BALANCE 07/01/2002 \$ 161,654.82
INCOME \$ 5,000.00
CEMETERY BUDGET \$ (1,792.90)
EARNINGS \$ 5,489.11

BALANCE 06/30/2003 \$ 170,351.03
=====

CEMETERY LOT CARE:

FIRST NATIONAL BK OF IPSWICH
BALANCE 07/01/2002 \$ 10,750.57
INCOME \$ 11,310.57
CEMETERY BUDGET \$ (16,814.87)
EARNINGS \$ 26.49

BALANCE 06/30/2003 \$ 5,272.76
=====

CEMETERY SALE OF LOTS:

SALOMON SMITH BARNEY
PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL
BALANCE 07/01/2002 \$ 83,116.33
INCOME \$ 1,800.00
CEMETERY BUDGET \$ (14,852.23)
EARNINGS \$ 1,263.02

BALANCE 06/30/2003 \$ 71,327.12
=====

PAYROLLS

07/01/2002-06/30/2003

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

JOSEPH DAVIS, III	\$	1,000.00
DAVID FOLSOM	\$	1,000.00
PATRICIA LASKOWSKI	\$	35,222.76
ROLF MADSEN	\$	1,000.00
TOTALS	\$	38,222.76

CONOMO POINT COMM:

JOSEPH DAVIS, III	\$	50.00
DAVID FOLSOM	\$	50.00
PATRICIA LASKOWSKI	\$	1,633.82
ROLF MADSEN	\$	50.00
TOTALS	\$	1,783.82

LICENSING BOARD:

PATRICIA LASKOWSKI	\$	1,633.82
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ACCOUNTANT:

SARAH JOHNSON	\$	14,729.77
KATHY BENEVENTO	\$	22,068.60
TOTALS	\$	36,798.37

TREASURER/COLLECTOR:

DOROTHY BROWN	\$	28,701.00
NANCY SWALLOW	\$	38,575.68
TOTALS	\$	67,276.68

BOARD OF ASSESSORS:

RICHARD CAIRNS	\$	3,195.00
DAWN DEMARE		560
PAUL MUGFORD	\$	3,195.00
GILLIAN PALUMBO	\$	19,312.18
DAVID TRASK	\$	3,195.00
TOTALS	\$	29,457.18

BUILDING INSPECTOR:

WILLIAM SANBORN	\$	6,190.92
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PLUMBING & GAS INSPECTOR:

MARK OSBORN	\$	4,179.96
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TOWN ADMINSTRATOR:

BRENDHAN ZUBRICKI	\$	69,732.00
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BOARD OF HEALTH:

MARGARET DAVIES	\$	30,816.19
ELAINE WOZNY	\$	49,332.40
TOTALS	\$	80,148.59

TOWN CLERK:

SALLY SOUCY	\$	13,895.00
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CONSERVATION COMM:

GILLIAN PALUMBO	\$	1,943.10
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PLANNING BOARD:

SANDRA GINN	\$	668.26
LORIE WOODWARD	\$	4,860.63
TOTALS	\$	5,528.89

COUNCIL ON AGING:

EUGENIA DORFMAN	\$	72.78
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MODERATOR:

DAVID LANE	\$	100.00
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LIBRARY:

BETH CAIRNS	\$	27,095.04
DEBORAH FRENCH	\$	8,635.00
KAREN ROGATI	\$	2,229.45
TOTALS	\$	37,959.49

TOWN HALL:

TIMOTHY BEAN	\$	4,383.08
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ANIMAL INSPECTOR:

PAMELA STONE	\$	1,806.30
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ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR:

LAWRENCE O'MALEY	\$	4,180.00
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CEMETERY DEPT:

ANDREW DUNSKY	\$	1,938.44
MATTHEW HEATH	\$	1,273.20
ROBERT JOHNSON	\$	30.90
IVAN MUISE	\$	15,980.16
NANCY MUNIZ	\$	2,386.80
TIMOTHY POLLEY	\$	4,199.91
JASON ROWE	\$	763.62
RICHARD SPINALE	\$	202.64
ALFRED STANTON	\$	97.44
RYAN WILSON	\$	1,062.00
TOTALS	\$	27,935.11

RECYCLING:

ROBERT JOHNSON	\$	9,105.20
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WASTEWATER DEPT:

DAMON BOUTCHIE	\$	4,984.74
CARL BROWN	\$	186.40
AMANDA DAVIS	\$	6,869.34
DAVID FRITHSEN	\$	1,219.68
PAUL GOODWIN	\$	48.08
ERIK MANSFIELD	\$	16,277.13
PHILIP MORAN	\$	574.43
NANCY MUNIZ	\$	22.95
CHRISTINA WRIGHT	\$	258.28
TOTALS	\$	30,441.03

HIGHWAY DEPT:

DAMON BOUTCHIE	\$	44,592.22
CARL BROWN	\$	32,494.40
AMANDA DAVIS	\$	25,324.62
DAVID FRITHSEN	\$	522.92
MICHAEL GALLI	\$	363.08
PAUL GOODWIN	\$	15,866.40
KEVEN HARDING	\$	39,171.08
MATTHEW HEATH	\$	1,527.84
ROBERT JOHNSON	\$	1,122.70
BRUCE JULIAN	\$	3,852.52
ERIK MANSFIELD	\$	1,797.40
IVAN MUISE	\$	22,265.24
JAMES MULCAHY, JR	\$	5,012.48
NANCY MUNIZ	\$	8,139.60
JASON ROWE	\$	2,819.52
RICHARD SPINALE	\$	10,311.35
ALFRED STANTON	\$	37,938.46
TOTALS	\$	253,121.83

WATER DEPT:

DAMON BOUTCHIE	\$	14,425.72
CARL BROWN	\$	12,609.96
DAVID FRITHSEN	\$	43,709.28
MICHAEL GALLI	\$	47,633.12
PAUL GOODWIN	\$	32,599.88
ELLEN LANE	\$	1,782.00
ERIK MANSFIELD	\$	20,589.71
PHILIP MORAN	\$	6,096.37
IVAN MUISE	\$	146.16
NANCY MUNIZ	\$	22,351.96
PETER PERRIGO	\$	37,841.80
CHRISTINA WRIGHT	\$	9,389.66
TOTALS	\$	249,175.62

POLICE DEPT:

MICHAEL BALL	\$	7,987.86
ALFRED CHIANCIOLA	\$	3,956.12
ERIC CLARIZIA	\$	6,008.88
MARY ELINOR DAGLE	\$	19,718.10
DAVID DENISTADT	\$	5,426.17
BRYAN DIGIORGIO	\$	56,196.85
SHANE EHLERS	\$	3,226.71
EDWIN FOURNIER	\$	2,974.35
PAUL FRANCIS	\$	48,092.36
MICHAEL FRENCH	\$	50,715.60
EDWARD GALLIVAN	\$	5,064.87
ROBERT GILARDI	\$	64,827.67
PAUL GOODWIN	\$	6,374.30
CALVIN GRIMES	\$	58,972.74
DAVID HARRELL	\$	78,735.74
DEREK JONES	\$	7,867.32
MARK LARIVEE	\$	50,023.27
CLINT LARRABEE	\$	4,688.80
THERESA POSTE	\$	2,384.66
DEAN PRESUTTI	\$	5,487.87
PETER SILVA	\$	62,407.41
TOTALS	\$	551,137.65

EMERGENCY CENTER:

MICHAEL BALL	\$	8,534.52
JANE CARR	\$	3,748.83
ALFRED CHIANCIOLA	\$	18,187.70
ERIC CLARIZIA	\$	10,593.53
SHAMUS DONNELLON	\$	4,073.55
DANIELLE DORT	\$	9,062.29
COLLEEN ENOS	\$	14,857.71
EDWIN FOURNIER	\$	1,950.55
EDWARD GALLIVAN	\$	1,347.36
DAVID HARRELL	\$	910.29
DEREK JONES	\$	24,076.79
CLINT LARRABEE	\$	2,127.46
THERESA POSTE	\$	851.25
EDWIN RICHTER, JR	\$	25,732.59
ALFRED STANTON	\$	1,934.00
ROBERT WYNOTT	\$	1,609.36
ROBERT V WYNOTT	\$	2,196.47
TOTALS	\$	131,794.25

CIVIL DEFENSE:

GLENN BOUTCHIE	\$	150.00
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PRIVATE DUTY:

MICHAEL BALL	\$	13,603.30
ROBERT BREAKER	\$	406.56
ALFRED CHIANCIOLA	\$	9,826.26
ERIC CLARIZIA	\$	13,683.53
RYAN DAVIS	\$	169.40
DAVID DEINSTADT	\$	18,520.52
BYRAN DGIORGIO	\$	26,240.90
WILLIAM FOLEY, JR	\$	271.04
EDWIN FOURNIER	\$	6,939.46
PAUL FRANCIS	\$	7,764.30
MICHAEL FRENCH	\$	8,568.30
DAVID FRONTIERO	\$	266.56
KENNETH GAGNON	\$	266.56
EDWARD GALLIVAN	\$	4,967.00
ROBERT GILARDI	\$	3,151.02
PAUL GOODWIN	\$	916.30
CALVIN GRIMES	\$	18,181.70
DEREK JONES	\$	14,351.76
JERRY KENNEDY	\$	199.92
MARK LARIVEE	\$	26,870.18
CLINT LARRABEE	\$	2,334.28
ANDREW MUNIZ	\$	199.92
PAUL POLONSKY	\$	266.56
MICHAEL SCHULTZ	\$	366.52
PETER SILVA	\$	1,196.38
JASON SINCLAIR	\$	199.92
TOTALS	\$	179,728.15

SHELLFISH DEPT:

STEPHEN HARTLEY	\$	1,596.54
ARNOLD THISTLEWOOD	\$	28,351.96
TOTALS	\$	29,948.50

HARBORMASTER:

JAMES O'BRIEN	\$	569.25
JAMES PLATT	\$	7,944.00
TOTALS	\$	8,513.25

FIRE DEPT:

JAMES ALBANI	\$	1,758.96
DANIEL BALL	\$	5,232.85
MICHAEL BALL	\$	111.68
ROGER BALL	\$	1,158.68
DANIEL BOUTCHIE	\$	125.64
GLENN BOUTCHIE	\$	1,081.90
ERIN BURNHAM	\$	662.18
WESTLEY BURNHAM	\$	1,081.90
KEITH CARTER	\$	2,631.46
RICHARD CARTER	\$	3,117.20
SAMUEL CROCKER	\$	467.66
MARY ELEANOR DAGLE	\$	5,191.20
RICHARD DORT, JR	\$	1,047.00
DANIEL DOUCETTE	\$	1,821.78
PAUL DOUCETTE	\$	544.44
DANIEL FIAHLO	\$	41.88
BRUCE FIGURIDO	\$	704.98
SHANE FRASER	\$	13.96
MICHAEL FRENCH	\$	3,022.34
RONALD GALLANT	\$	781.76
JOHN GOOD III	\$	711.96
TRAVIS GOOD	\$	1,982.32
JASON HEATH	\$	642.16
JOSEPH LAFATA	\$	1,018.16
PETER LANE	\$	55.84
TIMOTHY LANE	\$	1,221.50
GEORGE LUFKIN	\$	893.44
NICHOLAS LYNCH	\$	125.64
ERIK MANSFIELD	\$	390.88
RAYMOND MANSFIELD	\$	586.32
CHRISTOPHER MAXFIELD	\$	921.36
RAYMOND MAXFIELD	\$	2,732.52
JAMES MCNEILLY	\$	725.92
IVAN MUISE	\$	725.88
JAMES MULCAHY, JR	\$	3,528.49
ERNEST NIEBERLE, JR	\$	1,605.40
DAVID PEREEN	\$	1,661.24
THERESA POSTE	\$	612.00
RAMIE READER	\$	2,352.26
RANDIE READER	\$	342.02
SEAN REED	\$	1,472.78
DANIEL RICKER	\$	55.84
SCOTT SAVORY	\$	823.64
NICHOLAS SILVA	\$	307.12
KEVIN SOUSA	\$	2,540.72
GEORGE STAVROS	\$	3,594.70
BLAKE STORY	\$	167.52
DAVID THOMPSON	\$	2,649.27
GORDON THOMPSON	\$	474.64
EIAN WOODMAN	\$	767.80
STEPHEN WOODMAN	\$	307.12
TOTALS	\$	66,595.91

AMBULANCE DEPT:

JAMES ALBANI	\$	328.06
DANIEL BALL	\$	1,647.28
DANIEL BOUTCHIE	\$	13.96
GLENN BOUTCHIE	\$	62.82
ERIN BURNHAM	\$	293.16
WESTLEY BURNHAM	\$	41.88
KEITH CARTER	\$	83.76
RICHARD CARTER	\$	13.96
RICHARD DORT, JR	\$	13.96
DANIEL DOUCETTE	\$	781.76
PAUL DOUCETTE	\$	27.92
DANIEL FIAHLO	\$	13.96
BRUCE FIGURIDO	\$	223.36
MICHAEL FRENCH	\$	237.32
RONALD GALLANT	\$	153.56
EDWARD GALLIVAN, JR	\$	20.94
JOHN GOOD	\$	863.06
TRAVIS GOOD	\$	69.80
JASON HEATH	\$	27.92
JOSEPH LAFATA	\$	711.96
PETER LANE	\$	13.96
TIMOTHY LANE	\$	474.64
NICHOLAS LYNCH	\$	132.62
ERIK MANSFIELD	\$	41.88
CHRISTOPHER MAXFIELD	\$	13.96
JAMES MCNEILLY	\$	376.92
IVAN MUISE	\$	13.96
JAMES MULCAHY, JR	\$	474.64
EDWARD NEAL	\$	13.96
ERNEST NIEBERLE, JR	\$	1,409.96
DAVID PEREEN	\$	55.84
RAMIE READER	\$	851.56
RANDIE READER	\$	13.96
DANIEL RICKER	\$	69.80
SEAN REED	\$	118.66
SCOTT SAVORY	\$	41.88
PETER SILVA	\$	13.96
KEVIN SOUSA	\$	34.90
GEORGE STAVROS	\$	879.48
DAVID THOMPSON	\$	495.58
EIAN WOODMAN	\$	1,074.92
STEPHEN WOODMAN	\$	69.80
TOTALS	\$	12,317.24

ELECTIONS:

PHYLLIS ADDISON	\$	246.39
GLENN BOUTCHIE	\$	40.50
VIRGINIA BOUTCHIE	\$	141.78
BONNIE BRADFORD	\$	13.50
AUDREY BRAIER	\$	148.50
HELEN BRISBOIS	\$	27.00
DOROTHY BROWN	\$	20.25
MARILYN BROWNING	\$	202.50
DAWN BURNHAM	\$	263.25
ERIN BURNHAM	\$	27.00
KELLY BURNHAM	\$	64.13
BETH CAIRNS	\$	23.63
RICHARD CAIRNS	\$	30.38

YOUTH COMMISSION:

JAMES ANDERSON	\$	216.00
RACHEL ASHLEY	\$	1,065.75
JENNIFER CASTRO	\$	1,220.00
CAROLYN CLARK	\$	250.00
KATHRYN DALTON	\$	1,285.00
KELLY DOHERTY	\$	310.50
JACOB EBERLY	\$	2,890.00
LYDIAN FRENCH	\$	206.00
STACY GAUTHIER	\$	175.95
VANESSA GENTLEMAN	\$	1,358.25
MEGHAN HAMILTON	\$	176.75
ROY HODGMAN	\$	1,321.38
MARCY HOLLAND	\$	1,437.51
FRED HOWCROFT	\$	164.50
LANDIS JAQUES	\$	187.25
JAY KAPLAN	\$	312.19
MARILYN KLPKA-SIMPSON	\$	14,862.30
VERNON KLPKA-SIMPSON	\$	1,196.25
JEFFREY LAFATA	\$	184.00
JENNIFER LASSINS	\$	1,435.00
SARAH LEAMAN	\$	1,149.13
SARA MAILANDER	\$	999.75
JENNIFER MCCARRON	\$	1,124.25
CAROLINE MCCOY	\$	1,219.50
ANDREA MEADER	\$	190.75
COURTENAY MOORE	\$	168.00
JENNIFER NEAL	\$	582.19
MELISSA PATTERSON	\$	1,087.50
RICHARD PIERRO	\$	176.75
KIM REED	\$	160.00
JUSTIN ROY	\$	964.26
ALEXANDRA SACHARUK	\$	155.75
JASON SHALKOSKI	\$	220.00
BRYAN SHIELDS	\$	1,356.00
ALEXANDRA SOUZA	\$	35.00
CODY SOUSA	\$	873.25
SAMANTHA TALBOT	\$	929.83
MATTHEW TULLOCH	\$	1,036.00
LISA WHITE	\$	900.00
TOTALS	\$	43,582.49

ELECTIONS (cont'd):

BARBARA CARAVELLA	\$	54.00
VICKIE CATALDO	\$	37.13
PRISCILLA DOUCETTE	\$	199.13
ELIZABETH EWING	\$	23.63
DEBORAH FRENCH	\$	20.25
PATRICIA GATES	\$	23.63
SANDRA GINN	\$	23.63
ELIZABETH GUERIN	\$	57.38
GENEVIEVE GUERIN	\$	158.63
KEVEN HARDING	\$	40.00
MARILY KLPKA-SIMPSON	\$	23.63
TINA LANE	\$	23.63
CYNTHIA LEVELLE	\$	27.00
ANN LYONS	\$	64.13
JUDY MAXFIELD	\$	57.38
EDIH MESSERSMITH	\$	23.63
BARBARA MUISE	\$	37.13
IVAN MUISE	\$	60.00
JANICE NEAL	\$	43.88
MARGARET NELSON	\$	74.25
MILDRED OLIVER	\$	131.64
ANNETTE OSBORN	\$	195.75
GILLIAN PALUMBO	\$	50.63
DIANE PATRICAN	\$	94.50
TIMOTHY POLLEY	\$	20.00
MARJORIE SAVOIE	\$	23.63
MARJORIE SPINNEY	\$	111.38
GLORIA STORY	\$	158.63
CARLA SYMONDS	\$	131.63
VALERIE SYMONDS	\$	131.63
MELANIE TYACK	\$	13.50
KURT WILHELM	\$	47.25
MARY WILHELM	\$	20.25
TOTALS	\$	3,451.30

BOARD OF REGISTRARS:

VIRGINIA BOUTCHIE	\$	350.00
MARILYN BROWNING	\$	350.00
DAWN BURNHAM	\$	350.00
SALLY SOUCY	\$	350.00
TOTALS	\$	1,400.00

**EASTERN ESSEX DISTRICT
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES**

This department is charged under Chapter 115 Massachusetts General Laws with providing all manner of services to veterans and their dependents including widow(er)s. Principal workload under State law includes the administration of aid to veterans and dependents, which deals with the unpredictable variables of illness, unemployment, unemployability, labor disputes and the economy. Communities fund this program, which is subsequently 75% reimbursed the following fiscal year by the Commonwealth. This is a need based program and the department is required to conduct periodic comprehensive review of the cases to insure no substantive facts have changed, while working with the veteran to identify alternative or long-term solutions to individual circumstances. During the calendar year one Essex veteran and one widow were on this program. Under State law the department also assists qualified veterans to obtain bonuses, and qualified veterans, widows and parents to obtain State annuities, property tax abatements, and other benefits.

The Veterans' Services program also mandates extensive interaction within the federal community, principally with the Department of Veterans' Affairs. The Veterans' Service Officer (VSO) assists veterans and their dependents in filing for pensions, service connected injury/illness compensation, dependency indemnity compensation for survivors, VA healthcare enrollment, insurance claims, decedent claims, and many other issues. Federal benefits processed by this department are paid directly to those eligible to receive the assistance or entitlement. Federal VA dollars brought into this community exceed \$285,000 annually, with the current staff responsible for approximately \$62,000 paid to or saved by those assisted in Essex. Additionally, the department interacts within the federal community to correct military records, obtain needed documentation and insure veterans/dependents receive awards and recognition to which entitled. The VSO provided information, advice or assistance to 41 of the town's 231 *identified* veterans and 5 of the 32 *identified* veterans' widows in 2003.

The Director and the Assistant to the Director, Georgia Gadbois, advocate for veterans at the local, state and federal level, interact with elected and appointed officials on many issues, and work with local organizations in serving the community. This year the department also provided support and information assistance for National Guard and Reserves called to service in Iraq or Afghanistan and their families. The District sponsored a Korean War Commemorative ceremony in June in which 16 of the 173 honorees were Hamilton veterans. Special guests included Korean Consul General Jayson Park, Lieutenant Governor Kerry Healey, Senator Bruce Tarr, and Representative Tony Verga who was also honored as a Navy veteran during the Korean War.

The Eastern Essex District is composed of the Towns of Essex, Georgetown, Hamilton, Ipswich, Rowley, West Newbury and Wenham. A Board of Directors consisting of one selectman (or designee) from each town maintains oversight. Mr. Rolf Madsen is the Essex member of the Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted,
Terrance P. Hart, District Director

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