



ANNUAL REPORT FY 2018

TOWN OF CHESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Cover photographs by Samuel Mazzaferro of West Branch Aerial Photography.



TOWN OF CHESTER
MASSACHUSETTS



ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Town Officers

For the 2018 Fiscal Year

July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About Chester

Facts at a Glance.....	4
Welcome to Chester.....	5

General Government

Congressional Delegation.....	6
Elected Town Officials.....	7
Appointed Town Officials.....	8
Board of Selectmen.....	11

Finance

Board of Assessors.....	15
Town Collector.....	16
Treasurer.....	17
Town Accountant.....	23
Finance Committee.....	39

Health and Human Services

Council on Aging.....	40
Veterans Services.....	41
Board of Health.....	43

Planning and Historic

Planning Board.....	44
Historic Commission/Historical Society.....	45

Culture Recreation and Environment

Hamilton Memorial Library.....	46
Recreation Committee.....	47
Westfield Wild and Scenic River.....	48

Public Safety and Utilities

Police Department.....	50
Animal Control Officer / Inspector of Animals.....	51
Building Commissioner.....	52
Chester Municipal Electric Light Department.....	53

Town Records

Town Clerk.....	54
-----------------	----

FACTS AT A GLANCE



Settled	1760
Incorporated	1765 as Murrayfield 1783 as Chester
Location	Northwest corner of Hampden County
Latitude/Longitude	42°16'45"N 72°58'45"W
Elevation	601 ft. at Town Hall
Population	1265 (Annual Census)
Registered voters	924
Population density	36/mi. ² (low)
Area	37.2 mi. ² (36.6 land; 0.6 water)
Zip Code	01011
Form of Government	Selectboard Open Town Meeting
Tax Rate	\$19.80
Public Schools	Gateway Regional School District
Town Roads	60 miles
Public Library	Hamilton Memorial Library
State Forest	Chester/Blandford State Forest
Annual Town Meeting	2 nd Monday in June
Annual Town Election	1 st Saturday in May
Web Site	townofchester.net

WELCOME TO CHESTER

Chester is located in Hampden County, Massachusetts, and is considered part of the Springfield metropolitan district. Set on the eastern edge of the Berkshires, Chester makes up the northwest corner of Hampden County. It is bordered by Huntington on the east, Worthington and Middlefield on the north, Becket on the west, and Blandford on the south.



The town has a total area of 37.2 square miles which lie across an area of high ridges and deep valleys typical of the Berkshire hills. The highest point in Chester is 1781 ft. at Round Top Hill, which is also the highest point in Hampden County, and the fifth highest point in the state. The lowest point is 525 ft. at Littleville Lake in North Chester.

Originally an Indian hunting ground, the area was settled as part of the land grants of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, and was known as Township No 9. Settlement began around 1760. The area was substantially wilderness and settlers were attracted because it promised them homes at little cost aside from their own labor. Most were poor and brought little with them except great health and endurance, willing hands and indomitable energy. They were accustomed to hard work and to subsisting upon the bare necessities of life. They had no sawmills, no gristmills, no roads. They lived off the abundance of game, berries, and nuts in the forest, and the fish in the streams until they could better their condition.

In 1763, the Township was incorporated as the town of Murrayfield, and was part of Hampshire County. As early as December, 1775, action was taken with a view to changing the name of the town. There was a town in Hampshire county called Myrifiel (afterward incorporated under the name of Rowe). The similarity of the names caused great confusion in many ways and so the selectmen inserted an article in the warrant to see if the town will vote to change the name of the town. The town voted to change the name to Mount Asaph, but no further action was taken. In 1782, the town voted to petition the General Court to change the name of the town to Mountfair. At the town meeting on February 10, 1783, there was a reconsideration vote, and a vote passed that the town be called Fairfield. However, once the petition reached the General Court in Boston, the Court would not grant this name, and the name Chester was given instead.

Today's Chester is comprised of three distinct neighborhoods: North Chester, which includes the Dayville and Littleville areas; Chester Centre also known as Chester Hill, which runs along Skyline Trail; and Chester Factory Village which runs along U.S. Route 20. Each neighborhood has played its own prominent role in the history of the town.

Chester has an open town meeting form of government, led by a three-person Board of Selectmen. During Town Meeting, all of Chester's registered voters may vote on all matters including the salaries for elected officials, money appropriations to run the Town, and the Town's local statutes or by-laws.

Congressional Delegation

Federal Level

Elizabeth Warren, U.S. Senator

Springfield Office: 1550 Main St., Suite 406; Phone (413) 788-2690

Edward Markey, U.S. Senator

Springfield Office: 1550 Main St., 4th Floor; Phone (413) 785-4610

Richard Neal, Representative in Congress, 1st District of Massachusetts

Springfield Office: 300 State St., Suite 200; Phone (413) 785-0325

Pittsfield Office: 78 Center St. Phone: (413) 442-0946

State Level

State Senate

Adam Hinds, Senator, Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden District

Pittsfield Office: 100 North St., Suite 410; Phone (413)344-4561

Boston Office: 24 Beacon St.; Room 309; Phone (617) 722-1625

Representative in General Court

Natalie Blais, Representative, 1st Franklin District

State House: 24 Beacon St., Room B1, Boston, MA (617)722-2425

District Office: (413) 362-9453

Governor's Council

Mary Hurley, 8th District

ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

<u>Board of Selectmen</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Barbara Huntoon, chairperson	2021
John Baldasaro	2020
Rene Senecal	2019
<u>School Committee</u>	
Shirley Winer	2021
Martha Otterbeck	2020
Diane Dunn	2019
<u>Board of Assessors</u>	
Heather Hannigan, Chairperson	2021
Eugene Watters	2020
Joan Stalcup	2019
<u>Electric Light Commissioners</u>	
Deryck Savoy	2021
Duane Pease	2020
Terry Murphy	2019
<u>Board of Health</u>	
Morgan Jacquemin	2021
Norma Macdonald, Chairperson	2020
Vacancy	2019
<u>Library Trustees</u>	
John Foley	2021
Wilma Foley	2021
Terry Donovan	2020
Maryann Pease	2020
Mary Ann Sullivan	2019
Karen Savoy	2019
<u>Town Clerk</u>	
Susan Kucharski	2019
<u>Town Collector</u>	
Maryann Pease	2020
<u>Town Moderator</u>	
Richard Holzman	2019
<u>Treasurer</u>	
Cheryl Provost	2021

APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS

All officials are appointed by the Board of Selectmen unless otherwise noted and serve a one year term.

Animal Control Officer

Terry Donovan

Assessor's Office

Pamela Anderson, Principal

Arthur Lindberg, Assistant, to the Assessors

Laura Lafreniere, Clerk

Board of Registrars

Susan Kucharski, chair

Jerry Zebrowski

William Burnett

Thomas McFarland

Building Commissioner

Jason Fogue

Cemetery Commissioner

Melvin Hook

Conservation Commission

John VanHeynigan, chair

R. Duane Pease

Ben VanHeynigan

Council on Aging Director

Peggy Graveline

Council on Aging Advisory Board

Ann Daley, chair

Ellen Mary Colson

Wilma Foley

John Foley

Elaine Gilmore

Peggy Graveline

Susan Kucharski

Marge Laurie

Jean McCaul

Constable

Nunziatino Cardarelli

Cultural Council

Patricia Carlino, chair
Hollie Jacob
Susan Kucharski
Annette Lamountain
Diane Dunn

Economic Development Director

Jeanne LeClair

Electrical Inspector

John VanHeynigen

Emergency Management Director

Richard Small, Jr.

Finance Committee

Andy Myers, chair
Robert Daley
Johnathan G
Jason Forgue

Fire Chief

Richard Small, Jr.

Health Agent (appointed by Board of Health)

Dennis LaCourse

Highway Department Supervisor

John Baldasaro

Historical Commission

John Hultman, Chair
Janice Brown
Annette Lamountain
Fay Piergiovanni

Library Director

Hollie Jacob

Pioneer Valley Planning Commissioner

Richard Holzman
Lyle Snide, Alternate

Planning Board

Lyle Snide,
Richard Holzman
Michael Hickson
Colleen O'Conner
Harry Sanner

Plumbing & Gas Inspector

William Clark

Police Department

Daniel Ilnick, Chief

Recreation Committee

Jason Fogue
Kathy Engwer
Kathy Bodendorf

Town Accountant

Paula Beck

Town Administrator

Patricia Carlino

Town Clerk, Assistant (appointed by Town Clerk)

Lois Leonardo-Bell

Town Counsel

Thomas Mullen, P.C.

Veteran's Agent

Tom Gieryk

Water Commission / Zoning Board of Appeals

Board of Selectmen

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Since the late 17th century inception of the office of selectman in Massachusetts, the position has evolved beyond duties that once included care of the poor and deciding which potential new residents could be admitted into town. And since the incorporation of Chester in 1783, a selectman's duties have become more complex than our forefathers likely ever imagined. As with all elected and appointed offices in town, we are now responsible for the management of a multi-million-dollar corporation, the Town of Chester.

Similar to a typical corporation, we are held to standards set by laws of the state and the federal government. Often those standards are higher and more complicated than those regulating even the largest companies in business today. Ultimately the duty of our office, similar to the board of a large corporation, is to make decisions on behalf of and for the benefit of its shareholders. Our shareholders are you, the citizens of Chester. This is your corporation and by voting at elections and Annual Town Meeting, you are the final decision-makers.

In fiscal 2018, the Board of Selectmen continued to meet weekly for most of the year, switching to a twice-a-month schedule during two months in the winter and the summer. In addition to authorizing payments of the town's invoices through the process of signing warrants at the meetings, the Selectboard met with various citizens, vendors, other town officials, board members, and department heads to discuss myriad issues, ideas, suggestions, concerns, and complaints. Topics ran the gamut from literally A to Z - administration to zoning.

As the two biggest budget items, highway and schools commanded a large amount of discussion and decisions. Thanks to the efforts and collaboration between the Highway Superintendent, Town Administrator, and specifically the Assistant Administrator/Highway Administrator, the town received a million-dollar Mass Works Grant for the long-awaited East River Road reclamation and repaving. The job was put out to bid and Lane Construction was to begin the project later in 2018. The Selectboard commended and thanked those involved in making this a reality.

The Selectboard met frequently with the Highway Superintendent to be kept abreast of road and equipment issues. In addition to plowing Chester's 66 miles of roads, Highway tackled a number of projects including road-side mowing, road repair, pothole repair, and of course, preparation for the East River Road project. That said, the Selectboard took issue with some aspects of management of highway, including maintenance and repair of equipment, and to that end posted the appointed position in June. The Selectboard understands Highway is often a "thankless" position and we thank all members of Chester Highway for their work and hours they put in doing it.

For the Town's biggest budget component, the Gateway Regional School, this year brought unprecedented cooperation between the town, school management, and the School Committee. Members of the Selectboard, as well as Finance Committee Members attended and participated in virtually every School Committee meeting. All parties agreed, as did representative of other Gateway

towns, to mediation by the Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools (MARS). These meetings ushered in a new era of understanding where there had previously been an adversarial relationship. Everyone acknowledged on its current course, Gateway was headed on an unsustainable path. Everyone had a seat at the table; concerns and ideas were shared and valued and, in the end, a pilot program was developed: The Alternative Assessment. This method took away the constant ups and downs of the Statutory Assessment wherein each town's school budget was determined by an ever-fluctuating census of students, a process that made town budgeting increasingly difficult year after year. The Alternative Assessment basically assessed each town the same instead of basing budget on up and down enrollment where one town might get a "break" one year while another town might get "slammed" the same year only to see the roles reversed in the future. All six towns had to vote in favor of the Alternative Assessment and all did. And in a show of ultimate support, the voters of Chester passed an article authorizing a one-time payment of over \$40,000 to off-set the town of Russell's increase due to the new method. (An amount that would later be reduced.)

Selectboard members and the Town Administrator attended and participated in a number of meetings, conferences, and seminars throughout the year, including the proposed I90 interchange meetings and the Annual Massachusetts Municipal Association Convention in Boston.

Comcast continued their buildout of bringing cable and high speed internet toward the goal of 98% availability to the town. Unfortunately, Round Hill Road and Kinnebrook are excluded from the buildout, but the vast majority of town will be covered, a fact that increased the draw for potential homebuyers and homebuilders.

The Town voted to adopt the Stretch Code - a more energy efficient building code - which enabled Chester to apply for a grant under the Green Energies Act and made us an official Green Community. Chester was awarded a more than \$130,000 grant for improvements that will include major updates to Town Hall, solar panels on the Fire Station and Town Garage, and more. The Stretch Code will add to the cost of new construction, but the gap between that code and current building code continues to lessen without any potential grant monies. Chester voters wisely saw an opportunity and took it.

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) also continued to assist Chester with other grant money, including an IT grant for Town Hall. Town Hall's outdated computer equipment and dismal connectivity will be addressed, if not totally, at least largely by this grant. PVPC also took on oversight of an \$800,000 Community Block Grant that will replace the water lines and repave Hampden Street. The same grant included an engineering study for Prospect Street and Soisalo Road which began in the spring. PVPC also facilitated a grant to study the feasibility of improving the current Senior Center versus the option of building a new one. Thus far the study found out what we all knew: the current Senior Center is woefully inadequate and Chester's seniors are deserving of more. The study had not concluded by the end of the year and when it does it will hopefully offer options for design and funding for a new Senior Center.

The Hilltown Collaborative continued their mission of bringing our six Gateway towns together to work toward common goals and shared expenses. TSM Designs of Springfield was hired (through a grant

obtained by our Economic Development Director) to develop and implement a marketing and branding plan for the Gateway Hilltowns. Chester is the lead town for the Collaborative, the Selectboard, as well as other town business owners and citizens attended multiple brainstorming meetings with representatives from the five other towns. A logo and tagline were developed and have been marketed to area realtors and other relevant entities. Check out gatewayhilltowns.org for more information and to see our logo and tagline. The branding and marketing initiatives are vital to bring the missing component to our towns - proper growth which will bring more homebuyers/homebuilders and more business to build our tax base.

The November 2016 vote to legalize adult-use recreational marijuana brought several business proposals to Chester. Herbology Group, Inc., the medical marijuana business that initially planned to open in Chester, did not come to fruition due to the company taking on investors who wanted more space than Chester had. Since then, two more Host Agreements were signed and two more Community Outreach meetings were held. Despite Chester voters passing Massachusetts Question 4 in 2016 legalizing adult use marijuana, there was some opposition voiced at the last Community Outreach meeting. Hopefully concerns were allayed and Keystone Bluff is set to open a cannabis cultivation and manufacturing business in the future. The Selectboard reassured citizens the regulation of any cannabis (marijuana) business is subject to the stringent requirements of the Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission as well as the town. There are no plans for any retail cannabis establishments and the Planning Board will work on more comprehensive rules in FY 2019.

In late 2017, the Town Administrator informed the Selectboard she found monies from unused donation accounts. At a Special Town Meeting to decide what to do with the monies, a number of residents spoke up remembering one of the accounts was for the Recreation Committee from years ago and should be used for the same. A vote was taken and passed to put those funds in to a Recreation Committee account. The Rec Committee had been non-existent, but following this decision, a new Recreation Committee was formed. The Committee used much of the fund to completely revamp the Emery Street ballfield making it once again a vibrant, vital location for baseball, soccer, and ice skating. One resident called it the "Field of Dreams" and it truly is. The Selectboard extended our gratitude to the Recreation Committee and the multitude of volunteers who donated time and energy to make the Field a reality.

And in the interest of community spirit, the Selectboard decided to sponsor the first Annual Community Tree Lighting in December. The event was a success with about 100 attendees who watched the tree's lights spring to life, sang carols, and joined together for hot chocolate, coffee, and cookies at Town Hall after. The Selectboard thanked all who made this event a success - the Town Administrator, the Assistant Town Administrator, the Fire and Police Departments, and Chester Municipal Electric Light Department. It took a village and the sense of community was palpable.

We also began discussion with the Town of Blandford for the possible sharing of services, including Police Departments. One of the glaring realities of our towns is we can't continue to run our multi-million-dollar businesses by going it alone as we have in the past. Large brick and mortar businesses vacated the Hilltowns long ago, taking their tax dollars with them. Population continues to decline. School students leave for vocational education or school choice. We will always be the Town of

Chester, our own community, but to keep our community financially alive, we have to explore different ways of conducting business. We will continue to investigate and pursue valid options. We will continue to work for the benefit of every citizen who has chosen to make the Gem of the Valley their home.

We thank all Boards, Committees, and Departments and the individuals on them who continue to give so much time, energy, and expertise to the operation of the Town of Chester.

Please remember to vote on May 4, 2019 and to attend Annual Town Meeting on its new day and date, Monday, June 10, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Chester Board of Selectmen

John Baldasaro, Chairman

Barbara Pease Huntoon, Vice Chairman

Rene Senecal, Clerk

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

At this time, the Board of Assessors continues to do upgrades by conducting premise visits on a rotating schedule and have completed the annual revaluation mandated by the Department of Revenue using prior year sales.

The Assessors office is open from Monday through Wednesday from 9am - 3pm and the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month from 6pm-8pm. If you have any questions feel free to call the office at 354-6318 or you can email us at assessors@comcast.net. Property cards and our maps can be accessed on the town's website at www.townofchester.net.

The total value for real property and personal property in Chester is \$116,329,707 and the exempt value is \$12,008,500.

The Assessors office is also responsible for creating motor vehicle bills with information supplied from the Registry of Motor Vehicles.

Real Estate abatement applications must be submitted to the Assessors' office within 30 days of the mailing of the actual tax bill.

The Board of Assessors are requesting that voters continue to keep our elected Board of Assessors as elected, and not appointed by the Board of Selectmen at this year's Annual Town Election.

Board of Assessors

Heather Hannigan, Chairperson
Eugene Watters
Joan Stalcup

Principal Assessor

Pamela Anderson

Assistant to the Assessors

Arthur Lindberg

TOWN COLLECTOR

For the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018

Municipal Tax Collectors are public officers who have a duty to collect taxes assessed by a municipality. The Tax Collectors has no authority to adjust or abate taxes.

As a Statutory officer of the State of Massachusetts the Tax Collector is obligated to follow all of the State Statutes regarding tax collections. Including but not limited to, billing, due dates, interest on delinquent tax payments and tax title.

Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Bills seems to be confusing for some so here is a brief explanation.

Annually the Commonwealth of Massachusetts allows each city or town to collect a tax for the ownership of a motor vehicle. It is based on \$25.00 per \$1,000 valuation determined by the Registry of Motor Vehicles. The major portion of these excise tax bills are usually sent out in February of each year. If you change your vehicle you will receive another bill during the year, however adjustments can be made if plates are transferred or turned back into the Registry. To receive this adjustment, you must bring proof to the Assessors' Office.

By changing your address with your insurance agent this does not automatically change the information in the Registry system. It is up to every vehicle owner to verify that the information on their license and registration is accurate.

Motor Vehicle collection continues to be a large portion of the Tax Collectors job due to wrong information with the registry. When bills are not paid the Tax Collector continues to use Art Jones as the Deputy Collector and license and registration get mark for non-renewal. By allowing this to happen, tax payers can incur up to \$64.00 in fees on top of the amount due plus interest to the date of payment. This can add up to significant additional monies owed that are unnecessary.

Paying your taxes in a timely manner does help the Town of Chester save money. I once again want to thank those of you who consistently pay your taxes as due it doesn't go unnoticed.

For information on tax collection figures, please see the financial section of this report.

Mary Ann Pease
Town Collector

TREASURER

Report of the Treasurer 2018

BANK	PURPOSE	BALANCE
United Bank	Town Checking	29,070.89
Easthampton Savings Bank	Town Checking/Payroll	290,570.29
Easthampton Savings Bank	Town Checking/State Payments	53,814.08
Easthampton Savings Bank	Town Checking	303,639.47
Easthampton Savings Bank	CMELD Checking	201,296.83
Unibank	On Line Tax Payments	0.00
Unibank	On Line Tax Payments	0.00
Unibank	Town Checking	69,563.10
Unibank	CMELD On Line Payments	11,673.43
Blackrock/ISO	CMELD	142,662.14
Easthampton Savings Bank	CMELD Solar	41,074.95
United Bank	CMELD Depreciation	138,574.59
United Bank	Cemetery Reserv	45,576.42
United Bank	Cemetery UnReserv	57.29
Easthampton Savings Bank	CMELD MM	178,442.63
Unibank	Town Stabilization MM	398,487.59
United Bank	CMELD Depreciation	225,182.27
Easthampton Savings Bank	CMELD Stabilization	58,409.81
Easthampton Savings Bank	CMELD Depreciation	267,985.63

Balance June 30, 2018 2,456,081.41

Respectfully submitted
 Cheryl A. Provost
 Treasurer

Town of Chester**Trial Balance Report**From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

1010.10	General Cash	775,099.69	
1040.62	Cash - Municipal Light	605,134.23	
1040.63	Cash-Light Depreciation	631,812.07	
1040.64	CMPRI.D Petty Cash Advances	100.00	
1100.08	Personal Prop Taxes F2008		0.00
1100.10	Personal Prop Taxes F2010		0.00
1100.11	Personal Property Taxes 2011	189.19	
1100.12	Per.Perprotery Tax 2012		0.00
1100.13	Personal Property 2013	197.53	
1100.14	Personal Property 2014	583.71	
1100.15	Personal Property 2015	580.43	
1100.16	Personal Property 2016	1,229.94	
1100.17	Personal Property 2017	969.82	
1100.18	Personal Property 2018	4,019.45	
1200.00	Real Estate Taxes F2000	203.22	
1200.01	Real Estate Taxes F2001	169.94	
1200.02	Real Estate Taxes F2002	190.74	
1200.03	Real Estate Taxes F2003	198.02	
1200.04	Real Estate Taxes F2004	211.60	
1200.05	Real Estate Taxes F2005	1,957.46	
1200.06	Real Estate Taxes F2006	55.20	
1200.07	Real Estate Taxes F2007		-328.94
1200.08	Real Estate Taxes F2008		-1,410.73
1200.09	Real Estate Taxes F2009		-1,869.12
1200.10	Real Estate Taxes F2010		-1,277.47
1200.11	Real Estate Taxes F2011		-3,024.01
1200.12	Real Estate Taxes 2012		-5,275.79
1200.13	Real Estate Taxes 2013	340.91	
1200.14	Real Estate Taxes 2014	1,261.54	
1200.15	Real Estate 2015	30,378.50	
1200.16	Real Estate 2016	8,610.75	
1200.17	Real Estate 2017	53,769.01	
1200.18	Real Estate 2018	107,771.50	
1200.87	Real Estate Taxes F1987	65.30	
1200.88	Real Estate Taxes F1988	458.81	
1200.89	Real Estate Taxes F1989	4,801.44	
1200.90	Real Estate Taxes F1990	7,845.24	
1200.91	Real Estate Taxes F1991	14,464.59	

Town of Chester
Trial Balance Report

From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

1200.92	Rcal Estate Taxes F1992	14,549.34	
1200.93	Real Estate Taxes F1993	26,560.70	
1200.94	Real Estate Taxes F1994	12,376.92	
1200.95	Real Estate Taxes F1995	140.82	
1200.96	Rcal Estate Taxes F1996	1,144.24	
1200.97	Real Estate Taxes F1997	1,539.67	
1200.98	Real Estate Taxes F1998	871.66	
1200.99	Real Estate Taxes F1999	261.10	
1300.00	Motor Vehicle Taxes 2000	671.39	
1300.01	Motor Vehicle Ex F2001	1,979.52	
1300.02	Motor Vehicle Ex F2002	579.49	
1300.03	Motor Vehicle Ex F2003	693.96	
1300.04	Motor Vehicle Ex F2004	247.91	
1300.05	Motor Vehicle Ex F2005	240.27	
1300.06	Motor Vehicle Ex F2006	254.36	
1300.07	Motor Vehicle Ex F2007	242.52	
1300.08	Motor Vehicle Ex F2008	165.46	
1300.09	Motor Vehicle Ex F2009	718.55	
1300.10	Motor Vehicle Ex F2010	1,490.47	
1300.11	Motor Vehicle Excise 2011	653.78	
1300.12	Motor Vehicle Excise 2012	5,590.49	
1300.13	Motor Vehicle Excise 2013	543.14	
1300.14	Motor Vehicle Trailer 2014	718.03	
1300.15	Motor Vehicle 2015	1,191.79	
1300.16	Motor Vehicle 2016	1,904.75	
1300.17	Motor Vehicle Excise 2017	3,827.43	
1300.18	Motor Vehicle Excise 2018	31,551.83	
1300.19	Motor Vehicle Excise 2019		0.00
1300.90	Motor Vehicle Ex F1990	3,783.67	
1300.91	Motor Vehicle Ex F1991	3,114.94	
1300.92	Motor Vehicle Ex F1992	2,721.44	
1300.93	Motor Vehicle Ex F1993	1,417.62	
1300.94	Motor Vehicle Ex F1994	889.85	
1300.95	Motor Vehicle Ex F1995	2,321.90	
1300.96	Motor Vehicle Ex F1996	1,980.64	
1300.97	Motor Vehicle Ex F1997	505.25	
1300.98	Motor Vehicle Ex F1998	1,839.86	
1300.99	Motor Vehicle Ex F1999	2,434.77	

Town of Chester
Trial Balance Report

From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

1410.10	Farm Animal Excise		0.00
1412.00	Water Rates Receivable	60,544.40	
1414.00	Water Liens		-1,369.31
1450.00	Rollback Taxes Chap 61		-274.93
1562.00	Tax Titles	9,659.02	
1570.99	Tax Title Possessions	21,207.78	
1585.00	Sale of Real Estate		-7,500.00
1601.00	St. Aid Hwy - Chapt 90	98,802.79	
1630.62	CMELD Repts-Electricity	129,818.46	
1631.62	CMELD Repts-Other	61,143.09	
1632.62	CMELD Liens		-4,422.51
1650.00	Due from CMELD		-48.54
1652.00	Due from Comm. - Vet's Benefits	42,797.00	
1670.00	Subsequent Years		-52,235.00
1700.16	Revenue Fiscal Year 2016		0.00
1700.18	Revenue Fiscal Year 2018		-2,639,972.94
1800.00	Estimated Receipts		0.00
2005.00	P/R Insurance Withholding		-3,767.59
2006.00	P/R Cty Retirement W/hold		-1,299.16
2007.00	P/R Disability Withholdin		-377.73
2010.00	C.Support deductions		-138.35
2011.00	Sale of Timber Liabi.		-32,087.00
3052.00	Reimb TT Legal Fees		-1,454.29
3054.00	FireArm Permit Fees		-4,956.31
3055.00	TT Redemption Fees		-75.00
3057.00	State Pymts.-Electric Lt.		-43,186.24
3058.00	Deferred Revenue - Vets Benefits		-42,797.00
3072.00	Tailings		-3,477.71
3092.00	Recreation Donations		-633.18
3094.00	Town Clock Donations		-617.05
3095.00	Library Donations		-6.84
3097.00	Veterans' Mem'l. Gift		-200.00
3098.00	Composting Proj.Donations		-145.00
3100.00	Skateboard Park Donation		0.00
3102.00	Flag Donations		-116.50
3104.00	Town Hall Maint. Donation		-15,288.47
3105.00	Police Dept. Donations		-898.38
3106.00	Cemetery Donations		-115.00

Town of Chester**Trial Balance Report**From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

3107.00	COA Donations		-2,055.10
5002.00	Elections - State		-408.26
5008.00	State Aid to Libraries		-4,374.71
5009.00	Community Compact		-1.00
5010.00	Economic Development Grant		-5,798.08
5012.00	F&R MARKETING GRANT	15,100.00	
5036.00	Cultural Council Grant		-7,084.48
5036.01	Big Yellow School Bus Grant		-200.00
5042.00	Council on Aging - State	5,637.56	
5043.00	HVES/GRANT		0.00
5048.00	Block Grant		0.00
5049.00	PVPC/Septic Repair-Int.		-162.30
5055.11	FEDERAL		-7,606.00
5060.00	MEMA		-2,460.00
5509.00	Police Off-duty Pay		-3,662.81
5510.00	Cemetery Operation Fees		-10,598.84
5512.00	MIIA Grant		0.00
5513.00	Plumbing/Gas Insp. Fees		-785.00
5514.00	Wiring Inspector Fees		0.00
5520.00	Tax Collectors Fees		-1,400.08
5521.00	Town Clerk's Fees		-4,602.00
5527.00	Planning Board Consultant Fees		-12,397.34
5529.00	Insurance Revolving/proceeds old ja		-185.40
5530.00	Cemetery PC Fnd-Revolving		-3,500.70
5531.00	Insurance proceeds		0.00
6008.00	Air Pollution Control		0.00
6009.00	Energy Cons. Grant/Assmnt		-32,542.00
6011.00	R.M.V. N/R Surcharges		0.00
6012.00	Regional Planning Comm.		0.00
6013.00	Regional Transit Auth.		0.00
7002.00	Sale of Cemetery Lots		-21,770.00
7004.00	Sale/Land of Low Value		-7,601.70
8089.00	Overlay F1989		-4,801.44
8091.00	Overlay F1991		-472.67
8092.00	Overlay F1992		-7,569.80
8093.00	Overlay F1993		-17,907.08
8095.00	Overlay F1995		-140.82
8096.00	Overlay F1996		-1,182.99

Town of Chester

Trial Balance Report

From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

8097.00	Overlay F1997		-1,212.13
8098.00	Overlay F1998		-430.40
8099.00	Overlay F1999		-183.21
8100.00	Overlay F2000		-203.22
8101.00	Overlay F2001		-169.94
8103.00	Overlay F2003		-198.02
8104.00	Overlay F2004		-211.60
8105.00	Overlay F2005		-1,973.01
8106.00	Overlay F2006		-55.20
8109.00	Overlay F2009		-2,787.24
8110.00	Overlay F2010		-2,510.19
8111.00	Overlay F2011		-3,484.64
8112.00	Overlay 2012		-10,289.75
8113.00	Overlay 2013		-14,049.71
8115.00	Overlay 2015		-4,269.00
8117.00	Overlay 2017	2,626.80	
8118.00	Overlay 2018	1,983.53	
9001.00	CMELD Rsvd for Petty Cash		-100.00
9002.00	Tax Title Revenue		-9,659.02
9003.00	Revenue-Possessions/Tax		-21,207.78
9006.00	Motor Vehicle Excise Rev		-77,929.67
9022.00	Water Rates Revenue		-54,971.15
9026.00	Water Liens Revenue		-3,093.92
9050.00	Muni Light Deprec. Revenue		-399,326.11
9052.00	Municipal Light Revenue		-191,198.49
9053.00	CMELD Liens Revenue		-7,171.01
9107.00	Due to Water Dept.		-25.00
9950.00	Surplus Revenue		-931,114.23
9951.00	Free Cash		-63,414.85
9956.00	Water Available Surplus		-17,139.75
9958.00	Muni Light Avail. Surplus		-822,739.07
10114.00	Moderator	200.00	
10122.00	Selectmens Salaries	6,264.00	
10122.01	Town Administrator Salary	37,142.00	
10122.02	Administrative Asst	21,372.00	
10124.00	Selectmens Expenses	1,714.53	
10124.01	Town Counsel Services	5,001.66	
10124.02	General Office Expense	1,853.63	

Town of Chester
Trial Balance Report

From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

10124.03	Town Report	1,500.00	
10135.00	Accounting Salaries	14,874.03	
10135.01	Accounting Expenses	31.00	
10135.05	Accounting Software Support	2,500.00	
10135.07	Audit Expense		-14,000.00
10141.00	Assessors Salaries	4,349.00	
10141.01	Principal Assessor Salary	25,703.00	
10141.02	Assessors Clerk Salary	6,444.34	
10141.03	Assessors Expenses	3,015.21	
10141.05	Roy Bishop, Consulting		-4,400.00
10141.10	Assessors Software	3,645.00	
10145.00	Treasurer Salary	10,560.00	
10145.02	Treasurer Expenses	1,135.73	
10145.03	Land Court Fees	8,061.59	
10145.04	Bank Charges/Fees		-0.03
10145.06	Treasurer Software Support	2,100.00	
10145.07	Payroll Expenses	1,700.80	
10145.09	Treasurer's Training/School	45.00	
10146.00	Collector Salary	18,107.00	
10146.02	Collector Expenses	4,321.30	
10146.03	Tax Taking Expenses	839.84	
10146.06	Tax Collector's Software	2,062.50	
10161.00	Town Clerk Salary	6,290.00	
10161.01	Ass't Clerk Salary	1,538.00	
10161.02	Town Clerks Expenses	1,890.05	
10162.00	Elections	1,953.35	
10163.00	Registrations	567.02	
10171.00	Conservation Comm. Expens	116.55	
10175.00	Planning Board Expenses	176.12	
10176.00	Zoning Bd of Appeals Exp.	158.55	
20422.00	Highway Dept. Salaries	132,954.10	
20422.02	Snow Removal Salaries	24,134.39	
20422.03	Highway contract Services	14,985.41	
20422.22	Chapter 90		-98,802.79
20423.00	Town Garage Heat/Light	12,997.27	
20423.01	Uniforms	3,499.99	
20423.02	Supplies/Repairs	47,464.83	
20423.03	Stone/Gravel/Asphalt	73,490.67	

Town of Chester

Trial Balance Report

From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

20423.04	Gas/Oil/Diesel	21,503.33	
20423.05	Pest Control	750.00	
20423.07	Snow Removal Expenses	110,504.46	
20424.00	Street Lighting	6,921.20	
20427.01	Cemetery Laborer Salaries	9,877.73	
20427.02	Cemetery Expenses	1,000.65	
20428.01	Water Department Salaries	53,667.18	
20428.02	Water Dept. Expenses	40,202.78	
20428.11	Water Pump		0.00
20430.00	Tree Removal	10,000.00	
30001.00	Gateway Regional School	1,490,989.68	
30001.10	Vocational Education	99,017.00	
40491.00	Board of Health Salaries	3,818.68	
40491.01	Trans. Station Salary	5,382.66	
40491.02	Insp. of Animals Salary	836.00	
40491.03	Board of Health Expenses		-1,915.36
40491.04	Transfer Station Expenses	37,465.03	
40491.08	Animal Inspector Expenses	106.96	
40492.00	Historical Comm. Expenses	1,114.79	
40494.00	Council on Aging Expenses	1,000.00	
40494.01	COA Salary	9,742.00	
40494.02	Van Services	1,070.85	
40500.00	Library Salaries	22,697.50	
40500.01	Library Expenses	12,400.11	
40500.07	MassCat Automation	900.00	
40543.00	Veterans Agent Salary	5,634.00	
40543.01	Veterans Benefits/Service	40,970.37	
40543.02	Memorial Day	225.08	
40544.00	Recreation Comm. Expenses	251.15	
60110.00	Fire Chief Salary	4,775.00	
60110.01	Fire Expenses	34,205.80	
60110.14	Fire Turn Out Gear	6,190.00	
60210.00	Police Chief Salary	1,458.00	
60210.01	Police Officer Wages	25,173.00	
60210.04	Police Expenses	12,012.39	
60210.08	Police Blackboard Notification	2,867.13	
60210.10	PD Secretary Wages		-575.00
60210.11	Police Training		-4,149.00

Town of Chester**Trial Balance Report**From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

60210.16	Police/Computer Video	730.00	
60231.00	Ambulance Service	26,933.00	
60240.00	Building Inspector Salary	6,346.00	
60241.00	Building Inspector Expens	82.46	
60242.00	Inspector certifications	210.00	
60292.00	Animal Cntrl Off. Salary	1,255.00	
60292.01	Animal Control Expenses	624.48	
80720.00	Water Treatmnt Plant Loan	29,479.00	
80720.09	Water Treatment Plant Upgrade	21,571.00	
80721.01	Highway Truck	46,360.97	
80725.00	Transfer Station	25,030.50	
90100.00	Town Hall Custodian Salar	4,948.65	
90192.00	Town Hall Expenses	22,647.14	
90192.01	Town Hall Repairs	6,845.06	
90192.06	Town Hall Internet & Telephone	6,649.50	
90192.07	Website & IT	7,100.00	
90192.09	Desgin Services	1,875.00	
90193.00	Prop Casualty/Liab Insur.	21,601.65	
90193.03	Police/Fire Accident Insu	8,015.00	
90912.00	Workers Compensation Insu	6,397.57	
90914.00	Group Health Insurance	76,970.80	
90916.00	Medi/FICA	7,771.76	
90917.00	Unemployment Ins./SUTA	567.05	
90917.01	County Retirement	52,698.50	
90917.02	Bonds	1,180.00	
90919.00	Wood Landfill Test Costs	3,425.00	
96010.00	Muni Light Maint & Operat		0.00
96030.00	Muni Light Customer Depos		-5,638.67
600010.00	Trust Cash	444,121.29	
600020.00	Stab. Fund Equity-Unres.		-398,487.58
600022.00	Cemetery P.C.Equity-Unres		-57.29
600024.00	Cemetery P.C. Equity-Res.		-45,576.42
800001.00	Net Funded Fixed Debt/IDL	485,257.46	
800013.00	Water Dept. Loan		-357,658.46
800015.04	Highway Truck		-127,599.00
800015.10	Munciipal Purpose		0.00
800017.00	Landfill Cap 2003 Loan	44,000.00	
800017.10	Landfill Loan pt 2		-44,000.00

Town of Chester
Trial Balance Report
From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

800018.00	Water Loan		0.00
	Balance	<u>\$6,775,893.60</u>	<u>\$-6,775,893.60</u>

Town of Chester
Expense Report - B&H
 As of: 04/16/2019 02:30:21 PM
 From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

01 - GENERAL FUND		Previous	Original	Budget	Revised	Actual		
Account	Description	Year's Bal	Budget	Revisions	Budget	Expended	Balance	% Exp
10114.00	Moderator		200.00		200.00	200.00		100.00 %
10115.00	Finance Committee Expense		100.00	-100.00				100.00 %
10122.00	Selectmen Salaries		6,264.00		6,264.00	6,264.00		100.00 %
10122.01	Town Administrator Salary		37,142.00		37,142.00	37,142.00		100.00 %
10122.02	Administrative Asst		21,372.00		21,372.00	21,372.00		100.00 %
10124.00	Selectmen Expenses		2,000.00	-285.47	1,714.53	1,714.53		100.00 %
10124.01	Town Council Services		10,000.00	-4,998.34	5,001.66	5,001.66		100.00 %
10124.02	General Office Expense		3,000.00	-1,146.27	1,853.63	1,853.63		100.00 %
10124.03	Town Report		1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00		100.00 %
10135.00	Accounting Salaries		14,978.00		14,978.00	14,874.03	103.97	99.30 %
10135.01	Accounting Expenses		750.00	-719.00	31.00	31.00		100.00 %
10135.05	Accounting Software Support		2,500.00		2,500.00	2,500.00		100.00 %
10135.07	Audit Expense	14,000.00	14,000.00		28,000.00		28,000.00	0.00 %
10141.00	Assessors Salaries		4,349.00		4,349.00	4,349.00		100.00 %
10141.01	Principal Assessor Salary		25,703.00		25,703.00	25,703.00		100.00 %
10141.02	Assessors Clerk Salary		6,955.00	-510.66	6,444.34	6,444.34		100.00 %
10141.03	Assessors Expenses		4,000.00	-984.79	3,015.21	3,015.21		100.00 %
10141.04	Assessors Schooling		1,000.00	-1,000.00				100.00 %
10141.05	Roy Bishop, Consulting	4,400.00	1,500.00	-4,400.00	1,500.00		1,500.00	0.00 %
10141.06	Assessors Maps		3,075.00		3,075.00		3,075.00	0.00 %
10141.10	Assessors Software		4,500.00	-855.00	3,645.00	3,645.00		100.00 %
10145.00	Treasurer Salary		10,560.00		10,560.00	10,560.00		100.00 %
10145.02	Treasurer Expenses		2,000.00	-864.27	1,135.73	1,135.73		100.00 %
10145.03	Land Court Fees		10,000.00	-1,028.41	8,971.59	8,061.59		100.00 %
10145.04	Bank Charges/Fees		100.00	-100.00	-0.00	-0.00		100.00 %
10145.06	Treasurer Software Support		2,100.00		2,100.00	2,100.00		100.00 %
10145.07	Payroll Expenses		1,800.00	-99.20	1,700.80	1,700.80		100.00 %
10145.09	Treasurer's Training/School	800.00	800.00		1,600.00	845.00	755.00	52.81 %
10146.00	Collector Salary		18,107.00		18,107.00	18,107.00		100.00 %
10146.02	Collector Expenses		5,000.00	-678.70	4,321.30	4,321.30		100.00 %
10146.03	Tax Taking Expenses		2,000.00	-1,160.16	839.84	839.84		100.00 %
10146.06	Tax Collector's software		2,063.00	-0.50	2,062.50	2,062.50		100.00 %
10151.00	Town Clerk Salary		6,290.00		6,290.00	6,290.00		100.00 %
10151.01	Assl Clerk Salary		1,538.00		1,538.00	1,538.00		100.00 %
10151.02	Town Clerks Expenses		1,920.00	-29.95	1,890.05	1,890.05		100.00 %
10151.04	Dog Licensing Software 18 ATM							100.00 %
10151.06	ATM18 Spec. An. Election Software							100.00 %
10162.00	Elections		2,550.00	-696.65	1,853.35	1,953.55		100.00 %
10163.00	Registrations		600.00	-32.98	567.02	567.02		100.00 %
10171.00	Conservation Comm. Expense		300.00	-183.45	116.55	116.55		100.00 %
10172.00	Berkshire Regional Par. Group		600.00	-600.00				100.00 %
10175.00	Planning Board Expenses		200.00	-23.88	176.12	176.12		100.00 %
10176.00	Zoning Bd of Appeals Exp.		200.00	-41.45	158.55	158.55		100.00 %
Total	General Government	19,200.00	233,716.00	-21,449.26	231,466.74	198,032.77	33,433.97	
20423.00	Highway Dept. Salaries		126,342.00	6,612.10	132,954.10	132,954.10		100.00 %
20423.02	Snow Removal Salaries		21,224.00	2,910.39	24,134.39	24,134.39		100.00 %
20423.03	Highway contract Services		15,000.00	-14.59	14,985.41	14,985.41		100.00 %
20423.22	Chapter 90	108,484.32		234,161.00	342,645.32	9,681.53	332,963.79	2.82 %
20423.00	Town Garage Rent/Light		13,000.00	-2.73	12,997.27	12,997.27		100.00 %
20423.01	Uniforms		3,500.00	-0.01	3,499.99	3,499.99		100.00 %

Town of Chester
Expense Report - B&H
 As of: 04/16/2019 02:30:22 PM
 From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

01 - GENERAL FUND		Previous	Original	Budget	Revised	Actual		
Account	Description	Year's Bal	Budget	Revisions	Budget	Expended	Balance	% Exp
20423.02	Supplies/Repairs		47,500.00	-35.17	47,464.83	47,464.83		100.00 %
20423.03	Stone/Gravel/Asphalt		80,000.00	-1,012.07	78,987.93	73,490.67	5,197.26	93.04 %
20423.04	Gas/Oil/Diesel		21,500.00	3.33	21,503.33	21,503.33		100.00 %
20423.05	Insect Pest Control		1,000.00	-250.00	750.00	750.00		100.00 %
20423.07	Snow Removal Expenses		50,000.00	60,504.46	110,504.46	110,504.46		100.00 %
20424.00	Street Lighting		7,550.00	-628.80	6,921.20	6,921.20		100.00 %
20427.01	Cemetery Laborer Salaries		8,489.00	1,388.73	9,877.73	9,877.73		100.00 %
20427.02	Cemetery Expenses		1,000.00	0.65	1,000.65	1,000.65		100.00 %
20428.01	Water Department Salaries		59,195.00	-5,527.83	53,667.18	53,667.18		100.00 %
20428.02	Water Dept. Expenses	36,162.34	50,000.00		86,162.34	58,383.95	27,878.39	67.64 %
20428.11	Water Pump	10,000.00		-5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00		100.00 %
20430.00	Tree Removal		10,000.00		10,000.00	10,000.00		100.00 %
Total	Public Works & Facility	154,646.66	815,300.00	293,109.47	963,056.13	596,716.69	366,339.44	
30001.00	Gateway Regional School		1,464,958.00	26,031.68	1,490,989.68	1,490,989.68		100.00 %
30001.01	Gateway Assessment Stabilization							100.00 %
30001.10	Vocational Education		159,309.00	-60,292.00	99,017.00	99,017.00		100.00 %
Total	Education		1,624,267.00	-34,260.32	1,590,006.68	1,590,006.68		
40491.00	Board of Health Salaries		3,803.00	-81.32	3,818.68	3,818.68		100.00 %
40491.01	Trans. Station Salary		4,971.00	411.66	5,382.66	5,382.66		100.00 %
40491.02	Insp. of Animals Salary		836.00		836.00	836.00		100.00 %
40491.03	Board of Health Expenses	3,500.00	1,300.00	-1,315.36	3,484.64	1,584.64	1,900.00	45.47 %
40491.04	Transfer Station Expenses	3,729.42	31,000.00	1,800.32	39,329.74	39,329.74		100.00 %
40491.05	Becket Spring Water		216.00	-216.00				100.00 %
40491.08	Animal Inspector Expenses		400.00	-293.04	106.96	106.96		100.00 %
40493.00	Historical Comm. Expenses		1,600.00	-285.21	1,314.79	1,314.79		100.00 %
40493.00	Preservation Project		2,000.00		2,000.00		2,000.00	0.00 %
40494.00	Council on Aging Expenses	3,500.00	4,500.00	-4,500.00	4,500.00	4,500.00		100.00 %
40494.01	COA Salary		9,742.00		9,742.00	9,742.00		100.00 %
Total	Human Services	10,729.42	63,468.00	-3,681.95	70,515.47	66,615.47	3,900.00	
40500.00	Library Salaries		23,319.00	-621.50	22,697.50	22,697.50		100.00 %
40500.01	Library Expenses	921.05	12,400.00	0.11	13,321.16	13,321.16		100.00 %
40500.07	MassCat Automation		900.00		900.00	900.00		100.00 %
40543.00	Veterans Agent Salary		5,634.00		5,634.00	5,634.00		100.00 %
40543.01	Veterans Benefits/Service		45,000.00	-4,025.63	40,974.37	40,974.37		100.00 %
40543.02	Memorial Day		500.00	-274.92	225.08	225.08		100.00 %
40544.00	Recreation Comm. Expenses		250.00	1.15	251.15	251.15		100.00 %
40544.01	Ballfield Improvements ATM18							100.00 %
Total		921.05	88,003.00	-4,924.79	83,999.26	83,999.26		
40591.02	Van Services		3,500.00	-2,429.15	1,070.85	1,070.85		100.00 %
Total	Human Services		3,500.00	-2,429.15	1,070.85	1,070.85		
60110.00	Fire Chief Salary		4,775.00		4,775.00	4,775.00		100.00 %
60110.01	Fire Expenses		35,500.00	-1,294.20	34,205.80	34,205.80		100.00 %
60110.02	Civil Defense		1,000.00	-1,000.00				100.00 %
60110.03	Fire Dept. Wages		1,338.00	-1,538.00				100.00 %
60110.14	Fire Turn Out Gear		7,000.00	-810.00	6,190.00	6,190.00		100.00 %
Total	Public Safety		49,813.00	-4,642.20	45,170.80	45,170.80		

Town of Chester
Expense Report - B&H
As of: 04/16/2019 02:30:23 PM
From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

01 - GENERAL FUND		Previous	Original	Budget	Revised	Actual		
Account	Description	Year's Bal	Budget	Revisions	Budget	Expended	Balance	% Exp
60210.00	Police Chief Salary		2,456.00	-998.00	1,458.00	1,458.00		100.00 %
60210.01	Police Officer Wages		36,080.00	-10,907.00	25,173.00	25,173.00		100.00 %
60210.02	Constable Salary		125.00	-125.00				100.00 %
60210.04	Police Expense		14,500.00	-2,487.61	12,012.39	12,012.39		100.00 %
60210.08	Police Blackboard Notification		3,000.00	-132.87	2,867.13	2,867.13		100.00 %
60210.10	PD Secretary Wages	575.00	575.00	-1,350.00				100.00 %
60210.11	Police Training	5,000.00	3,600.00	-7,549.00	851.00	851.00		100.00 %
60210.16	Police/Computer Video		1,500.00	-370.00	730.00	730.00		100.00 %
60231.00	Ambulance Service		26,167.00	766.00	26,933.00	26,933.00		100.00 %
60231.01	Ambulance Fund		766.00	-766.00				100.00 %
60240.00	Building Inspector Salary		6,345.00		6,345.00	6,345.00		100.00 %
60241.00	Building Inspector Expens		1,000.00	-917.34	82.46	82.46		100.00 %
60342.00	Inspector certifications		500.00	-290.00	210.00	210.00		100.00 %
60292.00	Animal Control Off. Salary		1,255.00		1,255.00	1,255.00		100.00 %
60292.01	Animal Control Expenses		400.00	224.48	624.48	624.48		100.00 %
Total	Public Safety	5,575.00	98,270.00	-25,302.54	78,542.46	78,542.46		
80720.00	Water Treatment Plant Loan		29,479.00		29,479.00	29,479.00		100.00 %
80720.09	Water Treatment Plant Upgrade		21,571.00		21,571.00	21,571.00		100.00 %
80721.01	Highway Truck		46,360.97		46,360.97	46,360.97		100.00 %
80725.00	Transfer Station		25,030.50		25,030.50	25,030.50		100.00 %
80752.00	Int. Short-term Debt		1,000.00	-1,000.00				100.00 %
Total	Debt		123,441.47	-1,000.00	122,441.47	122,441.47		
90100.00	Town Hall Custodian Salar		4,321.00	627.65	4,948.65	4,948.65		100.00 %
90192.00	Town Hall Expenses		15,200.00	7,447.14	22,647.14	22,647.14		100.00 %
90192.01	Town Hall Repairs		8,000.00	-1,154.94	6,845.06	6,845.06		100.00 %
90192.06	Town Hall Internet & Telephone		6,500.00	149.50	6,649.50	6,649.50		100.00 %
90192.07	Website & IT		7,500.00	-400.00	7,100.00	7,100.00		100.00 %
90192.08	Engineering & surveying		2,500.00		2,500.00		2,500.00	0.00 %
90192.09	Design Services			20,775.81	20,775.81	1,875.00	18,900.81	9.02 %
90192.10	Town Tree ATMIS							100.00 %
90192.00	Prop Casualty/Liab Insur		25,000.00	-3,398.38	21,601.62	21,601.62		100.00 %
90192.03	Police/Fire Accident Insu		8,000.00	15.00	8,015.00	8,015.00		100.00 %
Total	Unclassified		77,021.00	24,061.81	101,082.81	79,682.00	21,400.81	
90912.00	Workers Compensation Insu		3,000.00	3,397.57	6,397.57	6,397.57		100.00 %
90914.00	Group Health Insurance		96,048.00	-13,077.20	76,970.80	66,370.76	10,600.04	86.22 %
90916.00	Medi/FICA		7,100.00	671.76	7,771.76	7,771.76		100.00 %
90917.00	Unemployment Ins./SICA		2,000.00	-1,432.95	567.05	567.05		100.00 %
90917.01	County Retirement		54,000.00	-1,301.50	52,698.50	52,698.50		100.00 %
90917.02	Bonds		1,000.00	180.00	1,180.00	1,180.00		100.00 %
90919.00	Wood Landfill Test Costs		3,500.00	-75.00	3,425.00	3,425.00		100.00 %
90925.00	Reserve Account		2,500.00	-2,500.00				100.00 %
Total	Unclassified		163,148.00	-14,137.32	149,010.68	138,410.64	10,600.04	
95010.00	Muni Light Maint & Operat					1,218,201.95	-1,218,201.95	100.00 %
95060.00	Muni Light Customer Depos	4,137.50			4,137.50	-1,501.17	5,638.67	-36.28 %
Total	Municipal Light	4,137.50			4,137.50	1,216,700.78	-1,212,563.28	
Total Fund 01		195,209.63	3,039,947.47	205,343.75	3,440,500.85	4,217,389.87	-776,889.02	

Town of Chester
Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS ASSETS
From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

ASSETS

CASH	Assets	Liabilities
General Cash	779,635.32	
Cash - Municipal Light	600,598.60	
Cash-Light Depreciation	631,812.07	
CMELD Petty-Cash Advances	100.00	
TOTAL FOR CASH		2,012,145.99

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Personal Property Taxes 2011	189.19	
Personal Property 2013	197.53	
Personal Property 2014	583.71	
Personal Property 2015	580.43	
Personal Property 2017	969.82	
Personal Property 2018	4,019.45	
TOTAL FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES		6,540.13

REAL ESTATE TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Real Estate Taxes F2000	203.22	
Real Estate Taxes F2001	169.94	
Real Estate Taxes F2002	190.74	
Real Estate Taxes F2003	198.02	
Real Estate Taxes F2004	211.60	
Real Estate Taxes F2005	1,957.46	
Real Estate Taxes F2006	55.20	
Real Estate Taxes 2013	340.91	
Real Estate Taxes 2014	1,261.54	
Real Estate 2015	30,378.50	
Real Estate 2016	8,610.75	
Real Estate 2017	53,769.01	
Real Estate 2018	107,771.50	
Real Estate Taxes F1987	65.30	
Real Estate Taxes F1988	458.81	
Real Estate Taxes F1989	4,801.44	
Real Estate Taxes F1990	7,845.24	
Real Estate Taxes F1991	14,464.59	
Real Estate Taxes F1992	14,549.34	
Real Estate Taxes F1993	26,560.70	
Real Estate Taxes F1994	12,376.92	
Real Estate Taxes F1995	140.82	
Real Estate Taxes F1996	1,144.24	
Real Estate Taxes F1997	1,539.67	
Real Estate Taxes F1998	871.66	
Real Estate Taxes F1999	261.10	
TOTAL FOR REAL ESTATE TAXES		290,198.22

MOTOR VEHICLE EX TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Motor Vehicle Taxes 2000	671.39	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2001	1,979.52	

Town of Chester
Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS ASSETS
From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

MOTOR VEHICLE EX TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Motor Vehicle Ex F2002	579.49	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2003	693.96	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2004	247.91	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2005	240.27	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2006	254.36	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2007	242.52	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2008	165.46	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2009	718.55	
Motor Vehicle Ex F2010	1,490.47	
Motor Vehicle Excise 2011	653.78	
Motor Vehicle Excise 2012	5,590.49	
Motor Vehicle Excise 2013	543.14	
Motor Vehicle Trailer 2011	718.03	
Motor Vehicle 2015	1,191.79	
Motor Vehicle 2016	1,904.75	
Motor Vehicle Excise 2017	3,827.43	
Motor Vehicle Excise 2018	31,551.83	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1990	3,783.67	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1991	3,114.94	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1992	2,721.44	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1993	1,417.62	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1994	889.85	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1995	2,321.90	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1996	1,980.64	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1997	505.25	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1998	1,839.86	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1999	2,434.77	
TOTAL FOR MOTOR VEHICLE EX TAXES		74,275.08

WATER RATES	Assets	Liabilities
Water Rates Receivable	60,544.40	
TOTAL FOR WATER RATES		60,544.40

TAX TITLES & POSSESSIONS	Assets	Liabilities
Tax Titles	9,659.02	
Tax Title Possessions	21,207.78	
TOTAL FOR TAX TITLES & POSSESSIONS		30,866.80

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	Assets	Liabilities
St. Aid Hwy - Chapt 90	332,963.79	
CMELD Repts-Electricity	129,818.46	
CMELD Repts-Other	61,143.09	
Due from Comm. - Vet's Benefits	42,797.00	
TOTAL FOR ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE		566,722.34

REVENUE	Assets	Liabilities
Revenue Fiscal Year 2018	283,134.72	

Town of Chester
Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS ASSETS
From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

TOTAL FOR REVENUE 283,134.72

GRANTS	Assets	Liabilities
F&R MARKETING GRANT	15,100.00	
Council on Aging - State	5,637.56	
TOTAL FOR GRANTS		<u>20,737.56</u>

OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE	Assets	Liabilities
Overlay 2017	2,626.80	
Overlay 2018	1,983.53	
TOTAL FOR OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE		<u>4,610.33</u>

SURPLUS REVENUE	Assets	Liabilities
Reserved for Appt	24,945.88	
TOTAL FOR SURPLUS REVENUE		<u>24,945.88</u>

TOTAL ASSETS 3,374,721.45

Town of Chester
Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS LIABILITIES
From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

LIABILITIES

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Personal Property 2016		1,848.16
TOTAL FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES		1,848.16

REAL ESTATE TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Real Estate Taxes F2007		328.94
Real Estate Taxes F2008		1,410.73
Real Estate Taxes F2009		1,869.12
Real Estate Taxes F2010		1,277.47
Real Estate Taxes F2011		3,024.01
Real Estate Taxes 2012		5,275.79
TOTAL FOR REAL ESTATE TAXES		13,186.06

WATER RATES	Assets	Liabilities
Water Liens		1,369.31
Rollback Taxes Chap 61		274.93
TOTAL FOR WATER RATES		1,644.24

TAX TITLES & POSSESSIONS	Assets	Liabilities
Sale of Real Estate		7,500.00
TOTAL FOR TAX TITLES & POSSESSIONS		7,500.00

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	Assets	Liabilities
CMELD Liens		4,422.51
Due from CMELD		48.54
Subsequent Years		52,235.00
TOTAL FOR ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE		56,706.05

P/R TAX	Assets	Liabilities
P/R Insurance Withholding		3,767.59
P/R City Retirement Withold		1,299.16
P/R Disability Withholdin		377.73
C.Support deductions		138.35
Sale of Timber Liabi.		32,087.00
TOTAL FOR P/R TAX		37,669.83

AGENCY	Assets	Liabilities
Reimb TT Legal Fees		1,454.29
Fire/Arm Permit Fees		4,956.31
TT Redemption Fees		75.00
State Pymts.-Electric Lt.		43,186.24
Deferred Revenue - Vets Benefits		42,797.00
Tailings		3,477.71
Recreation Donations		633.18

Town of Chester
Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS LIABILITIES
From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

AGENCY	Assets	Liabilities
Town Clock Donations		617.05
Library Donations		6.84
Veterans' Mem'l. Gift		200.00
Composing Proj. Donations		145.00
TOTAL FOR AGENCY		97,548.62

TAILINGS	Assets	Liabilities
Flag Donations		116.50
Police Dept. Donations		898.38
Cemetery Donations		115.00
COA Donations		2,055.10
TOTAL FOR TAILINGS		3,184.98

GRANTS	Assets	Liabilities
Elections - State		408.26
State Aid to Libraries		4,374.71
Community Compact		1.00
Economic Development Grant		5,798.08
Cultural Council Grant		7,084.48
Big Yellow School Bus Grant		200.00
PVPC/Septic Repair-Int.		162.30
FEDERAL		7,606.00
MEMA		2,460.00
TOTAL FOR GRANTS		28,094.83

REVOLVING	Assets	Liabilities
Police Off-duty Pay		3,662.81
Cemetery Operation Fees		10,598.84
Plumbing/Gas Insp. Fees		785.00
Tax Collectors Fees		1,400.08
Town Clerk's Fees		4,602.00
Insurance Revolving/proceeds old ja		185.40
Cemetery PC Pnd-Revolving		3,500.70
TOTAL FOR REVOLVING		24,734.83

OVER-UNDER ESTIMATES	Assets	Liabilities
Energy Cons. Grant/Assmt		32,542.00
TOTAL FOR OVER-UNDER ESTIMATES		32,542.00

RCPTS RESVRD FOR APPROP	Assets	Liabilities
Sale of Cemetery Lots		21,770.00
Sale/Land of Low Value		7,601.70
TOTAL FOR RCPTS RESVRD FOR APPROP		29,371.70

Town of Chester
Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS LIABILITIES
From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE	Assets	Liabilities
Overlay F1989		4,801.44
Overlay F1991		472.67
Overlay F1992		7,569.80
Overlay F1993		17,907.08
Overlay F1995		140.82
Overlay F1996		1,182.99
Overlay F1997		1,212.13
Overlay F1998		430.40
Overlay F1999		183.21
Overlay F2000		203.22
Overlay F2001		169.94
Overlay F2003		198.03
Overlay F2004		211.60
Overlay F2005		1,973.01
Overlay F2006		55.20
Overlay F2009		2,787.24
Overlay F2010		2,510.19
Overlay F2011		3,484.64
Overlay 2012		10,289.75
Overlay 2013		14,049.71
Overlay 2015		4,269.00
TOTAL FOR OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE		74,102.06

REVENUE RESERVED UNTIL COL	Assets	Liabilities
CMLLD Rsvd for Petty Cash		100.00
Tax Title Revenue		9,659.02
Revenue-Possessions Tax		21,207.78
Motor Vehicle Excise Rev		77,929.67
Water Rates Revenue		54,971.15
Water Liens Revenue		3,093.92
Muni Light Deprac. Revenue		399,326.11
Municipal Light Revenue		191,198.49
CMLLD Liens Revenue		7,171.01
TOTAL FOR REVENUE RESERVED UNTIL COL		764,657.15

Warrants Payable	Assets	Liabilities
Due to Water Dept		25.00
TOTAL FOR Warrants Payable		25.00

SURPLUS REVENUE	Assets	Liabilities
Surplus Revenue		931,114.23
Water Available Surplus		17,139.75
Muni Light Avail. Surplus		822,739.07
TOTAL FOR SURPLUS REVENUE		1,770,993.05

APPROPRIATIONS BALANCES	Assets	Liabilities
Accounting Salaries		103.97

Town of Chester
Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS LIABILITIES
From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

APPROPRIATIONS BALANCES	Assets	Liabilities
Audit Expense		28,000.00
Roy Bishop, Consulting		1,500.00
Assessors Maps		3,075.00
Treasurer's Training/School		755.00
Chapter 90		332,963.79
Stone/Gravel/Asphalt		5,497.26
Water Dept. Expenses		27,878.39
Board of Health Expenses		1,900.00
Historical Comm. Expenses		200.00
Preservation Project Yr 2		2,000.00
Engineering & surveying		2,500.00
Design Services		18,900.81
Muni Light Customer Depos		5,638.67
TOTAL FOR APPROPRIATIONS BALANCES		<u>430,912.89</u>
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>3,374,721.45</u>

Town of Chester
Balance Sheet TRUST FUNDS ACCOUNTS
From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

TRUST FUNDS	Assets	Liabilities
Trust Cash	444,121.29	
Stab. Fund Equity-Unres.		398,487.58
Cemetery P.C. Equity-Unres.		57.29
Cemetery P.C. Equity-Res.		45,576.42
TOTAL FOR TRUST FUNDS	444,121.29	444,121.29

Town of Chester
Balance Sheet DEBT BALANCE ACCOUNTS
From 07/01/2017 to 06/30/2018

LONG TERM DEBT	Assets	Liabilities
Net Funded Fixed Debt/DFL	485,257.46	
Landfill Cap 2003 Loan	44,000.00	
Water Dept. Loan		357,658.46
Highway Truck		127,599.00
Landfill Loan pt 2		44,000.00
TOTAL FOR LONG TERM DEBT	529,257.46	529,257.46

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Chester Finance Committee met on 3 Saturdays in February to review and discuss Budget Requests from Town Department Officials.

The discussions were constructive and insightful, and the Finance Committee would like to thank all who participated.

The goal of the Finance Committee is to present a recommended FY2020 Budget to the Selectboard, with an increase over last year of no more than 2.5%.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Myers, Chair

Bob Daley

Jason Forgue

Jonathan Glionna

It was not until April, 1770, that the town voted for the support of schools. The first budget was for £12. That is the equivalent of \$2,297.72 in today's currency.

COUNCIL ON AGING

The Council on Aging (COA) in collaboration with the Southern Hilltowns Council on Aging Consortium (SHCOAC) serves local residents who have reached 60 years of age, and older, as well as the families and caregivers of those seniors. The Chester COA continues to provide programs such as: Community Dining Center, now completing its second year of operation, weekly movies, knitting service group, and Mahjong, monthly informative newsletter, Pot Luck Luncheons, Brown Bag disbursements, quarterly Foot Clinic, Medical Equipment loans, as needed, and other special events as occasions arise (Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Volunteer Recognition, Hot Dog Festival, Ice Cream Social, Halloween Party, Veterans Appreciation, and Christmas Party) as well other activities in which the seniors show an interest (town parades, day trips, summer concerts, etc.) These programs are run by a part-time paid director (12 hrs./week) and many dedicated volunteers giving of their time and talents to keep the COA running smoothly. We continue to provide these programs as freely as possible so that seniors may thrive and remain as active and independent members of our community. We look forward to exploring new ideas to serve the seniors in Chester.

The SHCOAC has taken on the task of much needed "outreach" to our seniors in the community providing Application Assistance, Benefits Check-up screenings, SHINE Counseling, Circuit Breaker Tax Assistance, Housing and Transportation issues, and a whole host of other needed services our area seniors are seeking.

The COA saw a change in leadership this past year as one director stepped down and a new one took her place but is determined to maintain the many excellent programs that have been instituted over the years. It also continues to struggle with limited space to run these programs as the senior population continues to grow. It is our hope that this issue will be resolved in the near future.

Chester lost two of our oldest senior citizens in the last year or so, Aldo Bizzozzero (a military veteran) and Eleanor Laurent. Both were lifelong members of Chester and active members of the COA in their senior years, participating in programs of interest to them. We miss them and what they brought to the organization.

As the COA continues to grow and take on new initiatives, we will be seeking new volunteers to help in our efforts. Contact the COA if you are interested in filling this role. I appreciate all of our current, dedicated volunteers who have provided numerous hours to support the on-going programs of our organization, whether it be serving at the weekly meal site, driving seniors to doctor's appointments, sending a card to a senior on their birthday or when they are ill, helping to set-up/break down and decorate the community room for an upcoming event, or managing the foot clinic. We could not do this alone and your continued efforts have made this possible. Let's keep up the good work.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Graveline, COA Director

Veterans Services

Over the past year we have had some real challenges and have accomplished plenty. We continued to work with the Massachusetts Interagency Council on Housing and Homelessness on the implementation of the Integrated Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness Among Veterans, identifying veterans experiencing homelessness, and developing appropriate permanent housing models for them, i.e. Soldier On's Gordon H Mansfield veterans community in Leeds.

In our role at the Hampshire County Housing Court in Hadley on a weekly basis to address the needs of veterans who are at risk of homelessness, we prevented three veterans and their families from falling into homelessness. Two of the cases were resolved by connecting the families with the VA HUD/VASH (VA supportive housing) program in order to get a voucher. The voucher allows the veteran to pay 30% of their family income and to be provided with a case manager to assist with ongoing challenges. The third veteran's case was resolved by providing one-time rental arrearages.

The Department of Veterans' Services has continued its participation in all of the above programs in order to continue striving for our goal to end veterans' homelessness. The Three County Continuum of Care is continuing its work with the veteran "by name list" even as we go through changes in the collaborative agency that houses the Continuum of Care from the Hilltown CDC to Community Action of the Pioneer Valley. We look forward to working with this new partner that many feel is a very good match with the mission and the current activities and priorities of Community Action of the Pioneer Valley. Our department also is at the table with the town of Amherst homelessness committee led by the Department of Public Health and the Amherst housing trust, identifying veteran guests at Craig's Place or those living in encampments within the town limits and assisting them to permanent housing.

Our district wide objectives for the coming year are for one, to significantly increase our outreach efforts in low-income housing developments in our towns' Housing Authority properties to ensure we haven't missed residents eligible for our benefits and services. It is estimated that we should be regularly serving 1 veteran or their dependent in the community for every 1000 citizens. We meet that standard in many of our communities but not all and we hope to reach that goal district wide in the coming year. Secondly we are planning to become a SNAP Outreach Partner in order to more directly assist Veterans and families access to this federal program. Currently, veterans and their families either need to go to Holyoke or Greenfield to a DTA office for in person applications. We plan to assist our clientele with the ability to do it right in any of the offices that we are working. We plan to begin in the spring or early summer of 2019.

A few of the more notable events that we supported in the small towns in the district this year include, Purple Heart ceremonies, Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies, and the Cummington Fair. The Town of Middlefield and the Town of Worthington both became Purple Heart Communities this year. The Middlefield ceremony took place on June 23rd at Bell Cemetery. A police escorted convoy traveled from the Springfield Vet Center to Bell Cemetery to honor the grave of Revolutionary soldier, Sgt. Elijah Churchill. Sgt. Churchill was the first recipient of the Badge of Military Merit awarded by Gen. George Washington. On November 12th, The Worthington COA was gracious enough to host the

Worthington Purple Heart ceremony at their annual potluck luncheon. The District Director, Steve Connor, was pleased to present the proclamation for the town.

On Veteran's Day, we celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the end of WWI. A ceremony was held at the Williamsburg Veterans' War Memorial. As part of the ceremony we participated in a national tolling of the bells, referred to as, "The Bells of Peace". Roy Beals tolled the bell in remembrance of those who served in WWI. Our guest speaker was Haydenville native, Bethany Ouimet. She spoke of her father, Carl Hemenway's, service with the 104th Infantry Regiment during WWI.

As usual, we set up a veterans outreach booth at the Cummington Fair. The fair has always been a successful forum to provide information to veterans' and their families. We work with representatives from other veterans' organizations such as, the VA, the Vet Center, employment service reps. and education reps. As to be expected, VA benefits and services were the most common topic of discussion. This year was particularly successful in terms of helping veteran's sign up for VA Health benefits right on the spot. We are looking forward to continued success and productivity in the months to come.

One of the primary objectives of Central Hampshire Veterans' Services is to administer state veterans' benefits in accordance with M.G.L. CH 115. In CY 2018, the Town of Chester helped four veterans and their dependents with needs based financial assistance. The total amount of benefits issued by the town was \$36,225.38. The town received a reimbursement of \$27,169.04 from the state for benefits issued.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Connor
Hampshire Veterans Services

THANK YOU VETERANS



BOARD OF HEALTH

The Chester Board of Health is an elected position consisting of three members whose terms are staggered.

The Board of Health hired an agent to witness perc test and septic installations. We hired Dennis LaCourse. The Board also hired an agent to help with housing inspections. We hired Calvin Jopru. These agents work on an as needed basis and are paid through fees collected from the homeowner, realtor or contractor. All board members and agents have met the Commonwealth requirements to perform their duties.

The Board of Health meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. You may contact the office at 354 7781 or email Chester health @ comcast.net.

The Transfer Station is open Wednesday and Saturday. You may purchase bag and vehicle stickers there. There is opportunity to dispose of various items for a fee as well as recycling for which there is no charge.

The Chester Board of Health continues to issue permits for food service operations, well installation, septic work, and any other needed permits. The Board of Health issued the following permits:

3 Installer's permits	1 Family Campground permit
4 Pumper/Hauler permits	1 Trailer Park permit
3 Disposal Works permits	8 Temporary Food Vendor permits
6 Year Round Food Establishment permits	1 Commercial Kitchen permit

Respectfully submitted,
Norma MacDonald, Chair

PLANNING BOARD

The following is a summary of the Planning Board activities for CY 2018:

1. Planning Board personnel
 - a. Board membership status (as of February 2018): 5 active board members: Richard Holzman, Lyle Snide (Chairman), Colleen O'Connor, Harry Sanner (Clerk), and Mike Hickson
2. Special Permits/permits/approvals granted
 - a. An Approval Not Required Under the Subdivision Bylaw (ANR) request was endorsed to subdivide a parcel owned by Preston Webb on Campbell Road.
 - b. An Approval Not Required Under the Subdivision Bylaw (ANR) request was endorsed to subdivide a parcel owned by Albert Holland on Crane Road.
 - c. An Approval Not Required Under the Subdivision Bylaw (ANR) request was endorsed to subdivide a parcel owned by Goss Road Estates on Goss Hill Road.
3. Special Permits/permits/approvals denied
 - a. None.
4. Other
 - a. A proposed bylaw amendment to the ' Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installation' bylaw and a proposed bylaw, 'Public Consumption of Marijuana or Tetrahydrocannabinol' were approved by the Town.

Submitted,

Lyle Snide
Planning Board Chairman

HISTORICAL COMMISSION CHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Local Historical Commissions are the official agents of the Municipal Government responsible for the community-wide preservation and planning. They are advisors to the Board of Selectmen.

Local Historical Societies are private organizations concerned with the preservation of local histories through records, collections and properties.

We are pleased to announce that work on the Chester History Museum is progressing and the majority of the structural work was completed by Stevensville Corp. Carpenters and Engineers. First floor interior flooring was installed and interior painting, finishing, and setting up displays, was supplied by Society volunteers. An "Open House" was held, with more than 100 visitors attending. The Phase 2 part of the project, which includes redesigning the first floor restroom, front sill work, and completion of the second floor hall and adjoining rooms, with handicap access, is in the planning stages, with assistance from Architect Jeffery Penn.

Along with our Afghan raffle and Tee Shirt sale, our two annual fundraisers, the Snowflake Festival, and our Penny Social were very successful in raising money to continue our work on the Museum.

The "Old Chester Jail", across the street from the new museum, continues to be our research area, and has been visited many times by people researching family history and genealogy. Our work on the jail included refurbishing of the grilles on the windows and painting of most of the trim.

We also hosted a visit from the Chester Elementary School to both the jail and the museum and assisted with the planning and implementation of the Memorial Day Services.

We wish to thank all who continue to support our efforts to preserve our "Gem of the Valley's" history.

John Hultman
President

HAMILTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

This past year was a productive year for the library. We have had many new families signing up for cards as well as making use of our computers and WIFI. We always have the latest best sellers and movies and our goal is to continue to try and meet the needs of the patrons and community.

I am currently in the process of getting my last Basic Library Technique certification necessary to help fulfill the role of Director. We also will be changing over to new library cards which work with the new library cataloguing system we have been working hard on.

The Friends of the Hamilton Memorial Library continue to work closely with the librarian throughout the year to plan library programs and fundraisers. They held their annual book and bake sale at the Chester on Track festival in May. We also had the rock and mineral museum open for visitors to see. The Library ran a wonderful Summer Reading Program. The theme for 2018 summer program, "Libraries Rock," included a variety of activities. Summer programming began in July with rock painting. We had a movie night with snacks for the children and had the museum open for anyone who wished to see the collection. We also had Gateway school come in twice to hand out free books for the kids. Mad Science did a wonderful program call "Sonic Sounds" in which the kids participated and enjoyed.

In October we had Mad Science return for another program titled "Young Wizards" which the children loved. We also held a family movie night that month and passed out treats on Halloween.

The Staff, Friends Group and Board of Trustees would like to thank everyone who donated their time and resources to the library throughout the year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Hollie Jacob
Interim Director

RECREATION COMMITTEE

The newly formed recreation committee successfully completed numerous projects throughout the year, primarily at Emery Field. With the assistance of volunteers from Gateway Little League and the Gateway Youth Athletic Association (GYAA) a new storage shed/snack shack was constructed at the site along with new dugouts for the baseball field and new fencing along both base paths. The committee also built a new skating rink for people to enjoy during the winter months. A recreational soccer league was played at Emery Field for the first time in many years.

Considerable effort was placed into completely improving the grounds to ensure safe playing surfaces across multiple sports. Donations of materials, equipment, and labor from local corporations such as MB Tractor & Equipment, Donovan's Sand & Gravel, Mountainview Concrete Foundations, and Rousseau Electric were invaluable in the ability to complete these tasks. The installation of new LED flood lights by CMELD were a great improvement to expand the use capabilities at Emery as well as improve security to help ensure these improvements last for many years. The overall amount of usable space was greatly increased at the end of the fall seasons to allow for more parking areas in the future while the committee and town work to expand the amount of land town-owned at that location.

Numerous new projects are slated to occur in 2019 including a basketball court, playground improvements/relocation at both Emery Field and the old Chester school. We also plan to continue increasing the number of town events held at Emery Field to make our town even more enjoyable. We are always open for suggestions as well as additional volunteers. Please reach out to me anytime at (413) 205-6504 with any questions/comments/suggestions.

Respectfully submitted,
Jason Forgue

WILD AND SCENIC WESTFIELD RIVER COMMITTEE

The Wild & Scenic Westfield River Committee celebrated not one but two significant anniversaries. Fifty years ago Congress established the Wild & Scenic Program to recognize the nation's remarkable wild rivers. Twenty-five years ago the Westfield River became Massachusetts' first Wild & Scenic River following an intense study and nomination process. These dual anniversaries provided a great excuse to celebrate with several special events squeezed into our usual activities, programs, and support for our Wild & Scenic communities and partners.

The big celebratory event this year was a Wild & Scenic Film Festival. The Committee joined with several local groups and partners to carefully select a fascinating line up of short environmental films to show for appreciative audiences at five separate venues around the region include Huntington's Gateway School, Westfield State University, Northampton, Great Barrington and Pittsfield.

The Westfield River W&S was one of only three Wild & Scenic Rivers to be selected to receive funding from Patagonia and River Network to offer a special program for the W&S anniversary. The funds were used to partner with Becket and Huntington libraries to offer a fanciful two part family program. Younger children and their parents headed to the river to search for and learn about the unique organisms adapted to living in running water. Step two was to take over a section of the library to make shadow puppets with all the neat creatures they found as their inspiration. The kids and their parents worked together to perform some truly amusing vignettes on a fancy shadow puppet stage.

The Committee was fortunate to be allocated a second grant to honor the 50th anniversary of W&S Rivers. This funding from the National Park Foundation is being used to continue the work of the Highlands Footpath initiative to create a network of trails across our region. This funding is focusing on the East Branch Trail portion of the Highlands Footpath initiative. The funding will help with planning and trail improvements. It is a great boost for this exciting new trail system for our region and will provide some TLC to a trail the Committee inaugurated nearly two decades ago.

The annual Watershed Blitz capped a great season of special programs. There was a special focus on native bees in the wetlands and river meadows. While our native bee populations are dropping, the summer survey did find two rare bees in Cummington- a significant find and an indication of the healthy biodiversity of our watershed. Each year the Committee offers internships to college students. This year one student intern focused the special native bee project by cataloging species in the river corridor of the West Branch while our second intern tackled a small water quality project. Both students joined our Stream Team Coordinator to walk the lower West Branch in preparation for the day-long Watershed Blitz- a gathering of specialists and river lovers to learn more about the river and document special attributes.

There was lots of other trail work done by our loyal volunteer trail crews. Throughout the summer there is a variety of educational, recreational and work days. Together people learn more about our great natural resource, work to preserve and improve key trails and open spaces and have lots of fun.

The Committee also funds a great number of activities in support of our conservation priorities. Funding was provided to the Friends of the keystone Arches for a special video history of the arches. Windsor received funding to help with a pollinator project in the town. Becket-Washington School received funding to once again offer the after school Stream Explorers program. Funding to the Franklin Land Trust helped with a Swift River land protection project.

Over the years, student interns have assessed road-stream crossing to identify culverts and bridges causing significant barriers to flow and passage. These inadequate crossing are also vulnerable to damage and even complete failure during flood events. This summer the Committee entered into agreements with Becket, Cummington and Windsor to begin the process of redesigning the worst of these road stream crossings. Knowing our W&S towns have limited capacity to manage contracts and projects, the Committee both provided over \$40,000 in funds and managed the contracts and projects from beginning to end. The work also included preparation of grant applications to help fund the next phases of the culvert replacements. The Windsor application was awarded significant funds and another just missed being selected. With last year's application as a starting point, the towns are in good shape to apply for the next round of funding to fix their degraded culverts.

If you are interested in becoming involved in the Wild & Scenic River Committee, please let us know: wildscenicwestfieldriver@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Pierce
Elizabeth Massa
Chester Representatives

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Chester Police Department is dedicated to being available and responsive as often as possible, and to be considered a valuable asset to the people we serve in Chester. Our goal is to make every effort we can to meet the public and personal safety needs of our community.

In fiscal year 2018 we continued to run our department on the principle of basic necessities, stretching every asset as far as possible. We utilized our budget dollars by varying patrol schedules, providing coverage during peak periods of activity and statistically higher crime experience. Investigations were conducted as part of officer patrols when possible, reducing the need for additional man-hours. We continue to meet training and educational requirements, both areas aimed at improving officer knowledge and development, adding to the professionalism of our personnel.

Budget conditions allowed us to replace some older equipment, upgrade systems and important resources for our department and continue with a schedule of asset replacement that focuses on short- and long-term goals. I can proudly say that our department has now achieved state of art technology and resources. One of our most recognized system advancements was the addition of mobile based communications. This project is now complete and officers now have the ability to experience true interoperability. This merging of radio and computer communication systems allows for seamless interaction with dispatch, town, regional, statewide and MA State Police operations, ensuring officer and public safety.

Our ability to provide the level of services we have conducted over the last year is an impressive accomplishment considering that every position in our police department is part-time. We have a dedicated group of officers who know and understand that community policing is about providing as many services as possible, regardless of available funds. My officers have worked with me in creating a police department that has integrity and respect, leading to the recognition of Chester having a highly regarded professional police organization. I would also like to note that just as full-time departments, we need to meet the same law enforcement, regulatory, state and federal requirements as every other police department in the state. This is not a simple task, but one we accomplish year after year.

Due to record keeping practices by our department and the other reporting state and federal agencies we work with, at the time of the request for department reports data and statistics were not available.

I sincerely appreciate the continued support the Police Department receives from citizens, boards and our community.

Respectfully Submitted,
Daniel Ilnicky, Chief of Police

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER / INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS

Animal Control Officer

Calls to the Animal Control Officer were as follows:

- 10 - Wildlife Calls
 - 6 - Barking Dog Complaints
 - 6 - Possible Neglect
 - 7 - Dog "at large"
 - 1 - Loose Large Animal
 - 3 - Quarantine for Dog Bite
 - 6 - Found Dogs Returned to Owners
- 10 - Nuisance dog
 - 2 - Removal of Animals From Home

Inspector of Animals

53 "barn" visits were made in the fall of 2017.

The purpose is to document ownership of each animal, providing the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources with data for response planning in an emergency.

Respectfully Submitted

Terry Donovan ACO/Animal Inspector

BUILDING COMMISSIONER

Fifty-two permits were issued by the building department in 2018 which is an increase over the average of the previous few years. Four of these permits were for new single-family dwellings, and eleven more were for home additions, garages, and major home renovations. With Chester now exceeding 95% of residents with access to high speed internet, I believe these numbers will continue to increase in the coming years. Add to that the fact we have new industry coming to town this year and numerous improvement and re-opening projects in our downtown area, it is pretty clear that our beautiful town is steadily moving forward.

There we also several energy conservations permits pulled this year including solar installations, window/door replacements, and insulation and air sealing upgrades. Ten permits were also issued for wood or pellet stoves. Please note that the installation of any solid-fuel burning appliance (wood stoves, pellet stoves, etc.) requires a permit, regardless of the installer. The fee for this permit is reasonable, required by all home insurance companies, and important to the safety of the inhabitants of the structure. If you have already installed one of these devices, you can still apply for a permit and have a quick inspection.

A large thank you goes out to all of the other town departments and boards for their assistance and cooperation when requested. The dedication of these numerous, primarily volunteer, individuals is greatly appreciated and a testament to their commitment to the betterment of our town.

Office hours are every 2nd and 4th Monday evening of the month from 6:00-8:00, however I am readily available to meet with you in the office, at your home, or at the jobsite as needed. As a Chester resident myself I am consistently in the area so please feel free to reach out to me anytime at (413) 205-6504. Copies of each type of building permit application are located on the outside of my office door for you to pick up at your convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Fogue
Building Commissioner

CHESTER MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT (CMELD)

CMELD once again presented the students at Chester Elementary School an electrical safety program. Videos were shown demonstrating electrical safety. Matt Vachula, one of our linesman's brought the bucket truck and did a show and tell of the safety equipment.

The CMELD line crew worked on numerous projects and new services throughout the year. Their reconstruction projects included updating power lines on Williams Street, finishing work on Hampden Street, continuing work on Lynes Road, Johnson Hill, Skyline Trail, and Middlefield Roads. Tree trimming, both in-house and contracted, was done in an effort to reduce tree related outages.

We said goodbye to Pam Zebrowski, CMELD's Administrative Assistant. Pam began working at CMELD in November of 2010 and retired in October of 2018. Pam left an incredible mark, we will miss her professional expertise and her smiling face in the office. CMELD wishes her only success and happiness in her future endeavors - may they be all that she hoped for! As Pam moves on into the next amazing chapter of her life, I hope she knows that she will be missed.

We were excited to welcome Rosanne McClafin (warmly known as Ro) to the position of Administrative Assistant. Ro brings 40 plus years of experience in customer service and office administration with her. Rosanne worked in the Chester Highway Department and Selectmen's office for three years and successfully pursued grants for the Town in excess of \$1,000,000. She has demonstrated her work ethic through her dependability and willingness to provide assistance to all Town Hall departments.

Ro is eager to call the job her own and seems to be fitting in perfectly. Ro worked closely with Pam for weeks so the transition would go smoothly. We wish her the best in her new position.

CMELD linesmen continue to attend safety and continuing educational classes to stay updated in this ever changing world of electricity.

CMELD, a community-owned utility, works to meet and exceed the needs of our Town and ratepayers. This is made possible with the hard work and dedication of our employees and commissioners. We all work together to ensure that CMELD is a successful department of the Town.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jill E Moretz
Manager

TOWN CLERK

During the fiscal year that began July 1, 2017 and ended June 30, 2018, there was one Annual Town Election, one Annual Town Meeting, one Special Town Meeting, and three voter registration sessions.

The Special Town Meeting on August was to accept the revised Gateway Regional School District Budget, which passed.

The Annual Town Meeting was held June 9, 2018, with those voters who attended acting on 26 warrant articles, including several by-law changes. The notable articles were the votes to:

- accept the Amendment of the Gateway Regional School District Agreement, Section IV D, which changes how member towns are assessed each year,
- accept MGL Ch. 44, Section 53E 1/2, which allows the town to establish and authorize revolving funds for use by certain town departments, boards, and committees and officers;
- revise the Town's Dog By-Law to create a 3-year dog license tied to the date of the dog's rabies vaccination;
- Change the date of the Annual Town Meeting to the 2nd Monday in June of each year at 7pm.

I am immensely grateful to our outstanding election staff, without whom our seamless democratic process would not be possible. Our election staff continues to operate with professionalism in their service to this town, and they are dedicated to transparent and fair elections, making sure that voters have a pleasant voting experience and that every vote is accurately counted. I am honored to work with them.

There were 6 births, 4 marriages, and 15 deaths during the calendar year 2018. The chart below provides a 5-year calendar year comparison.

Event	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Births	9	13	7	5	8	6
Marriages	0	0	2	1	1	4
Deaths	7	11	9	7	10	15

The Town Clerk issued 212 dog licenses and 9 Kennel licenses, and 4 new DBA Certificates.

The Annual Census was completed in June, 2018. Based on the forms that were returned to the office, our resident count as of June 30, 2018 was 1265. Population trends that are being seen statewide are occurring in Chester as well. There were 156 school age children, and 400 adults age 60 or older.

Receipts received in the Clerk's office have continued to increase over previous years to approximately \$2,500 in FY 2018.

Preparations have already begun for the 2020 Federal Census, and the office has provided both State and Federal agencies with required information as planning begins.

During FY 2018, the Town Clerk's workload has increased significantly with a marked increase in requests for Public Records, and with the implementation of the Registry of Motor Vehicles Real ID licensing procedures, as well as work relating to the upcoming 2020 Census.

The Clerk has attended three workshops and two conferences throughout the year in order to stay current with changes in state and federal laws, and to increase proficiency in the role.

The Assistant Town Clerk, Lois Leonardo-Bell continues to be a great asset in this office throughout the year. I would like to thank her in particular for her dedicated service to the town.

Respectfully submitted
Susan Kucharski
Town Clerk