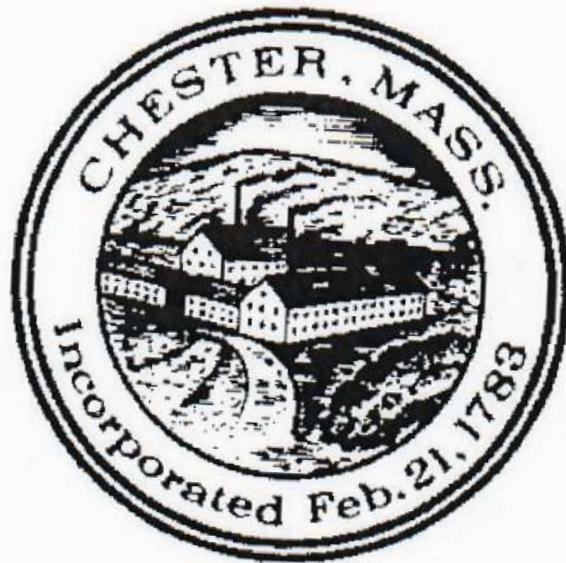

TOWN OF CHESTER

MASSACHUSETTS



ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Town Officers

For the 2019 Fiscal Year

July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019



" The Vista on the Newman Marsh Trail"

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About Chester

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

General Government

Elected Town Officials	6
Appointed Town Officials	7
Board of Selectmen	10
Congressional Delegation.....	12

Finance

Board of Assessors.....	13
Town Collector	15
Finance Committee	16
Treasurer	17
Town Accountant.....	19

Health and Human Services

Council on Aging.....	41
Veterans Services.....	43
Board of Health.....	45

Planning and Historic

Planning Board.....	46
Historic Commission/Historical Society.....	47

Culture Recreation and Environment

Hamilton Memorial Library.....	48
Westfield Wild and Scenic River	49
Recreation Committee	51

Public Safety and Utilities

Police Department	52
Building Commissioner	54
Animal Control Officer / Inspector of Animals	55
Chester Municipal Electric Light Department	56



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.

ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

Board of Selectmen **Term Expires**

John Baldasaro, chairperson	2020
Barbara P. Huntoon	2021
James Higby	2022

School Committee

_Shirley Winer	2020
Martha Otterbeck	2021
Jason Fogue	2022

Board of Assessors

Timothy Dunn, Chairperson	2021
Eugene Watters	2020
Duane Pease	2019

Electric Light Commissioners

Deryck Savoy	2021
Duane Pease	2020
Terry Murphy	2022

Board of Health

Elizabeth Massa	2021
Gregory Harrison	2020
Nicholas Chisano	2022

Library Trustees

John Foley	2021
Wilma Foley	2021
Terry Donovan	2020
Maryann Pease	2020
Mary Ann Sullivan	2019
Karen Savoy	2019

Town Clerk

Susan Kucharski	2020
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Town Collector

Maryann Pease	2020
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Town Moderator

Melvin Hook	2021
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Treasurer

Cheryl Provost	2021
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APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS

All officials serve a one year term.

Animal Control Officer

Terry Donovan

Assessor's Office

Regional Resource Associates

Laura Lafreniere , Clerk

Board of Registrars

Susan Kucharski, chair

Jerry Zebrowski

William Burnett

Building Commissioner

Jason Forgue

Cemetery Commissioner

Vacancy

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

Vacancy

CULTURAL COUNCIL

Hollie Jacob
Susan Kucharski
Annette Lamountain
Paula Beck
Kathe Warden

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Jeanne LeClair

ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR

John VanHeynigen

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

Richard Small, Jr.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Andy Myers, chair
Robert Daley
Jonathan Gloinna
Jason Forgue
Rosemary Dalesandro
John Foley

FIRE CHIEF

Richard Small, Jr.

HEALTH AGENT (appointed by Board of Health)

Dennis LaCourse

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT SUPERVISOR

Corey Sparks

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 Forgue
Kathy Engwer
Kathy Bodendorf

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Paula Beck

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Katherine Warden

TOWN CLERK, ASSISTANT (appointed by Town Clerk)

Rosemary Dalesandro

TOWN COUNSEL

Thomas Mullen, P.C.

VETERAN'S AGENT

Tom Gieryk

WATER COMMISSION / ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Board of Selectmen

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Chester Massachusetts is known as the Gem of the Valley, in large part due to the myriad minerals and gemstones found within its borders. It's also a gem because of its rich history in railroading, its pristine river and streams, the beautiful surrounding hills and vistas, and its people. People move to Chester and fall in love with all it has to offer - hiking trails, the Chester Railway Station, the Chester Theater, and a small-town way of life that lends itself to a step back in time, where neighbors were friends who looked out for each other.

As primary governing body, the Chester Selectboard's mission is to help maintain the best qualities of the town while working to bring best practices into place for fiscal responsibility and a stable future. Rural areas in Massachusetts are struggling with ever-increasing regional school budgets, loss of population, lack of public transportation, and dismal internet services. Many of our small towns lack job opportunities and suffer a disconnect brought on by sheer distance.

In Chester our goal is to meet those challenges. During the past year there have been several changes in town hall as inevitably people moved on and positions opened. With respect to those who came before, there are number of new faces at town hall who share the same vision: doing the best we can for the town.

One issue Chester has faced is water quality. Suggested and implemented by our newest selectman, the Chester Water Quality Improvement Committee was formed, and is working with a water expert to address any issues in real time while looking for solutions to ongoing challenges. The Committee is comprised of citizens who have stepped up to invest in the town's future.

Citizens stepping up is an underlying current in our town, both positive and challenging. Not everyone has the time nor inclination to run for office or join a board. Clearly this presents an issue and at a special town meeting this past October, a vote was held and passed, to allow the Town to seek special legislation to move some positions from elected to appointed. The legislation is currently in progress and will allow the elected Board of Selectmen to interview and appoint qualified candidates to increasingly complex roles in town government. It will also allow the town to potentially enter into Inter-municipal Agreements for shared services, like the recent creation of the Shared Chester-Blandford Police Department with Blandford. Shared services allow towns to hire the same person for a role but to split the cost. This provides a way for cash-strapped towns to find highly qualified candidates for part-time jobs without breaking the budget. For example, a town position that is only 20 hours (or less) in one town may be combined with same scenario in another to in provide an attractive position to a qualified person who may not be able to take a job that's only 20 hours with minimal pay. It only makes sense.

Following the lead of some other area towns, the Chester Board of Assessors hired a firm to handle the assessing needs of the town. Again, with the complexities of modern-day issues facing towns, accurate assessments are crucial, and who better to do that but an entity whose sole purpose is such.

Chester also has an eye on the future transportation-wise. In March a group of citizens and town leaders took the Council On Aging bus to Pittsfield and boarded the eastbound Lake Shore Limited train to Springfield where they spoke on behalf of including Chester as a stop in the proposed East-West Rail route from Boston to Pittsfield. With a train station already well-established in town, and Chester's proximity to Springfield and Pittsfield, it's vital to have a train stop in town - allowing townspeople to travel to Boston and points in between, without clogging the already over-crowded turnpike. It also would allow for people who work east of Springfield to live in the hilltowns adding to our tax rolls. The discussion is ongoing, and Chester will continue to be a part of it.

Chester saw the opening of two new businesses this year - Carm's Restaurant and the Historic Route 20 Visitors Center, both welcomed by locals and visitors alike. There are several other businesses on the horizon, and we are excited about their vision and interest. The Chester Theater Company, Chester Railway Station, and Keystone Arch Trail continue to thrive, bringing people to Chester from not just around the country, but the world. The Chester Baseball field is now a "Field of Dreams", amazingly restored and renovated by the Town's Recreation Committee and many dedicated volunteers. It has become a center for youth activity and a home for Gateway Youth Athletic Association events. The vast majority of town has high-speed internet. Solar panels are being installed on the Fire Department building and Highway Garage. And road improvement will continue with each year's Chapter 90 money and grants.

Chester is a gem that we will continue to polish. Its most valuable resource is our citizen and we encourage any and all who wish to be involved to step forward. Our future is in our hands!

Respectfully submitted,

Chester Board of Selectmen
Barbara Pease Huntoon, Chairman
John Baldasaro, Vice Chairman
James Higby, Clerk

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

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

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

FY2019 Report

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

Board of Assessors:

Chair - Heather Hannigan

Member - Eugene Watters

Member - Joan Stalcup

Principal Assessor - Pamela Anderson

Laura Lafreniere - Assessor Clerk

Arthur Lindberg - Assistant to the Assessors

Fiscal Year 2019 was a Tax Revaluation year. Pamela with the assistance of Roy Bishop from Bishop and Associates completed the revaluation. The Department of Revenue certified those values.

FY2019 Tax Rate - \$21.00 per \$1000 value

Total amount to be raised \$3,269,731.66

Total receipts received 827,239.00

Tax Levy (\$ amount needed) \$2,442,492.66

Chester has 1,140 properties valued at \$116,309,174.00

With 90 Exempt properties valued at \$12,046,700.00

Tax Levy (Real Estate & Personal Property)		Tax Rate		Tax Dollars
\$116,309,174.00	X	\$21.00	=	\$2,442,492.66

The Assessors' office is open on Mondays 9:30am to 3:30 pm and also the 2nd and 4th Monday evenings, 5pm to 7pm. Or by appointment. 413-354-6318

Property record cards, GIS maps, State tax forms, all Applications, Exemption forms and helpful links are available on line at townofchester.net/assessors/ Also to the left of the Assessors door there are printed applications for Excise, Real Estate, and Exemptions.

All homeowners are encouraged to view their property cards for accuracy after tax bills are received in January as abatements can only be accepted for 30 days following mailing. The information on these cards is used to calculate your taxes. Please call the assessors' office at 413-354-6318 if you see any errors or omissions on these cards.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Lafreniere
Assessors Clerk

TOWN COLLECTOR

Annual Report For the period ending 6/30/19

The Tax Office is responsible for collecting 1,049 Real Estate Bills, 94 Personal Property Bills and 1,842 Motor Vehicle Bills annually. All powers and duties of this office, as well as collection procedures, are statutory and defined in the Law relating to Municipal Finance and Taxation for Massachusetts.

This office aids residents, realtors, lending institutions, title companies and other entities that may require tax information. Many residents have their taxes escrowed with lending institutions. It is the lending institutions responsibility to notify the tax collector for which they are responsible for paying. Many banks contract with a Tax Service Organization, which are agencies that service escrow accounts for the banks. All owners of property in Chester receive a bill no matter if they pay their own taxes or they are escrowed. It is the responsibility of the tax Payer to make sure their bank is paying the proper amount.

This office accepts Real Estate and Personal Property payments through our online banking service Unipay which is through Unibank. There is a sliding fee if a credit card is used. If you transfer payment from your bank directly into Unibank you pay an ACH charge of 0.25 cents. MOTOR VEHICLE payments cannot be made through this service. Credit cards are not accepted in the Tax Collectors office except online.

This office has been busy updating computer files in preparation for switching from the State of Massachusetts tax program to QDS which goes into effect with the beginning of Fiscal Year 2020. This is a new system and the first year will be a learning curve after using the old state system for 15 years. You will see a bar code on all the new bills, eventually your payments will be scanned into the computer if you are paying the exact amount of the bill.

The mailing of all tax bills continues to be a challenge. This office gets at least a 100 tax bills returned due to bad addresses. Please check your bill to make sure we have the correct one on file. No, the registry does not notify the town when you change your information, or you trade a vehicle in.

Please view the tax receipt information through the financials provided by the accounting department for the fiscal year.

Once again, thank you to those who pay on time and the privilege of being your Town Collector.

Mary Ann Pease

***FINANCE COMMITTEE ***

The Chester Finance Committee met on 4 Saturdays in February and March 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 FY2021 Budget to the Selectboard, with an increase over last year of no more than 2.5%.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Myers, Chair

Bob Daley

Sr. Judith Dalesandro

John Foley

Jason Forgue

Jonathan Glionna

TREASURER

CHESTER TREASURER'S YEAR-END CASH REPORT

A. Cash and checks in office

\$	-
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B. Non - Interest Bearing Checking Accounts

Collateral'd Y or N	Financial Institution	Purpose	Interest Rate	Balance	Sub - Total
			N/A		
			N/A		
					\$0.00

C. Interest Bearing Checking Accounts

Collateral'd Y or N	Financial Institution	Purpose	Interest Rate	Balance	Sub - Total
N	bankESB	Town AP	0.25%	327,108.42	
N	bankESB	CMELD AP	0.17%	287,231.70	
N	Uni Bank	Deputy Collector	0.40%	4,335.67	
N	Uni Bank	Tax Collector	0.40%	14,960.52	
N	Uni Bank	Town Clerk	0.40%	655.87	
N	Uni Bank	CMELD Online	0.40%	22,659.71	
Y	United Bank	Cash Depository	0.05%	24,267.05	
					\$681,218.94

D. Liquid Investments

Collateral'd Y or N	Financial Institution	Purpose	Interest Rate	Balance	Sub - Total
N	bankESB	ACH Depository	1.00%	202,282.23	
N	bankESB	Gen Depository	0.25%	446,353.68	
N	bankESB	CMELD Depository	1.00%	181,060.20	
N	Uni Bank	Gen Depository	0.80%	42,886.44	
					\$872,582.55

E. Term Investments

Collateral'd Y or N	Financial Institution	Purpose	Interest Rate	Balance	Sub - Total
Y	United Bank	CMELD Depreciation	1.00%	227,877.59	
N	bankESB	CMELD Depreciation	1.00%	250,044.91	
Y	United Bank	CMELD Depreciation	1.00%	139,614.93	
N	BlackRock	CMELD Fund 30	Variable	116,932.76	
				Sec. E Total	\$734,470.19

F. Trust Funds

Collateral'd Y or N	Financial Institution	Purpose	Interest Rate	Balance	Sub - Total
N	bankESB	Gen Stabilization	1.00%	400,904.24	
N	bankESB	CMELD Stabilization	0.30%	41,198.01	
N	bankESB	CMELD Stabilization	1.00%	58,721.61	
Y	Peoples United	Cemetery Unrestricted	0.00%	79.08	
Y	Peoples United	Cemetery Restricted	0.10%	45,620.75	
N	Uni Bank	Gen Stabilization	1.00%	158.34	
					\$546,682.03

Total: All Cash and Investments

\$ 2,834,953.71

Town of Chester
Trial Balance Report
From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

1010.10	General Cash	875,688.84	
1040.62	Cash - Municipal Light	661,394.13	
1040.63	Cash-Light Depreciation	617,607.01	
1040.64	CMELD Petty Cash Advances	100.00	
1100.09	Personal Prop Taxes F2009		0.00
1100.11	Personal Property Taxes 2011	189.19	
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	1,229.95	
1100.17	Personal Property 2017	942.94	
1100.18	Personal Property 2018	3,920.22	
1100.19	Personal Property 2019	1,005.56	
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	1,880.81	
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		-587.93
1200.14	Real Estate Taxes 2014		-880.75
1200.15	Real Estate 2015	7,039.17	
1200.16	Real Estate 2016	5,887.32	
1200.17	Real Estate 2017	33,083.36	
1200.18	Real Estate 2018	39,227.16	
1200.19	Real Estate 2019	114,785.44	
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 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

1200.92	Real 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	Real 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	670.53
1300.15	Motor Vehicle 2015	1,176.16
1300.16	Motor Vehicle 2016	1,658.49
1300.17	Motor Vehicle Excise 2017	2,943.17
1300.18	Motor Vehicle Excise 2018	6,864.24
1300.19	Motor Vehicle Excise 2019	33,698.57
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	2,286.38
1300.96	Motor Vehicle Ex F1996	1,936.06
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 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

1412.00	Water Rates Receivable	61,782.06	
1414.00	Water Liens	12,996.95	
1450.00	Rollback Taxes Chap 61		-274.93
1562.00	Tax Titles	52,448.37	
1570.99	Tax Title Possessions	21,207.78	
1585.00	Sale of Real Estate		-42,500.00
1601.00	St. Aid Hwy - Chapt 90	269,489.39	
1630.62	CMELD Rcpts-Electricity	78,346.01	
1631.62	CMELD Rcpts-Other	51,526.25	
1632.62	CMELD Liens	10,000.28	
1650.00	Due from CMELD	384.05	
1652.00	Due from Comm. - Vet's Benefits	42,797.00	
1653.00	Due From/To Collector		-3,000.00
1670.00	Subsequent Years		-306,378.00
1700.18	Revenue Fiscal Year 2018		0.00
1700.19	Revenue Fiscal Year 2019		-3,027,905.31
1800.00	Estimated Receipts		0.00
2001.00	Warrants Payable		0.00
2005.00	P/R Insurance Withholding		-6,792.48
2006.00	P/R Cty Retirement W/hold		0.00
2007.00	P/R Disability Withholdin		0.00
2010.00	C.Support deductions		0.00
2011.00	Sale of Timber Liabi.		-32,087.00
3052.00	Reimb TT Legal Fees		-1,719.28
3054.00	FireArm Permit Fees		-3,118.81
3055.00	TT Redemption Fees		-75.00
3057.00	State Pymts.-Electric Lt.		-52,557.37
3058.00	Deferred Revenue - Vets Benefits		-42,797.00
3072.00	Tailings		-3,477.71
3092.00	Recreation Donations		-953.18
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
3102.00	Flag Donations		-526.50
3105.00	Police Dept. Donations		-898.38
3106.00	Cemetery Donations		-115.00
3107.00	COA Donations		-2,443.10

Town of Chester

Trial Balance Report

From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

5002.00	Elections - State	-1,492.47
5008.00	State Aid to Libraries	-7,144.13
5009.00	Community Compact	0.00
5010.00	Economic Development Grant	0.00
5011.00	CCC Grants and DLTA Awards	-43,400.00
5012.00	E&R MARKETING GRANT	0.00
5036.00	Cultural Council Grant	-7,384.48
5036.01	Big Yellow School Bus Grant	-200.00
5042.00	Council on Aging - State	0.00
5048.00	Block Grant	0.00
5049.00	PVPC/Septic Repair-Int.	-162.30
5055.09	Emergency Manage EMPG09	0.00
5055.11	FEDERAL	0.00
5060.00	MEMA	0.00
5070.00	MA Works Grant	0.00
5509.00	Police Off-duty Pay	-5,264.71
5510.00	Cemetery Operation Fees	-11,198.84
5513.00	Plumbing/Gas Insp. Fees	-735.00
5514.00	Wiring Inspector Fees	-90.00
5516.00	BOH Revolving Fund	-1,960.00
5519.00	Deputy Collector Fees	-360.00
5520.00	Tax Collectors Fees	-1,612.08
5521.00	Town Clerk's Fees	-4,541.93
5529.00	Insurance Revolving/proceeds old ja	-185.40
5530.00	Cemetery PC Fnd-Revolving	-2,660.70
6008.00	Air Pollution Control	0.00
6009.00	Green Community Grant	-32,542.00
6011.00	R.M.V. N/R Surcharges	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
8097.00	Overlay F1997	-1,212.13

Town of Chester
Trial Balance Report
From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

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		-9,104.75
8113.00	Overlay 2013		-12,940.40
8114.00	Overlay 2014	1,419.84	
8115.00	Overlay 2015		-2,846.59
8116.00	Overlay 2016	1,512.00	
8117.00	Overlay 2017	4,191.44	
8118.00	Overlay 2018	3,477.33	
8119.00	Overlay 2019	9,321.71	
9001.00	CMELD Rsvd for Petty Cash		-100.00
9002.00	Tax Title Revenue		-52,448.37
9003.00	Revenue-Possessions/Tax		-21,207.78
9006.00	Motor Vehicle Excise Rev		-82,768.98
9015.00	Revenue-Rollback Tax C61		0.00
9022.00	Water Rates Revenue		-61,517.56
9026.00	Water Liens Revenue		-12,996.95
9050.00	Muni Light Deprec.Revenue		-617,506.94
9052.00	Municipal Light Revenue		-129,872.26
9053.00	CMELD Liens Revenue		-10,000.28
9107.00	Due to Water Dept.		-25.00
9950.00	Surplus Revenue		-472,319.23
9951.00	Free Cash		0.00
9956.00	Water Available Surplus		-18,823.65
9957.00	Reserved for Appr		0.00
9958.00	Muni Light Avail. Surplus		-652,243.79
10115.01	Reserve Fund	904.51	
10122.00	Selectmens Salaries	5,555.82	
10122.01	Town Administrator Salary	37,927.25	

Town of Chester

Trial Balance Report

From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

10122.02	Administrative Asst	8,075.98	
10124.00	Selectmens Expenses	1,994.93	
10124.01	Town Counsel Services	6,689.49	
10124.02	General Office Expense	2,984.52	
10124.03	Town Report	974.00	
10124.07	Economic Development Shared Service	12,300.00	
10135.00	Accounting Salaries	15,427.34	
10135.01	Accounting Expenses	1,219.26	
10135.05	Accounting Software Support	2,500.00	
10135.07	Audit Expense		-12,000.00
10141.00	Assessors Salaries	4,479.54	
10141.01	Principal Assessor Salary	26,474.09	
10141.02	Assessors Clerk Salary	6,710.86	
10141.03	Assessors Expenses	2,532.74	
10141.05	Consultant	2,000.00	
10141.06	Assessors Maps		-3,075.00
10141.10	Assessors Software	250.00	
10145.00	Treasurer Salary	10,876.80	
10145.01	Ass't Treasurer Salary	1,199.00	
10145.02	Treasurer Expenses	1,452.56	
10145.03	Land Court Fees	6,292.12	
10145.06	Treasurer Software Support	2,155.17	
10145.07	Payroll Expenses	1,900.00	
10145.09	Treasurer's Training/School	119.44	
10146.00	Collector Salary	18,648.21	
10146.02	Collector Expenses	4,638.28	
10146.03	Tax Taking Expenses	1,722.20	
10161.00	Town Clerk Salary	6,478.70	
10161.01	Ass't Clerk Salary	1,584.14	
10161.02	Town Clerks Expenses	1,931.99	
10161.03	Town Clerk Laptop	500.00	
10161.04	Dog Licensing Database-DO NOT USE		0.00
10161.05	Dog Licensing Software-USE	2,095.00	
10161.06	Election Software ATM19		0.00
10162.00	Elections	3,784.27	
10163.00	Registrations	60.00	
10171.00	Conservation Comm. Expens	259.14	
10175.00	Planning Board Expenses	98.17	

Town of Chester

Trial Balance Report

From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

10176.00	Zoning Bd of Appeals Exp.	179.89	
20422.00	Highway Dept. Salaries	121,381.69	
20422.02	Snow Removal Salaries	21,224.00	
20422.03	Highway contract Services	12,500.00	
20422.22	Chapter 90		-216,843.18
20423.00	Town Garage Heat/Light	13,000.00	
20423.01	Uniforms	2,800.75	
20423.02	Supplies/Repairs	49,168.01	
20423.03	Stone/Gravel/Asphalt	77,775.26	
20423.04	Gas/Oil/Diesel	21,369.67	
20423.07	Snow Removal Expenses	49,767.03	
20424.00	Street Lighting	7,550.00	
20427.01	Cemetery Laborer Salaries	7,969.11	
20427.02	Cemetery Expenses	1,000.00	
20428.01	Water Department Salaries	60,308.85	
20428.02	Water Dept. Expenses	36,131.04	
20430.00	Tree Removal	12,000.00	
30001.00	Gateway Regional School	1,504,956.00	
30001.01	Assessment Stabilization ATM19	17,667.13	
30001.10	Vocational Education	150,000.00	
40491.00	Board of Health Salaries	3,869.23	
40491.01	Trans. Station Salary	5,998.72	
40491.02	Insp. of Animals Salary	861.08	
40491.03	Board of Health Expenses		-812.27
40491.04	Transfer Station Expenses	34,961.03	
40491.09	Board of Health - Calvin Joppru	1,425.00	
40492.00	Historical Comm. Expenses	1,676.68	
40493.00	Preservation Project Yr 2		-2,000.00
40494.00	Council on Aging Expenses	5,091.98	
40494.01	COA Salary	9,733.89	
40494.02	Van Services	135.79	
40494.03	COA Database Donation		0.00
40500.00	Library Salaries	23,769.79	
40500.01	Library Expenses	11,990.45	
40500.07	MassCat Automation	900.00	
40543.00	Veterans Agent Salary	6,021.00	
40543.01	Veterans Benefits/Service	32,123.51	
40543.02	Memorial Day	347.39	

Town of Chester

Trial Balance Report

From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

40544.00	Recreation Comm. Expenses	730.74	
40544.01	Ballfield Improvements ATM19	2,249.09	
60110.00	Fire Chief Salary	4,917.81	
60110.01	Fire Expenses	30,424.05	
60110.14	Fire Turn Out Gear	6,694.10	
60210.00	Police Chief Salary	2,529.68	
60210.01	Police Officer Wages	29,320.15	
60210.04	Police Expenses	13,762.79	
60210.07	Police Cruiser Lease	13,455.71	
60210.08	Police Blackboard Notification	2,867.13	
60231.00	Ambulance Service	28,414.15	
60240.00	Building Inspector Salary	6,423.68	
60241.00	Building Inspector Expens	997.54	
60242.00	Inspector certifications	222.70	
60292.00	Animal Cntrl Off. Salary	1,292.65	
60292.01	Animal Control Expenses	678.93	
80720.00	Water Treatmnt Plant Loan	29,479.00	
80721.01	Highway Truck	45,403.98	
80752.00	Int. Short-term Debt	0.02	
80752.01	ST Int & Fees E. River Rd STM19	5,960.12	
90100.00	Town Hall Custodian Salar	4,450.63	
90192.00	Town Hall Expenses	20,472.29	
90192.01	Town Hall Repairs	7,975.00	
90192.06	Town Hall Internet & Telephone	11,600.00	
90192.08	Engineering & surveying		-2,500.00
90192.09	Desgin Services		-18,900.81
90192.10	Town Tree (SA 18 ATM)	3,250.00	
90193.00	Prop Casualty/Liab Insur.	25,000.00	
90193.03	Police/Fire Accident Insu	8,052.00	
90912.00	Workers Compensation Insu	3,400.00	
90914.00	Group Health Insurance	84,603.45	
90916.00	Medi/FICA	7,100.00	
90917.00	Unemployment Ins./SUTA	610.21	
90917.01	County Retirement	85,430.00	
90917.02	Bonds	746.00	
90919.00	Wood Landfill Test Costs	3,425.00	
96010.00	Muni Light Maint & Operat		0.00
96030.00	Muni Light Customer Depos		-4,856.37

Town of Chester
Trial Balance Report
From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

600010.00	Trust Cash	446,740.61	
600020.00	Stab. Fund Equity-Unres.		-401,062.25
600022.00	Cemetery P.C.Equity-Unres		-80.15
600024.00	Cemetery P.C. Equity-Res.		-45,598.21
800001.00	Net Funded Fixed Debt/IDL	428,764.84	
800013.00	Water Dept. Loan		-343,698.84
800015.04	Highway Truck		-85,066.00
800017.00	Landfill Cap 2003 Loan		0.00
800017.10	Landfill Loan pt 2		0.00
	Balance	\$7,032,257.63	\$-7,032,257.63

Town of Chester
Expense Report - B&H
As of: 02/27/2020 12:57:34 PM
From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

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	0.00 %
10115.00	Finance Committee Expense		100.00	-100.00				100.00 %
10115.01	Reserve Fund		2,500.00	-1,595.49	904.51	904.51		100.00 %
10122.00	Selectmens Salaries		6,451.92	-896.10	5,555.82	5,555.82		100.00 %
10122.01	Town Administrator Salary		38,256.25		38,256.25	37,927.25	329.00	99.14 %
10122.02	Administrative Asst		22,013.16	-13,937.18	8,075.98	8,075.98		100.00 %
10124.00	Selectmens Expenses		2,000.00	-5.07	1,994.93	1,994.93		100.00 %
10124.01	Town Counsel Services		7,000.00	-310.51	6,689.49	6,689.49		100.00 %
10124.02	General Office Expense		3,000.00	-15.48	2,984.52	2,984.52		100.00 %
10124.03	Town Report		1,000.00	-26.00	974.00	974.00		100.00 %
10124.07	Economic Development Shared Service		12,300.00		12,300.00	706.47	11,593.53	5.74 %
10135.00	Accounting Salaries	103.97	15,427.34		15,531.31	15,531.31		100.00 %
10135.01	Accounting Expenses		750.00	469.26	1,219.26	1,219.26		100.00 %
10135.05	Accounting Software Support		2,500.00		2,500.00	2,500.00		100.00 %
10135.07	Audit Expense	28,000.00			28,000.00	16,000.00	12,000.00	57.14 %
10141.00	Assessors Salaries		4,479.54		4,479.54	4,479.54		100.00 %
10141.01	Principal Assessor Salary		26,474.09		26,474.09	26,474.09		100.00 %
10141.02	Assessors Clerk Salary		7,163.65	-452.79	6,710.86	6,710.86		100.00 %
10141.03	Assessors Expenses		3,500.00	-967.26	2,532.74	2,532.74		100.00 %
10141.04	Assessors Schooling		1,000.00	-1,000.00				100.00 %
10141.05	Roy Bishop, Consulting	1,500.00	3,000.00	-1,000.00	3,500.00	3,500.00		100.00 %
10141.06	Assessors Maps	3,075.00	1,875.00	-4,950.00				100.00 %
10141.10	Assessors Software		500.00	-250.00	250.00	250.00		100.00 %
10145.00	Treasurer Salary		10,876.80		10,876.80	10,876.80		100.00 %
10145.01	Ass't Treasurer Salary		1,200.00	-1.00	1,199.00	1,199.00		100.00 %
10145.02	Treasurer Expenses		1,800.00	-12.94	1,787.06	1,452.56	334.50	81.28 %
10145.03	Land Court Fees		10,000.00	-3,707.88	6,292.12	6,292.12		100.00 %
10145.04	Bank Charges/Fees		100.00	-100.00				100.00 %
10145.06	Treasurer Software Support		2,156.00	-0.83	2,155.17	2,155.17		100.00 %
10145.07	Payroll Expenses		1,900.00		1,900.00	1,900.00		100.00 %
10145.09	Treasurer's Training/School	755.00	800.00	-680.56	874.44	874.44		100.00 %
10146.00	Collector Salary		18,650.21	-2.00	18,648.21	18,648.21		100.00 %
10146.02	Collector Expenses		5,000.00	-361.72	4,638.28	4,638.28		100.00 %
10146.03	Tax Taking Expenses		2,000.00	-277.80	1,722.20	1,722.20		100.00 %
10146.06	Tax Collector's Software		208.00	-208.00				100.00 %
10146.07	TAX COLLECTOR'S COMPUTER		1,000.00	-1,000.00				100.00 %
10161.00	Town Clerk Salary		6,478.70		6,478.70	6,478.70		100.00 %
10161.01	Ass't Clerk Salary		1,584.14		1,584.14	1,584.14		100.00 %
10161.02	Town Clerks Expenses		2,025.00	-93.01	1,931.99	1,931.99		100.00 %
10161.03	Town Clerk Laptop		500.00		500.00	500.00		100.00 %
10161.04	Dog Licensing Database-DO NOT USE		2,095.00		2,095.00	2,095.00		100.00 %
10161.05	Dog Licensing Software-USE							100.00 %
10161.06	Election Software ATM19			1,000.00	1,000.00		1,000.00	0.00 %
10162.00	Elections		5,400.00	-1,615.73	3,784.27	3,784.27		100.00 %
10163.00	Registrations		1,270.00	-1,210.00	60.00	60.00		100.00 %
10171.00	Conservation Comm. Expens		300.00	-40.86	259.14	259.14		100.00 %
10175.00	Planning Board Expenses		200.00	-101.83	98.17	98.17		100.00 %
10176.00	Zoning Bd of Appeals Exp.		200.00	-20.11	179.89	179.89		100.00 %
Total	General Government	33,433.97	237,234.80	-33,470.89	237,197.88	211,740.85	25,457.03	

Town of Chester
Expense Report - B&H
As of: 02/27/2020 12:57:35 PM
From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

01 - GENERAL FUND		Previous	Original	Budget	Revised	Actual	Balance	% Exp
Account	Description	Year's Bal	Budget	Revisions	Budget	Expended		
20422.00	Highway Dept. Salaries		137,062.40	-15,680.71	121,381.69	121,381.69		100.00 %
20422.02	Snow Removal Salaries		21,224.00		21,224.00	21,224.00		100.00 %
20422.03	Highway contract Services		12,500.00		12,500.00	12,500.00		100.00 %
20422.22	Chapter 90	98,802.79			98,802.79	-118,040.39	216,843.18	-119.47 %
20423.00	Town Garage Heat/Light		13,000.00		13,000.00	13,000.00		100.00 %
20423.01	Uniforms		3,500.00	-699.25	2,800.75	2,800.75		100.00 %
20423.02	Supplies/Repairs		49,875.00	-706.99	49,168.01	49,168.01		100.00 %
20423.03	Stone/Gravel/Asphalt	5,497.26	80,000.00	-2,224.74	83,272.52	83,272.52		100.00 %
20423.04	Gas/Oil/Diesel		21,500.00	-130.33	21,369.67	21,369.67		100.00 %
20423.05	Pest Control		1,000.00	-1,000.00				100.00 %
20423.07	Snow Removal Expenses		50,000.00	-232.97	49,767.03	49,767.03		100.00 %
20424.00	Street Lighting		7,550.00		7,550.00	7,550.00		100.00 %
20427.00	CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS SALARY		774.56	-774.56				100.00 %
20427.01	Cemetery Laborer Salaries		7,969.11		7,969.11	7,969.11		100.00 %
20427.02	Cemetery Expenses		1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00		100.00 %
20428.01	Water Department Salaries		60,388.85		60,388.85	60,308.85	80.00	99.86 %
20428.02	Water Dept. Expenses	9,797.22	40,000.00	-3,868.96	45,928.26	45,928.26		100.00 %
20430.00	Tree Removal		12,500.00	-500.00	12,000.00	12,000.00		100.00 %
Total	Public Works & Facility	114,097.27	519,843.92	-25,818.51	608,122.68	391,199.50	216,923.18	
30001.00	Gateway Regional School		1,504,956.00		1,504,956.00	1,504,956.00		100.00 %
30001.01	Assessment Stabilization ATM19			40,890.00	40,890.00	17,667.13	23,222.87	43.20 %
30001.10	Vocational Education		150,000.00		150,000.00	150,000.00		100.00 %
Total	Education		1,654,956.00	40,890.00	1,695,846.00	1,672,623.13	23,222.87	
40491.00	Board of Health Salaries		4,020.09	-150.86	3,869.23	3,869.23		100.00 %
40491.01	Trans. Station Salary		5,998.72		5,998.72	5,998.72		100.00 %
40491.02	Insp. of Animals Salary		861.08		861.08	861.08		100.00 %
40491.03	Board of Health Expenses		1,300.00	-212.27	1,087.73	1,087.73		100.00 %
40491.04	Transfer Station Expenses		35,000.00	-38.97	34,961.03	34,961.03		100.00 %
40491.08	Animal Inspector Expenses		400.00	-400.00				100.00 %
40492.00	Historical Comm. Expenses	200.00	1,800.00	-123.32	1,876.68	1,876.68		100.00 %
40493.00	Preservation Project Yr 2	2,000.00		2,000.00	4,000.00		4,000.00	0.00 %
40494.00	Council on Aging Expenses		4,500.00	591.98	5,091.98	5,091.98		100.00 %
40494.01	COA Salary		10,034.26	-300.37	9,733.89	9,733.89		100.00 %
40494.02	Van Services		3,500.00	-3,364.21	135.79	135.79		100.00 %
40494.03	COA Database Donation		-5,000.00	5,000.00				100.00 %
40494.04	COA Administrative Projects		1,000.00		1,000.00		1,000.00	0.00 %
Total	Human Services	2,200.00	63,414.15	3,001.98	68,616.13	63,616.13	5,000.00	
40500.00	Library Salaries		24,015.57	-245.78	23,769.79	23,769.79		100.00 %
40500.01	Library Expenses		13,316.00	-200.13	13,115.87	11,990.45	1,125.42	91.41 %
40500.07	MassCat Automation		900.00		900.00	900.00		100.00 %
40543.00	Veterans Agent Salary		6,021.00		6,021.00	6,021.00		100.00 %
40543.01	Veterans Benefits/Service		45,000.00	-12,876.49	32,123.51	32,123.51		100.00 %
40543.02	Memorial Day		500.00	-152.61	347.39	347.39		100.00 %
40544.00	Recreation Comm. Expenses		750.00	-19.26	730.74	730.74		100.00 %
40544.01	Ballfield Improvements ATM19			2,249.09	2,249.09	2,249.09		100.00 %
Total			90,502.57	-11,245.18	79,257.39	78,131.97	1,125.42	

Town of Chester
Expense Report - B&H
As of: 02/27/2020 12:57:36 PM
From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

01 - GENERAL FUND		Previous	Original	Budget	Revised	Actual	Balance	% Exp
Account	Description	Year's Bal	Budget	Revisions	Budget	Expended		
40491.09	Board of Health - Calvin Joppru	1,900.00		-475.00	1,425.00	1,425.00		100.00 %
Total	Human Services	1,900.00		-475.00	1,425.00	1,425.00		
60110.00	Fire Chief Salary		4,918.25	-0.44	4,917.81	4,917.81		100.00 %
60110.01	Fire Expenses		35,500.00	-5,075.95	30,424.05	30,424.05		100.00 %
60110.02	Civil Defense		1,000.00	-1,000.00				100.00 %
60110.03	Fire Dept. Wages		1,584.14	-1,584.14				100.00 %
60110.14	Fire Turn Out Gear		7,000.00	-305.90	6,694.10	6,694.10		100.00 %
Total	Public Safety		50,002.39	-7,966.43	42,035.96	42,035.96		
60210.00	Police Chief Salary		2,529.68		2,529.68	2,529.68		100.00 %
60210.01	Police Officer Wages		37,162.40	-7,842.25	29,320.15	29,320.15		100.00 %
60210.02	Constable Salary		125.00	-125.00				100.00 %
60210.04	Police Expenses		14,500.00	-737.21	13,762.79	13,762.79		100.00 %
60210.07	Police Cruiser Lease		13,455.71		13,455.71	13,455.71		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		592.25	-592.25				100.00 %
60210.11	Police Training		3,600.00	-3,600.00				100.00 %
60210.16	Police/Computer Video		1,500.00	-1,500.00				100.00 %
60231.00	Ambulance Service		28,414.15		28,414.15	28,414.15		100.00 %
60240.00	Building Inspector Salary		6,536.38		6,536.38	6,423.68	112.70	98.27 %
60241.00	Building Inspector Expens		1,000.00	-2.46	997.54	997.54		100.00 %
60242.00	Inspector certifications		500.00	-277.30	222.70	222.70		100.00 %
60292.00	Animal Cntrl Off. Salary		1,292.65		1,292.65	1,292.65		100.00 %
60292.01	Animal Control Expenses		400.00	278.93	678.93	678.93		100.00 %
Total	Public Safety		114,608.22	-14,530.41	100,077.81	99,965.11	112.70	
80720.00	Water Treatmnt Plant Loan		29,479.00		29,479.00	29,479.00		100.00 %
80721.01	Highway Truck		45,403.98		45,403.98	45,403.98		100.00 %
80752.00	Int. Short-term Debt		1,000.00	-999.98	0.02	0.02		100.00 %
80752.01	ST Int & Fees E. River Rd STM19			5,960.12	5,960.12	5,960.12		100.00 %
Total	Debt		75,882.98	4,960.14	80,843.12	80,843.12		
90100.00	Town Hall Custodian Salar		4,450.63		4,450.63	4,450.63		100.00 %
90192.00	Town Hall Expenses		15,200.00	5,272.29	20,472.29	20,472.29		100.00 %
90192.01	Town Hall Repairs		8,000.00	-25.00	7,975.00	7,975.00		100.00 %
90192.06	Town Hall Internet & Telephone		11,600.00		11,600.00	11,600.00		100.00 %
90192.08	Engineering & surveying	2,500.00			2,500.00		2,500.00	0.00 %
90192.09	Desgin Services	18,900.81			18,900.81		18,900.81	0.00 %
90192.10	Town Tree (SA 18 ATM)			3,250.00	3,250.00	3,250.00		100.00 %
90193.00	Prop Casualty/Liab Insur.		25,000.00		25,000.00	25,000.00		100.00 %
90193.03	Police/Fire Accident Insu		8,100.00	-48.00	8,052.00	8,052.00		100.00 %
Total	Unclassified	21,400.81	72,350.63	8,449.29	102,200.73	80,799.92	21,400.81	
90912.00	Workers Compensation Insu		3,400.00		3,400.00	3,400.00		100.00 %
90914.00	Group Health Insurance		112,330.80	-27,727.35	84,603.45	84,603.45		100.00 %
90916.00	Medi/FICA		7,100.00		7,100.00	7,100.00		100.00 %
90917.00	Unemployment Ins./SUTA		3,000.00	-2,389.79	610.21	610.21		100.00 %
90917.01	County Retirement		86,499.00	-1,069.00	85,430.00	85,430.00		100.00 %
90917.02	Bonds		1,000.00	-254.00	746.00	746.00		100.00 %
90919.00	Wood Landfill Test Costs		3,500.00	-75.00	3,425.00	3,425.00		100.00 %
Total	Unclassified		216,829.80	-31,515.14	185,314.66	185,314.66		

Town of Chester

Expense Report - B&H

As of: 02/27/2020 12:57:36 PM

From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

01 - GENERAL FUND		Previous	Original	Budget	Revised	Actual		
Account	Description	Year's Bal	Budget	Revisions	Budget	Expended	Balance	% Exp
96010.00	Muni Light Maint & Operat							100.00 %
96030.00	Muni Light Customer Depos	5,638.67			5,638.67	782.30	4,856.37	13.87 %
Total	Municipal Light	5,638.67			5,638.67	782.30	4,856.37	
Total Fund 01		178,670.72	3,095,625.46	-67,720.15	3,206,576.03	2,908,477.65	298,098.38	
	Grand Total	178,670.72	3,095,625.46	-67,720.15	3,206,576.03	2,908,477.65	298,098.38	

Town of Chester
Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS ASSETS
From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

ASSETS

CASH	Assets	Liabilities
General Cash	875,688.84	
Cash - Municipal Light	661,394.13	
Cash-Light Depreciation	617,607.01	
CMELD Petty Cash Advances	100.00	
TOTAL FOR CASH		2,154,789.98

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 2016	1,229.95	
Personal Property 2017	942.94	
Personal Property 2018	3,920.22	
Personal Property 2019	1,005.56	
TOTAL FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES		8,649.53

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	1,880.81	
Real Estate Taxes F2006	55.20	
Real Estate 2015	7,039.17	
Real Estate 2016	5,887.32	
Real Estate 2017	33,083.36	
Real Estate 2018	39,227.16	
Real Estate 2019	114,785.44	
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		288,011.81

MOTOR VEHICLE EX TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Motor Vehicle Taxes 2000	671.39	

Town of Chester
Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS ASSETS
From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

MOTOR VEHICLE EX TAXES	Assets	Liabilities
Motor Vehicle Ex F2001	1,979.52	
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 2014	670.53	
Motor Vehicle 2015	1,176.16	
Motor Vehicle 2016	1,658.49	
Motor Vehicle Excise 2017	2,943.17	
Motor Vehicle Excise 2018	6,864.24	
Motor Vehicle Excise 2019	33,698.57	
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	2,286.38	
Motor Vehicle Ex F1996	1,936.06	
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		82,012.31

WATER RATES	Assets	Liabilities
Water Rates Receivable	61,782.06	
Water Liens	12,996.95	
TOTAL FOR WATER RATES		74,779.01

TAX TITLES & POSSESSIONS	Assets	Liabilities
Tax Titles	52,448.37	
Tax Title Possessions	21,207.78	
TOTAL FOR TAX TITLES & POSSESSIONS		73,656.15

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	Assets	Liabilities
St. Aid Hwy - Chapt 90	269,489.39	
CMELD Rcpts-Electricity	78,346.01	
CMELD Rcpts-Other	51,526.25	
CMELD Liens	10,000.28	
Due from CMELD	384.05	
Due from Comm. - Vet's Benefits	42,797.00	

Town of Chester
Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS ASSETS
From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

TOTAL FOR ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE 452,542.98

OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE	Assets	Liabilities
Overlay 2014	1,419.84	
Overlay 2016	1,512.00	
Overlay 2017	4,191.44	
Overlay 2018	3,477.33	
Overlay 2019	9,321.71	
TOTAL FOR OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE		<u>19,922.32</u>

APPROPRIATIONS BALANCES	Assets	Liabilities
Dog Licensing Software-USE	2,095.00	
TOTAL FOR APPROPRIATIONS BALANCES		<u>2,095.00</u>

TOTAL ASSETS 3,156,459.09

Town of Chester
Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS LIABILITIES
From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

LIABILITIES

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
Real Estate Taxes 2013		587.93
Real Estate Taxes 2014		880.75
TOTAL FOR REAL ESTATE TAXES		14,654.74

WATER RATES	Assets	Liabilities
Rollback Taxes Chap 61		274.93
TOTAL FOR WATER RATES		274.93

TAX TITLES & POSSESSIONS	Assets	Liabilities
Sale of Real Estate		42,500.00
TOTAL FOR TAX TITLES & POSSESSIONS		42,500.00

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	Assets	Liabilities
Due From/To Collector		3,000.00
Subsequent Years		306,378.00
TOTAL FOR ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE		309,378.00

P/R TAX	Assets	Liabilities
P/R Insurance Withholding		6,792.48
Sale of Timber Liabi.		32,087.00
TOTAL FOR P/R TAX		38,879.48

AGENCY	Assets	Liabilities
Reimb TT Legal Fees		1,719.28
FireArm Permit Fees		3,118.81
TT Redemption Fees		75.00
State Pymts.-Electric Lt.		52,557.37
Deferred Revenue - Vets Benefits		42,797.00
Tailings		3,477.71
Recreation Donations		953.18
Town Clock Donations		617.05
Library Donations		6.84
Veterans' Mem'l. Gift		200.00
Composting Proj.Donations		145.00
TOTAL FOR AGENCY		105,667.24

TAILINGS	Assets	Liabilities
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Town of Chester
Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS LIABILITIES
From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

TAILINGS	Assets	Liabilities
Flag Donations		526.50
Police Dept. Donations		898.38
Cemetery Donations		115.00
COA Donations		2,443.10
TOTAL FOR TAILINGS		3,982.98

GRANTS	Assets	Liabilities
Elections - State		1,492.47
State Aid to Libraries		7,144.13
CCC Grants and DLTA Awards		43,400.00
Cultural Council Grant		7,384.48
Big Yellow School Bus Grant		200.00
PVPC/Septic Repair-Int.		162.30
TOTAL FOR GRANTS		59,783.38

REVOLVING	Assets	Liabilities
Police Off-duty Pay		5,264.71
Cemetery Operation Fees		11,198.84
Plumbing/Gas Insp. Fees		735.00
Wiring Inspector Fees		90.00
BOH Revolving Fund		1,960.00
Deputy Collector Fees		360.00
Tax Collectors Fees		1,612.08
Town Clerk's Fees		4,541.93
Insurance Revolving/proceeds old ja		185.40
Cemetery PC Fnd-Revolving		2,660.70
TOTAL FOR REVOLVING		28,608.66

OVER-UNDER ESTIMATES	Assets	Liabilities
Green Community Grant		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

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

Town of Chester
Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS LIABILITIES
From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE	Assets	Liabilities
Overlay F1998		430.40
Overlay F1999		183.21
Overlay F2000		203.22
Overlay F2001		169.94
Overlay F2003		198.02
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		9,104.75
Overlay 2013		12,940.40
Overlay 2015		2,846.59
TOTAL FOR OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE		70,385.34

REVENUE RESERVED UNTIL COL	Assets	Liabilities
CMELD Rsvd for Petty Cash		100.00
Tax Title Revenue		52,448.37
Revenue-Possessions/Tax		21,207.78
Motor Vehicle Excise Rev		82,768.98
Water Rates Revenue		61,517.56
Water Liens Revenue		12,996.95
Muni Light Deprec.Revenue		617,506.94
Municipal Light Revenue		129,872.26
CMELD Liens Revenue		10,000.28
TOTAL FOR REVENUE RESERVED UNTIL COL		988,419.12

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

SURPLUS REVENUE	Assets	Liabilities
Surplus Revenue		472,319.23
Water Available Surplus		18,823.65
Muni Light Avail. Surplus		652,243.79
TOTAL FOR SURPLUS REVENUE		1,143,386.67

APPROPRIATIONS BALANCES	Assets	Liabilities
Moderator		200.00
Town Administrator Salary		329.00
Audit Expense		12,000.00
Treasurer Expenses		334.50
Dog Licensing Database-DO NOT USE		2,095.00
Election Software ATM19		1,000.00
Chapter 90		216,843.18
Water Department Salaries		80.00

Town of Chester
Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS LIABILITIES
From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

APPROPRIATIONS BALANCES	Assets	Liabilities
Assessment Stabilization ATM19		23,222.87
Preservation Project Yr 2		4,000.00
COA Administrative Projects		1,000.00
Library Expenses		1,125.42
Building Inspector Salary		112.70
Engineering & surveying		2,500.00
Design Services		18,900.81
Muni Light Customer Depos		4,856.37
TOTAL FOR APPROPRIATIONS BALANCES		<u>288,599.85</u>
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u><u>3,156,459.09</u></u>

Town of Chester
Balance Sheet TRUST FUNDS ACCOUNTS
From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

TRUST FUNDS	Assets	Liabilities
Trust Cash	446,740.61	
Stab. Fund Equity-Unres.		401,062.25
Cemetery P.C.Equity-Unres		80.15
Cemetery P.C. Equity-Res.		45,598.21
TOTAL FOR TRUST FUNDS	446,740.61	446,740.61

Town of Chester
Balance Sheet DEBT BALANCE ACCOUNTS
From 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

LONG TERM DEBT	Assets	Liabilities
Net Funded Fixed Debt/IDL	428,764.84	
Water Dept. Loan		343,698.84
Highway Truck		85,066.00
TOTAL FOR LONG TERM DEBT	428,764.84	428,764.84

COUNCIL ON AGING

The Council on Aging (COA) serves local residents who have reached 60 years of age or older. The Chester COA provides programs such as:

- Community Dining Center, now in its third year of operation, has served nearly 600 meals in the past year. Meals are provided by Highland Valley Elder Services (HVES) every Monday (Tuesday if Monday is a holiday) and the 3rd Friday of the month and has plans to expand to one more day per week in hopes of attracting more diners.
- Weekly Mahjong
- Monthly informational Newsletter
- Foot Clinic, up from once every 10-12 weeks to every 8 weeks and serves 25-30 seniors over a period of two days.
- Monthly Brown Bag disbursements serves 25-30 seniors. Food Commodities are provided by the Western Massachusetts Food Bank.
- Loaned Medical Equipment on an as needed basis.
- Monthly Potluck Luncheons which are sometimes combined with special events such as, Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Hot Dog Festival, Ice Cream Social, Halloween Party, Veterans Day Appreciation, and Christmas Party.
- Any other activities the seniors show an interest in such as, 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 will 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 COA works closely with the Southern Hilltowns Council on Aging Consortium (SHCOAC) which hosts the Hilltown Senior Outreach Center, which serves as the outreach component for three towns (Blandford, Chester, and Huntington) to serve seniors from those towns along with families and caregivers of those seniors.

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 staff and volunteers are determined to maintain the many excellent programs that have been instituted over the years. As the senior population continues to grow, it is our hope that we will grow and expand on programs and initiatives of interest to the seniors in our community.

Please consider becoming a volunteer to help in our efforts. Contact the COA if you are interested in filling this role. I am forever grateful to 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. I could not do this alone and your continued efforts have made this possible. Let's continue to keep up the good work and make some progress going forward.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Graveline, COA Director

***VETERANS SERVICES ***

2019 Accomplishments

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. We are participating with the three County Continuum of Care to address the need for permanent housing for community veterans. We are partnering with Valley CDC in providing support services to the newly built housing in Northampton and projected permanent housing they are looking to build in Amherst. We have assisted dozens of formally homeless veterans move into permanent housing again this year, with 5 veterans utilizing the newly acquired Continuum vouchers for homeless veterans that are not VA health eligible but are still in need of supportive housing services. The supportive services are being provided by ServiceNet through an agreement with our office, VA and HUD

We have become a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Outreach Partner in November in order to more directly assist Veterans and families access to this federal program. We are working hard to get the word out that our office can now provide this service and our applicants no longer need to go to Holyoke or Greenfield DTA offices to apply.

We continued our work at the Hampshire County Housing Court in Hadley on a weekly basis to address the needs of veterans in Hampshire County who are at risk of homelessness, preventing eight veterans including three veterans with families from falling into homelessness. We have found it is much easier to keep our people in housing than it is to rehouse them after an eviction or other legal processes.

We participated in several outreach events such as the Western Mass. Stand Down, Cummington Fair, 3-County Fair and the Big E, as well as outreach tables at UMass Basketball and Hockey sporting events on Veterans' Day weekend.

Challenges

We made significant gains in overall outreach on veterans' benefits; namely VA filings, however, our department seems to be struggling with finding eligible veterans and their dependents for assistance through our chapter 115 benefits program. The numbers are down district wide. It is expected that 1 in 1,000 residents within a Massachusetts community are eligible for our program. The Department's objective is ongoing and efforts need to be doubled to ensure all who need assistance receive it.

Due to the Mission Act, signed summer of 2019, the Federal Government is reducing medical services to area veterans and requiring them to access health care in the community which will require more coordination by

veteran's services department. We believe we need to look for a member of our staff to go to training and become a SHINE Representative in order to more directly assist Veterans and families to access the ever-changing medical insurance challenges. The federal government has made significant changes to the VA Healthcare system nationally and in Western Mass., and we will need to provide the best information as possible as our older veterans are being compelled to use more and more health services in the community.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Connor
Hampshire Veterans Services

BOARD OF HEALTH

The Chester Board of Health has made great strides in 2019 with a complete new board;

Nicholas J. Chiusano, chair, Elizabeth Massa and Gregory Harrison. The Board works closely with the Mass DEP and DPH to oversee the Chester Transfer Station and all health related permits and issues. Health Agents hired in 2019 are Charlie Kaniecki, Claudia Lucas and Ron Lavign which fees are paid through the permitting process. The Board has updated the website to include permit forms online, updated transfer station information and has revised the permit application process for a faster turnaround.

The transfer station has been brought up to DEP standards and has received its Authorization-to-Operate permit after twentyfour (24) years.

There are currently 218 resident transfer station permits. Operating hours are Wednesday 3 to 6 pm and Saturday 9 am to 1 pm and is manned by two attendants and an alternate plus the Board of Health as volunteers.

The Board of Health issued annual Food Permits/Inspections (10), temporary Food Permits/Inspections (5), Commercial Kitchen Food Permit/Inspections (1), Title V Reviews (8), Septic Plan Reviews (17), Construction Works Permits (9), Certificate of Compliance (10), Percolation Tests (6), Well Permits (3), Housing Inspections (4), Septic Installer Permits (5), Campground Permits (1), Trailer Park Permits (1), Beaver Permits (1), Septage Hauler Permits (2). The Board also handles Housing code enforcement, infectious disease investigation and reporting, health related public complaints and investigation.

The Board welcomes all questions, comments and suggestions at ChesterHealth@comcast.net or by office phone 413-354-7781. The Board of Health office is open 2nd and 4th Mondays 5 to 7 pm.

The Board is dedicated to keep Chester Beautiful and Healthy for its residents and businesses.

Respectfully submitted.

Nicholas J. Chiusano, Chair

Elizabeth Massa

Gregory Harrison

***PLANNING BOARD ***

The following is a summary of the Planning Board activities for FY 2019:

1. Planning Board personnel
 - a. Board membership status (as of January 2020): 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 Goss Road Estates on Goss Hill Road.
 - b. A special permit to conduct a temporary gravel operation at 475 Rt. 20 by Hilltown Sand and Gravel was approved.
3. Special Permits/permits/approvals denied
 - a. None.
4. Other
 - a. A proposed bylaw, 'Adult Use Marijuana', was approved by the Town.
 - b. Additional trees were planted along the perimeter of the solar facility to replace dead ones.

The zoning variance and special permit request forms were updated

Submitted,

Lyle Snide
Planning Board Chairman

Chester Historical Commission & Society

July 1 2018 through June 30 2019

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.

This year the Historical Society opened the Chester History Museum for our Summer monthly meetings, for Chester on Track, Memorial Day, for special requests, and every Sunday afternoon from July 1st through Labor Day.

Along with our calendar sale, book sales, donations and our two annual fundraisers, the Snowflake Festival, and our Penny Social, we were very successful in raising money to continue our work on the Museum. We began demolition of the existing restroom and are planning on completing a new handicap accessible restroom in the coming year.

The "Old Chester Jail", across the street from the new museum, is used for our monthly Winter meetings, and continues to be our research area. It was been visited many times by people researching family history and genealogy. With our yearly Commission money, we maintain the Jail, do necessary repairs, pay for the heat, and produce brochures, pamphlets, etc. to promote the history of our town.

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 "Gem of the Valley's" history.

John Hultman

President

HAMILTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Fiscal Year ending 6/30/19

In Fiscal Year 2019, Hamilton Memorial Library moved forward on many fronts. Probably the most significant accomplishment were the negotiations to purchase a parcel of property across the street from our present location for a new library facility. After many years trying to find a suitable location that met all our needs, we are now in the process of getting surveys, contracts, etc. drawn up. This would not be possible with out all the hard work and dedication of our Library Board of Trustees, Friends Group and our staff Hollie and Amber Jacob.

Another significant project completed this year was weeding out the no longer used, damaged and out of date materials. This was no small undertaking. It was almost a year to get this task completed. This is being done so we may process all our transactions digitally which will save time as well as be helpful for record keeping. The library annually completes reports and submits them to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. These statistics and the amount of funding from the town assist the Library in qualifying for State Aid. The amount of state aid received for Hamilton Memorial Library for the Fiscal Year 2019 was \$2,769.42. For this additional funding we are thankful for your patronage.

The best indicator of the vitality of our services and its importance to the community is in our increased circulation. Borrowing in all categories is up 12% over last year. Our summer children's program was very popular and made possible by a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. We have been seeing an increased number of young children and parents visiting our library and hope in the future t hold a dedicated story hour for these children.

As 2019 closes we anticipate another successful year in 2020 and would like to thank all our patrons for the opportunity to serve you. We would also like to thank our staff for their hard work and diligence. Without them we would not be able to keep our library open and up to date.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Pease

Treasurer, HML

WILD & SCENIC WESTFIELD RIVER COMMITTEE

2019 Annual Report

The Wild & Scenic Westfield River Committee works to preserve, protect, and enhance the special qualities and outstanding natural resources of the Westfield River

Watershed in concert with local communities. Appointed representatives from Becket, Chester, Chesterfield, Cummington, Huntington, Middlefield, Savoy, Washington, Windsor, and Worthington meet monthly with representatives from the National Park Service, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and others. Project funding is provided through the National Park Service's Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers Program.

2019 was a year of change as the Commonwealth withdrew its administrative support for the Committee; project funding from the National Park Service continues. The committee is working with our elected state representatives to restore this small amount of funding which helps leverages the Park Service funding.

The committee's outreach and education efforts continue to be a strong component of our efforts.

Wild & Scenic Saturdays and workdays, took place in and around the West & East Branch of the Westfield River. Highlights included:

- **Showing of the Wild and Scenic Film Festival at four locations in the watershed**
- **Continued with the Center Pond Weed Project in Becket**
- **Vernal Pools Plunge, a three-day intensive training in collaboration with Hilltown Land Trust. In 2019 nine pools were certified due to this program. All 16 towns have a trained Vernal Pool Rep.**
 - **Four Highlands Footpath Workdays carried out in the Chester/ Blandford State Forest (on the Newman Marsh trail).**
- **Hikes in collaboration with the Highlands Footpath along the Highlands Footpath route in Lee, Becket, Washington, and Chester.**
- **Two Native Bee Identification trainings were offered**
- **Began outreach to Silvio Conte Wildlife Refuge for a possible 2020 project clean up and restoration plan of the Bisbee Mill site in Chesterfield MA.**
- **Tidying the East Branch Trail (Yearly clean up on the EBT Chesterfield)**

Meredyth Babcock, the committee's outreach coordinator, coordinated two short segment videos that were shared on WGBY's connecting point.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BEGmaQNT5D8> Vernal Pool WGBY

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xjOe_c10GWE Tidying the East Branch Trail

The Committee continues to support the work of the Highlands Footpath Collaborative. We are excited by the development of a long-distance footpath through the towns and along segments of the river with a Wild & Scenic designation. This is a unique opportunity to incorporate many trails along designated river segments and highlight the dynamic Westfield River in outreach and planning. The sixth annual Watershed Blitz was held on September 28th. The Town of Cummington partnered with us, donating their park, community center and amenities. Eight specialists from various organizations and area universities offered a full day's exploration to over 57 community members who collectively spent 342 hours in one day marveling at and collecting data on the East Branch of the Westfield River.

The committee provided financial assistance to Mass Audubon and The Nature Conservancy for land conservation projects in Plainfield and Middlefield. Money was awarded to the Town of Windsor to help finish their final culvert design study along River Road.

The committee is supporting a number of communities within the watershed as they work to complete their Municipal Vulnerability Program (MVP) plans. To date half of the Wild and Scenic Communities are working on a MVP plan. They are Becket, Cummington, Chesterfield, Windsor, and Worthington. We expect the other towns to shortly follow.

The committee has begun planning to create a new master plan to guide our work into the future.

Our committee meets once a month and all meetings are open to the public. We encourage you to take part in any of our sponsored activities, including stream teams, river clean-ups, land protection, and workshops. To learn more about what is happening in the watershed, visit our newly updated website at www.wildscenicwestfieldriver.org.

For more information contact your local representative David Pierce <dpiercedlp@aol.com>

Respectfully submitted,
David Pierce

***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 Fogue

***POLICE DEPARTMENT ***

FY2019 Annual Report of the Police Department

The Chester-Blandford 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 our communities. Our goal is to make every effort we can to meet the public and personal safety needs of our community. In fiscal year 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 and areas of growth are mobile based communications. This on-going project is focused on officers having a field-based environment with 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. Our officers have worked with me in creating a police department that has integrity and respect, leading to the recognition of Chester-Blandford 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 Inicky, Chief of Police

BUILDING COMMISSIONER

Fifty two permits were issued by the building department in 2019 which is an increase over the average of the previous few years and matches the number from 2018. Four of these permits were for new single family dwellings, while thirteen more were for major home renovations or additions. The fact we have new industry scheduled to come to town this year and numerous improvement and re-opening projects throughout our town, it is pretty clear that our beautiful town is perpetually moving forward. The continued positive advancement towards Chester's inclusion in the East-West rail will only further increase the improvements to our downtown area.

Ten energy conservation permits pulled this year including solar installations, window/door replacements, and insulation and air sealing upgrades. Six 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 5:00-7:00, 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 Forgue
Building Commissioner

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER / INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS

Animal Control Officer

Calls to the Animal Control Officer were as follows:

- 4-wildlife calls
- 3- barking dog complaints
- 4-possible neglect
- 8- dog "at large"
- 1 -Loose large animal
- 1-quarantine for dog bite
- 3- found dogs returned to owner
- 2-nuisance dog
- 2-removal of animals from home

Inspector of Animals

46 "barn" visits were made in the fall of 2018. 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

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 ROUTE 20, FINISHING WORK ON HAMPDEN STREET, CONTINUING WORK ON JOHNSON HILL, SKYLINE TRAIL, AND MIDDLEFIELD ROADS. TREE TRIMMING, BOTH IN-HOUSE AND CONTRACTED, WAS DONE IN AN EFFORT TO REDUCE TREE RELATED OUTAGES.

DOUG NOEL JOINED THE TEAM AS AN APPRENTICE LINEMAN AND IS ATTENDING SCHOOLING.

CMELD LINESMEN CONTINUE TO ATTEND SAFETY AND CONTINUING EDUCATIONAL CLASSES TO STAY UPDATED IN THIS EVERCHANGING 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