

ANNUAL REPORT

TOWN OF PAXTON

Year Ending June 30, 2004



Printed April 2005

IN MEMORIAM

Janice Ahearn

Sheila Estabrook

*Jeanne F.
Lindquist*

*Henry F.
Cunningham*

Beatrice Robinson

WITH GREATFUL THANKS FOR PAST SERVICE

*John Anderson
Ingeborg Baehrecke*

*Cindy Cheever
Thomas
Cunningham*

*Robert Paulsen
Stephen Phaneuf*

*David Beach
Ella Beach
Joan Bedard
Rick Bedard Jr.
Paul Belsito*

*Caroline Ely
Richard Gaffney
Gino Gangai
Carol Harris
Julie Jacobson*

*Judy Pingitore
Kevin Quinn
Scott Runstrom
David Ryan
Thomas Savage
Snr.*

*Barbara Berka
Robin Carroll
Kenneth Carlson*

*Yvonne B. Karle
Joanne Langer
Marty McDonald
Patrick Mullaney*

*Joseph Seremeth
Patrick Smith
Bronwyn Texteria*

*Open Space &
Recreation
Committee*

*Designer Selection
Committee*

TOWN OFFICERS

May 2004 - May 2005

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Board of Selectmen	
Frederick G. Goodrich, Vice-Chair	2005
John F. Malone, Chair	2006
Michael T. Quinlivan, Clerk	2007
Town Clerk	
June T. Herron	2006
Treasurer	
Deirdre L. Malone	2005
Collector	
Deirdre L. Malone	2005
Moderator	
Francis A. Ford	2005
Constables	
Bernard J. Melican	2005
B. Peter Warren Jr.	2005
Tree Warden	
Patrick Smith (resigned)	2005
Adam. Smith	2005
Wachusett Regional School District Committee	
Alice Livdahl	2006
Natalie Mello	2005
Municipal Light Board	
Michael J. Benoit, Chair	2005
Emerson Wheeler III	2007
Paul F. Crowley	2006
Stephen Phaneuf (resigned)	2006
Assessors	
Doris E. Huard	2005
Robert E. Paulsen, Jr. (resigned)	2007
James R. Stone Jr., Chair	2006
Donna Graf-Parsons	2005
Water Board	
John F. Malone, Chair	2005
David J. Trulson	2006
Local Water Resources Mgmt. Official	
Charles Bolster	2007
Board of Health	
Thomas B. Carroll	2006
Judy A. Hatstat	2005
David Parent, Chair	2007
Planning Board	
Christian S. Baehrecke	2005
Neil Bagdis, Chair	2007
David Bennett	2006

Henry Stidsen	2009
Julie Jacobson	2008
Library Trustees	
Michelle Nelsen	2007
Charles L. Innis Jr., Chair	2007
Scott A. Martin	2006
Barbara Socha	2005
Joan E. Arnold-Nigro	2005
Louise Erskine	2005
Bronwyn Texteira (resigned)	2006
Recreation Commission	
Sheila Ducharme	2006
John Glowik	2007
Linda McKay, Chair	2005
Michael Ross	2006
Andrew Serrato	2005
Cemetery Commission	
Edwin L. Hammerberg	2007
Ronald Johnson	2005
Richard H. Sears	2006
Yvonne B. Karle (resigned)	2005

APPOINTED BY SELECTBOARD

Secretary to the Board of Selectmen	
Carol Riches	2005
Town Services Coordinator	
Nancy Wilby	2005
Town Accountant	
June T. Herron	2005
Superintendent DPW	
Ronald Fritze, (retired)	2005
Michael Putnam (acting)	2005
Veteran's Agent	
Timothy Hackett	2005
Veteran's Grave Officer	
Timothy Hackett	2005
Inspector of Wires	
Dennis Benoit	2005
John Slabich, Asst	2005
Building Commissioner	
Richard Trifero	2005
Harry Johnson, Local Inspector	2005
Worcester County Advisory Board	
Frederick G. Goodrich	2005
Local Superintendent of Insect Pest Control	
Adam Smith	

Board of Appeals		Barbara Berka, Associate	2006
Robert Bostwick	2009	Susan Barry	2007
James Bradbury, Chair	2005	Robert Bertin, Vice Chair	2005
Robert Callahan, Alternate	2007	Matthew Erskine, Associate	2005
Richard Grensavitch	2005	Christopher Keenan, Chair	2006
Kirk Huelhs, Alternate	2007	Ansley Siter	2007
Paul Robinson	2006	Janice Stewart, Associate	2006
Susan Serrato	2005	Robert Stewart	
Art Croteau (resigned)	2006	Justin Thackery	
Kathleen Sears (resigned)	2007		
Board of Registrars		Insurance Advisory Committee	
Annette Aubertin	2005	Deirdre Malone	
Louise Howatt	2006	Yvette Orell	
Phyllis Callahan	2007	Janet Porter (resigned)	
Ella Beach (resigned)	2006	Michael Putnam	
Town Counsel		Carol Riches	
Peter J. Dawson, Esquire		Eya Ryan	
Sexual Harassment Officers		Harold Smith	
Ann Marie Stoica		Cable & Communication Committee	
Measurer of Wood, Bark, Field Drivers & Fence Viewers		Chris Brunelle	
Larry Hammerberg		Raymond Charette	
Care of Clock		Deborah Magnuson	
Bruce Cheney		Nicholas Powlovitch	
Hazardous Waste Coordinator		Scott Wilson	
Jay Conte, Fire Chief		Agents for License Commission	
Emergency Management Director		Thomas Cunningham	
Scott Hill, (resigned)		Central Mass Regional Planning	
Gayle Ireland, Asst. Director		Christian S. Baehrecke	
Fire Chief & Forest Fire Warden		Neil Bagdis, Alternate	
Jay Conte		Personnel Advisory Board	
Police Department Chief		Jamie Contonio	
Robert Desrosiers		Heather Courtney	
Full Time Officers		Gary Goldberg	
Mark J. Chase, Patrolman, (resigned)		James Lang	
Kenneth Johnson, Patrolman		Susan Madaio, Chair	
David Keller, Patrolman		Ann Marie Stoica	
William F. Lang, Sergeant		Paul Sullivan	
William P. Reilly, Sergeant		Communications Board	
Mark S. Savasta, Patrolman		Christine Brunelle	
Mark Shepard, Patrolman		Robert Desrosiers	
Jason Silvestri, Patrolman		Diane Dillman	
Part Time Officers		Jay Conte	
David S. Ahlin		Ronald Fritze, (resigned)	
Jason Barlow		Council On Aging	
William Beaudry		Barbara Braley	2005
Brian J. Boulette		Robert Callahan	2005
Srinivas Emani		Howard Coleman	2007
Mary Stone		Alice Crowley	2005
Conservation Commission		Curtis Hammer	2006
Marisa Ayvasian	2005	Doris E. Huard	2006
		Mary Jenkins	2006
		Gerald Ryan, Chair	2007
		Jean Wilde	2007

Historical Commission

Susan Corcoran	2005
Lois Breault-Melican	2006
Daniel Gehnrich	2005
Anita Fenton	2007
Pamela Hair	2006
Donna MacLean	2005
Denis Melican, Chair	2005

Historic District Study Committee

Lois Breault-Melican
Anita Fenton, Chairman
Jay Gallant
Daniel Gehnrich
Natalie Mello
Paul Robinson

Cultural Council

Martha Akstin
Susan Bassick
Anita Fenton
Linda Howard
Michele Nelson, Chair
Susan Serrato

Paxton Housing Partnership Committee

Martha Akstin	2007
Sue-Anne Bock	2006
Scott Hill	2007
Virginia Kimball	2005
Kevin Quinn	2007
Joanne Savignac	2006
Kathleen Sears	2006
James Stone	2005
Paul Robinson	2005

Property Acquisition Investigation Committee

Louise Erskine
Catherine McCourt

504 Coordinator

Donna Graf-Parsons

Anna Maria Scholarship Committee

Debra M. Henderson, Chair
Barbara Lorge
John Malone

Capital Improvement Committee

Rick Bedard Jr. (resigned)
Michael Quinlivan
Kirk Huehls
William Jones
Scott Farrar
Christian de Marcken
James Stone
June Herron (resigned)

Tax Aid for the Elderly and Disabled

Deirdre Malone
James Stone, Chair

Election Officers

Charlotte Thalín, Warden REP
Cecilia Carroll, Inspector UN
Helen Faucher, Inspector DEM
Estelle Gemme, Inspector DEM, Resigned
June T. Herron, Clerk UN
Susan Stone, DEM
Robert R. Herron, REP, Alt.
Ann Cunningham, UN

Affordable Housing Bylaw Ad-Hoc Committee

Chris Baehrecke
David Bennett

Wind Farm Bylaw Ad-Hoc Committee

Neil Bagdis
Diane Dillman
Henry Stidsen

Reservoir Conservation Restriction Committee

Robert Bertin
Peter Dawson
Scott Runstrom

Town Administrator Selection Committee

Alfred Belanger
Alina Chand
William Gearin
Robert Hall
Todd McDonald

APPOINTED BY MODERATOR

Finance Board

Marty McDonald (resigned)	2007
Christian de Marcken	2007
Joseph Scheinfeldt, Jr.	2006
Robert Jacobson	2006
Richard Fenton, Chair	2005
Evelyn Lawler	2005
Eugene A. O'Rourke	2005
Judy Pingitore	2007
Peter Schur	2006

APPOINTED BY BOARD OF HEALTH

Plumbing Inspector

Dennis Harney
John P. Dolen, Assistant

Sanitary Inspector

Wayne Curran
Richard M. Cox, Environmental Engineer

Burial Agent
June T. Herron, Town Clerk

Thomas Savage, Jr.,
Raymond Savignac

Animal Inspector
Jean Parent

Fire Inspector
Matthew Stone

Animal Control Officer
B. Peter Warren Jr.

Rubbish/Recycling Collection
Central Mass Disposal
13 Hardscrabble Road
Auburn, MA 01501

APPOINTED BY FIRE CHIEF

Firefighters

Andrew Abysalh
Rodolfo Acuna
Matthew Bassick
Michael Benoit, Captain
Jay Conte, Chief, EMT
Thomas Ducharme, Lieut.
Brian Faucher
Michael Flek
Richard Gaffney, Deputy Chief
Michael Goncalves
Michael Goyette
Kenneth Grensavitch, EMT
James Hansson
Jeffery Harrell, EMT
Richard Jenkins, Deputy Chief
Sam Kinkade
Eric Locke
Robert Martin
James Olson
Michael Pingitore, EMT
Charles Pingitore
Michael Putnam
Kevin Quinn, Lieut.
Joseph Rego
Gary Richards, Lieut.
Michael Rowe
Thomas Savage, Jr., EMT
Raymond Savignac
Orville Sheldon, Lieut.
Sean Smith
B. Peter Warren Jr.

First Responders

Michael Benoit, Lieut., EMT
Jay Conte, Chief, EMT
Thomas Ducharme, Lieut.
Richard Gaffney, Lieut.
Kenneth Grensavitch, EMT
Jeffery Harrell, EMT - I
Richard Jenkins, Deputy Chief
James Olson
Michael Pingitore, EMT - I
Kevin Quinn, Lieut.

TO ALL BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS:

All committees and Boards of the Town shall meet and organize thirty days after election or appointment and shall forthwith transmit in writing to the Town Clerk a report of their organization. Upon failure to so file a report within forty days, the Town Clerk shall deposit in writing a complaint thereof with the Board of Selectmen who shall forthwith demand immediate compliance with the provisions of the Bylaw. (Annual Town Meeting 02/07/38)

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK VITAL STATISTICS July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004

2003 JULY

- 1 Maria Valentina, daughter to Mariana Siarkos and Georgios Evangelos Vasilakeris, 93 Grove Street
- 1 Danielle Rose, daughter to Ellen Susan O'Rourke and Conrad Marshall Swartz, 17 Crowingshield Drive
- 2 Emily Yvonne, daughter to Elaina Marie Loiacano and David Edward Roy Sr., 71 Streeter Road
- 14 Benjamin Anthony, son to Lynn Anne Yeulenski and Stephan Charles Trudell, 11 Crystal Street
- 24 Jaqueline Nicole, daughter to Karen Susan Morse and Kevin Edward Anderson, 11 Baxter Drive
- 30 Elizabeth O'Neil, daughter to Erin O'Neil and James Christian Bradbury, 14 Tanglewood Road

AUGUST

- 6 Lily Grace, daughter to Christina Maria Distefano and Matthew Paul Hart, 300A Grove Street

SEPTEMBER

- 9 Aiden Michael, son to Diane Carol Tinney and Jeffrey Alan Rocha, 3 Squantum Road
- 17 Gavin Quinn, son to Julie Ann Lavoie and Dwain Leon O'Connor, 580 Pleasant Street
- 19 Ella Genevieve, daughter to Julie Ellen Read and Joseph Francis Lysiak Jr., 24 Asnebumskit Road

OCTOBER

- 8 Lindsay Monique, daughter to Nicole Suzanne Leroux and Brian Patrick Lawler, 447 West Street
- 12 Anglalea, daughter to Effie Anifantis and Dimitrios Goritsas, 20 Pleasant Street
- 17 Jonathan Phillip, son to Cheri Ventura and Phillip Farrell Burrer, 9 Pond Street.

- 23 Timothy Philip, son to Greta R. Rothermel and Matthew Michael Ruppert, 21 Brigham Road
- 23 Jacob Michael, son to Greta R. Rothermel and Matthew Michael Ruppert, 21 Brigham Road
- 27 Grace Isabella, daughter to Jennifer Ann Murray and Anthony John Gigliotti, 204 Pleasant Street
- 31 Leah Elizabeth, daughter to Jennifer Robillard and Anthony George Joseph, 9 Briarcliff Lane

NOVEMBER

- 4 Andrew Scott, son to Jennifer Jan Hammerberg and Daniel Joseph Fenner, 12 Tanglewood Road

DECEMBER

- 1 Matthew Joseph, son to Kelly Jean Martin and Derek Donald Orne, 5 Birch Street
- 2 Quinn Alexander, son to Lucia Piazza and Michael Paul Sansoucy, 326 Richards Avenue
- 7 Oliva Alison, daughter to Cynthia Alison Crowe and Randy Neil Curtis, 6 Crestwood Road

2004

JANUARY

- 2 Ella Lindquist, daughter to Jean Lindquist and Kevin Michael Grady, 38 Streeter Road
- 2 Lily Anna, daughter to Jean Lindquist and Kevin Michael Grady, 38 Streeter Road
- 2 Olivia Bryn, daughter to Jean Lindquist and Kevin Michael Grady, 38 Streeter Road
- 12 Callie Elizabeth, daughter to Kimberly Ann Russell and Albert J. Vuona Jr., 41 Camp Street
- 20 Dylan Jacob, son to Joyce Chantal Elia and Richard Eugene Renaud, 236 Grove Street
- 21 Emma Elizabeth, daughter to Marcia Lynn Harvey and John Joseph Cote, 112 West Street

FEBRUARY

- 10 Samantha Wen, daughter to Liang-Ru Wen and John Henry Contois, 32 Lincoln Circle
- 16 Erin Elaine, daughter to Kathleen Elizabeth Toomey and Tod William Mitchell, 6 Hemlock Street

MARCH

- 3 Amelia M., daughter to Brenda Anne Shannon and Adam Seth Edelsberg, 20 Tanglewood Road
- 25 Jordan Elisabeth, daughter to Jessica Anne Zahavi and Kurt Randolph Stanley, 30 Camp Street
- 27 Wiktorja Krystyna, daughter to Anna Hawelka, and Janusz Andrzej Golemo, 47 Camp Street
- 28 Louis Everett, son to Shelly Adair Robbins and Robert Richard Gosselin, Sr., 1 Marshall Street

APRIL

- 18 Mia Rose, daughter to Cheryl Lynn Bacon and Kevin Joseph Fulginiti, 7 Squantum Road
- 19 William Patrick, son to Catherine Mary McCourt and Scott Patrick Runstrom, 299 Richards Avenue
- 21 Aydin Zhile, son to Nyet Foong Wong and Ferruh Gocemen, 200 Pleasant Street

- 29 Sarah Eizabeth, daughter to Maureen Ann Rose and John Aloysius Bowe, 21 Red Oak Street

MAY

- 18 Griffin Proscott, son to Jane Elizabeth Paskauskas and Kevin Michael Barnes, 10 Whitney Drive
- 28 Owen Patrick, son to Jennifer Lynne Snell and Paul Richard O'Brien Jr., 18 Grove Street

JUNE

- 5 Lillian Shea, daughter to Melissa Leigh Perry and David Robert Johnson, 15 Glen Ellen Road.

MARRIAGES

2003

JULY

- 19 Robert E. Ford of Worcester to Wendy A. Army of Worcester
- 24 Jay Flint Davey of Rutland to Brenda Jean Loader of Rutland

AUGUST

- 10 Douglas Paul Farmer of Paxton to Joan Frances Reid of Paxton
- 30 Scott M. Mahoney of Paxton to Dawnmarie Varney of Paxton
- 30 Brian J. Flavin of Spencer to Evelyn M. Marshall of Spencer

OCTOBER

- 11 Joseph Michael Kelley of Paxton to Ellen Catherine Reynolds of Paxton

2004

FEBRUARY

- 28 Christopher Michael Gingras of Lunenburg to Catherine Anne Dixon of Paxton

MAY

- 22 James Everett Fairbanks of Paxton to Alain Joseph Beret of Paxton

JUNE

- 22 William Robert Carney of Paxton to Jian Wang of Paxton
- 26 Ryan Christopher Sens of Paxton to Jaime Lee Kirsch of Paxton

DEATHS

2003

JULY

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|----|
| 7 | Denis J. O'Connor, 4 Boynton Parkway | 41 |
| 28 | Herve E. Landry, 498 Pleasant Street | 87 |

AUGUST

- | | | |
|----|---|----|
| 1 | Robert J. Roy Sr., 44 Streeter Road | 67 |
| 3 | Carl W. Ludvigsen, Jr., 477 Pleasant Street | 50 |
| 4 | Richard J. Dowd, 9 Mount View Drive | 71 |
| 6 | John M. Sheary, 18 Forestdale Road | 71 |
| 14 | Elizabeth C. Riddle, 18 Monticello Drive | 90 |

17 Aletha Single, 30 Julio Drive, Shrewsbury 90
18 Jeanne R. Faucher, 70 West Street 69

SEPTEMBER

2 Gordon L. Benson, 15 Brigham Road 83
23 Leonidas M. Vestarhis, 14 Walnut Street 87
26 Michael K. Kelley, 27 Crystal Street 45

OCTOBER

5 Matthew K. Brown, 37 Nourse Lane, Barre 29
8 George A. Abernathy Jr., 60 Richards Ave 70
10 Francis W. Ryan, 331 Marshall Street 87
15 Julia Kiremitjian, 3 Monticello Drive 76
22 Leonard R. Zenaro, 10 Walnut Street 60
26 Edward L. Urbanowski, 640 Pleasant Street 12

NOVEMBER

1 Louis Rosenberg, 3 Birch Street 90
8 Warren P. Lederer, 190 West Street 82
12 Joseph R. Lysik, 160 West Street 81
23 Kenneth W. Parsons, 6 Burtenmar Circle 83
25 Camille M. Nadworny, 14 Holbrook Lane 82

DECEMBER

8 Armand Zakarian, 3 Berkshire Drive 76
9 David J. Albrow, 5 Davidson Road 86
22 John R. Bauer, 11 Ridgewood Road 93
28 James M. Early, 20 Walbridge Road 91
29 Marian Mascolo, 4 Arrowhead Drive 85

2004

JANUARY

3 Homer L. Granger, 4 Meadowbrook Drive 86
10 Marion L. Clockedile, 29 Suomi Street 99
14 Sheila T. Estabrook, 11 Whitney Drive 75
19 Henry F. Cunningham, 9 Burtenmar Circle 93
20 Walter Thwing, 5 Berkshire Drive 94

FEBRUARY

8 David A. Ramstrom, 71 Pleasant Street 63
11 Ruth L. Cross, 10 Briarcliff Lane 82
14 Janice Ahearn, 131 Marshall Street 75

APRIL

19 Ghislaine M. Soetens, 23 Keep Avenue 82

MAY

12 Rita H. Sokol, 30 Maple Street 81
20 Marianne D. Keefe, 139 Worcester Street, Grafton 50
29 John J. Lynch III, 3 Shanandoah Drive 43

JUNE

6 Charles A. Cross, 10 Briarcliff Lane 91

DOG LICENSES ISSUED

July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004

Male/Female	69
Neutered/Spayed	518
Total	587

Kennel License	2
Paid to General Fund	5,263.47

HUNTING & FISHING LICENSES

July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004

Number of Licenses Issued	114
Paid to Division of Fisheries & Wildlife	2,798.00

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Worcester SS:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Paxton:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town who are qualified to vote in Town Elections to vote at

PAXTON CENTER SCHOOL
WEST STREET

on Monday, the tenth day of May, 2004

from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the Town Election for the candidates for the following Town Offices

Selectboard	Three Years	Michael T. Quinlivan
Mun. Light Board	Two Years	Paul F. Crowley
Mun. Light Board	Three Years	Emerson W. Wheeler III
Assessor	Three Years	Robert E. Paulsen
Water Board	Three Years	Charles H. Bolster Jr.
Board of Health	Three Years	David G. Parent
Planning Board	Five Years	Henry B. Stidsen Jr.
Library Trustee	Three Years	Charles Innis Jur.
Library Trustee	Three Years	Michelle S. Nelsen
Recreation Comm	Three Years	John P. Glowik
Cemetery Comm	One Years	Ronald E. Johnson
Cemetery Comm	Three Years	Larry Hammerberg

HEREIN FAIL NOT and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said meeting.

GIVEN under our hands this tenth day of May 2004.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

Scott Runstrom, Chairman

Frederick G. Goodrich, Clerk

John F. Malone, Vice-Chairman

POLLS OPEN AT 10:00AM AND CLOSED AT 8:00PM

TOTAL VOTES CAST

JUNE T. HERRON, TOWN CLERK OF PAXTON

TOWN OF PAXTON
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WORCESTER SS:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Paxton:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, who are qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet in the Cafetorium of Paxton Center School on June 24, 2003 at 7:00 p.m., then and there to act on the following articles:

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:10PM MEETING
ADJOURNED AT 7:15PM AND RECONVENED AT
7:20PM AFTER THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING.

MODERATOR DECLARED A QUORUM PRESENT, 125
REGISTERED VOTERS SIGNED IN BY BOARD OF
REGISTRARS. COUNTERS FOR THE EVENING;
RICHARD SEARS, RICHARD BEDARD, ROBERT
DATEO AND ROSEMARY WARREN

Article 1. To see what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate or transfer from other available funds, to defray the necessary and unusual expenses of the several departments of the Town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2003, and especially for any and all of the items shown on the following Budget; or act in any way thereon.

UNANIMOUS VOTE TO ACCEPT TOWN GOVERNMENT
PORTION OF ANNUAL BUDGET AS \$3,924,735. VOTED
TO LAY ON TABLE ANY VOTE ON THE SCHOOL
PORTION UNTIL JUNE 30, 2003.

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$60,000, or any other sum, to provide a new budget account which will fund the salary of a full-time Town Administrator to be hired by the Board of Selectmen as authorized by article 12 of the Annual Town Meeting of May 2002, the position to be filled no later than October 2003, or act in any way thereon.

Article Sponsored by Citizen Petition

Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

MOTION PASSED TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE BY
OVERRIDE A NEW BUDGET ACCOUNT TO FUND THE
SALARY PLUS BENEFITS FOR 9 MONTHS IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$60,000 FOR A FULL-TIME TOWN
ADMINISTRATOR.

MOTION PASSED YES 74 NO 44

OVERRIDE HELD AUGUST 11, 2003 FAILED

YES 316 NO 454 BLANK 6

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to abolish the Communications Board as established by Annual Town Meeting vote on May 6, 1974; or act in any way thereon.
Article Sponsored by Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

UNANIMOUS VOTE TO LAY ON TABLE UNTIL JUNE
30, 2003.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, or borrow and appropriate the sum of \$58,000, or any other sum, for the purchase of two new, fully-equipped police cruisers to replace existing vehicles; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Police Chief

Finance Committee recommends approval by borrowing.
Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

UNANIMOUS VOTE TO LAY ON TABLE UNTIL JUNE
30, 2003.

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, or borrow and appropriate the sum of \$44,327, or any other sum, for the purchase of a 2003 Ford F450 truck, with snow plow and dump body, for the Department of Public Works; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Department of Public Works Superintendent

Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen recommend disapproval.

UNANIMOUS VOTE TO TAKE NO ACTION

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw by repealing the moratorium on Senior Residential Developments adopted by Special Town Meeting vote on September 9, 2002 and by deleting the entire Section on Senior Residential Developments and by replacing the existing Section on Senior Residential Developments, with a new Section on Senior Residential Developments, the text of which is available in the Town Clerk's office at the Town Hall; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Planning Board

Finance Committee will make its recommendations at the Town Meeting.
Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

MOTION PASSED TO AMEND THE ZONING BY-LAW
BY REPEALING THE MORATORIUM ON SENIOR
RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ADOPTED BY SPECIAL
TOWN MEETING VOTE ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2002 AND
BY DELETING THE ENTIRE SECTION ON SENIOR

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT WITH A NEW SECTION ON SRD.

MOTION PASSED YES 124 NO 1

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to amend the "Paxton Overlay Districts" map by adding a new "Senior Residential Development Overlay District" and placing in said district a parcel of land owned by the Town of Paxton as shown on Assessors map 18 lot 105, a copy of which is available in the Town Clerk's office at the Town Hall; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Paxton Housing Partnership
Finance Committee will make its recommendations at the Town Meeting.
Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

MOTION PASSED TO AMEND THE "PAXTON OVERLAY DISTRICTS" MAP BY ADDING A NEW "SENIOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OVERLAY DISTRICT AND PLACING IN SAID DISTRICT A PARCEL OF LAND OWNED BY THE TOWN OF PAXTON AS SHOWN ON ASSESSORS MAP 18 LOT 105.

MOTION PASSED YES 76 NO 26

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to accept Forestdale Road Extension as a public way and any appurtenant drainage easements and facilities, provided the Town is deeded good, clear, record and marketable title to the same by deed drafted and recorded at the developer's expense and as evidenced by a title opinion of a title company doing business at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds and upon such other terms and conditions as are acceptable to the Planning Board; or act in any way thereon. (The legal descriptions of the property are on file in the Town Clerk's office.)

Article sponsored by the Planning Board
Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen will make its recommendations at the Town Meeting.
UNANIMOUS VOTE TO ACCEPT FORESTDALE ROAD EXTENSION AS A PUBLIC WAY AND ANY APPURTENANT DRAINAGE EASEMENTS AND FACILITIES, PROVIDED THE TOWN IS DEEDED GOOD, CLEAR, RECORD AND MARKETABLE TITLE TO THE SAME BY DEED DRAFTED AND RECORDED AT THE DEVELOPER'S EXPENSE AND AS EVIDENCED BY A TITLE OPINION OF A TITLE COMPANY DOING BUSINESS AT THE WORCESTER DISTRICT REGISTRY OF DEEDS AND UPON SUCH OTHER ITEMS AND CONDITIONS AS ARE ACCEPTABLE TO THE PLANNING BOARD.

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to amend the action adopted by Article 38 of the Annual Town Meeting of March 7, 1949 by deleting the language: "and no meeting for the transaction of Town business shall be called earlier than seven (7) o'clock P.M."; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Town Clerk

Finance Committee will make its recommendations at the Town Meeting.

Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

MOTION PASSED TO AMEND THE ACTION ADOPTED BY ARTICLE 38 OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF MARCH 7, 1949 BY DELETING THE LANGUAGE: "AND NO MEETING FOR THE TRANSACTION OF TOWN BUSINESS SHALL BE CALLED EARLIER THAN SEVEN (7) O'CLOCK PM".

MOTION PASSED YES 124 NO 1

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to authorize, if House Bill 3602 is enacted by Legislature, as amendment to Massachusetts General Law 59, to exercise local option which permits persons over 65 years of age to be exempted by the Assessors from a proposition 2½ override; providing, the taxpayer's income does not exceed \$60,000 and whose real estate tax payment exceeds 10% of total income; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen recommend disapproval.

UNANIMOUS VOTE TO TAKE NO ACTION

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to adjust the following factors pertaining to Clause 41C of Section 5 of Chapter 59 of the General Laws as previously accepted by the Town: (1) Reduce the requisite age of eligibility from the age of 70 to the age of 65; (2) increase the sum set forth in the first sentence of Clause 41C relative to the exemption amount from the sum of \$500 to the sum of \$750; (3) increase the amounts contained in subclause (B) of the first sentence of Clause 41C relative to income limits, whenever they appear in said subclause, from \$13,000 to \$20,000 (for a single person) and from \$15,000 to \$30,000 (for a married person); and (4) to increase the amounts contained in subclause (C) of the first sentence of Clause 41C relative to asset limits, whenever they appear in said subclause, from \$28,000 to \$40,000 (for a single person) and from \$30,000 to \$55,000 (for a married person); or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee will make its recommendations at the Town Meeting.
Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

MOTION PASSED TO ADJUST THE FACTORS PERTAINING TO CLAUSE 41C OF SECTION 5 CHAPTER 59 OF THE GENERAL LAWS

MOTION PASSED YES 124 NO 1

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to accept the Open Space and Recreation Plan to meet the Planning Requirements of the Division of Conservation Services (DCS). Such plan prepared by the Open Space and Recreation

Plan Committee, as authorized by Annual Town Meeting vote on May 7, 2001, a draft copy of which is available in the Town Clerk's office and Town Hall; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee.

Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen will make its recommendations at the Town Meeting.

UNANIMOUS VOTE TO ACCEPT THE OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN TO MEET THE PLANNING REQUIREMENTS OF THE DIVISION OF CONSERVATION SERVICES.

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant an easement (temporary construction and permanent) for sewer line purposes in Grove Street, Pond Street and/or Dodd Road, such easement to contain such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen may require; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen will make its recommendations at the Town Meeting.

UNANIMOUS VOTE TO LAY ON TABLE UNTIL JUNE 30, 2003.

Article 14 To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize for fiscal year 2004 all revolving accounts previously established; expenditures for fiscal year 2004 will not exceed one percent (1%) of the amount raised by taxation in fiscal year 2003; or act in any way thereon. [By state law these have to be approved annually.] Balances in accounts as of May 27, 2003.

WPAT Title V Betterments	-101,124.18
WPAT Title V Deferred Revenues Betterments	114,226.47
Title V Septic System Repair Repayments & Interest	56,209.26
Library State Aid	30,138.15
Conservation Wetlands Protect. Fund, Notice of Intent	11,915.17
MA Arts Council	3,644.32
Council On Aging, Formula Fund	719.44
Council On Aging, Gifts & Grants	130.00
Project We Care, Elder Affairs Van Account	16,207.19
Recycling Comm. Composting Bins Account	683.30
Recycling Grant	11,126.20
Town Clerk Fees	0.00
Upper Blackstone Water Pollution Abatement District	-348.41
Historical Commission Revolving Account	11,126.20
Charter Communications Cable TV	0.00
Police Private Duty Revolving Account	-348.41
Drug Abuse Resistance Education	871.06
Police Grants & Gifts	35,180.51
Police Parking Tickets	-3,049.05
Fire Department Grants & Gifts	3,514.19
Comm. of MA Fisheries & Wildlife Revolving Account	0.00

Article sponsored by the Town Accountant

Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

AMENDED TO DELETE COA GIFTS AND GRANTS FROM LIST.

UNANIMOUS VOTE TO ACCEPT WITH AMENDMENT.

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, or borrow and appropriate the sum of \$96,352.88, or any other sum, for maintaining, repairing, improving and construction of town and county ways and bridges which qualify under State Aid Highway Guidelines adopted by the Public Works Commission, including without limitation, preliminary engineering, State-Aid/Consultant Design Agreements, right-of-way acquisition and for such other purposes as the Department may specifically authorize as requested by the Board of Selectmen, to be reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under Chapter 246 of the Acts of 2002 in compliance with Chapter 30, Section 39M; Chapter 149, Section 44J; Chapter 149, Section 26-27F, as applicable; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee recommends approval by borrowing.

Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

UNANIMOUS VOTE TO BORROW AND APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$96,352.88 FOR MAINTAINING, REPAIRING, IMPROVING AND CONSTRUCTION OF TOWN AND COUNTY WAYS & BRIDGES WHICH QUALIFY UNDER STATE AID HIGHWAY GUIDELINES.

Article 16 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Assessors to take any sum of money from available funds to put in the Stabilization Fund; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen will make its recommendations at the Town Meeting.

UNANIMOUS VOTE TO LAY ON TABLE UNTIL JUNE 30, 2003.

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Assessors to take any sum of money from available funds to reduce the tax levy for the next fiscal year; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen will make its recommendations at the Town Meeting.

UNANIMOUS VOTE TO LAY ON TABLE UNTIL JUNE 30, 2003.

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds, the overlay surplus balance of \$86,012.89, or any other sum, as an offset to the total budget for fiscal year 2004; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee will make its recommendations at the Town Meeting.

Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

UNANIMOUS VOTE TO TRANSFER FROM AVAILABLE FUNDS THE OVERLAY SURPLUS BALANCE OF \$86,012.89 AS AN OFFSET TO THE TOTAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004.

AND YOU ARE DIRECTED TO SERVE THIS Warrant by posting attested copies thereof, one of which shall be at the Post Office, as required by By-laws, seven days at least before the day set for holding said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT and make due return of the Warrant with your doing thereon at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this tenth day of June 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott P. Runstrom, Chairman
John F. Malone, Vice Chairman
Frederick G. Goodrich, Clerk

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:50PM TO BE RECONVENED JUNE 30, 2003 AT 7P.M.

FRANCIS A. FORD, MODERATOR
JUNE T. HERRON, TOWN CLERK

RECONVENED ANNUAL TOWN MEETING **JUNE 30, 2003**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:05PM.
MODERATOR DECLARED A QUORUM PRESENT, 155 REGISTERED VOTERS CHECKED IN BY BOARD OF REGISTRARS.

COUNTERS FOR THE EVENING WERE RICHARD BEDARD, GERALD TERAN, ROSEMARY WARREN, ROBERT DATEO, HEATHER COURTNEY AND THOMAS SOCHA.

ARTICLE 1.

CONTINUATION OF BUDGET FOR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL TUITION/TRANS.

UNANIMOUS VOTE TO ACCEPT THE VOCATIONAL SCHOOL TUITION/TRANS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$194,593.

THE FOLLOWING VOTES WERE TAKEN ON THE WRSD BUDGET:

MINIMUM LOCAL CONTRIBUTION	3,184,088	UNANIMOUS
REGIONAL EXCESS DEBT ASSESSMENT	504,263	
(CONTINGENT UPON PASSAGE OF OVERRIDE ELECTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$178,000)		
LONG-TERM REPAYMENT ASSESS	126,991	UNANIMOUS
TRANSPORTATION	199,595	UNANIMOUS
TOTAL WRSD BUDGET	4,014,937	

TOTAL SCHOOLS 4,209,530
(MOTION PASSED SUBJECT TO
OVERRIDE ON THE EXCESS DEBT
ASSESSMENT)

GRAND TOTAL OF FY04 BUDGET 8,134,265

OVERRIDE ELECTION WAS HELD AUGUST 11, 2003

MOTION FAILED YES 206 NO 566 BLANK 4

UNANIMOUS VOTE TO USE \$119,782 OF AVAILABLE FUND (FREE CASH) TO REDUCE BUDGET.

ARTICLE 3.

UNANIMOUS VOTE TO AMEND THE ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMUNICATIONS BOARD TO 5 MEMBERS; POLICE SERGEANT, MANAGER OF COMMUNICATIONS, DPW SUPERINTENDENT, PEL MANAGER AND FIRE CHIEF. THIS WILL BE REVIEWED AT THE NEXT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING.

ARTICLE 4.

UNANIMOUS VOTE TO BORROW AND APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$58,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO NEW FULLY-EQUIPPED POLICE CRUISERS TO REPLACE EXISTING VEHICLES.

ARTICLE 13.

MOTION PASSED TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN TO GRANT AN EASEMENT (TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION AND PERMANENT) FOR SEWER LINE PURPOSES IN GROVE ST., POND STREET AND/OR DODD ROAD, AND ANY OTHER ROADS NECESSARY. SUCH EASEMENT TO CONTAIN SUCH TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MAY REQUIRE.

ARTICLE 16.

UNANIMOUS VOTE TO TAKE NO ACTION.

ARTICLE 17.

UNANIMOUS VOTE TO TAKE NO ACTION.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:35PM.

A SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WAS HELD SEPTEMBER 25, 2003 TO FINALIZE THE BUDGET.

FRANCIS A. FORD, MODERATOR
JUNE T. HERRON, TOWN CLERK

SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION **COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

Worcester SS:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Paxton:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town who are qualified to vote in Town Elections to vote at

PAXTON CENTER SCHOOL
WEST STREET

on Monday, the eleventh day of August, 2003 from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the Special Town Election for the following question:

QUESTION 1:

"Shall the Town of Paxton be allowed to assess an additional \$178,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding a portion of the Town's assessment for the Wachusett Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July First Two Thousand and Three?"

YES 206 NO 566 BLANKS 4

QUESTION 2:

"Shall the Town of Paxton be allowed to assess an additional \$60,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding the position of Town Administrator to be filled during the fiscal year beginning July First Two Thousand and Three?"

YES 316 NO 454 BLANKS 6

Total Votes Cast 776

HEREIN FAIL NOT and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said meeting.

GIVEN under our hands this fourth day of August 2003.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

Scott Runstrom, Chairman

John F. Malone, Vice-Chairman

Frederick G. Goodrich, Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WORCESTER SS:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Paxton:
GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town, who are qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Paxton Center School on September 25, 2003 at 7:00 p.m., then and there to act on the following articles:

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:05PM.

MODERATOR DECLARED A QUORUM PRESENT AND WARRANT DULY SERVED. 109 VOTERS SIGNED IN BY BOARD OF REGISTRARS.

Article 1. To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 1 of the FY2004 Annual Town Meeting, as voted June 30, 2003, by deleting the amounts approved on June 30, 2003 and to vote the following amounts for the Wachusett Regional School District as follows:

Minimum Local Contribution	3,184,088
Regional Agreement Spending Assessment	\$327,920
Long-Term Debt Repayment Assessment	\$126,991
Transportation	<u>\$199,595</u>

Total Wachusett Regional School District	\$3,838,594
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(In addition to the Vocational school tuition/transport budget that was voted at the Town Meeting on June 30, 2003 makes up the total school budget) \$194,593

Total Schools	\$4,033,187
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(Which combined with the Town operating budget \$3,924,735 that was voted at the Town Meeting on June 24, 2003 makes up the grand total budget)

GRAND TOTAL	\$7,957,922
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Article sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.

MOTION PASSED TO ACCEPT REGIONAL AGREEMENT SPENDING ASSESSMENT OF \$327,920, TOTAL WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT FIGURE OF \$3,838,594, TOTAL SCHOOL FIGURE OF \$4,033,187 AND GRAND TOTAL BUDGET FIGURE OF \$7,957,922.

Article 2. To see if the town will vote to transfer the sum of \$43,000, or any or sum, from the Water Board Compensation account #14450-5103 to the Water Board Purchased Services account #14450-5200; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Water Board.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.

MOTION PASSED TO TRANSFER \$43,000 FROM ACCOUNT 14450-5103 TO ACCOUNT 14450-5200.

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Stabilization Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund, or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by Selectmen.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.

UNANIMOUS MOTION PASSED TO TRANSFER \$10,000 FROM THE STABILIZATION FUND TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, any sum of money to put in the Stabilization Fund; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by Selectmen.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.

UNANIMOUS MOTION PASSED TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$75,000 FOR THE STABILIZATION FUND.

AND YOU ARE DIRECTED TO SERVE THIS Warrant by posting attested copies thereof, one of which shall be at the Post Office, as required by By-laws, fourteen days at least before the day set for holding said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT and make due return of the Warrant with your doing thereon at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this tenth day of September, 2003.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:40PM

Francis A. Ford, Moderator
June T. Herron, Town Clerk

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:
Scott P. Runstrom, Chairman
John F. Malone, Vice Chairman
Frederick G. Goodrich, Clerk

REPORTS OF THE ELECTED AND APPOINTED BOARDS OF THE TOWN OF PAXTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

FY04 was the turning point for the Town in reference to its financial standing, as the year ended with a balance budget despite continued difficulty with the requested budget requests from the Wachusett Regional School District who sought a 12.5% increase. While successfully balancing the budget, we were unable to add to the stabilization or capital improvement funds. However the Capital Improvement Committee has every confidence, from indications seen that the Town will have financial stability as we proceed into FY05.

Despite difficulty in budgeting, the Board of Selectmen extends a thank you to each of the Operating Departments. Every department has responded to our philosophy of conservative financial control, fiscal responsibility and accountability. Paxton has excellent Police, Fire, DPW and Communication departments, each coming under budget and providing outstanding services to the community. Though budgets are tight, we continue to improve our assets, so that our departments will have the tools needed to perform their tasks.

The Capital Improvement Planning Committee was appointed in October and began its work to provide plans for maintaining, acquisition of capital items, buildings, and infrastructure that is consistent with the Town's financial capability, which includes staying within the debt service limitation of 12½% of the operating budget as approved by the

Board of Selectmen. Each year the legislature (Town Meeting) will be presented with a 6 year plan, which has been approved by the Board of Selectmen.

Overall, infrastructure, roads, water lines, etc. are of concern and will be considered by the Capital Improvement Planning Committee in the near future.

The board initiated a new beginning for Regional Meetings with Board of Selectmen and Finance Committees of the Wachusett Towns. While these discussions largely dealt with WRSD budget, it is hoped that the Towns will be able to regionalize some functions and entities for the mutual benefit of all citizens.

While our progress has been positive, there are several areas which we continue to work on, perhaps the most important of which is the computerized system in the Town Hall which is not fully implemented at this time. An appointed committee is working on recruitment of a Town Administrator. Committees have appointed to work on bylaw changes and additions, to address issues such as affordable housing, wind energy, boundary variance, signs, accumulated vehicles and trash and negotiation on water rates.

Paxton Housing Partnership has new impetus now that the Town has provided some initial funding. A "Peer" consultant is on board as of July 1, 2004 through a grant from Mass Housing and Community Development. It is expected that Paxton's senior housing project is moving closer to reality.

Much has been accomplished over the past few years thanks to the diligence and dedication of the Town's committees, boards, and volunteers who serve as well as the Towns employees. The greater the participation in Town's affairs, the greater our community will be.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Runstrom, Chairman
John Malone, Vice-Chair
Frederick Goodrich, Clerk

THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

The Capital Improvement Committee was reformed in Fiscal Year 2004. The new eight-member board was charged with preparing an inventory and depreciating all existing town assets, developing a six-year capital improvement plan by combining all the town departmental requests, analyzing the town's debt structure while considering the future debt implications, and communicating with the town departments, boards and citizens our fiscal capacity and capital objectives. These responsibilities will be addressed on an ongoing basis so that by Town Meeting voters will have a clear understanding of our debt service and capital project requirements. In short, all capital project requests are part of the Capital Improvement Committee's purview.

In our first year, we have compiled a depreciated-value asset inventory totaling \$8,865,014, reviewed with department heads forty-two capital projects slated for the next six years, recommended to the Select Board and Town Meeting members six capital improvement projects for approval, established a working data base for debt service analysis and supported a new reserve fund established for capital needs. The Capital Improvement Committee goal is to maintain a maximum debt service of 12.5% of the town's total operating budget in order to ease the tax burden.

The Capital Improvement Committee also spent considerable time re-visiting the need for a new Safety Building to house the Police and Fire Departments. Although we feel there is a need to incorporate this project in our future plans, we feel this can be achieved at a lower cost than originally estimated. Furthermore, the committee is evaluating how this large capital project will affect our future debt obligations. We hope to avoid any sudden changes in debt service exceeding our 12.5% ceiling and maintain a balance of debt and operating expenses throughout the term of the loan.

Your Capital Improvement Committee,

Richard G. Bedard, Jr.
Chairman

BOARD OF HEALTH

The following is a breakdown of BOH activities for fiscal year 2004:

Septic System Inspections:	159
Soil Percolation Tests:	60
Septic Permits	64
Food Service & Establishment Inspections	10
Pool & Spa Inspections	6
Summer Camp Inspections	4
Housing Inspections	3
Air Pollution Complaints	1

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Carroll, Chairman

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Paxton's voters at the Spring Town Meeting approved an operational budget of \$4,420,687. While this represents an increase of approximately 12% from that of the previous fiscal year, the greatest portion of the increase in expenditures was related to few accounts. The increase in the Water Board Account mostly reflects the greater quantity and price of water obtained from Worcester as well as the cost of hydrant flushing that has been deferred for many years. Much of this increase will be revenue neutral. County Retirement is an annual expenditure that has now become part of the operational budget. Other major increases include expenditures for Town Employee Insurance, the Housing Partnership and Highway Department. The Fire Department

required funding to replace obsolete and expired equipment required for safe conduct of operations. Also included this year are the costs associated with filling the new position of Town Administrator. Other accounts showed minor changes resulting primarily from the 3% cost-of-living salary increases and a greater reliance of the town operation on computer technology. No contributions to the Capital Improvement or the Stabilization Funds were possible this year because town meeting attendees chose instead to direct funds toward the Town Administrator position. Residents also approved an additional \$154,017 in borrowing, the greatest portion directed to acquisition of equipment ranging from a police cruiser and a dump/snow plow to an improved public safety radio system and fire department equipment upgrades.

State action on the budget was timely this year with state aid increasing almost 5% over that of last year. Paxton also received a school bond reimbursement of approximately \$62,000, thereby allowing an equivalent reduction in the School Debt Exclusion. In addition, a last minute increase in education funding by the legislature enabled the town to avoid the override vote that would have been required to fund the Wachusett Regional School District budget. A residual portion of the funds provided by the state remain to be credited to Paxton by the WRSD and this sum will be reflected in the free cash available for FY2006. Even with this relief from the Commonwealth, the education budget has continued to grow historically at an overall rate faster than the municipal budget. The required minimum local contribution was increased 6.5% from the previous year and the final WRSD budget (\$4,073,482) passed at town meeting exceeded the budget of the previous year by 9.4%. The budget for vocational education tuition increased 34% from FY2004 reflecting the greater number of students choosing to attend vocational schools.

At present it would appear that the financial picture for Paxton for the next year will improve as suggested by the economic recovery of the state. However, a number of state programs have been deferred over the last three years and the various towns will be in direct competition for these funds. Furthermore, Paxton now has the annual financial obligation of a Town Administrator and a minimal amount set aside for capital improvement. It can be anticipated that requests for borrowing will increase as more capital items require replacement. Attention must also become focused on the replacement of the town's aging public safety facilities. These are just some of the concerns to be addressed in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Your Finance Committee

Richard A. Fenton, Chairman

BOARD OF APPEALS

In Fiscal Year 2004 the Board of Appeals met 5 times to hear and vote upon the following:

- 10 applications including 4 variances, 5 special permits and 1 appeal
- 3 variances were approved, 1 was denied
- 4 special permits were approved, 1 was withdrawn
- 1 appeal was denied

Members of the board attended educational seminars at Holy Cross College on zoning issues conducted by Citizen Planner Training Collaborative as well as a seminar at Holden Senior Center on open meeting law conducted by the Worcester County District Attorney's office.

Respectfully submitted,
James C. Bradbury, Chairman

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Fiscal Year 2004 was a mandated triennial valuation update year which resulted in a total taxable valuation as of January 1, 2003 of \$451,993,034. A net increase of \$149,316,159., (49.3%).

The valuation update increased the taxable valuation \$142,474,110, 47.1%. New construction, additions, and alterations increased the total valuation \$7,364,462 Real Estate and Personal Property abatements reduced the total valuation \$137,900. Other adjustments lowered the total valuation \$384,513.

The Board received 38 Real Estate abatement requests of which 11 were approved and processed.

The Assessors office is open daily from 9:00am to 12:00pm, Monday thru Thursday.

The Board meets on the first Monday of each month at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

James R. Stone, Jr. Chairman

PAXTON COUNCIL ON AGING

The Council made great strides this past year in fulfilling its mission statement, which is to promote, evaluate and encourage new and existing service which enhances the quality of life for our seniors. The Paxton Advanced Adult Computer Institute (PAACI) completed its inaugural first two semesters with 72 students completing 2 computer courses. Special tutoring classes were also provided to our seniors enabling them to become more computer savvy. It held two successful International Learning Breakfasts featuring the countries of India and Greece. More are planned. Our seniors were guests of the Paxton Center School during its Veteran Day Celebration, intermingling with the students, and answering questions about their time in the service. This was one of seven intergenerational programs provided for the seniors by the Council. The Council's Van service totaled over 2,800 rides this past year transporting seniors to medical and

personal appointments, grocery shopping, and lunches at the Senior Center.

The Council is very proud of its outstanding Outreach Program. Our Outreach Coordinator made contact with over 150 seniors and their families this past year and has made available to them information and counseling to help our seniors in need.

The Senior Center Meal Site, run by the Age Center of Worcester, provided 1,465 meals to our homebound seniors and 2,077 meals served at the Senior Center.

The Council also provided programs in the fields of AARP Tax Service, Fuel Assistance, License and Registration renewals, Elder Home Repair, the SHINE Program. In addition to these, Health and Wellness clinics (Blood Pressure, Podiatry, and Flu) were provided throughout the year along with our medical equipment loaner program. And, how can we forget our Red Hatters, who out there just having fun.

The Council is in an on-going program of updating the Senior Center to make it comfortable and inviting to our seniors. The Council is planning new and exciting programs for this coming year. We invite all of the seniors of Paxton to participate in our schedule of programs and events. Remember, The Council on Aging is here to serve you.

Respectfully submitted,
George Heeley, Director

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

All dogs and cats six months of age or older must be vaccinated against rabies. All dogs six months or older must be licensed by March 31st of each year.

The Animal Control Officer can be reached by calling the Dispatch Center at 508-791-6600. All calls will be returned as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted,
B. Peter Warren, Jr.

CEMETERY COMMISSION

Effective July 1, 2003 the cost for Mooreland Cemetery lots and grave openings are as follows:

CEMETERY LOTS:

2 Grave Lot	400.00
3 Grave Lot	600.00
4 Grave Lot	800.00
6 Grave Lot	1,200.00
1 Grave lot available by special permission.	

OPENING GRAVES:

Weekdays	500.00
Weekends	650.00
Holidays	650.00

CREMATION BURIALS:

Weekdays	300.00
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NO CREMATION BURIALS ON WEEKENDS OR HOLIDAYS!

INFANT BURIALS:

Weekdays	200.00
Weekends	250.00
Holidays	250.00

Lots are available to all current Town residents and former residents. Cemetery lots may be purchased at the Town Hall through the Town Clerk [799-7347, ext. 13]. An updated map of Mooreland Cemetery is on display at the Town Hall.

Respectfully,

Yvonne B. Karle, Chair

COMMUNICATION CENTER

The Communications Center's main purpose is to ensure the safety of the personnel it dispatches. This cannot be emphasized enough. The dedication each Dispatcher displays in pursuit of this endeavor is commendable.

The Center is also dedicated to the lives, safety and property of both residents and town visitors. The volume of calls is immaterial compared to the responsibility and knowledge a dispatcher must have to properly carry out their duties.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the men and women of the Paxton Communications Center for a job well done!

We have had a busy year - hiring and training new dispatchers, improving teaching methods, updating manuals, videotaping the dispatch center for training purposes, monthly meetings, many summer and winter storms that kept us on our toes, emergencies of all natures as well as fielding routine calls

The members of the department are as follows:

Christine Brunelle, Chief Dispatcher
Forrest Thorpe, Asst. Chief Dispatcher
Shameka McLeod, Part Time Dispatcher
Sean Cooney, Full Time Dispatcher
Patrick Spencer, Part Time Dispatcher
Jean Pomeroy, Part Time Dispatcher
Kristen George, Part Time Dispatcher

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Brunelle
Chief Dispatcher

Report of the Municipal Light Commission for the year ending December 31, 2003

The Light Commission thanks the employees of the Light Department for their continuing efforts to bring value to the ratepayers of Paxton and to the Town itself. During 2003, the Paxton Light Department contributed over \$7684 in direct labor and materials to projects assisting other departments of the Town of Paxton through our line department. Our joint

billing for water, trash and electric customers continues to keep costs at a minimum for ratepayers and taxpayers alike.

During the past five years, the town's demand for energy has grown at an increasingly rapid rate. The higher demands for energy are driven in part by the development that is occurring in town. Larger homes, and especially summer cooling load associated with swimming pools and air-conditioning, have increased our summer peak power demand. Our summer peak in June of 2003 was 52% higher than in 1998. Winter peak demand has increased at a lesser rate.

Although our power contracts are sufficient to meet these demands, the price of market power can soar at these times. If any of our contract units are off-line, the Light Department must purchase market power to supply the town's needs. Similarly, excess power can be sold, often at a nice profit. These profits reduce the cost of Purchased Power and flow back to our customers. Customers are reminded to conserve energy whenever possible and respond when energy alerts are issued. The actions you take affect your cost of power and the cost to all customers of the Paxton Light Department.

The Light Commission meets each month on the second Tuesday at the department offices at 578 Pleasant Street. Guests are always welcome and customers with specific concerns can be accommodated in the meeting schedule. The Commission is dedicated to providing first rate customer service and top quality power supply at the lowest possible cost. If we can serve you better, please share your ideas with us.

Management Discussion and Analysis of the 2002 operations follows. Complete audited Financial Statements are available for viewing at our office during regular business hours, Monday through Friday between 9AM and 4PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane K. Dillman, Manager

Michael J. Benoit, Chairman
Emerson W. Wheeler, III, Clerk-Secretary
Paul F. Crowley
Paxton Light Commission

Management's Discussion and Analysis Of 2003 Operating Results Of The Paxton Light Department

Within this section of the Paxton Municipal Light Department's annual financial report, management provides narrative discussion and analysis of the financial activities of the Paxton Municipal Light Department for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002. The Department's performance is discussed and analyzed within the context of the accompanying financial statements and disclosures following this section.

Overview of the Financial Statements:

The basic financial statements include (1) the statements of net assets (2) the statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net assets (3) the cash flow statements and (4) notes to the financial statements.

The Statements of Net Assets are designed to indicate our financial position as of a specific point in time. Our net assets increased \$135,959 or 4.8%.

The Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets summarizes our operating results and reveals how much, if any, of a profit was earned for the year. Our net profit for the year ended December 31, 2003 was \$73,720, which was an increase of \$24,662 or 50% as compared to the profit for the prior year.

The Statements of Cash Flows provides information about the cash receipts and cash payments during the accounting period. It also provides information about the operating activities, investing activities and financing activities for the same period. The statement shows a net increase in cash of \$252,025 provided by operating activities. Our ending cash and cash equivalents balance increased by \$85,435.

Summary of Net Assets

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Current Assets	\$ 1,640,830	\$ 1,552,703
Noncurrent Assets	3,153,012	2,980,784
Total Assets	<u>4,793,842</u>	<u>4,533,487</u>
Current Liabilities	273,749	184,058
Noncurrent Liabilities	<u>1,521,980</u>	<u>1,487,275</u>
Total Liabilities	1,795,729	1,671,333
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt	1,085,776	898,537
Unrestricted	<u>1,912,337</u>	<u>1,963,617</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>2,998,113</u>	<u>2,862,154</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 4,793,842</u>	<u>\$ 4,533,487</u>

Summary of Changes in Net Assets

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Operating Revenues	\$ 2,490,605	\$ 2,243,189
Operating Expenses	<u>2,479,449</u>	<u>2,280,675</u>
Operating Income (Loss)	11,156	(37,486)
Non-operating Revenues (Expenses)	<u>62,564</u>	<u>86,544</u>

Income Before Contributions and Transfers	73,720	49,058
Transfers In—Restricted for Capital Projects	62,239	141,023
Transfers Out – Approp. for Rate Stabilization	0	(114,773)
Claims and Judgments	0	114,773
Beginning Net Assets	<u>2,862,154</u>	<u>2,672,073</u>
Ending Net Assets	<u>\$ 2,998,113</u>	<u>\$ 2,862,154</u>

Financial Highlights:

Operating revenues and expenses increased over the previous year. The increased revenues were attributable in part to additional sales of electricity to existing and new customers as well as increased billings for construction work. Rates remained unchanged in 2003 as compared to 2002. Our construction schedule extending into the near term supported the addition of one lineworker in 2003. The department is negotiating an intermunicipal agreement with Spencer to provide streetlight maintenance for that town beginning in July of 2004. This additional contract work can be accomplished with our current staffing level.

Non-operating revenues and expense consists of investment income and interest expense. Our investment income decreased for 2003 in comparison to 2002 by \$23,974 due to the continued decline in interest rates.

The department had an Operating Income of \$11,156 for 2003. This was an increase of \$48,642 and recovery from an operating loss in 2002.

The electric lineworkers filed for union certification in 2002. Our legal expenses for union activities were \$11,061 in 2003 and \$9,111 in 2002 respectively. In January 2004, the union representing the lineworkers advised the Light Department that they would no longer represent the lineworkers. The lineworkers have filed a request with the Labor Relations Commission to deactivate the certification. The lineworkers have indicated that they wish to return to non-union status.

The department commissioned a rate study in the fall of 2003. It was completed in early 2004. The study indicates some adjustments to the rates are appropriate. The rates have not been adjusted since 1991 exclusive of some changes in the Purchased Power Adjustment billing. The Light Commission will be considering appropriate action during the spring of 2004.

In June of 2003, the department initiated a study to measure wind resources on Asnebumskit Hill as the first step of an investigation into possible construction of a wind generator turbine. The study was fully funded by a grant provided by Renewable Energy Research Laboratory at UMASS Amherst. Going forward, the department will investigate other sources

of funding to assist in the feasibility studies required to pursue the development of wind generation in Paxton.

Power Supply

The Paxton Municipal Light Department provides power for its customers through both fixed contracts and the open market power supply in an effort to stabilize power costs. Purchased Power costs are the costs associated with buying energy and having it delivered to the Town of Paxton. There are circumstances that will make prices fluctuate, such as extended periods of time with above or below normal temperatures, unexpected power plant shutdowns for unforeseen repair, and fuel prices being affected by global issues. The Light Department has tried to position its customers so that these situations will not have an overbearing burden on them. Power supply expenses increased \$162,797 in 2003. Exclusive of market power, our net cost of energy went up 3/10th of a cent or 5% in 2003 as compared to 2002. Paxton was a net buyer in the market in 2003 and a net seller in 2002.

Utility Plant and Debt Administration:

Utility Plant

The Department had Gross Utility Plant acquisitions of \$327,195 in 2003. During the year, we purchased 288 electric meters to read by radio. In 2004 we plan to purchase the 540 necessary to complete the conversion to meters with radio read ERTs (Electronic Radio Transmitters). These meters are being competitively bid in conjunction with other municipal light departments in order to secure the lowest price.

The roof on our operations center and garage, which was built in 1971, was replaced in 2003. The new roof includes insulation which should produce energy savings in future years.

In 2003, we bid out two new line trucks to replace our 1986 material handler and our 1991 service truck. The cab/chassis were received in December 2003 and the body construction will be completed in May of 2004.

During the year, we completed the final phase of installation of primary service to one new subdivision. We also installed 29 electric services to new customers. For each subdivision, a complete underground electric system has to be installed. The developer is responsible for paying for the installation of all subdivision primary costs. All individual service installations are also paid in full from the connection at the street to the building.

In 2003, we completed a major roadway reconstruction on Grove Street. All the old poles were removed after Verizon completed their relocation of phone lines. All costs of relocation on Grove Street were reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Mass Highway) through Force Account Billings.

Reciprocal backup service will be completed between the Light Department and Mass Electric sometime in 2004. Paxton will receive backup service from the Worcester City Line, and Mass Electric will receive backup service from the Wentworth Substation to the Rutland Line. The major construction has been completed and Mass Electric will contribute up to \$100,000 towards the cost.

Debt Administration

The Paxton Municipal Light Department remains a vertically integrated utility, as do all Municipal Light Departments in Massachusetts. This means that we are allowed under the Massachusetts Utility Restructuring Laws to retain our ownership and control over our electrical generation assets. Investor owned utilities, such as Massachusetts Electric Company, have been required to sell their generation assets as a result of the same restructuring laws.

The generation assets, which we have a vested ownership in, along with the other municipal electrical systems in New England, are financed through municipal bonds. The collective debt service owed under these bonds stand today at approximately \$1.2 billion, of which Paxton Municipal Light Department's share is \$8.6 million. The amount owed on these bonds represents the total debt of Paxton Municipal Light Department today. The bond payments and interest have been and will continue to be paid with revenues received from the sales of electricity.

Significant Balances and Transactions:

Purchased Power Working Capital

The purchased power working capital is an amount held by Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC), our power supply agent. MMWEC requires that they hold a set amount of capital (minimum of two months) from which it may pay our power obligations when they are due. They replenish the fund as needed from our monthly invoice payments. Developments in the power market continue to create pressure on working capital requirements which secure Paxton's financial guarantee to operate in the market. Paxton currently has some surplus in working capital and the required level of additional working capital is not expected to impact rates in 2004.

Rate Stabilization Fund

The rate stabilization fund was created as an aftermath of deregulation. These funds are for unexpected escalation in costs, such as the *decommissioning of nuclear power plants before the end of their operating license, unusual price spikes in fuel prices and transmission cost increases. We will also use this fund to help us maintain our competitive position when the investor-owned utilities are no longer collecting their "stranded costs*" several years down the line. Our rate stabilization balance at December 31, 2003 and 2002 was \$1,488,030 and \$1,453,190, respectively. There was no appropriation to Rate Stabilization from current earnings in 2003 or 2002 other than the interest earned on the Fund.

* Decommissioning of a nuclear power plant means the complete removal of any trace of that power plant. Paxton has decommissioning obligations associated with power sales agreements through MMWEC to purchase power from Millstone III and Seabrook. Decommissioning costs are being collected as the plants operate so that at the scheduled end of term of operation there will be monies to decommission the plant. If for some reason the plant is shut down early funds have to be made available to decommission at that time.

** Stranded costs refer to long-term debt or contractual obligations previously incurred that are higher than the new market costs. The investor-owned utilities were required to sell their generation assets as a condition to recover their stranded costs. The proceeds from the sales were used to pay off some of their costs. In place of owning generation, we have long-term power contracts with long-term payment obligations.

Depreciation Fund

Paxton Municipal Light Department maintains a depreciation fund, which is managed by the Town of Paxton Treasurer. This fund is used to pay for large capital investments such as new vehicles, distribution system upgrades and new construction. This fund is required by state statute. We annually set aside 3% to 5% of our gross cost-of-plant to be used for capital improvements and additions. In 2003, we added \$139,956 or 4% of our gross cost-of-plant, for future acquisitions and used \$195,109 for asset purchases. All interest on this fund is added to the fund balance and remains in the account.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The firefighter's moral remains high as we continue to put their wellbeing first. Continued training goals mandated by our state and federal government are completed along with all the other skills needed to perform the job as firefighters. Fire Officers were certified at the National Fire Academy, as Incident Safety Officers this year.

We belong and have spearheaded a Regional Safety Committee, which promotes and trains in safety, accountability and rescue on the fire ground. Three firefighter recruits passed the firefighter I & II required training class and were certified in the summer of 2004. Two firefighters were also certified as EMT's.

Three ambulance proposals were given to the Board of Selectmen of which two of the proposals were operated by Paxton firefighters. Neither of these proposals were acted on this year.

Through fundraising and donations the Fire Department was able to purchase two cardio machines for our fitness facility. The Paxton Fire Department has funded all fitness equipment through fundraising. Using fundraising money we had gear lockers made for all the firefighters.

A private company, G&F Industries, Inc. donated 40 new forest fire helmets to our department through the efforts of firefighter James Olson.

This year the firefighters decided not to be represented by a union and decertified the vote in June of 2004.

The current facility the equipment and personnel are housed in is inadequate and unsafe due to overcrowding and vehicle exhaust being allowed to enter occupied spaces of both fire and communications personnel. I hope this becomes a priority for replacement in the near future.

We continue to recruit firefighters from the Anna Maria College Fire Science Program to supplement our force. This program is now in its third year, and to date has been extremely successful.

In closing I would like to thank the Fire Department officers for their professionalism, dedication, and support they give to the Fire Department and myself as Chief. I would also like to thank the entire membership and their families, as spouses and children give a lot so their father or mother can respond to emergencies. The most important part of my job is to strive for the safest emergency operation, modern training techniques, and modern equipment to assure all of us come home to our families after an emergency incident, healthy, both physically and mentally.

These members are:

Andrew Abysalh
Rudi Acuna
Michael Benoit – Captain – EMT
William Clouthier
Thomas Ducharme – Lieutenant
Brian Faucher
Mike Flek
Richard Gaffney – Deputy chief
Michael Goncalves
Michael Goyette
Kenneth Grensavitch – EMT
James Hansson
Jeffrey Harrell – EMT
Richard Jenkins – Deputy Chief
Sam Kinkade
Eric Locke
Robert Martin
James Olson
Charles Pingitore
Michael Pingitore – EMT
Michael Putnam
Kevin Quinn – Lieutenant
Joseph Rego
Gary Richards – Lieutenant
Michael Rowe
Thomas Savage – EMT
Raymond Savignac
Orville Sheldon – Lieutenant

Sean Smith
Patrick Spencer
Peter Warren

Respectfully submitted,

Jay J. Conte
Fire Chief - EMT

PLANNING BOARD

FY 2004 saw a lot of ongoing projects come to a successful completion and some new ones begin their creation. I wish to thank everyone on the various Town boards and committees involved with the work of our board. It truly was a team effort to accomplish the tasks brought to our meetings.

There were four (4) new roads presented meeting the standards of construction and legal description as required for acceptance at the annual town meeting in June. They are Baxter Drive (Fox Run), Hemlock Street, McCann Place (Mutual Builders), and Forestdale Road Extension (Woodland Heights). Residents on these streets will now receive complete services provided by the Town and what security that was in the possession of the Town will be returned under the conditions that apply.

A project to construct the Country Bank for Savings was approved and completed. The building project is a welcome sight to the center common area and maintains the charm and character that the residents have grown to expect with new construction.

The last construction project that presented itself was the Woodland Heights Senior Residential Development. This undertaking will create a neighborhood setting for our senior citizens who wish to remain in Paxton. It consists of single-story duplex units with restrictions on age of 55 and 62 years of age for the occupants. Construction should be completed in 2005.

Lastly, the Board formed two subcommittees to investigate Wind Energy and Affordable Housing needs for the Town as we move further into the 21st century. The addition of these areas in our current Zoning bylaws will allow the Town to apply for grants to improve our overall quality of Life.

Respectfully submitted,
Neil A. Bagdis, Chairman

POLICE DEPARTMENT

FY 04 was a very positive year for the Police Department. Beginning in July, we instituted a complete restructuring of shifts and personnel. The Patrolman's contract was completed and all former grievances were resolved. The Sergeants who had been excluded from Union representation have entered into employee agreements with the Selectboard. Both the second and third shifts are now on a common four on and two off schedule. Both of these shifts are supervised by Sergeants.

Sgt William Lang commands the second shift and those Officers assigned to that shift. Sergeant William Reilly commands the third shift and those Officers assigned to that shift. What this means to the town is tax dollars providing more coverage, improved Officer Safety, and a reduction in liability with enhanced supervision.

Along with department restructuring, the newly formed capital outlay committee studied our department's physical needs and has taken steps to improve upon them. For the first time in recent history there is a systematic approach to addressing equipment and building needs and balancing them with the town's ability to fund those needs.

This department continues to pursue alternative funding through available grants. This past year we received approximately \$16,000.00 in grant funding. These monies enabled us to initiate a School Resource Officer for Paxton Center School. This Officer, Sgt. Reilly completed the first comprehensive critical incident response plan for PCS. A streamlined quick reference guide was developed, a radio system was installed at PCS, and Officers were trained in tactical response.

Other programs sponsored by grant funding included Sgt. Lang's Rape Aggression and Defense course and the Governors Highway "Click it or Ticket" and "You Drink, You Drive, You Lose" campaigns.

We continue to evolve and respond accordingly to the town's needs and growth. Suburban development increases traffic flow at a steady yearly rate. The population of this town can quadruple during the day with commuters. Technological advances such as cell phones have also given motorists the means of reporting more incidents.

Our goal is professionalism and community partnership, so please do not hesitate to call us with concerns or comments. All of our Officers are very approachable and eager to help.

Respectfully,
Chief Robert Desrosiers

The following statistics provide an overview of activity this year

3	Abandoned Auto
81	Accidents
197	Alarm Burglar/Holdup
57	Animal Other Than Dog
6	Assaults
40	Arrests
155	Assist Citizen
11	Breaking/Entering Auto/ Residential/business
4	Burglary
1,618	Citations-Criminal, Civil, Warnings
9	Destruction of Property/Motor Vehicle
118	Disabled Auto
83	Disturbances

13	Domestic Abuse Incidents
1	Drug Possession
153	General Police
72	House Checks
14	Larceny
32	Lockouts/Auto/Home
3	Loitering
201	Medical Emergencies
3	Mental Health (Section 12)
8	Missing Person
130	Mutual Aid (Area Police Depts.)
1	Parking Violation
8	Phone/Annoying/Harassing
668	Plate/License Status
21	Property (Lost/Found)
1	Rape
1	Robbery
2	Rubbish/Dumping
3	Runaway
1	Shoplifting
3	Soliciting
1	Suicide
2	Suicide Attempt
21	Summonses
277	Suspicious Autos
59	Suspicious Persons
6	Threats/Harassment
48	Traffic Safety
6	Trespassing Incidents
1	Unattended Death
28	Vandalism
2	Warrant Arrest
27	Warrants/General
1	Weapons Violation
32	Welfare Checks
102	911 Silent/Hang up/Abandoned Calls

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

We had an extremely cold winter which was one of the coldest on record. We had several "curb stops" freeze to local water users, along with residential freeze ups in homes which caused some hardships. We also had culvert pipes freeze in the Asnebumskit area, an unheard of problem before this winter. There was a total of 60" of snow and ice for the 2003-2004 winter season which kept us busy at times but not like the previous winter.

The Highway Department did an extensive program of pruning and limbing of trees at the Mooreland Cemetery along with 21 burials throughout the year.

I would like to thank George Cancelmo from US Reflector for his donation of prism's and the installation thereof at the Common area and Library intersection. This has helped make a dangerous intersection safer. "Cudos to George." The Grove Street project is now complete and we thank Bob Goodman of MassHighway Department and Wayne Taylor of Amorello Company for their professionalism during the project.

The Water Board welcomes East National Water to the Paxton Water Department and after 9 months has established a great working relationship. This has been a benefit both for the Town of Paxton and East National Water.

The Department of Public Works thanks the Board of Selectmen, all Boards and Committees plus the Light Department, Police and Fire Departments for their continued support working together for the Town of Paxton.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Fritze, Superintendent

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

During the fiscal year 2004 the Conservation Commission met monthly and devoted most of its time to ensuring compliance of local projects with the Wetlands Protection Act. During this time the Commission received and acted on 8 requests for Determination of Applicability, 16 Notices of Intent and 9 requests for Certificates of Compliance. More than 110 properties were visited by one or more members of the Commission to assess the applicability of the Wetlands Protection Act to particular projects, to verify wetland delineations, to check for wetland violations and to monitor projects for compliance.

Continuing members of the Commission included Marissa Ayyvazian, Inge Baehrecke (resigning as of the end of the fiscal year), S. Elise Barry, Robert Bertin, Christopher Keenan, Ansley Siter and Robert Stewart. Christopher Keenan stepped down from his position and Justin Thackeray became a new member. Christopher Keenan served as chair for the first part of the year and Robert Bertin served as acting chair for the second part. The Commission continues to meet at the Town Hall on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM. The public is welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert I. Bertin, Acting Chair

HISTORICAL DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE

The Paxton Historic District Study Committee completed a preliminary study report containing the map, bylaw, and designation of a local historic district that was centered on the area of the Town Common. This document was approved by the Massachusetts Historical Commission in January 2003. The proposed district contained approximately 60% of the historic structures in town. Two public forums and one public hearing were presented by the committee to explain the provisions of the proposed district bylaw, to understand the concerns of local residents, and to amend the bylaw to meet these concerns. Following much discussion and publicity both pro and con, the bylaw was presented for a town wide vote at the June town meeting. The historic district bylaw received 42% approval vote, not the required 67%, and therefore was defeated.

The Committee will spend the next several years investigating one of the major concerns of district residents.

which was the effect of the creation of an historic district on property values. At such time in the future when this question can be answered effectively, the historic district bylaw will again be presented to the town for a vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Anita Fenton

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The past year proved to be both eventful and productive for the Paxton Historical Commission. A 2004 calendar was published containing scenes of historic Paxton obtained from the Commission's archival photograph collection and from Paxton residents. Profits from the sale of the calendars exceeded \$700 and permitted the purchase of two park benches for the Town Common.

An historic home and summer garden tour was presented jointly with the Paxton Garden Club. Many residents were able to enjoy the sights of lovely town gardens and several beautifully restored historic homes.

The Commission was able to complete the preservation and duplication of the historic Maccabee family papers, a valuable resource of local history as related through newspaper clippings, documents, and early town reports.

It also supported the efforts to establish a local historic district in Paxton and served as a resource in the production by the Paxton Historic District Study Committee of a preliminary report that was submitted to the Massachusetts Historical Commission in Boston.

Members of the Commission attended an official preservation conference presented by the Massachusetts Historical Commission in Boston during the fall of 2003.

We also continued our working relationship with former member, Ed Duane, who completed a Revolutionary War veteran's study in which his research revealed the names of over forty veterans whose military service is now credited to the town of Paxton. For this effort and his continued advocacy for the preservation of Paxton's two historic cemeteries, Mr. Duane was honored during Paxton's 2003 Memorial Day Ceremony on the Town Common.

The Historical Commission meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM in the White Building. The public is always welcome and we encourage anyone with relevant material to consider its loan or donation to the Commission for preservation.

Respectfully
submitted

Denis Melican,
Chairman

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

The Board of Registrars held new voter registration during the year as required by law.

New totals as of February 18, 2004:

Republican	419
Democrat	643
Libertarian	12
Un-enrolled	1,644
Green	1
TOTAL	2,719

Voting is held in the Paxton Center School, which is handicap accessible. Town Hall is handicap accessible for voter registration.

In order to exercise the voting franchise, anyone who needs help may call the Town Clerk at 799-7347, ext. 13.

Board of Registrars
Jean M. McIntyre, Chair

RICHARDS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Library Hours

Winter			
Sunday	Closed	Wednesday	9-12, 1-5
Monday	Closed	Thursday	1-8
Tuesday	1-8	Friday	9-12, 1-5
	Saturday	10-4	

Summer			
Sunday	Closed	Wednesday	1-5
Monday	Closed	Thursday	1-5, 7-9
Tuesday	1-5, 7-9	Friday	1-5
	Saturday	Closed	

Trustees meet at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month at the library.

Circulation reached a record high this year of 79,002! This is nearly a 19% increase over the previous year. The number of registered patrons has increased by 217 to a total of 3967 patrons. Our collection now numbers 32921 and includes books, videos, DVDs, magazines, museum passes, books-on-tape, books on CD, CDs and CD-ROMs.

From July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003 we borrowed 1047 materials from other libraries at the requests of our patrons. We also lent 773 materials to the patrons of other libraries.

Children are the focus of most of our programs. During the school year, there are 4 storytimes a week, two for 4 & 5 year old preschoolers, one for three year olds & one for two year olds. Aislinn, our Children's Librarian, visits Paxton Center School weekly for classroom visits, and many of the classes visit the library at least once during the school year. At least four reading incentive programs are run each year, all with the aim of encouraging reading. In addition, there are craft classes, movies, reading clubs and performers, all to enrich the lives of our young clients.

We provide high-speed Internet connection through Charter Cable on our public access terminals. Through funding from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and the Central Massachusetts Regional Library System we offer access to five rich and useful Internet based databases that offer a wide range of information. With your library card, these databases are also available free on your home computer.

Funds from the Paxton Cultural Council provided passes to the Ecotarium, Worcester Art Museum, Discovery Museums, Higgins Armory, Boston Museum of Fine Arts, Tower Hill Botanical Gardens, Fruitlands, and Historic Deerfield. The Friends have purchased passes to Roger Williams Zoo and Davis Farmland. All of these passes are available to be checked out of the library and used for admission to these museums.
Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Porter Librarian

Trustees:

Chair: Charles Innis

Vice Chair: Joan Bedard

Secretary: Joan Arnold

Treasurer: Scott Martin

Physical Plant: Barbara Socha

Friends Liaison: Bronwyn Teixeira

RECREATION COMMISSION

The Recreation Commission for fiscal 03-04 was successful with continuing of on-going improvements, seeing projects completed and even the beginning of a large, long undertaking.

The new Recreation Director completed her first year. The summer program of "03" was as successful as previous years with new ideas introduced from "04" such as an increase in the camp's daily hours. New programs were added to the current recreation program, including yoga, rug hooking, volley ball and informal softball. An Ice Cats trip was attended. Adult Sailing on Lake Quinsigamond and a family ski trip were attempted. Lacrosse is now sharing field space along with flag football and soccer. The Summer Jam and Solstice race were also a success with ideas being discussed to make them even better for next year.

The playing fields and parking lots at the Grove Street complex are still being improved upon. The upper parking lot was cleared, graded and had stone lay. Rails were placed for safety. Loam was leveled on the proposed practice field and the Babe Ruth field received a new score board. Cement pads were poured for the batting cages. The requests for renting the fields are increasing.

Our largest project, newly started, is the pool area. The breaking up and filling in of the area has gone better than expected. With the completion of the new playground, we would like to see this area continue as family oriented. Ideas for this include a splash pad, better picnic areas and an

improved volley ball court. The idea for a walking track is being discussed. Location has yet to be decided.

New ideas and suggestions are always welcome and appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted,
Recreation Commission

WIRING INSPECTOR

Electrical permits issued during Fiscal Year 2004 were:

New homes completed	26
Additions and Miscellaneous	129
Total Inspections & Re-inspections	155

Permit applications and fee schedules are available at the Town Hall. Permits may be applied for from the Selectmen's Secretary. All wiring, whether done by the homeowner or a licensed electrician, requires a permit and inspection. Electricians should be prepared to show an electrician's license and a current certificate of insurance.

The Wiring Inspector is Dennis Benoit and he may be reached at 508-755-5171.

Respectfully submitted,
Electrical Inspector

WACHUSETT GREENWAYS

The year 2004 represented a milestone for Wachusett Greenways. Through the generous efforts of hundreds of volunteers and donors, this grassroots organization marked 10 years of work to connect the Wachusett community through trails and greenways.

Mass Central Rail Trail (MCRT) construction continued on multiple sections of the trail. Many Wachusett Greenways partners contributed funds and services. Volunteer members and friends led trail events, cleared and maintained trails, wrote grant proposals and newsletters, and greeted neighbors at town fairs and events. Membership grew 42%.

We completed a fine new 1.7 mile section of the MCRT in Sterling just as the cold and snow arrived in earnest at the end of 2004. This scenic wooded trail runs from Sterling center at the old Cider Mill to Gates Road, and passes along the Quag and West Waushacum Lakes; Parking at the Cider Mill and Gates Road is also included.

On May 27 the long-awaited bridge at the Quag and West Waushacum Lake was installed. Railings were designed by Wachusett Greenways volunteer engineer Bruce Pennino and paid for by Wachusett Greenways. Ted Leahy donated the transportation of the bridge to the site. Greenways contracted with UEL, Inc., to install the bridge.

In preparation for construction, Greenways volunteers spent many hours removing trees and brush from the trail. Donors Larry Stoddard and Peter Tosi brought in their own heavy equipment and removed stumps, graded the trail, re-

established drainage and spread processed gravel. David Simmerer completed trail edges and fine-tuned the drainage, and Dan Ripa rolled the base. Massachusetts DCR Division of Watershed Management provided bulldozing for subgravel donated by Albanese Bros. Construction to fill a massive hole left from earlier excavation.

Sterling DPW provided expert advice, chipper use, sidebar mowing and leaf blowing during construction. Finally, Wachusett Greenways contracted JR Grady and Sons, Inc., to spread the top layer of stone dust. Purchase of processed gravel, stone dust, installation of the top layer and installation of the Quag Bridge was funded by a \$50,000 Massachusetts DCR Recreational Trails Grant of the federal TEA-21 program.

The towns of West Boylston, Holden and Rutland continue to maintain the trail by mowing the shoulders and removing leaves. Rich DeWitt and the Holden DPW repaired drainage problems at the parking lot at Manning Street. Greenways volunteers contributed many hours clearing drainage. Ed and Olympia Ayers, Boylston volunteers, continue to plant and maintain gardens at the West Boylston trail entrance.

In October we dedicated the interpretive site at the former woolen mill on the banks of the Quinapoxet River. The Springdale Mill Committee and numerous Greenways volunteers contributed countless hours clearing the trail, researching, preparing sign text and drawings, and installing granite signposts. Special thanks to the Springdale Committee of Ruth Spaulding (Chair), Colleen Abrams, Anthony Costello, Bob Elms, David Kaplan, Jim Lafley, John Sennell, Chuck Skillings, Jim Taylor and Ed Yaglou.

We received five grants in 2004; Massachusetts DCR selected Wachusett Greenways for a \$40,000 Recreational Trails Grant funded by the Federal TEA 21 program for rail trail construction in Rutland. The trail in Rutland will be extended between Charnock Hill Road, Barrack Hill Road and Whitehall Road during 2005. The Arthur Ashley Williams Foundation awarded \$3,000, its fifth trail construction grant. The Greater Worcester Community Foundation provided \$2,000 towards designing and printing a new *Wachusett Greenways Guide*.

The New England Grassroots Environment Fund provided a \$2,000 grant toward surveying for the rail trail in Holden. In April, Colleen Abrams accepted the New England EPA Environmental Merit Award at Faneuil Hall in Boston on behalf of our fine team of Wachusett Greenways volunteers. The Holden Selectmen made the nomination for the award. We deeply appreciate the support of our Wachusett towns, the agencies of the Commonwealth and foundations.

Throughout the year, we led trail events in each of the Wachusett towns and beyond. Walking, hiking, bicycling, canoeing, cross-country skiing and snow shoeing were all popular events as we shared opportunities for increasing

fitness, meeting our neighbors and simply enjoying the outdoors.

Wachusett Greenways Board of Directors: Colleen Abrams (President), Eric DeRivera, Arnold Gaskin, Marge Grosberg, Stan Miller, Ida Nystrom, Gary Tuthill, Dick Williams, Ed Yaglou, Pauline Cloutier and Dale Faraday resigned from the board in 2004.

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

RECEIPTS

TAXES & EXCISES	6,535,661.73
DRIVEWAY BONDS HELD	13,000.00
WATER DEPARTMENT	518,773.23
SEWER USE	248.98
FIRE ALARM FINES	100.00
TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE	2,000,000.00
TRASH COLLECTION	240,347.07

REVOLVING ACCOUNTS:

Fisheries & Wildlife	3,375.00
Police Fire Arms	3,162.50
Police Private Duty	66,410.78
Police Tickets	70.00
Police Grants/Gifts	21,728.32
Fire Grants/Gifts	28,386.00
Historical Grants/ Gifts	1,600.50
COA Grants/Gifts	2,193.00
Recreation	95,398.00
Title V Septic Programs	16,562.85
Cable TV	44,087.24
Elder Affairs Formula Fund	3,904.00
Elder Affairs "Project We Care"	4,259.78
Local Cultural Council	2,000.00
Library State Aid	5,955.34
State Aid	489,212.28
EMPLOYEES WITHOLDINGS	181,118.29
TREASURER'S TAILINGS	2,603.10
HIGHWAY LOANS	99,214.04

SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

Title V Betterments	29,032.91
Water Grant	75,000.00
Conservation Wetlands Project	5,795.00
Upper Blackstone	303.00
Town Clerk Fees	2,075.20

LOCAL RECEIPTS:

General Government Fees	241,568.54
PCS School Building. Reimbursement	273,180.00
Police Court Fees & RMV Collections	22,272.50
Cemetery Perpetual Care	6,600.00
Interest - Collector/Treasurer	48,700.90

CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND

Notes payable	58,000.00
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PAXTON LIGHT DEPARTMENT

Billings	2,729,029.19
Liens	4,489.52
Offset expenses	59,198.45
Sale of Scrap	519.45
Meter Deposits	1,000.00

Interest	15,657.73
Off set to Appropriations	40,393.97

TRUST FUNDS:

Library Investment Income	6,961.21
Cemetery Investment Income	584.68
Med. Center of Central MA	27,667.00
PERFORMANCE BONDS	37,420.51
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>14,064,821.82</u>

DISBURSEMENTS

TAXES & EXCISE REFUNDS	73,446.10
ENCUMBERED FUNDS	42,302.54
WORCESTER COUNTY RETIREMENT	96,919.82
SEWER USE	103.49

REVOLVING ACCOUNTS:

Title V Betterment Program	72,872.54
Fisheries & Wildlife	3,375.00
Police Private Duty	58,872.95
Police Fire Arms	2,497.50
Water	7,000.00
Tax Anti Loan	2,000,000.00
Historical Grants/Gifts	832.65
Police Grants/Gifts	33,853.13
Fire Grants/Gifts	17,626.74
COA Grant/Gifts	750.00
Upper Blackstone Waste District	53.00
Cable TV	4,676.65
Recycling Grant	2,085.89
Recreation	92,572.83

SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS:

Notes Payable Highway	96,764.24
Highway Loans	21,775.00
Library State Aid	4,188.64
Elder Affairs Formula Fund	3,904.00
Elder Affairs "Project We Care"	1,874.49
Local Cultural Council	3,023.97
Conservation Wetland Protection Fund	1,060.09
Town Clerk Fees	2,075.20
DRIVEWAY BONDS REFUNDED	8,500.00
LOCAL RECEIPTS REFUNDED	289.03
EMPLOYEE WITHOLDINGS	185,591.47
PAXTON LIGHT DEPARTMENT	2,919,188.66
METER DEPOSIT REFUNDS	1,700.00

SPECIAL ARTICLES:

Fire Pumper Etc.	185.00
COA Maintenance/Repair	10,334.20
Computer Software & Hardware	99.95
Open Space and Recreation	1,325.19
Cruisers	58,000.00
APPROPRIATIONS	7,673,587.41

PCS RENOVATIONS & ADDITION**TRUST FUNDS:**

Library Investment Income	11,165.61
Cemetery Investment Income	14,533.99
Med Center of Central MA	15,787.50
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	<u>13,544,794.47</u>

APPROPRIATIONS**TRANSFERS
/RECEIPTS****EXPENDED**

MODERATOR	100.00	100.00
SELECTBOARD	82,654.71	78,254.24
TOWN SERVICES	31,750.00	31,750.00
COORDINATOR		
FINANCE BOARD	1,090.00	1,070.00
TOWN ACCOUNTANT	26,213.00	25,984.35
ASSESSORS	78,330.00	78,051.60
TOWN TREASURER	31,713.34	28,441.47
TOWN COLLECTOR	34,446.33	31,005.81
LEGAL	52,670.70	51,184.76
PERSONNEL BOARD	520.00	120.00
MIS	15,692.00	11,491.94
REGIONAL PLANNING	913.00	911.24
ASSESSMENT		
TOWN CLERK	13,783.00	13,656.45
ELECTIONS	6,427.28	5,824.15
REGISTRARS	1,955.00	1,586.80
CONSERVATION	1,235.00	750.00
PLANNING BOARD	2,200.00	2,066.62
ZONING BOARD OF	1,081.34	1,040.49
APPEALS		
PUBLIC BLDG.	35,271.00	34,116.11
MAINTENANCE		
INSURANCE & BONDS	87,562.00	79,223.26
TOWN REPORTS &	3,200.00	2,296.53
WARRANTS		
TOWN CLOCK	336.33	312.66
POLICE DEPARTMENT	557,055.47	546,771.70
FIRE DEPARTMENT	168,270.85	161,355.15
AMBULANCE SERVICE	9,600.00	9,600.00
CONTRACT		
FIRST RESPONDERS	45,390.00	37,988.88
BUILDING	12,911.00	12,836.00
COMMISSIONER		
PLUMBING INSPECTOR	3,500.00	3,500.00
ELECTRICAL	3,905.00	3,705.00
INSPECTOR		
EMERGENCY	100.00	0.00
MANAGER		
ANIMAL CONTROL	6,553.00	6,349.99
OFFICER		
FORESTRY	1,250.00	1,080.00
TREE WARDEN	5,650.00	5,537.85
COMMUNICATIONS	133,583.68	126,431.77
CENTER		
DEPARTMENT OF	332,656.91	298,012.62
PUBLIC WORKS		
SNOW REMOVAL	84,670.25	69,334.01
STREETLIGHTING	18,192.00	18,192.00
REFUSE COLLECTION/	242,073.64	232,889.00
RECYCLING		
WATER DEPARTMENT	503,111.45	490,659.34
BOARD OF HEALTH	3,805.00	2,922.81
SANITARY INSPECTOR	8,728.00	8,728.00
INSPECTOR OF	400.00	400.00
ANIMALS		

MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE	1,500.00	1,500.00
COUNCIL ON AGING	37,844.15	37,465.93
VETERAN'S SERVICES	1,000.00	570.00
LIBRARY	126,074.00	126,074.00
RECREATION	46,957.09	45,763.25
HISTORICAL COMMISSION	250.00	25.00
CELEBRATIONS	1400.00	1400.00
DEBT SERVICE	907,813.00	883,839.31
PRINCIPAL & INTEREST		
EMPLOYEE	349,284.86	324,530.79
RETIREMENT & HEALTH INSURANCE		
WRSD	4,033,187.05	3,915,407.69
RESERVE FUND	40,000.00	32,325.85
TOTAL	8,195,860.43	7,884,434.42

TOWN COLLECTOR

Prior Years Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2003	3,268.34	
Committed	87.50	
Collected		180.62
Outstanding June 30, 2004		3,175.22
Total	\$3,355.84	\$3,355.84

2001 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2003	\$9,100.13	
Collected		3,509.39
Outstanding June 30, 2004		5,590.74
Total	\$9,100.13	\$9,100.13

2002 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2003	18,507.22	
Committed	3,189.70	
Refunded	1,033.95	
Collected		12,994.51
Abated		862.48
Outstanding June 30, 2004		8,873.88
Total	\$22,730.87	\$22,730.87

2003 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2003	43,187.47	
Committed	90,571.55	
Refunded	6,938.41	
Collected		118,866.29
Abated		7,170.61
Outstanding June 30, 2004		14,660.53
Total	\$140,697.43	\$140,697.43

2004 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Committed	499,324.70	
Refunded	5,181.67	
Collected		460,206.83
Abated		12,850.51
Outstanding June 30, 2004		31,449.03
Total	\$504,506.37	\$504,506.37

2004 Fiscal Farm Animal Excise			
Committed	758.25		
Collected			758.25
Total	\$758.25		\$758.25

2004 Fiscal In Lieu of Taxes			
Committed	50,469.39		
Refunded	41,181.98		
Collected			50,469.39
Abated			41,181.98
Total	\$91,651.37		\$91,651.37

2003 Fiscal Personal Property Tax			
Outstanding July 1, 2003	5,114.26		
Collected			1,976.57
Outstanding June 30, 2004			3,137.69
Total	\$5,114.26		\$5,114.26

2004 Fiscal Personal Property Tax			
Committed	61,860.26		
Refunded	18.64		
Adjustment	.02		
Collected			60,431.34
Outstanding June 30, 2004			1,447.58
Total	\$61,878.92		\$61,878.92

2001 Fiscal Real Estate Tax			
Outstanding July 1, 2003	7,703.06		
Collected			5,028.34
Tax Title			2,674.72
Total	\$7,703.06		\$7,703.06

2002 Fiscal Real Estate Tax			
Outstanding July 1, 2003	49,129.04		
Tax Title			9,792.81
Collected			39,336.23
Total	\$49,129.04		\$49,129.04

2003 Fiscal Real Estate Tax			
Committed	163,311.60		
Refunded	810.08		
Collected			137,705.67
Abated			5,379.52
Outstanding June 30, 2004			21,036.49
Total	\$164,121.68		\$164,121.68

2004 Fiscal Real Estate Tax			
Committed	5,739,222.42		
Credit adjustment	.18		
Reconciled abatement	750.00		
Refunds	18,090.43		
Collected			5,622,664.16
Abated			42,316.89
Outstanding June 30, 2004			93,081.98
Total	\$5,758,063.03		\$5,758,063.03

Real Estate Tax Liens Receivable - Various Years			
Outstanding July 1, 2003	73,406.04		
Committed	41,359.29		
Collected		20,988.35	
Outstanding June 30, 2004		93,776.98	
Total	\$114,765.33	\$114,765.33	

2004 Fiscal Light Liens			
Outstanding July 1, 2003	1,410.98		
Committed	4,717.68		
Collected		4,489.52	
Outstanding June 30, 2004		228.16	
Transferred to Tax Title		1,410.98	
Total	\$6,128.66	\$6,128.66	

Tax Possessions			
Outstanding July 1, 2003	32,871.57		
Outstanding June 30, 2004		32,871.57	
Total	\$32,871.57	\$32,871.57	

Real Estate Roll Back Taxes			
Committed	354.85		
Collected		354.85	
Total	354.85	354.85	

2004 Fiscal Miscellaneous Receipts			
Interest Received on All Taxes	33,812.45		
Interest Received on Water Receipts	1,733.73		
Certificate of Municipal Liens Fees	9,325.74		
Parking Fees	70.00		
Demand & Warrant Fees	5,445.00		
Return Check Fees	500.00		
Motor Vehicle Flagging Fees	1,510.00		
Dog Fines	130.00		
Water Lien Fee	1,401.79		
Treasurer's Interest	24,158.53		
Tax Lien Receipts	1,112.95		

Water Department Receipts			
Readings	430,646.91		
Installation and Repairs	84,990.80		
Liens	1,275.99		

OFFICE HOURS: TUES - THURS 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

MON 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

MON EVENING 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deirdre L. Malone

PAXTON PAYROLL

TOWN HALL	
Annette Aubertin	150.00
Ella Beach	100.00
Dennis Benoit	3,605.00
Charles Bolster Jr.	150.00
Rosemary Buckley	8,826.42
Thomas Carroll	100.00
Wayne Curran	8,728.00
Francis Ford	100.00
Frederick Goodrich	1,262.00
Donna Graf-Parsons	15,773.19
Timothy Hackett	500.00
Dennis Harney	4,565.00
Judy Hatstat	100.00
June Herron	41,808.41
Doris Huard	1,200.00
Harry Johnson	2,175.00
Evelyn Lawler	940.00
Deirdre Malone	38,130.13
John Malone	1,487.00
Jean McIntyre	150.00
David Parent	100.00
Jean Parent	400.00
Robert Paulsen, Jr.	1,200.00
Carol Riches	25,916.91
Scott Runstrom	1,536.00
Mary Savage	5376.82
John Slabich	100.00
Patrick Smith	1,000.00
James Stone, Jr.	6,530.00
Richard Trifero	10,655.20
David Trulson	150.00
B. Peter Warren	5,190.00
Nancy Wilby	31,431.60
Scott Wilson	6,107.51

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Andrew Abysalh	1,140.21
Rodolfo Acuna	2,691.15
Matthew Bassick	763.83
Michael Benoit	12,283.69
William Clouthier	347.82
Jay Conte	15,985.01
Thomas Cunningham	4,241.19
Thomas Ducharme	10,172.48
Brian Faucher	796.95
Michael Flek	1,279.23
Richard Gaffney	11,861.20
Andre Gaudet	3,854.97
Michael Goncalves	1,439.10
Michael Goyette	1,720.95
Kenneth Grensavitch	3,984.75
James Hansson	1,559.25
Jeffrey Harrell	2,201.79
Richard Jenkins	15,856.81
Samuel Kinkade	1,439.10
Eric Locke	752.76
Troy Locke	99.63

Robert Martin	1,617.00
James Olson	4,413.69
Donna Graf-Parsons	3,943.84
Timothy Pierce	545.76
Charles Pingitore	276.75
Michael Pingitore	2,506.35
Daniel Plante	199.26
Michael Putnam	2,263.80
Kevin Quinn	9,635.92
Joseph Rego	1,439.10
Gary Richards	8,012.12
Michael Rowe, Jr.	1,217.70
Thomas Savage, Jr.	6,329.40
Raymond Savignac	2,217.60
Richard Sears	34.65
Orville Sheldon	98.84
Sean Smith	1,566.41
Patrick Spencer	1,751.31
B. Peter Warren	1,970.77

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Ronald Fritze	57,113.35
George Johnson	6,256.59
Samuel Knipe	36,507.65
Mark Leveille	14,147.39
Lois Melican	4,793.34
Michael Putnam	43,268.50
Gary Richards	36,541.90
Eva Ryan	5,404.36
Steven Urbanovitch	34,191.00

LIBRARY

Barbara Braley	2,346.38
Carolyn Brunelle	341.00
Kara Buckley	1,103.89
Arnold Childs, Jr.	3,274.24
Lindsay Glass	1,081.08
Molly Hulser	354.64
Aislinn Lewis	25,960.22
Patricia Miller	1,839.41
Janet Porter	34,110.84
Jennifer Robideau	4,413.32
Susan Sonju	4,893.80
Cathleen Verterame	186.24
Susan Wheeler	8,558.01

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

John Bean	105.00
Meagan Deschenes	638.01
Stephanie Eckelkamp	212.00
Shannon Graham	844.69
Douglas Griffin	856.19
Karen Guglielmello	8,600.00
Daniel Hurley	747.56
Elizabeth Kusz	705.00
James Kusz	360.00
Daniel Logee	754.00
Craig Masterman	15,402.00
Jeffrey Olson	812.01

Christopher Oldakowski	815.63
Aaron Proulx	1,938.75
Maureen Ruane	280.00
Eva Ryan	2,884.00
Caitlan Shooshan	645.26

COUNCIL ON AGING

Robert Callahan	571.47
George Heeley	14,559.36
John McKiernan	7,360.24
Lorraine Quinn	3,616.72
Pierre St Laurent	4,192.09
Josephine Purcell-Watson	1,869.21

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Michael Ahearn	12,110.52
David Ahlin	9,292.40
William Beaudry	3,222.62
Brian Boulette	7,501.90
Mark Chase	18,638.55
Hans Carlson	37,133.68
Robert DesRosiers	59,549.88
David Keller	53,070.04
Kathleen Killoran	751.75
William Lang	51,933.20
Patrick O'Donoghue	19,185.89
Jason Persampieri	25,013.19
William Reilly	59,022.26
Eva Ryan	18,546.95
Mark Savasta	76,074.24
Jason Silvestri	34,951.53
Emani Srinivas	2,715.54

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

Sarah Anderson	936.98
Thomas Barouk	331.55
Christine Brunelle	31,876.36
Sean Cooney	8,484.79
Nicole Derusseaux	1,213.26
Kristen George	5,649.02
Jeffrey Harrell	28.83
Amanda Kalinowski	16,834.62
Shakeerah McLeod	916.95
Shameka McLeod	932.17
Katherine Mungovan	4,604.83
Thomas O'Neil	1,107.52
Matthew Ohman	878.51
Tracy Pilch	15,726.14
Michael Readon	14,369.21
Thomas Savage Jr.	4,159.83
Patrick Spencer	10,222.84
Forrest Thorpe III	6,824.00

LIGHT DEPARTMENT

Michael Benoit	200.00
Susan Blackwood	34,379.54
Russell Clark	54,092.20
Christopher Courville	64,423.84
Paul Crowley	50.00

Diane Dillman	67,730.40
Brian Marion	31,469.85
Yvette Orell	39,060.00
Stephen Phaneuf	150.00
Matthew Stone	34,043.52
Joseph Thompson	54,012.52
Emerson Wheeler	200.00

Independent Auditor's Report

I have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Paxton, Massachusetts, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2004 (except for the Electric Enterprise Fund which is December 31, 2003) which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Town of Paxton's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on my audit. I did not audit the financial statements of the Electric Enterprise Fund. Those financial statements have been audited by other auditors whose report has been furnished to me, and my opinion on the general purpose financial statements, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for the Electric Enterprise Fund, is based on the report of the other auditors.

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

In my opinion, based on my audit and the report of other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Paxton, Massachusetts, as of June 30, 2004, (except for the Electric Enterprise Fund which is December 31, 2003), and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Funds for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The Town of Paxton has implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statements No. 34, Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments, No 37, Basic Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and

Analysis – for State and Local Governments – Omnibus, and No. 38, Certain Financial Statement Note Disclosures, and GASB Interpretation No. 6, Recognition and Measurement of Certain Liabilities and Expenditures in Governmental Fund Financial Statements.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. I have applied certain limited procedures, and presentation of the supplementary information. However, I did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

My audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Paxton's basic financial statements. The combining financial statements are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, in my opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, I have also issued a report dated September 1, 2004 on my consideration of the Town of Paxton's internal control structure over financial reporting and on my tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance Government Auditing Standards and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of my audit.

Bill Fraher C.P.A.

TOWN OF PAXTON
BALANCE SHEET
30-Jun-04

	GOVERNMENTAL		FUNDS	FIDUCIARY ACCTS.		PAXTON	
	GENERAL	SP.REV.	CAPITAL	TRUST &	L/T	LIGHT	TOTAL
ASSETS			PROJECT	AGENCY	DEBT	DEPART.	
CASH & S/T INVESTMENTS PC 250.00	1444804.33					1385586.50	2830390.83
CASH IN TRANSIT BETWEEN TOWN/PEL	10839.16					(10839.16)	0.00
INVESTMENTS				707863.77			707863.77
TAXES RECEIVABLE RE, LIENS, PP	224315.80						224315.80
ALLOWANCE FOR ABATE & EXEMPTIONS	(21350.96)						(21350.96)
TAXES RECEIVABLE MOTOR VEHICLE	63749.40						63749.40
DEPARTMENT RECEIVABLES WATER	28453.08						28453.08
LIGHT DEPT.						81217.69	81217.69
TRASH	15702.94						15702.94
TITLE 5 BETTERMENTS		73194.15					73194.15
INTERFUND RECEIVABLES		285400.46	52275.46	70688.65			408364.57
AMT. TO BE PROVIDED FOR LONG TERM DEBT					6045707.34		6045707.34
TOTALS	1766513.75	358594.61	52275.46	778552.42	6045707.34	1455965.03	10457608.61
LIABILITIES							
NOTES PAYABLE			58000.00				58000.00
WARRANTS PAYABLE	83207.34						83207.34
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	199.86						199.86
OTHER LIABILITIES	31426.01						31426.01
PERFORMANCE BONDS				35189.09			35189.09
INTERFUND PAYABLES	408364.57						408364.57
DEFERRED REVENUES	310870.26	73194.15				81217.69	465282.10
L/T BONDS & NOTES PAYABLE					6045707.34		6045707.34
PEL RESERVE FOR METER DEPOSITS						33650.00	33650.00
TAX TITLE	7303.92						7303.92
TOTALS	841371.96	73194.15	58000.00	35189.09	6045707.34	114867.69	7168330.23
FUND BALANCES							
RESERVED TRUST FUNDS				559526.86			559526.86
RESERVED OTHER		300795.54					300795.54
RESERVED FOR UTILITY OPER. DEPR. & CONS.						1341097.34	1341097.34
CONTINUING APPR. DESIGNATED FOR FUTURE YRS	3666.00		(5724.54)				(2058.54)
UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCE	626097.79						626097.79
RESERVED F/B FOR STABILIZATION				183836.47			183836.47
RES F/B FOR MA WATER POLL.ABATE TRUST		(15395.08)					(15395.08)
F/B RESERVE FOR FY2005 BUDGET	295378.00						295378.00
TOTALS	925141.79	285400.46	(5724.54)	743363.33	0.00	1341097.34	3289278.38
TOTAL	1766513.75	358594.61	52275.46	778552.42	6045707.34	1455965.03	10457608.61

Board of Assessors
Table 1
Tax Rate Recapitulation Summary

<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>FY2004</u>	<u>%INC</u>	<u>FY2003</u>	<u>%INC</u>	<u>FY2002</u>
Appropriations to be Raised	\$8,013,072.61		\$7,224,788.00		\$6,841,351.00
Appropriations from Available Funds	86,012.89		335,951.13		430,550.00
Offset Items	5,680.00		6,203.00		8,364.00
Retirement	96,920.00		95,709.00		115,050.00
State & County Assessments	49,967.00		49,003.00		44,157.00
Tax Title	0.00		3,000.00		3,000.00
Overlay	65,122.02		124,207.74		35,678.00
Deficits Prior Years	59,539.20		6,739.00		0.00
Final Court Judgments	0.00		0.00		0.00
Debt & Interest Charges	0.00		0.00		0.00
Gross Amount to be Raised	\$8,376,313.72	6.7%	\$7,845,600.87	4.9%	\$7,478,150.00
<u>Estimated Receipts</u>					
Local Aid and Agency Fund	\$551,136.00		\$583,423.00		\$699,246.00
Motor Vehicle Excise	580,000.00		517,500.00		482,700.00
Water Department	440,000.00		380,000.00		376,400.00
Other Local Receipts	456,200.00		346,455.00		208,484.00
Available Funds - School Reimbursement	275,939.00		275,939.00		275,939.00
Available Funds - Free Cash	185,945.50		335,951.13		494,800.00
Available Funds - Other	86,012.89		0.00		10,750.00
Total Estimated Receipts	\$2,575,233.39	5.6%	\$2,439,268.13	-4.3%	\$2,548,319.00
Net Amount to be Raised	\$5,801,080.33	7.3%	\$5,406,322.74	9.7%	\$4,929,831.00
Maximum Allowable Levy	\$5,804,204.00	6.7%	\$5,437,569.00	7.3%	\$5,066,182.00
<u>Valuations</u>					
Real Estate	\$447,171,500.00		\$299,012,900.00		\$293,432,900.00
Personal Property	4,821,534.00		3,663,975.00		3,490,209.00
Total Taxable Property	\$451,993,034.00	49.3%	\$302,676,875.00	1.9%	\$296,923,109.00
<u>Tax Rates</u>					
Residential	\$12.85	-28.1%	\$17.89	7.6%	\$16.63
Open Space	\$11.57		\$16.10		\$14.97
Commercial, Industrial, Personal Prop	\$12.83		\$17.86		\$16.60

Board of Assessors
Table II
Exemptions, Abatements, Motor Vehicle Excise

	<u>FY2004</u>		<u>FY2003</u>		<u>FY2002</u>	
<u>Exemptions</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Clause 18: Age, Infirmary, Poverty	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Clause 17: Widows	4	700.00	5	875.00	6	1,050.00
Clause 22: Veterans	23	5,750.00	27	6,750.00	31	7,750.00
Clause 37: Blind	6	2,625.00	5	2,187.50	5	2,187.50
Clause 41: Elderly	16	12,000.00	14	7,000.00	14	7,000.00
Clause 41A: Deferred Taxes	0		0	0.00	0	0.00
Clause 42:	2	12,675.24	1	5,903.70	1	5,000.64
Totals	51	\$33,750.24	52	\$22,716.20	57	\$22,988.14
<u>Abatements</u>						
Real Estate	11	\$13,196.17	2	\$2,462.92	3	\$2,853.71
Personal Property	0	0.00	36	12,519.41*	3	269.05
Farm Animal Excise	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Motor Vehicle Excise	204	20,833.60	233	22,383.05	194	16,457.50
Total	215	\$34,029.77	271	\$24,845.97	200	\$19,580.26
<u>Motor Vehicle Excise Bills</u>						
Bills Processed	4745	\$593,173.45	4979	\$623,513.83	4810	\$625,798.64
Dollar Value Less Abatements		\$572,339.86		\$601,130.78		\$609,341.14

* Clause 59 Section 71 abatements for FY 2000, 2001, 2002

Board of Assessors
Table III
Property Classification

	<u>FY2004</u>	<u>FY2003</u>	<u>Increase/(Decrease)</u>	<u>%</u>
Residential	\$427,322,830.00	\$283,142,180.00	\$144,180,650.00	50.9%
Open Space	5,187,900.00	4,528,700.00	\$659,200.00	14.6%
Commercial	11,227,870.00	8,819,170.00	\$2,408,700.00	27.3%
Industrial	3,432,900.00	2,522,850.00	\$910,050.00	36.1%
Personal Property	4,821,534.00	3,663,975.00	\$1,157,559.00	31.6%
Total Taxable Property	\$451,993,034.00	\$302,676,875.00	\$149,316,159.00	49.3%
Exempt Property	39,430,000.00	31,491,200.00	\$7,938,800.00	25.2%
Total Valuation	\$491,423,034.00	\$334,168,075.00	\$157,254,959.00	47.1%

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

EMERGENCY NUMBERS:

DIAL "911"

Fire: 508-756-1400

Police: 508-791-9296

Medical: 508-791-9296

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER: 508-791-6600

576 Pleasant Street

Open 24 hours to provide information and assistance to the residents of Paxton.

TOWN HALL, 697 Pleasant Street, Hours: Monday 8am- 3:30pm, 5:30pm- 8pm, Tuesday - Thursday 8am- 4pm.

Contact the Town Services Coordinator, Nancy Wilby at 508-753-2803, ext. 11 for Board of Appeal, Planning Board and Board of Health

Board of Appeals James Bradbury, Chair

Board of Health David Parent, Chair

Planning Board Neil Bagdis, Chair

Board meets on an "As needed" basis

Board meets the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Board meets the second Monday or Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Building Commissioner Richard Trifero

Sanitary Inspector Wayne Curran

Gas & Plumbing Inspector Dennis Harney

Wire Inspector Dennis Benoit

Fire Inspector Matthew Stone

Town Accountant & Town Clerk June Herron

Town Collector & Treasurer Deirdre Malone

Assessors James Stone, Chair

Donna Graf-Parsons,
Administrative Assistant

Board of Selectmen John Malone, Chair

Carol Riches,
Administrative Assistant

Town Administrator Charles Blanchard

Department of Public Works Michael Putnam,
Acting Superintendent

Water Commissioners John Malone, Chair

Municipal Light Department Diane Dillman, Manager
Michael Benoit, Chair

Police Department Robert Desrosiers,
Police Chief

Dog/Animal Control Officer B. Peter Warren

Recreation Commission Linda McKay, Chair

Council on Aging Jerry Ryan, Chair

George Heeley, Director

Conservation Commission Christopher Keenan, Chair

Historical Commission Dennis Melican

Veteran's Agent Timothy Hackett

Richards Memorial Library Debbie Bailey, Librarian
Charles Innis, Trustee
Chair

Home: 508-756-5622

Home: 508-757-4180

Call direct for an inspection Home: 508-755-5171

Call direct for an inspection Home: 508-799-0392

Call for Inspection 508-868-8928

Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. 508-754-7638 Ext. 13

See Town Hall hours 508-754-7638 Ext. 15

Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m.-Noon 508-754-7638
Ext. 16

Board meets every other week 508-754-7638
- Call in advance for meeting
dates Ext. 10

Town Hall 508-754-7638 Ext. 20

Office: 107 Holden Road 508-753-9077

Board meets second Tuesday of
each month

Office: 578 Pleasant Street. 508-756-9508

Board meets second
Wednesday of each month.

Office: 10 West Street (Business 508-755-1104
Only)

Contact Dispatch 508-791-6600

508-791-1874

Office: 17 West Street 508-756-2833

Board meets the first Tuesday
of each month.

Board meets the second 508-757-1572
Thursday of each month

Board meets the third
Thursday of each month

Home: 508-755-1477

Trustees meet the first Tuesday 508-754-0793
of each month

LIBRARY HOURS

HOURS:
Sunday & Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

WINTER

CLOSED

1-8 p.m.

9-12 p.m., 1-5 p.m.

1-8 p.m.

9-12 p.m., 1-5 p.m.

10-4 p.m.

SUMMER

CLOSED

1-5 p.m., 7-9 p.m.

1-5 p.m.

1-5 p.m., 7-9 p.m.

1-5 p.m.

CLOSED