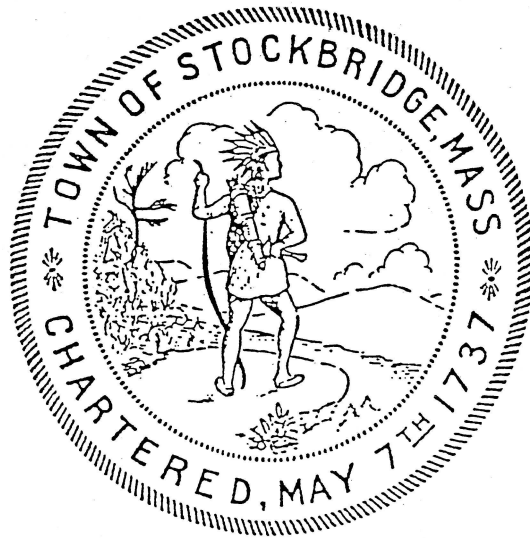


**ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
TOWN OFFICERS
OF THE TOWN OF
STOCKBRIDGE
MASSACHUSETTS**



INCORPORATED 1739

**FOR THE YEAR ENDING
December 31, 2004**

CONTENTS

Information and Officers

- General Information of Town of Stockbridge
- Business Hours of Town Officers
- Town Officers of Stockbridge
- Appointees and Committees

Town Clerk's Report

- Statistics
- In Memoriam

General Services

- Selectmen
- Police Department
- Fire Department
- Highway Department
- Water and Sewer Department
- Cemetery Department
- Parks and Recreation
- Emergency Management
- Information Technology Director

Health, Education and Social Services

- Board of Health
- Tri-Town Health
- Lee Regional Visiting Nurse Association
- Brien Center for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Inc.
- Lee Ambulance Service
- Education
- Council On Aging
- Stockbridge Library Association
- Stockbridge Housing Authority
- Committee on Affordable Housing
- Veteran's Services
- Elderly & Disabled Tax Aid Committee

Planning and Aesthetics

- Planning Board
- Zoning Board of Appeals
- Stockbridge Historical Commission
- Tree Warden
- Building Inspector
- Conservation Commission
- Stockbridge Cultural Council
- Berkshire Regional Planning Commission
- Memorial Day Committee
- Historical Preservation Task Force
- Community Preservation Committee
- Laurel Hill Association

Stockbridge Land Trust
Stockbridge Bowl Association

Finances

Accountant
Balance Sheets
Board of Assessors
Town Collector
Treasurer
Finance Committee

Town Warrant
Warrant

**GENERAL INFORMATION of
TOWN of STOCKBRIDGE**

Chartered	1737
Incorporated	1739
Population	1933
Registered Voters	1534
Form of Government	Open Town Meeting
Tax Rate	\$9.71
Annual Town Meeting	Third Monday in May

UNITED STATES SENATORS

Edward M. Kennedy, Boston John F. Kerry, Boston

CONGRESSMAN

John W. Olver

STATE SENATOR

Andrea Nuciforo

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT

William "Smitty" Pignatelli

BUSINESS HOURS of TOWN OFFICES

ASSESSORS, Board of
9 a.m. to Noon; 1 to 4 p.m.
Monday-Friday

**BERKSHIRE HILLS REGIONAL
SCHOOL COMMITTEE**
7:30 p.m. 2nd Thursday of each month

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
7 p.m. 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month

COUNCIL ON AGING
4 p.m. 1st Tuesday of each month
at Heaton Court

FINANCE BOARD
As necessary

HEALTH, BOARD OF
7 p.m. 1st Thursday of each month

HISTORICAL COMMISSION
As Necessary

HOUSING AUTHORITY
7 p.m. 1st Tuesday of each month
at Heaton Court

**PARKS and RECREATION
COMMISSION**
As necessary

PLANNING BOARD
7:30 p.m. 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each
month

SELECTMEN, BOARD OF
7 p.m. Monday

TOWN CLERK
9 a.m. to Noon; 1 to 4 p.m.
Monday-Friday

TOWN TREASURER
9 a.m. to Noon; 1 to 4 p.m.
Monday-Wednesday

TOWN COLLECTOR
9 a.m. to Noon, 1 to 4 p.m.
Monday-Friday

VETERANS' AGENT
9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday
Great Barrington Town Hall

WATER and SEWER COMMISSION
4:30 p.m. 1st Tuesday of each month

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
As necessary

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Berkshire Hills Regional School District	274-6400
Monument Mountain	528-3346
Searles Middle School	528-4743
Plain School	298-3021
Council On Aging	298-3118
Fire Department	
Burning Permits	298-5562
Glendale Station	298-3242
Hose Company No. 1	298-4866
Interlaken Station	298-4956
Highway Department	298-5506
Police Department	298-5520 or 298-5530
Town Offices	298-4714
Accountant	298-4534
Assessors	298-3509
Building Inspector	298-3233
Town Clerk	298-4568
Town Collector	298-3890
Treasurer	298-4534
Water and Wastewater Department	298-4067

TOWN OFFICERS of STOCKBRIDGE

Moderator

Gary D. Johnston, 2006

Selectmen

J.Cristopher Irsfeld, 2007
Deborah S. McMenemy, 2006
George E. Shippey, 2005

Paul Coates, 2007
Barbara Cohen-Hobbs, 2007
Gary Pitney, 2006
Eric M. Plakun, 2005
Douglas J. Rose, 2009

Board of Assessors

William Campbell, 2007
Cecilia K. Killfoile, 2006
John A. Miller, 2005

Treasurer

Karen T. Williams, 2005

Town Clerk

Linda Hunt, 2007

Tree Warden

Peter Curtin, 2006

Town Collector

Joseph Patrick Ruggio, 2005

Parks and Recreation

Robert Flower, 2005
Mary Hart, 2006
Philip Heller, 2007

Board of Health

Jonathan R. Aronoff, 2007
Cara B. Davis, 2006
Gregory M. Pilling, 2005

Housing Authority

D. Ann Beacco, State Appointee
Pauline Pierce, 2008
William A. Selke, 2009
Kenneth Shearn, 2005
Anna O. Smith, 2006

Sewer and Water Commissioners

Donald Schneyer, 2006
Thomas Paul Schuler, 2005
Peter J. Socha, 2007

Regional School Committee

Paul Coates, 2006
Martha M. Muir, 2006
Alan Wilken, 2008

Planning Board

Robert Bartle, 2009
Allan Blau, 2006

APPOINTEES AND COMMITTEES FOR 2004

Accountant

Elaine Markham, 2005

Board of Registrars

Linda Hunt
Anne M. Sparks, 2006
Margaret N. Tracy, 2007
Nancy Ann Wilcox, 2005

Berk. Regl. Planning Commission

Douglas J. Rose, Delegate
Craig Berger, Alternate, 2005

Building Inspector

Ned Baldwin

Berkshire Regional Transit Authority

John L. Cronson, Delegate, 2005

Cable Advisory Committee

J. Cristopher Irsfeld, 2005

Neil Holden, 2005

David Lane, 2005

Community Preservation Committee

Thomas Stokes, Chairman, for Selectmen

Susan Klebel, V. Chair, for Finance

Michael Blay, Treas, for Assessors

David McCarthy, for Selectmen

Allan Blau, for Planning Board

Sally Underwood-Miller, for Con. Com.

Linda W. Jackson, for Historical Com.

Robert Flower, for Parks and Rec

Ann Beacco, Housing Authority

Conservation Commission

Joseph DeGiorgis, 2007

Don W. Deno, 2007

John Hart, 2005

John J. Pensivy, Commissioner Emeritus

Cathy Plakun, 2005

Steve Shatz, 2007

George Shippey, 2006

Sally Underwood-Miller, 2006

Constables

Robert F. Nielson, 111, 2007

Louis J. Peyron, Sergeant, 2007

Brian A. Shaw, 2007

Michael J. Stanton, 2007

Bruce J. Stringer, 2007

Council On Aging

Lillian Bender, 2007

Virginia Schwartz, 2007

Joan Selva, 2006

Patricia Tarrant, 2006

Elizabeth McCormack, Director

Dog Officer

Donald Holmes

Emergency Management

Arthur D. Dutil, Director

Richard B. Wilcox, Deputy Director

Executive Secretary

Jorja-Ann P. Marsden, 2007

Finance Board

Mary Bertocci, 2007

Susan Klebl, 2006

James McMenamy, 2005

John Morse, 2006

Keith Raftery, 2005

Holly Rhind, 2007

Jean Rousseau, 2006, Chairman

Craig Berger, 2005, Alternate

Lisa Schneyer, 2007, Alternate

Fire Chief

Louis J. Peyron

C. Joseph Tracy, Deputy

Gas Inspector

Gregory M. Pilling

Highway Superintendent

Clinton E. Schneyer, Jr., 2005

Historical Commission

Maria Carr

Linda Jackson, Chairman

Pauline D. Pierce

Martin Torodash

Historic Preservation Task Force

Carl Sprague, Chairman

Peter Williams, Secretary

Linda Jackson, Historical Comm.

Jorja-Ann Marsden, for Selectmen

Sue Bonak

Marty Bullwinkel

Everett Jassy

Carole Owens

Pam Sandler

Andrea Savana

Eileen Taft

Local Cultural Council

Linda Barbadoro
Shirley Blanchard
Sarah Horne
Cheryl Hutto
Dawn Lane, Co-Chair
Belle Fox Martin
Julie McCarthy
Allison S. Rachele, Co-Chair
Janice Shields

Memorial Day Committee

Deborah Coleman
Jake Donovan
Mary V. Flynn
Deborah S. McMenemy, Chairman
Jorja Marsden
Keith Raftery
Chris Schuler
Lindy Searing

Plumbing Inspector

Gregory M. Pilling

Town Counsel

J. Raymond Miyrares

Police Chief

Richard B. Wilcox, 2007

Plain School Task Force

Joseph Kellogg, Consultant
J. Cristopher Irsfeld
Deborah S. McMenemy
George E. Shippey
Charles Gillette
David McCarthy
James McMenemy
Laurie Norton-Moffatt
Eva Sheridan
John Spencer
Jorja-Ann P. Marsden

Veterans' Agent

Al Adams, District Director, 2005

Wire Inspector

Robert Clausen, 2005

Zoning Board of Appeals

Linda Day, 2008
James Murray, 2005
Thomas Schuler, 2007
William Selke, 2006
John H. Spencer, 2009
David Adler, Associate
Patricia Flinn, Associate

Town Clerk's Report

Town Clerk

VITAL STATISTICS

Population	1,933
Registered Voters	1,534
Number of Births	11
Number of Marriages	28
Number of Deaths	23

At the recommendations of the Registry of Vital Records and the United States Department of State, we will no longer be printing vital records in the town report. This will help to protect the privacy of individuals as well as help to curb identity theft.

RAFFLE PERMITS ISSUED

Raffle Permits	1
----------------	---

DOG LICENSES

Male	24
Neutered Males	80
Females	8
Spayed Females	80
Kennel	0
Replacements	3
Transfers	<u>0</u>
TOTALS	195

\$963.00 Paid to the Town Treasurer for Dog Licenses

Fees amounting to an additional **\$5,278.65** were also turned over to the Town Treasurer for the sale of certified birth, marriage, and death records, the filing of marriage intentions and special permits, the recording of business certificates, and the sale of street lists, bylaws, raffle permits, and miscellaneous searches.

FISH AND GAME LICENSES

License Class Issued	Total	Net
Resident Fishing	49	\$1,078.00
Resident Fishing Minor	2	12.00
Resident Fishing 65-69	5	53.75
Handicapped Fishing	20	-0-
Non-Resident Fishing	7	224.00
Non-Resident Fishing 3-Day	1	18.00
Resident Citizen Hunting	8	176.00
Resident Hunting 65-69	1	10.75

Non-Resident Hunting, Big Game	2	188.00
Non-Resident Hunting, Small Game	2	120.00
Resident Citizen Minor Hunting	1	6.00
Resident Sporting	35	1,382.50
Resident Sporting 65-69	9	175.50
Resident Sporting over 70	25	-0-
Archery Stamps	17	85.00
Waterfowl Stamp	9	42.75
Primitive Firearms Stamp	36	180.00
Wild Conser. Stamp (Res.)	109	545.00
Wild Conser. Stamp (Non-Res.)	11	55.00
TOTALS		\$4,352.25

2004 ELECTIONS AND TOWN MEETINGS

The Presidential Primary on March 2, 2004 brought out 374 of the 1,492 registered voters. On May 17, 2004, the Annual Town Election had a turn out of 697 registered voters and the Annual Town Meeting on the same evening had 137 registered voters in attendance. The actual number of registered voters at that time was 1,472. November 2, 2004, we held the State election which included the race for President. We had 1,260 of our 1,534 registered voters turn out for that election, which is 82%.

In processing the Street List forms that have been returned to me so far, a few things have repeatedly come up, so I hope that by addressing them here, everyone will have a better understanding.

Re: Glendale as your residential address

Since Stockbridge is the name of the town and Glendale is considered the name of a village (as is Interlaken), Stockbridge is the proper way to give your legal residential address. Your mailing address will use Glendale if you receive your mail through the Glendale Post Office, but when you are completing your street list forms, please know that the residential address should read Stockbridge. When you sign nomination papers or petitions, you will be signing papers for Stockbridge and using your correct street number and street name for your legal residential address. That is the only way that your signature can be certified on that kind of document.

Re: Street Names

Some street names have changed over the past few years particularly when Stockbridge went through setting up the 911 addresses. If you are unsure of your "Legal" residential address, please contact the town clerk for clarification. This can affect your voting and signing of petitions and nomination papers.

Re: Unit Numbers in your address

Because of the process used to number houses for 911, there have been homes constructed where there was no gap in the numbers. These homes have been given a letter, usually an A for 911 purposes. This is considered your legal residential address. The only way to track that particular piece of property as people move in and out, is to fill in the computer field "Unit" and give it a letter. We do understand that this is a separate residence in cases such as this, but this is how the system is set up and so we will continue to have Unit A, B, etc. appear as the residential addresses when we do the street listing and mailings.

Re: Cats on the Street List form

Currently, the state does not require us to track or license cats, so although that field is on the street list form, we will not be entering that information into the system.

Re: Party Changes

There are specific forms that must be used for changing your voter registration party affiliation and these forms are available at the Town Clerk's Office. This information cannot be changed by marking the street list information form.

Re; Unenrolled voter

Massachusetts does not use the term "Independent" for voter registration. The U that is printed on the street list form stands for "Unenrolled". This means that a person is registered to vote but has not chosen or enrolled in a particular party. Those people can sign nomination papers for any recognized party, i.e. Democrat, Republican, Libertarian, Green-Rainbow (coded with the letter J). These are the only "parties" recognized in Massachusetts. Anything else is considered a "designation", not a party and is not eligible to vote in a primary.

**IN MEMORIAM
OF THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED THE TOWN**

Fernande D. Barrette

Sara S. Bergmans
Secretary to the Finance Committee

Ernest John Cardillo, Sr.

Frances K. Finnerty

Edward J. Johnston, Sr.
Fence Viewer

Phoebe Jeannette Kasson

Edward V. Knight

Viola Marie Soule
Council on Aging

Joseph Wasserman

General Services

Selectmen's Report

To the Citizens of Stockbridge:

Our guess is that the first question that needs to be answered in our report is, when is it going to stop snowing? We have had a brutal winter with one big snowstorm after another. At last count we have had over 60" of the white stuff. Luckily we planned ahead and as of the date of this report, we still have a goodly amount of sand/salt in our shed. Job well done goes out to Clint Schneyer and his crew.

When we look back, its hard to believe that twelve months have slipped by. Each year there seems to be more and more demands for the Selectmen's time. It seems that each week there's a major issue on our desk that needs immediate attention. Last year we commissioned a complete reworking of job descriptions for all town employees. At the same time we had a salary survey done for all town positions. We compared our pay scales to the pay scales of 15 other towns in the Berkshires. Directly after Town Meeting, we set about implementing the survey's suggestions and now we have a firm base with which we can move forward with confidence that all of our employees are being treated fairly.

We had another round of special permits for both or our cell tower locations. A new tower was erected on Route 7 and an extension was added to the tower behind the Sportsmen's Club. Finally, with the addition of Nextel and Cingular, you can stand on the porch of the Red Lion and use your cell phone.

At last Town Meeting we extended the life of the Historic Preservation Task Force whose job was to craft a bylaw to strengthen a Demolition Bylaw. Carl Sprague and his committee will have a bylaw ready for your consideration.

Also, at last years Town Meeting, many citizens expressed the wish that we form another Plain School re-use committee to study possible alternative uses for both the existing Town Hall and the soon to be abandoned Plain School. We have met numerous times with architects, marketing consultants, the re-use committee, and our consultant, Joseph Kellogg. We are confident that we will have a recommendation to bring to the Town in May.

Elm Street, Maple Street and South Street were finally given Historic Designation by the Massachusetts Historical Commission. Austen Riggs, our good neighbor, for over eighty years brought forward a new Master Plan which included an aggressive reworking of both their campus and two of their main buildings. We have hosted many informational meetings with Riggs and their neighbors. Our goal is to preserve the character of the neighborhood through cooperation and compromise; we feel everyone has succeeded.

We continue to work with DEP to finalize the closing of the old Town dump on Glendale Middle Road. We think we can see the light at the end of the tunnel. Hopefully this year we will get the green light to cap the landfill and the sludge dump.

The Town has been working for over a decade with the Stockbridge Bowl Association, the DEP, and Natural Heritage to get a plan in place which would allow for up to a 5 ½ foot drawdown of the lake (to kill off weeds in winter), and to get permission to dredge out the outlet channel which has silted over. The future health of the lake is hanging in the balance. If we don't address these issues soon, the lake will decline and die.

Our sincere thanks to all of our terrific employees, and Boards, both volunteer and elected, who keep Stockbridge running so smoothly. A very special thanks to Jorja-Ann Marsden for putting up with the three of us.

Respectfully submitted,

J Cristopher Irsfeld
Deborah S. McMenemy
George E. Shippey

Police Department

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

I hereby submit a report of the activities of the police department for the year 2004:

2004 can best be characterized as a quiet year with regard to reactive demands upon the police department. With 8,327 calls for service it was a significant drop from the 9,236 calls received in 2003. Realizing it is a risky business to suggest causal factors or predict future behavior it would be more appropriate to mention known contributors to the mix. The closing of DeSisto School has played a significant part in fewer calls for service. The economy appears to have had an impact; with fewer visitors we have had fewer calls for service.

Elm Street being abused as a shortcut remains a challenge. Out of 583 citations written in 2004, 285 were written on Elm Street. With traffic fines as high as \$450 for a single citation there is little evidence that enforcement has had any impact. We will continue to provide enforcement on Elm Street. Though Motor Vehicle Crashes were down for 2004, we did investigate one fatal crash.

In a post 9-11 economy traffic in the downtown business block has been so slow that there was very little demand for traffic direction during weekdays in the summer. Weekends remained fairly busy, but nowhere near the level of past years. Based on a number of requests and discussion with the Board of Selectmen the police department intends to provide a traffic officer for the business block during the summer of 2005.

We were again awarded a Community Policing Grant from the Executive Office of Public Safety in the amount of \$12,000. We also applied for and received a \$7,000. grant from the Governor's Highway Safety Bureau for seat belt and drunken driving enforcement. \$3,000 of

that \$7,000 was for the purchase of equipment. A speed sign board was procured for use on various streets in town. We turned down a \$12,500 reimbursable Homeland Security grant that came from the federal government through the state with so many restrictions and limitations it was of little value to the town. Through the Berkshire County Law Enforcement Council, and with the help of other county police chiefs, we were able to help secure \$800,000 for improvements to the Berkshire County Communications Center through the Executive Office of Public Safety. With the help of Chief McGarry of the Sheffield Police Department we were able to provide an additional \$500,000 from Homeland Security grant money to upgrade radio communication towers in the county.

We are pleased to be able to report that as a result of the efforts of the Town of Stockbridge IT Director Ernie Lowell the Stockbridge Police Department now has a web site at: www.rnetworx.com/~police/ It is a work in progress so please bear with us as we build out with the goal of providing better communication and service.

In December Sergeant Louis J. Peyron started his 45th year with the Stockbridge Police Department with retirement looming in December of 2005. We are pleased to have Officer William DeSantis of Lee, who is police academy trained, working part time, to fill in where needed. Officers Robert F. Nielson III, Michael J. Stanton, Brain A. Shaw and Bruce J. Stringer remain with us on a full time basis. Special Officers Elizabeth McCormack and Kimberly Shaw are meeting our current needs for part time officers. Administrative assistant Kristin Garner helps with the ever increasing demands of our paper and report driven world. It is a team effort and they all perform well easing the demands on my time and improving the quality of life in Stockbridge.

	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
Calls For Service	8,327	9,245	9,545	9,913	9,023
Investigations	423	485	374	436	282
Motor Vehicle Crashes (One Fatal)	136	149	151	142	117
Uniform Crime Report Offenses	95	124	112	115	105
Motor Vehicle Citations	583	491	280	322	255
Parking Tickets	45	74	36	79	65
Alarm Calls	407	517	563	423	346
Business Doors/Windows Found Open	43	6	14	11	15

Rape of a Child With Force	1
Assault To rape	1
Assault and Battery	7
A&B Dangerous Weapon	2
Assault With a Dangerous Weapon	1
Assault	1
Stalking	1
Bomb Threat, False	1
Annoying Telephone calls	4
Obscene Telephone calls	1
Threat to Commit a Crime	10

Arson of a Dwelling House	1
Breaking and Entering a Building Night time, felony	5
Breaking and Entering, Misdemeanor	4
Breaking and Entering Daytime, Felony	6
Breaking and Entering vehicle, daytime, felony	3
Larceny from a Person	1
Shoplifting by Concealing	1
Larceny From a Building	4
Larceny Over \$250.00	32
Larceny Under \$250.00	21
Larceny Over \$250.00 by Single Scheme	2
Larceny of a Motor Vehicle	1
Forgery of a Check	1
Utter a False Check	1
Larceny of a Firearm	1
Larceny Over \$250.00 by False Pretense	1
Fraud/Cheat, Gross	1
Receiving Stolen Property Over \$250.00	1
Receiving Stolen Property Under \$250.00	1
Vandalize Property	10
Destruction of Property Over \$250.00	6
Destruction of Property Under \$250.00	8
Indecent A&B on a Child Under 14	1
Indecent A&B on a Child Over 14	1
Dangerous Weapon, carrying	1
Firearm in Possession w/o FID Card	2
Firearm, Discharge within 500 feet of a Dwelling	1
Larceny by Check Over \$250.00	1
Larceny by Check Under \$250.00	2
Disorderly Conduct	4
Disturbing the Peace	1
OUI Alcohol	1
OUI Alcohol 6 th Offense	1
Trespass	13
Trespass with Motor Vehicle	1
Child Abuse, mandated Reporter	1
Contribute to the Delinquency of a Child	3
Dog, fail to License	1
Dog order, fail to Obey	2
Junk Car	7
Abuse Prevention Order, Violation	1
Waters of the Commonwealth, Pollute	1
Missing Persons	16
Harassment, Criminal	4
Trash, Litter	2

Trash, Litter from Motor Vehicle	1
Noisy & Disorderly House, Keeper of	1
Mistreat a Dog	1
Sex Offender, fail to Register	1
State Highway Traffic Violation	1
State Highway Pedestrian Violation	1
Speeding	440
Stop Sign	27
Seat Belt Violation	32
Operating to Endanger	11
No Inspection Sticker	11
Miscellaneous Motor Vehicle Violations	60

Respectively submitted,

Richard B. Wilcox,
Chief of Police

Fire Department

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and Citizens of Stockbridge:

I hereby submit my report for the Stockbridge Fire Department for the year ending December 31, 2004.

The Fire Department answered 174 calls during 2004, and they were:

3 Structure Fires	2 Stove Fires
4 Broken Water Pipes	1 Motor Vehicle leaking Gasoline
1 Gas Grill Fire	1 Person Trapped in Elevator
1 Rubbish Fire	2 Mutual Aid Calls
2 Chimney Fires	71 Smoke & Box Alarms
1 C. O. Detector Alarm	1 Tree on Electrical Power Lines
2 Brush Fires	1 Water Rescue
8 Motor Vehicle Accidents	1 Riding Lawn Mower Fire
2 Motor Vehicle Fires	1 Grass Fire
6 Electrical Problems	2 Water Problems
1 Illegal Burning	2 Oil Burner Problems
1 Electrical Power Lines Down	1 Burning Electrical Wires
55 Medical Calls answered by EMTs & First Responders	1 Rescue-Tree Fell on Workman-Fatal

The 174 calls resulted in a total of 704 man-hours. During the year the members spent another 936 man-hours in training. C.P.R. and First Responders courses as well as DeFib training

were also taken. We continue to take training classes with the Massachusetts Fire Academy and in house training. This has been the busiest year on record.

The Fire Department Companies again in 2004 awarded monies in scholarships to high school seniors at graduation in June.

Again, I would like to thank all the people who gave donations to the Fire Department during the past year. We continue to upgrade our equipment and replace firefighters gear with these funds, as needed.

I would like to thank all the surrounding communities for their assistance during the year as well as the Staff of dispatchers of the Berkshire County Communications Center (470) for their assistance in answering our emergency calls.

I would also like to thank all the active members of Hose Company #1, Glendale Company #3 and the Interlaken Company #4 for their time and cooperation during the year, which is all volunteer to the Town of Stockbridge.

Again this year, I am asking the Town to put away the sum of \$50,000.00 in order to have the funds available in a few years for the purchase of a new Fire Engine that will replace a 30 year old engine at that time.

Respectfully submitted,

Louis J. Peyron
Fire Chief

Highway Department

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Highway Department has performed its usual maintenance of catch basins, pot holes, and equipment this year. The only paving projects were Park Street and an attempt at the Mahkeenac Heights area where the sewer expansion had completed. We procured a used grader (1972) for \$4,200 which will take the place of the retired 1948 grader. The boat launch at the Stockbridge Bowl was repaired.

Thank you to everyone for their help in the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Clinton E. Schneyer,
Highway Superintendent

Water and Sewer Commission

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

This past year has been one of significant accomplishment. Work began in the Spring on the Waste Water Treatment Plant Expansion and on the extension of sewer lines into the Mahkeenac Heights, Mahkeenac Shores, and Mahkeenac Terrace areas. Sewer line installation in the Mahkeenac area was completed in July and construction crews began work in Glendale. The Glendale section was completed this Fall and construction crews moved to the Goodrich, Cherry Hill and Cherry Street neighborhoods. Installation of the sewer lines had begun when the Project was shut down for winter. Pipes has been laid in all sections of the Project with the exception of portions of Goodrich Street and Cherry Hill Road. While the contract calls for completion of the sewer collection system by September, 2006, we are hopeful the contractor will complete work sometime next summer. Although the same collection system contractor, Ludlow Construction, has shut down for the winter months, work is progressing on design and construction of pump station components.

The Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade is now substantially complete (with punch list items remaining) and the plant is in full operation. We are quite pleased with the progress of the project and we acknowledge Tony Campetti, Mike Buffoni and Pete Barenski who have monitored the project in addition to managing and maintaining our water and sewer systems.

We are pleased to report our Sewer and Water Department has been selected by the Massachusetts Water Pollution Control Association to host a training session this Fall. This is in recognition of Departments efforts to improve water and wastewater quality.

Other accomplishments this past year include logging a 30 acre parcel on the Lake Averic Watershed.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald Schneyer, **Chairman**
Thomas Schuler
Peter Socha

Cemetery Department

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

I submit my annual report for the interments in the cemeteries and monies for perpetual care fund for the year of 2004.

Interments	\$2,825.00
Perpetual Care Fund	<u>\$2,500.00</u>
Grand Total	\$5,325.00

Number of Burials	21
-------------------	----

All requests were taken care of pertaining to burials and the index of cemeteries is up to date.

Respectfully submitted,

BILL CAPMBELL
Cemetery Consultant

Parks and Recreation Department

To The Honorable Board of Selectmen and Citizens of the Town:

The Parks and Recreation Commission is charged with the maintenance and management of the town's parks and recreation facilities. The past year has been a successful year for the Commission. The three lifeguards employed by the town kept the town beach safe for the 2004 season. The water quality at the town beach was monitored weekly and has continued to improve each year as the geese impact on the beach has been reduced, with water samples being tested under the supervision of the Tri-Town Health Department. The Pine Street tennis courts and basketball court were resurfaced. The Commission continues to monitor the athletic programs at the Plain School. The Commission has met with Don Deno a number of times concerning a Housatonic River canoe access and hiking trail, and will continue to study the feasibility of this project. Funds have been budgeted for the maintenance of the shrubs and trees at the town beach and in the area contiguous to the skateboard park.

The Commission wishes to thank all of the volunteers who have contributed their efforts toward making the town's parks and recreation facilities first rate. As always, a special thanks to Clint Schneyer and his crew for a great job.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Flower, Chair
Philip F. Heller, Clerk
Mary Hart

Emergency Management

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge

This year the Stockbridge Emergency Management joined with the towns in South County to form the Southern Berkshire Regional Emergency Planning Committee. Massachusetts Emergency Management encouraged towns to join into regional groups to better utilize personnel, training, equipment, and any grant funds that will become available. This sharing will provide each town more resources in the event of an emergency.

Through a CERT grant, we were able to purchase ten weather radios and ten emergency-ready supply packs for the Plain School, for several town buildings, and for cultural institutions. The radios will give these public places an early severe weather warning to take shelter, and possibly prevent the loss of lives and/or reduce injuries. The ready packs will be used in the event of emergencies.

Several Town Hall staff members took First Aid classes with the Southern Berkshire Medical Reserve Corps and took part in the South County Hazmat Drill. The Stockbridge Fire Department assisted in setting up the decontamination tent at Fairview Hospital. We worked with the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission in completing the Stockbridge section of the Berkshire Regional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Chief Wilcox and I have been attending the state and regional Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency meetings.

We encourage all citizens to take First Aid training and have First Aid supplies, water, and food available in their homes in preparation of being sheltered in place for 48 hours.

A special thanks to Jorja Marsden and Kristen Garner for their many hours of dedication in updating and completing the numerous state mandated reports, and also to the selectmen and departments of town government for their support in protecting the citizens of Stockbridge.

Respectfully submitted,
ARTHUR DUTIL, **Director**
CHIEF RICHARD WILCOX, **Deputy Director**

Information Technology Department

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

This year we have added a Warrant for the Town to vote on requesting funds to take the next step in the GIS Mapping Project. Currently the Assessor's office is working with maps based on uncorrected photographs taken in 1961, using a ruler and landmarks for changes more by guesswork than any scientific method. With a complete flyover and new digital orthophotography, a thorough checking of property boundaries with deed search and site visits

where necessary, and integration of these products into a seamless Geographic Information System, the Assessor, Tax Collector, Building Inspector, and indeed any Town department that uses land or road data will have the information they need available quickly and concisely. In addition, whereas right now if the maps are destroyed in a fire it would be incredibly time-consuming and costly to replace them, all Town digital data is backed up nightly and stored in two separate locations. We will again ask for an off-site storage capability as well.

Although there have been delays in the upgrading of the Tax Collector's and Assessor's software, the Accountant and Treasurer are up and running smoothly on their new systems. The Building Inspector and Fire Department have also begun using their new software, and are beginning to show significant time savings in their record-keeping.

Many of you have taken advantage of the new service on the Town website (<http://www.townofstockbridge.com>) that allows payment of real estate taxes, personal property taxes, excise taxes, and Water and Sewer Department bills to be paid online either through direct debit or with a credit card. The Police Department has also added a section that is vastly more informative, with links to applicable Commonwealth and Federal sites.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernest Lowell
Information Technology Director

Health, Education, and Human Services

Board of Health

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

In 2004, the Board of Health met monthly at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of every month to review health related issues, including but not limited issues around wells and well variances, septic systems, oil spills, special permit applications, a 40B comprehensive permit application, and WRA Determination Applications, Notices of Intent and Order of Conditions.

The Board members also attended quarterly Tri-Town Health Department meetings. This year, these quarterly meetings resulted in a review of the process for obtaining a massage license. The application was re-designed and will only be available to applicants at the Tri-Town Health Department office in Lee. A pre-application process will include a background check of the applicant.

Any complaints brought to the Board's attention were investigated by Tri-Town Health Department and/or a Board member. Three complaints were filed. One resulted in a condemnation of a dwelling unit and the displacement of a household. The other resulted in the dwelling owner's compliance with clean-up. With the third, no finding of a violation of safe and sanitary food preparation standards was found. All routine inspections of restaurants, public pools, beaches, rental housing and massage establishments were carried out by the Tri-Town Health Department agents, under the direction of Peter Kolodziej.

The Town Animal Inspector inspected any barn animals and the premises where they are kept. He also investigated any animal bites and scratches. All reports are filed with the Division of Animal control.

The Board of Health members attended a tri-town meeting on solid waste disposal, and two Berkshire County Boards of health meetings.

The Board wishes to acknowledge the contribution of Greg Pilling who has served as Board chair, and Todd LePine, Board member. We welcome Jonathan Aronoff to the Board of Health this year, and continue to count on the professional expertise of Greg Pilling as a Board member.

Respectfully submitted,

Cara Davis, **Chairman**
Jonathan Aronoff, M.D.
Greg Pilling

Tri-Town Health Department

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

I hereby submit my annual report for the fiscal year 2004.

Title 5 On-site Wastewater Disposal: The continued high activity in building construction and property transfers resulted in increased Title 5 related activities, including witnessing of percolation tests, permitting of new and upgrades of septic systems and inspections.

Food Service Sanitation Program: Routine food service inspection found a number of establishments in need of improvement, re-inspections and scheduled hearings were held to gain compliance. All establishments must have employees who have successfully completed State approved food service sanitation and safety training programs. These courses are routinely offered throughout the year.

Pool & Spa Monitoring Program: Our routine inspection/sampling program for area public/semi public swimming pools and hot tubs has been successful in improving and maintaining the bacteriological quality of these facilities.

Tobacco Awareness Program: With the adoption of the statewide smoking ban, our Tobacco Awareness Program has seen an increase in complaints associated with tobacco use in public places and/or the workplace. Kimberly Kelly Program Administrator has stepped up inspectional and enforcement activities in response, to ensure compliance is met. This includes compliance checks at area tobacco retailers to confirm that store clerks check identifications and not sell to minors.

Homeland Security: On May 12, 2004 I was appointed as the Public Health representative to the West Region Homeland Security Advisory Council. This Council is responsible for the development and implementation of a regional homeland security plan in an effort to prevent and respond to acts of terrorism.

Public Health Prevention Video: The Health Department participated with the Massachusetts Public Health Association in the development of a public health prevention video entitled Safe and Healthy: How Public Health Protects Us. The video included segments on proper food handling, private water supplies, swimming pools and hot tubs, lab procedures for testing water and wastewater to name a few. We hope to make this tape available for broadcast on the local cable channels.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Lee, Lenox and Stockbridge Boards of Health for their continued support and assistance and the Tri-Town Health staff for their extraordinary efforts and dedication in maintaining our public health prevention programs.

Permits Issued: (Stockbridge only)

Permit Type	Numbered Issued
Food Service	43
Retail Food	3
Catering	16
Mobile Food	4
B & B	11
Bakery	2
Special Event Food Permit	38
Tobacco	3
Indoor Pool	3
Outdoor Pool	9
Hot Tubs	1
Frozen Desert	2
Milk/Cream Store	4
Milk/Cream Vehicle	1
Milk/Cream Dealer	1
Pasteurization	1
Disposal Works Installers	16
Septage Hauler	6
Garbage Hauler	8
Rec. Children's Camp	4
Motel/Hotel/Cabin/Trailer	0
Massage Practitioner	64
Massage Establishment	7
Biological Wastes	0
Disposal Works Construction	16
Well Permit	10
Beaver Permits	1

Inspections: (Stockbridge)

Food Service Inspections:	14
Misc. Complaints/Nuisance	3
Housing Inspections/Chapter II	4
Quality Control	321
Pool & Hot Tub Testing	148
Water Testing Performed- Beaches	120
Ice Sampling	11
Well Sampling	12
WWTP Sampling	0

Budget Revenue Information 2004 (Stockbridge)

Total budget:	\$ 35,158.00	Revenue generated:	\$ 19,756.97
Breakdown:	Permits	\$ 16,045.00	
	Water Testing	\$ 2,687.09	
	Septic	\$ 1,024.88	
	Total	\$ 19,756.97	

Respectfully submitted,

Peter J. Kolodziej R.S.
Director/Sanitarian
Tri-Town Health Department

LEE REGIONAL VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION, INC.

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The following is a report of the services performed in the Town of Stockbridge during the calendar year 2004:

Home Visits	Visits
Skilled Nursing	281
Physical Therapy	136
Occupational Therapy	90
Speech Therapy	6
Medical Social Work	10
Maternal Child Health	2
Home Health Aide	293
Nutrition	1

Non-billable Health Promotion - 7 Home Visits

Clinics	Sessions	Attendance
Flu/Pneumonia	2	42/5
Blood Pressure	12	82

Respectfully submitted,

PAULA SCHUTZMANN, RN,MSN
Executive Director

Brien Center for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Inc.

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Brien Center remains committed to providing high-quality, fully licensed mental health and substance abuse services to Berkshire County, primarily through counseling and treatment centers located in North Adams, Great Barrington, and Pittsfield.

Previously known as Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services of the Berkshires, the Brien Center represents several mergers and a clinical collaboration with Berkshire Medical Center. The Brien Center is now the largest supplier of such services to the region, providing 10,000 greater Berkshire County residents a year with a continuum of care that includes crisis care, psychiatric services, outpatient therapy, and residential and rehabilitation services.

From July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004, we provided services to 87 residents of the Town of Stockbridge.

While we continue to receive some state funding and allocations from local United Ways, these alone are insufficient to cover the entire costs of the uninsured and underinsured persons who seek our services. For this reason, we count on annual allocations from the cities and towns in Berkshire County to help us fulfill our mission of providing adequate services to all persons in need.

We wish to thank you for your past and continued support. If there are any questions regarding our agency or the services that we provide, please call 413-499-0412.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Cohan,
Executive Director

Lee Ambulance Service

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

I hereby present the annual report of the Lee Ambulance Service.

In 2004, Lee Ambulance Service responded to a total 823 requests for medical assistance, of which 168 of those responses were to the Town of Stockbridge.

The breakdown of those calls is as follows:

Motor Vehicle Accidents	19 responses
Non motor vehicle injuries	41 responses
Medical/illness	61 responses
Cardiac/Respiratory	31 responses
Miscellaneous	16 responses
Total	168 responses

Our continued appreciation to our members who are residents of Stockbridge: Harold French, Scott Muir, Tim O'Brien, and Dan Weston. As well as their commitment to Lee Ambulance Service, they also provide a tiered response to calls in Stockbridge. We would always welcome more residents of Stockbridge to join us as first responders or EMT's. Please contact us for more information.

We extend our gratitude to the Stockbridge Police Department and to the Stockbridge Fire Department for their continued support and assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Breault, EMT-P
Service Director

Education

Report of the Charles Denton Treadway Scholarship Fund

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Trustees of the Charles Denton Treadway Scholarship Fund awarded scholarships of \$200.00 to the following:

Vincent Barnaba	Wheaton College
Cecilia Harris	Purdue University
Eric Haywood	Bryant College
Ross Keller	New York University
Naren Kelso	Quinnipiac University
Kathleen Murray	Rollins
Leif Steinert	American Academy of Dramatic Arts (1 year), then Lasell

The Trustees of the Charles Denton Treadway Scholarship Fund awarded scholarships of \$100.00 to the following:

Dolores Hunt	Berkshire Community College
Blair Kerins	Berkshire Community College

As of December 31, 2004, there was \$82,216.65 in accounts at Berkshire Bank and investments and stocks managed by Smith Barney Citigroup.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen T. Williams
Treasurer
Town of Stockbridge

Report of the Charles M. Owen School Fund

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Williams High School Scholarship Committee as Trustees of the Charles M. Owen School Fund awarded scholarships of \$400.00 to the following Stockbridge residents:

Ross Keller	New York University
Naren Kelso	Quinnipiac University

As of December 31, 2004, there was \$29,029.51 in an account at Berkshire Bank.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen T. Williams
Treasurer
Town of Stockbridge

Report of the Williams High School Scholarship Fund

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Trustees of the William High School Scholarship Fund awarded \$400.00 scholarships to the following:

Kelly Allen	West Stockbridge	Boston University
Samuel Gaulty	West Stockbridge	University of Vermont
Whitney Shook	West Stockbridge	University of Rochester
Jessica Timmons	West Stockbridge	Western New England

As of December 31, 2004, there was \$58,072.00 in accounts at Berkshire Taconic Foundation.

Respectfully submitted,

John F. Canning

Report of the William Academy Scholarship Fund

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Trustees of the Williams Academy Scholarship Fund awarded scholarships of \$300.00 to the following:

Eric Haywood	Bryant College
Ross Keller	New York University
Naren Kelso	Quinnipiac University

As of December 31, 2004, there was \$20,798.90 in accounts at the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Muir

Council on Aging

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

Transportation for medical appointments, grocery shopping and personal needs continue to be a very important service provided by the Council on Aging to Stockbridge Seniors. Foot Care Clinics, Blood Pressure and Flu Clinics are equally important services. Twice weekly community luncheons at Heaton Court and Meals-On-Wheels are always available for those in need of service. Moving Into Well Being, a low-impact dance movement program continues on Tuesday afternoons.

Our Seniors were the guests of Monument Mountain Regional High School for the Senior Dinner and Play, as well as the Fall Music Concert. Many attended the Berkshire Theater Festival performances and the Holiday Dinner so graciously given by the Fitzpatrick Family. Our Brown Bag Food Program has proven to be well received. Thanks to everyone who helps with unloading the truck and packing the groceries. It's wonderful to see everyone pitch in and work so well together.

Finally the Council on Aging wishes to extend our sincere appreciation to all of our volunteers who generously contribute their time and efforts to help make other's lives better in our town. A most sincere THANK YOU to all those at the Town Hall for all their effort on Behalf of the COA, and to the Highway Department for repairing the COA van.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth McCormack, **Director**
Lillian Bender, **Co-Chairman**
Patricia Tarrant, **Co-Chairman**

Virginia Schwartz
Joan Selva

Stockbridge Library Association

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The past year at the Stockbridge Library has been, as always, a busy and exciting one. We have quite a few highlights to report. We are pleased to report that our circulation of 57,814 remains healthy and active, especially considering the size of our small library and the population of our town. Last year 36,704 patrons and visitors walked through our doors to enjoy all we have to offer in the way of books, periodicals, audio books, videos and computer access. We thank our skillful staff for attending to all their needs. As busy as we are, the Board of Trustees took an in-depth look at our financial picture in these difficult times and decided it was necessary to reduce our open hours from 51 to 43 effective July 1, 2004. This decision was made in order to realize an annual savings of \$26,000 and help to provide for the long term financial health of the Stockbridge Library Association.

We are still able to remain reasonably available to our patrons, offering hours every day except Sunday and Monday, including two evenings. In our efforts to meet our annual budget requirements, we also held our usual round of fund raising events such as the Valentine's Day book buying party, our golf tournament in conjunction with the Lenox Library, the summer book sale, and a second hosting of former U.S. Poet Laureate Billy Collins. Many thanks to all who helped make these events a success either by attending or by donating their time and resources.

Finally, we are thrilled to report that the Historical Room renovation project has been essentially completed, with the doors reopening to a small celebration on June 8. There are still some issues left outstanding in order to call it finished, so we continue to take contributions toward such items as more compact shelving, book shelving, display platforms, track lighting and computer software. In addition, we had hoped for the establishment of a modest endowment to cover the increased cost in maintenance and operation of the new climate control system which was central to the project. So far, all of our funding has been needed for the physical work and we have not yet been able to put those dollars away as hoped.

Curator Barbara Allen happily reports that since reopening, she has seen a marked increase in town residents patronizing the room to learn more about their own local history, as well as the many out-of-town visitors who come in to learn about what makes Stockbridge such a special place. Sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed to the preservation of the history of Stockbridge by donating the funding for the project as well as their equally valuable talents.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Adler, **President**

Stockbridge Housing Authority

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Stockbridge Housing Authority continues to manage housing programs for low-income senior citizens, families, and people with special needs. The primary program is Heaton Court, situated on the hill at 5 Pine Street in Stockbridge. Heaton Court is state-assisted housing for low-income elderly, and disabled under 60 years of age.

Although all apartments are occupied and there is a waiting list in place, Stockbridge residents receive priority. Two Stockbridge residents became tenants at Heaton Court in 2004. Information on the eligibility criteria and the application process can be obtained by calling 298-3222.

The Housing Authority assists low-income families and individuals through the federal Section 8 rental assistance program. Stockbridge Housing administers 41 vouchers. This voucher entitles the participant to a portion of their rent being paid every month based on their income. Priority is given to those who live or work in southern Berkshire County. In 2004, three Stockbridge residents applied for Section 8 assistance. Currently, there are no Section 8 program participants living in Stockbridge.

The Housing Authority serves as the landlord for an eight-bedroom facility at 7 Pine Street that is rented to the State's Department of Mental Retardation for housing and services to assist severely disabled adults.

In 2004, Stockbridge Housing Authority entered into an agreement with Pine Woods LLC to act as management agent of the 30-unit housing facility to be built at 3 West Stockbridge Road. Pine Woods will bring much needed affordable housing to Stockbridge.

Residents who have housing concerns are encouraged to contact JoAnne Redding, Executive Director at 298-3222. Business hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The Board wishes to express its gratitude to the dedicated staff and to the town departments for their kind assistance to the residents at Heaton Court

Respectfully submitted,

D. Ann Beacco, **State Appointee**
Pauline Pierce, **Treasurer**
William A. Selke
Kenneth M. Shearn, **Chairman**
Anna Owens Smith, **Assistant Treasurer**

Committee on Affordable Housing

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The committee is pleased to report major milestones have been reached towards providing affordable housing in our town.

At the end of 2004, Construct, Inc., which is developing Pine Woods for Stockbridge, closed on the funding for the project from federal, state and local sources. The contractor, David Tierney, Jr., Inc., has been given Notice to Proceed. The conservation restriction purchased with Community Preservation Act funds, which will provide screening along Route 102, was approved by the state and has been executed. The sale of the wetlands to the Stockbridge Land Trust – another conservation measure – is pending.

It is expected that early in 2006, the construction will be complete and tenants will move into the 30 rental units. We believe that this will be a development of which Stockbridge can be proud.

Respectfully submitted,

William Selke, **Chairman**
Craig Moffatt, **Vice Chairman**
William Sheridan, III, **Secretary**
Cara Davis
Deborah McMenamy
Starbuck Smith
Eileen Taft

District Department of Veterans' Services

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

CALENDAR YEAR 2004

DDVS MGL Ch 115 Benefits Provision:	DISTRICT	Town
Expenditures	\$25,039.55	\$5,357.56
Reimbursements from Veterans	.00	.00
Projected OCVS Reimbursements (75%)	18,507.73	4,018.17
DDVS Funded Provision:		
Office Operations (All Types)	8163	1088
Administrative Budget	\$82,559.22	\$9,081.51

Department of Veterans' Affairs Provision:

Burial Flags	46	5
Grave Markers	24	4

DDVS Administrative Expenses

Salaries: Director/Treasurer	\$44,978.00
Rent (Great Barrington)	1,300.00
Travel	1,916.60
Insurance Benefits	13,265.46
Medicare Benefits	652.20
Berkshire County Retirement	7,918.00
Telephone	1,693.82
Postage	830.60
Machine Maintenance Contract	296.00
Liability/Workers Comp Insurance Bond	528.00
Organizational Dues	60.00
Supplies	219.95
Miscellaneous	314.16
TOTAL	\$73,972.79

Respectfully submitted,

Al Adams.
Director DDVS

Elderly and Disabled Tax Aid Committee

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Town's newly adopted by-law provides for aid to qualifying elderly or disabled residents of low income on Real Estate taxes for their homes. The program, established in 2003, is funded by voluntary taxpayer donations and is being administered by an appointed committee which will evaluate applications and distribute aid up to 50% or \$1,000 of a qualifying property tax bill.

Applications are available at Town Hall and assistance in filling out the applications is available.

For the FY2004 donations from generous taxpayers amounted to \$5,992.44. The Committee will be evaluating and approving aid through April 15, 2005 for the 2005 fiscal year tax bills.

Respectfully submitted,

Lillian Bender
John Miller
Joseph Ruggio
John Tarrant
Karen Williams

Planning and Aesthetics

Planning Board

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

Our municipal subdivision regulations are purposed to protect the safety, convenience, and welfare of the inhabitants of the Town of Stockbridge, and the powers and responsibilities of the Planning Board in enforcing those regulations must accordingly be exercised with all due regard for the protection of the environment as well as for the overall public interest.

The Planning Board was this year presented with yet another proposal from the owner of the former Radkai property off of Dugway Road to create a seven-lot subdivision on wooded and rural Pixley Hill, which proposal seeks to cut a new subdivision road almost a half-mile into the wilderness to reach the remote and otherwise inaccessible hilltop site. This new application follows the denial of an earlier subdivision plan proposed by the same developer that has spawned two Land Court appeals, a Superior Court civil action against the Town, and the filing with the Berkshire County District Attorney of criminal charges against the individual Planning Board members by the litigious and often contentious developer. After deliberating through a complete subdivision review process spanning more than a half-dozen regular meetings and special sessions, and after weighing both the factual evidence and expert testimony presented on behalf of the developer, our justifiably concerned constituents, and the Town's own consultant, the Planning Board found¹ that the proposed subdivision was not in comportment with the municipal subdivision regulations or the Town's Master Plan, and that the significant design waivers sought by the developer and embodied in the subdivision plan were not in the public interest and were otherwise inconsistent with the subdivision regulations. The Planning Board also found that the activities proposed by the developer to be conducted on that part of the misbegotten subdivision within the Mohawk Brook Lake and Pond Overlay District would significantly adversely impact the environment and public health. We can unfortunately only expect that the courageous decisions of the Planning Board will spawn more litigation against our Town at the hands of this developer.

The Planning Board has also this year considered sweeping changes to both the zoning bylaws and the subdivision regulations, including changes to the bylaws controlling the operation of "Bed & Breakfast" facilities in Town, as well as proposals concerning the protection and preservation of historically significant buildings. With the advent of municipal sewer service to many of the properties on Lake Mahkeenac, the Planning Board has entertained a spate of applications to significantly increase the height and habitable floor areas of single-family dwellings around the Stockbridge Bowl Lake and Pond Overlay District, incident to the extensive remodeling of non-residents' "second homes". Finally, the Planning Board managed to keep apace with its usual and ordinary business of special permit use applications, sign permits, and ordinary boundary line divisions.

¹ By a five-to-two vote taken on February 15, 2005

We look forward to continuing to faithfully serve the electorate of the Town of Stockbridge.

Respectfully submitted,

DOUGLAS J. ROSE, J.D., M.B.A., Chairman
GARY PITNEY, Vice-Chairman
ROBERT BARTLE, Clerk
ERIC M. PLAKUN, M.D.
ALLAN BLAU, ED.D.
PAUL COATES
BARBARA COEHN-HOBBS

Zoning Board of Appeals

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

It was a quiet year for the Board of Appeals with several variances on lot dimensional footage approved and one rejected. Also a new hearing was held on a previously approved low and moderate housing rental units application approved in 2003 due to a change in the original application. It was unanimously approved,

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Day
James Murray
Tom Schuler
William Selke
John Spencer
David Adler, Associate
Patricia Flinn, Associate

Stockbridge Historical Commission

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

September 8, 2004, the Department of the Interior approved the National Register Historic District nomination for Elm Street, Maple Street, and a portion of South Street. The listing of this Historic District (along with four others in Stockbridge) provides recognition of the community's historic importance and assures protective review of Federal projects that might adversely affect the character of the district. The Commission answered numerous requests from the Building Inspector for information about buildings over 50 years old under the Demolition Delay By-Law. Two public hearings were held with the Commission in regard to demolition permits. The chairman participated in the meetings of the Community Preservation Committee and the Historic Preservation Task Force.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda W. Jackson, **Chairman**
Maria Carr
Pauline D. Pierce
Martin Torodash

Tree Warden

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

Trees were planted, pruned and fertilized on Church Street and Main Street. A few maples should be removed on Main Street as well as an elm that broke last summer. Elms along Main Street will be injected for Dutch Elm Disease as well as a few others in Town. This is not a cure, but helps the trees resist the beetles and disease.

Trees that are removed will be replaced. Town residents should feel free to take the wood along the sides of Town roads that has already been cut to length. As in previous years, do not use a saw to cut the wood smaller.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Curtin
Tree Warden

Building Inspector

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The following building permits were issued and fees collected for the year 2004

Permit Category	Number Granted	Value
Single Family Dwellings	9	\$3,575,455.00
Two Family Dwellings	7	1,120,000.00
Additions & Alterations	83	5,842,337.00
Decks & Porches	16	205,550.00
Garages & Outbuildings	14	866,935.00
Foundation Permits	10	211,300.00
Pools & Pool Houses	4	1,660,448.00
Roofs & Repairs	29	374,973.00
Wireless Telecommunication	3	180,000.00
Total Construction Spending		\$14,036,998.00
Building Permit Fees		\$ 90,564.13
Annual Inspections/Certificates of Inspections	21	1,675.00
Certificate of Occupancy	17	595.00
Wood Stove Permits	5	175.00
Demolition Permits	6	210.00
Total Permits Issued	224	
Total Fees Collected		\$93,219.13

Respectfully submitted,

Ned Baldwin,
Building Inspector

Conservation Commission

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Conservation Commission's primary goal is to successfully maintain the balance between the interests of growth, residents, wildlife, open space, and recreation. We meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7pm in the Selectmen's Office.

In our regular course of business, we process Notices of Intent and Requests for Determination of Applicability, amendments or extensions to orders previously issued, requests for Certificates of Compliance, among other things, along with, thankfully, only the rare enforcement order. In addition, we review projects whose impacts on resources and neighbors may be problematic. New state regulations make it possible for us to avail ourselves of outside consultants and experts to assist us in assessing complicated submissions or difficult issues. The Berkshire County Conservation Agent is an especially welcome, expert, inexpensive, and valuable resource for a volunteer Commission whose time and resources are somewhat limited by outside constraints.

We welcome suggestions, input and participation from all citizens of the Town so that we may help you through your permitting process and answer questions you may have regarding the requirements of the Wetlands Protection Act and Scenic Mountains Act. All citizens may request time on the agenda for clarification, questions or to express concerns. We hope you will all take time to attend meetings that address projects in your neighborhoods.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Underwood-Miller, **Chairman**

Joseph DeGiorgis

Don Deno

John Hart

Cathy Plakun

Steve Shatz

George Shippey

Stockbridge Cultural Council

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Stockbridge Cultural Council received 32 Local Cultural Council Grant applications and 1 PASS Grant application that were seeking funds for this year's grant cycle totaling \$12,575.00. The council had a total allocation of \$2,000.00 to disperse for funding for 2005. The council had an additional amount of \$30.00 that was left over from unclaimed grants that was re-granted for this funding cycle.

Eleven projects were selected and approved for partial funding by the council. The recipients are as follows:

Children's Health Program, Inc. (PASS grant)

Mass Audubon Society/Berkshire Sanctuaries (LCC grant)

Berkshire Lyric Theatre (LCC grant)

Stockbridge Sinfonia (LCC grant)

The Trustees of Reservations (LCC grant)

Shakespeare and Company (LCC grant)

Berkshire Theatre Festival (LCC grant)
Community Access to the Arts (LCC grant)
Berkshire Talking Chronicle (LCC grant)
Western Massachusetts Arts Alliance (LCC grant)
Julie McCarthy & Michelle Gillett (LCC grant)

If you are interested in making a contribution to the Stockbridge Cultural Council to help support the many worthwhile projects in our community please send to Stockbridge Cultural Council, c/o Town Hall, P.O. Box 417, Stockbridge, MA 01262 or contact a member of the Council for more information.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Lane, **Council Chair**
Allison Rachele Bayles, **Council Chair**
Linda Barbadero, **Council Treasurer**
Shirley Blanchard
Sarah Horne
Cheryl Hutto
Belle Fox Martin
Julie McCarthy
Janice Shields

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

In 2004 the Town completed its Community Development Plan. The planning document was prepared by Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) under the direction and guidance of the Town's Community Development Plan Advisory Committee. The work was jointly funded by the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development, the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction, and the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs through the Community Preservation Initiative (Executive Order 418).

The Community Development Plan addresses Stockbridge's concerns regarding future growth and development. The plan focuses specifically on the areas of open space/resource protection, housing, economic development and transportation issues. In 2000 BRPC presented the Town with a build-out analysis that projected what the town might look in the future in the event of unmanaged growth. In 2001 the Town decided to participate in the Community Development Plan (CDP) Program and the Select Board appointed an advisory committee of local residents to guide the CDP process.

The Advisory committee held separate meetings on each of the topic areas to review relevant data and determine key issues. Some of the key actions and /or recommendations that resulted from the Community Development Plan include:

Housing

- Site Plan and pre-development work for the Pinewoods Affordable Housing Project

Transportation

- The creation of an “Official Map” that identifies road ownership, maintenance responsibilities and clarification of development rights
- The preparation of a Town Center Transportation Study that reviews downtown traffic issues and offers recommendations for improvements

Economic Development

- A preliminary site assessment of the Route 102 Industrial Park in Stockbridge

Open Space and Resource Protection

- An update of key sections of the Town’s Open Space Plan
- Preparation of GIS-based Resource Maps

The plan was completed in June 2004. Hard copies of the document are available to the public at the Town Hall and the Stockbridge Public Library. The Plan can also be viewed on-line at www.berkshireplanning.org or www.mass.gov/dhcd.

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan E. Boeskin,
Senior Planner

Memorial Day Committee

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

May 31, 2004 dawned bright and glorious, setting the perfect backdrop for one of our best Memorial Day celebrations in recent years. The noon parade start seems well suited to peoples’ schedules. This year record numbers of uniformed veterans marched, more children with decorated bikes participated, more fire trucks than ever processed and the beautiful day drew a big crowd of spectators to the Main Street route where they were given American flags to wave as the parade marched by. We were again honored with a flyby of two A10 fighter jets from Barnes Air National Guard Base in Westfield, MA and are especially grateful for their participation. At the Town Monuments Donald Bernstein played Taps and Reverend John Tarrant from St. Paul’s Church offered memorial prayers. Father Walter Gurgul from the Congregation of the Marians on Eden Hill said prayers at the two Town Cemeteries.

Our program in front of Town Hall featured the men’s a cappella group, Quintessential, singing The National Anthem and other patriotic songs, and Stockbridge students Sara Campetti, Hannah Wilken, and Alli Coates giving excellent dramatic readings appropriate for the day. Special thanks should be given to Mary Flynn for organizing this important part of the program

for so many years. Mary has decided to pass the notebook on to Chris Schuler who will work with the schoolchildren in the future and strive to continue the fine standards Mary has set for us.

Stockbridge resident, Mr. Frank Prejsnar, member of the 10th Mountain Division Army Infantry Ski Troops during WWII, was our featured speaker. He spoke to us of his recent reunion in Italy with fellow 10th Mountain Infantrymen, and shared with us the special camaraderie they enjoyed there, and during the War.

The Children's Chime Tower had been under repair for the past year and we were delighted to celebrate its restoration with a brief historical presentation and playing of the chimes by Claire Williams.

Over 200 residents stayed for a pot-luck picnic on the Town Green and had a wonderful time. What a great beginning to the summer season. We are all looking forward to Memorial Day 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Coleman
Jake Donovan
Mary Flynn
Jorja Marsden

Deb McMenamy, **Chairman**
Keith Raftery
Chris Schuler
Lindy Searing

Stockbridge Historic Preservation Task Force

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

At the 2003 Town Meeting the Town established the Historic Preservation Task Force to develop an historic preservation proposal for Stockbridge. At last year's Town Meeting it was voted to continue the Task Force for this year. We are now asking that the town continue the work of the Task Force for one more year, so that we may wind up our work with a final report, which will include the Historic Preservation Summary now being prepared by the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

We have been busy since 2003. The Task Force has met monthly. Working with the Massachusetts Historical Commission, we have researched what other communities have done here in the Commonwealth and beyond. We have conducted a very useful town-wide survey. And we have consulted with our Selectmen, Building Inspector, Planning Board, Historical Commission, and Town Counsel.

The Town has a number of options, but we are proposing that the best first step would be to modify the current Demolition Delay bylaw so it works more smoothly and offers real protection to the Town's historic structures. This proposed Historic Preservation bylaw appears in the 2005 Town Warrant. We have tried to lay out a process whereby historic buildings can be protected from unnecessary destruction or alteration, while minimizing the procedural burden on

property owners or Town board members. This bylaw would be unique to Stockbridge, which is appropriate because Stockbridge is unique.

At present the Town of Stockbridge provides no legal protection for any of its historic buildings beyond the one year Demolition Delay. The Historic Preservation bylaw would go a long way toward changing this situation. But there is more to preserving the character of Stockbridge than just protecting individual landmarks. The Historic Preservation bylaw does not address big issues of planning, open space, viewshed protection, development, or new construction. It also does not cover the smaller details of signage, fences, shutters, windows, doors, materials, etc. which are essential to the beauty and charm of Main Street and other parts of Town. It may be that the time has come to create local historic districts - an idea that received broad support in our Town Survey. We will be carefully considering these issues as part of our final report in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl Sprague, **Chairman**
Peter Williams, **Secretary**
Linda Jackson, **Historical Commission**
Jorja-Ann P. Marsden, **Selectmen's Office**
Sue Bonak
Marguerite Bullwinkel
Everett Jassy
Carole Owens
Pam Sandler
Andrea Savana
Eileen Taft

Stockbridge Community Preservation Committee

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Stockbridge Community Preservation Committee completed its second year of allocating grants, afforded by our adoption of the Community Preservation Act (CPA). We recommended and Town Meeting approved the following: \$100,000 for affordable housing, \$30,000 for historic preservation, and \$20,000 for open space. One half of these funds were from our local CPA revenue, and the other half was from the State Community Preservation Trust.

The largest grant was for \$100,000, to Construct, Inc., for the construction of the Pine Woods affordable housing project. The entire project is budgeted for \$6,273,000. The CPA portion of this budget is \$250,000 – consisting of this year's grant, last year's pre-development grant of \$50,000, and \$100,000 in anticipated CPA construction grants over the next three years. This local contribution is a relatively small percentage of the total budget, but it has had an important role in leveraging other funds.

There were two grants for historic preservation: \$6,500 to assist in the preservation of the Stockbridge Library Historical Room and \$23,500 to assist with the preservation and restoration planning for Town Hall. Finally, the \$20,000 set aside for the preservation of open space will be for future needs as they arise.

Once again, the committee wishes to thank the taxpayers of Stockbridge for providing Community Preservation funds, our citizens for a remarkable sense of civic stewardship, and our town officials and personnel for their gracious help and cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas H. Stokes, Chairman, representing the Selectmen
Robert Flower, Vice-Chairman, Parks and Recreation
Michael Blay, Treasurer, representing the Assessors
Ann Beacco, Recording Secretary, Housing Authority
David McCarthy, representing the Selectmen
Sally Underwood-Miller, Conservation Commission
Linda W. Jackson, Historical Commission
Doug Rose, Planning Board
Craig Berger, Finance Committee

The Laurel Hill Association

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

Unlike the millions of citizens who share an ever denser urban and sub-urban sprawl across the country, Stockbridge is blessed with the jewel that is our village and a community set in a countryside that is world renowned for its scenic beauty and cultural charm.

These good fortunes are blessings indeed, but no happy accident. The year 2004 has been the 151st year of The Laurel Hill Association, the oldest existing village improvement society in the United States, and for each of these many years the members and friends of The Laurel Hill Association have worked to ensure the beauty of our surroundings that contributes so much to the serene quality of our daily lives.

In the beginning, it was Laurel Hill that cleaned up Main Street, organized and planted the cemetery and planted the once famous elm trees that were admired and copied along thousands of main streets across New England. In our public places, it was Laurel Hill that first established and to this day maintains many of the benches, trash receptacles, shade and ornamental trees, flower beds and other plantings around monuments, memorials, fountains, at the Post Office and other points of interest. When the summer's flower beds and plantings go into winter hibernation, Laurel Hill's work continues. The famous Cat & Dog Fountain is put to bed for the winter, and each year we arrange for the lights on the adjacent spruce Christmas tree and the decorations at Town Hall.

Throughout the village, up in the rolling hills and along the peaceful banks of the Housatonic River, Laurel Hill maintains over four hundred acres of parkland that are open every day for recreation and nature study. Six of these areas offer trails to be explored, including the rugged and dramatic Ice Glen Trail and the trail to Laura's Tower, Upper and Lower Bowker's Woods Trails in Glendale, the trails on Laurel Hill itself between the Plain School and the Housatonic, and the new Mary V. Flynn Trail along the river from the Goodrich Bridge at the bottom of Park Street.

We are thankful for the continuing support of our members and benefactors, and we are grateful for the opportunity to continue our century and a half of work to improve the quality of life and of the environment in the town of Stockbridge.

Respectfully submitted,
Shepley W. Evans, **President**

Stockbridge Land Trust

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Stockbridge Land Trust is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to preserving open space and the character of the land surrounding Stockbridge. It also seeks to facilitate the creation of affordable housing in the Town. In 2004 the Land Trust completed work on a Conservation Restriction on the frontage of the site on Route 102 where affordable housing is now under construction. The Restriction was approved by the Selectmen, and the Massachusetts and the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs and was duly recorded. It is held by the Conservation Commission. Previously the Land Trust had facilitated the acquisition of the property by Construct, a non-profit community housing organization based in Great Barrington.

The Land Trust worked with a number of land owners who seek to protect their lands as open space, and anticipates that conservation restrictions will be completed in 2005.

Also in 2004, the Land Trust completed its annual monitoring of conservation restrictions it holds. The conservation restrictions comprise ten properties. The Land Trust worked with the Mohawk Brook Association in connection with its efforts to insure that a proposed subdivision on Dugway Road is in compliance with the Town's Subdivision By-Law and Land Use Master Plan. The Trust continued to support the Berkshire Natural Resource Council in its efforts.

The Land Trust is grateful to members whose support has allowed it to pursue open space initiatives. For 18 years now, the Land Trust has been dedicated to help preserve the very things that make the Berkshires special. But it can only be successful through the help of property owners who seek to safeguard their land for the future. Deeding property to conservation organizations is one way to preserve property. Another method is to give a conservation restriction covering all or a portion of a property to the Land Trust. This allows the owner to preserve and occupy the land, achieve a substantial tax deduction, and maintain ownership of the land.

To become a member of the Land Trust or to learn more about ways to preserve property, contact the Stockbridge Land Trust at PO Box 1063, Stockbridge MA 01262.

The Board of Directors of the Stockbridge Land Trust.

Peter Berle, President

Sally Begley

Phil Deely

Shep Evans

John Hyson

Tim Minkler

Craig Moffatt

Jessica Murray

Jim Murray

Carl Sprague

Tom Stokes

Clover Swann

Jennifer Kerwood. Executive Asst.

Stockbridge Bowl Association

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

On August 30, 1946, the Stockbridge Bowl Association was formed to protect the natural beauty of the Stockbridge Bowl and its watershed, and set standards that may aid the general cause of conservation. The SBA Board of Directors and its membership work with the Town Selectmen toward fulfilling this mandate. Currently there are 25 Board Members and over 500 members.

In 2004, the construction of the new flood gate was completed. We had hoped that this would help achieve a 2-foot drawdown this year. We did achieve an 18-inch drawdown, but very heavy rains occurred, which brought the lake to an even higher level than normal.

The SBA purchased under-water video equipment, and we are using it to track any major change in the vegetation. The resulting videos are reviewed by the Stockbridge Conservation Commission and state agencies. One of the major requirements in obtaining permission for a drawdown is to monitor aquatic changes.

Another significant SBA achievement was clearing the trails in Bullard Woods. In her will, Mrs. Bullard gave the Woods to the SBA with the intent that this tract of land be maintained and made accessible to the public. The entrance to the Woods is from Hawthorn Road, just down from the Hawthorn Cottage. We invite everyone to wander through this magnificent forest to the lake shore and enjoy the view from our newly installed picnic tables. The Island in the lake is another parcel of land owned and managed by the SBA and open to the enjoyment of all.

Now that a new boat-launching ramp is being installed by the State and Town of Stockbridge, the launching of water crafts will be not only much easier but also safer.

The SBA is in the process of creating a video/DVD about the lake, the surrounding area, and the important institutions that rely on the lake for the enjoyment of their guests. The main

purpose of the video/DVD is to bring public awareness to the problems the Bowl has with invasive plants and the buildup of sediment. Approximately 85,000 cubic yards of silt must be removed in order to achieve the desired 5 ½ foot winter drawdown. The silt has been tested and is far below the minimal state guidelines for contaminants. Such a drawdown would expose the shore line and kill non-native vegetation such as Eurasian Milfoil. Draw-down is the proven way to achieve healthy lakes and ponds. The video also will be an important vehicle in helping obtain financial support for the Lake Management Program that the Town approved in 1997.

Next to Walden Pond, Stockbridge Bowl is the most well-known body of water in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and it needs to be protected for future generations. We encourage everyone to support our organization by becoming a member of the Stockbridge Bowl Association, P.O. Box 118, Stockbridge, MA 01262.

The SBA would like to thank the Town of Stockbridge, the Selectmen and all the commissions with whom we work for their tireless effort in matters relating to the Lake and surrounding watershed.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Kleinerman, President

Finances

Town Accountant's Report

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

I herewith submit the Annual Report of the Town Accountant for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2004. A new addition to the report beginning this year is "Fixed Assets".

Please find that the report consists of the following:

Combined Balance Sheet
Special Revenue Fund Statement
Trust Fund Statement
Capital Projects
Fixed Assets
Agency Fund Statement
Statement of Revenues
Statement of Expenses

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Markham,
Town Accountant

TOWN OF STOCKBRIDGE

BALANCE SHEET

30-Jun-04

	GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS				FIDUCIARY FUNDS				Totals
	General	Major Spec. Revenue Funds	Other Spec. Rev Funds	Capital Projects Funds	Trust Funds	Agency Funds	Fixed Assets	Long-Term Debt	
	Fund	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Assets	Debt	
ASSETS									
Cash	\$3,771,905	\$515,332	\$250,471	\$74,224	\$2,711,593	\$37,481			\$7,361,007
Receivable									
Personal Property Taxes FY2004	\$1,943								\$1,943
Personal Property Taxes Prior Years	\$371								\$371
Real Estate Taxes FY2004	\$83,671								\$83,671
Real Estate Taxes Prior Year	\$404								\$404
Motor Vehicle Taxes	\$56,673								\$56,673
Tax Liens	\$3,017								\$3,017
Farm Animal Excise	\$0								\$0
Chapter 90 Roads Receivable	\$0								\$0
Community Preservation FY2004			\$1,411						\$1,411
Overlays	(\$82,920)								(\$82,920)
Water Rates and Special		\$3,935							\$3,935
Sewer Rates and Special		\$8,467							\$8,467
Water/Sewer Liens added to tax		\$22,083							
Fixed Assets						\$29,661,572			
Amounts to be provided for							\$7,544,639		\$7,544,639
Due from Stabilization									\$0
TOTAL ASSETS	\$3,835,065	\$549,818	\$251,883	\$74,224	\$2,711,593	\$37,481	\$29,661,572	\$7,544,639	\$44,666,274

LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY

Liabilities

Water Treatment Plant Loan								\$1,387,930	\$1,387,930
Sewer Expansion Project Loan								\$6,156,709	
Due to Capital Projects									\$0
Deferred Revenue	\$63,159	\$34,485	\$1,411			\$16,939			\$115,995
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$63,159	\$34,485	\$1,411	\$0	\$0	\$16,939		\$7,544,639	\$1,503,925

FUND EQUITY

Reserved for Expenditures	\$500,000	\$123,010							\$623,010
Reserved for Encumbrances	\$66,377	\$62,326							\$128,702
Reserved for Encumbrance/Spec. Arts.	\$923,236	\$14,711							
Reserved for Over/Under									\$0
Reserved for Deficits									
Waterline Gift		\$20,651							
Reserved-Investment & Property							\$29,661,572		
Designated			\$192,595	\$74,224	\$2,711,593	\$20,542			\$2,998,954
Unreserved	\$2,282,293	\$294,635	\$57,876						\$2,634,804
TOTAL FUND EQUITY	\$3,771,905	\$515,332	\$250,471	\$74,224	\$2,711,593	\$20,542	\$29,661,572	\$0	\$37,005,640
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$3,835,065	\$549,818	\$251,883	\$74,224	\$2,711,593	\$37,481	\$29,661,572	\$7,544,639	\$44,666,274

(Notes: MAJOR Special Revenue Funds include WATER & SEWER Funds)

(Notes: OTHER Special Revenue Funds include COMMUNITY PRESERVATION, REVOLVING FUND,ELECTIONS,LOCAL REVOLVING,POLICE GRANTS,GIFTS

TOWN OF STOCKBRIDGE

SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

June 30, 2004

WATER & SEWER	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Expenditures	Ending Balance
Water	\$234,638	\$196,502	(\$175,230)	\$255,910
Waterline Gift	\$28,492		(\$7,840)	\$20,652
Sewer	\$194,357	\$230,058	(\$185,643)	\$238,772
Total Water & Sewer	\$457,487	\$426,560	(\$368,713)	\$515,334

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Expenditures	Ending Balance
Reserved: Open Space	\$36,485			\$36,485
Reserved: Historic Resources	\$51,485		(\$45,000)	\$6,485
Reserved: Community Housing	\$56,485		(\$50,000)	\$6,485
Gifts	\$1,118		(\$18)	\$1,100
Undesignated Fund Balance	(\$81,394)	\$138,300	(\$130)	\$56,776
Total Community Preservation	\$64,179	\$138,300	(\$95,148)	\$107,331

GRANTS	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Expenditures	Ending Balance
Emergency Management Grant	0	3,550	(2,140)	1,410
Arts Lottery Grant	1,745	\$2,015	(1,325)	\$2,435
EOCD: Recycling	\$14,361			\$14,361
Elder Affairs	\$7,502	\$3,219	(2,225)	\$8,496

Tri-town Recycling Grant	\$0	\$300	(300)	\$0
Library Grant	\$0	\$3,775	(3,775)	\$0
Elections: Extended Polling Grant	\$0	\$390	(390)	\$0
Lake/Pond Grant	\$5,000			\$5,000
Community Police Grant	\$8,513	\$12,000	(9,620)	\$10,893
MA DARE Grant	\$1,226		(314)	\$912
Police Public Safety Equipment Grant	\$0	\$672	(672)	\$0
FID Card Collections	\$3,013	\$5,575	(8,588)	\$0
Total Grants	\$41,359	\$31,496	(29,348)	\$43,507

OTHER REVOLVING FUNDS	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Expenditures	Ending Balance
CATV Local Broadcast	5,100			5,100
Wetland Protection Act	16,188	1,631	(72)	17,747
Insurance reimbursement more than 20,000	0	357	(357)	0
Conservation Erosion Books	40			40
Contaminated Fix/Equip Disposal	235	472		707
Total Other Revolving Funds	21,563	2,460	(429)	23,594

GIFTS	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Expenditures	Ending Balance
Tenneco Gas Gift	67,725			67,725
Tree Gift	350			350
Streetscape Project Gifts	200			200
Police Gifts	550	475	(124)	901
Prime Outlets Traffic Mitigation Gift	0	928		928
Gifts To Aid Elderly/Disabled	0	5,906		5,906
Parks & Recreation Gifts	29			29
Total Gifts	68,854	7,309	(124)	76,039

TOTAL OF FUNDS # 10 THRU # 29	765,805
--------------------------------------	----------------

TOWN OF STOCKBRIDGE

TRUST FUNDS

June 30, 2004

Funds	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Transfers in	Transfers Out	Ending Balance
Cemetery Perpetual Care	\$354,874	\$8,129			\$363,003
Conservation Trust Fund	\$22,436	\$343			\$22,779
War Memorial Trust Fund	\$1,078	\$16			\$1,095
DD Field Chime Tower	\$1,206	\$18			\$1,224
Stockbridge Bowl Fund	\$98,579	\$1,534	\$5,000		\$105,113
Merwin Trust	\$35,737	\$547			\$36,284
Treadway Scholarship Fund	\$73,165	\$3,099		(\$1,200)	\$75,064
Owen Fund Scholarship	\$0	\$30,230		(\$1,200)	\$29,030
Stabilization Funds	\$2,424,212	\$33,090	\$100,000	(\$479,300)	\$2,078,002
Totals	\$3,011,287	\$77,006	\$105,000	(\$481,700)	\$2,711,593

TOWN OF STOCKBRIDGE

CAPITAL PROJECTS

June 30, 2004

Fund	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Expenses	Ending Balance
Water Treatment Plant	\$62,064			62,064
Sewer Treatment Expansion	\$26,699	1,722,486	(1,737,025)	12,160
Total Capital Projects	\$88,763	1,722,486	(1,737,025)	74,224

TOWN OF STOCKBRIDGE

AGENCY FUNDS

June 30, 2004

Funds	Beginning Balance	credits Receipts	debits Expenses	Ending Balance
Federal Withholding Tax	\$0	\$119,821	\$119,821	\$0
FICA Withholding Tax	\$0	\$6,726	\$6,726	\$0
Medicare Withholding Tax	\$0	\$12,025	\$12,025	\$0
State Withholding Tax	\$0	\$56,870	\$56,870	\$0
Retirement Withholding	\$1,410	\$72,471	\$73,881	(\$0)
Def. Comp Withholding	\$0	\$51,599	\$51,599	\$0
Insurance Withholding	\$3,602	\$60,957	\$52,084	\$12,476
Life Insurance Withholding	\$81	\$12,999	\$12,483	\$597
Union Dues Withholding	\$58	\$2,540	\$2,539	\$58
United Way	\$71	\$496	\$518	\$49
Court Ordered Deductions	\$0	\$47,892	\$47,892	\$0
Performance Bonds	\$15,490	\$20	\$11,751	\$3,759
Sub-totals	\$20,712	\$444,415	\$448,189	\$16,938
Police Outside Detail	\$47,267	\$38,898	\$65,624	\$20,541
Totals	\$67,979	\$483,313	\$513,813	\$37,480

CAPITAL ASSET SUMMARY

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Accumulated Depreciaton</u>	<u>Carrying Amount</u>
Land	4,709,600		4,709,600
Other Improvements	1,737,025		1,737,025
Buildings	5,368,600	(3,641,848)	1,726,752
Vehicles & Equipment	9,169,412	(3,947,673)	5,221,739
Infrastructure	42,471,200	(26,204,744)	16,266,456
TOTALS:	\$63,455,837	(\$33,794,265)	\$29,661,572

TOWN OF STOCKBRIDGE

REVENUES

June 30, 2004

General Property Taxes

Personal Property Current Year	\$284,069
Prior Years	\$1,597
Real Estate Current Year	\$3,854,564
Prior Years	\$91,045
Tax Liens Redeemed	\$0
Motor Vehicle Excise Current Calendar Year	\$188,639
Prior Years	\$59,516
Farm Animal Excise	\$0
Classified Forest Land	\$0
In Lieu of Taxes	\$19,678
Interest on Taxes and Excise	\$29,219
Hotel and Motel Tax	\$264,504
Total General Property Tax	\$4,792,830

Charges for Services

Cemetery	\$2,400
Building Permits	\$50,501
Plumbing Permits	\$2,075
Electrical Permits	\$5,180
Gas Permits	\$1,015
Special Permits	\$3,250
Board of Health Permits	\$20,950
Other Licenses/Permits	\$2,455
Room Rental Permits	\$280

Fees

Municipal Lien Fees	\$4,235
Telephone Booth Commissions	
Cable Television	\$611
Compactor Fees	\$19,904

Other Charges for services

Compactor Stickers	\$13,705
Conservation Commission	
Zoning By-Laws	\$389
Board of Appeals	
Photocopies	\$689

Town Clerk	\$1,813
Street Lists	\$94
Beach	\$80
Parking clerk:Fines	\$215
Handgun Permits	\$475
Police Reports	\$314
Council on Aging	
Other Fees	
Total Charges for Services	<u>\$130,628</u>

Other Licenses and Permits

Dog licenses	\$997
Alcoholic	\$9,810
Tag Sale	\$390
Other Licenses	<u>\$1,590</u>
Total Licenses and Permits	\$12,787

Revenue from State (Cherry Sheet)

Abatements to Veterans	
Abatements to Surviving Spouses	
Abatements to the Blind	\$5,363
Abatements to the Elderly	\$3,514
State Owned Land	\$4,280
Lottery, Beano, Charity	\$93,460
Highway Fund	
Highway Reconstruction	<u>\$175</u>
Total State Revenue	\$106,792

Revenue from Other Governments

Fines and Forfeits	\$7,978
District Court Fines	\$2,493
Compactor Recycling Reimbursement	
Veterans' Reimbursement Benefits	\$3,128
Highway Dept. reimbursement	
Total Other Government Revenue	<u>\$13,598</u>

Miscellaneous Revenue

250th Anniversary Books	\$125
Investment Income	\$48,041
Rentals	\$395
Other Miscellaneous	<u>\$23,233</u>
Sub-total Miscellaneous Revenue	\$71,794

Total General Fund Revenues	\$5,128,429
------------------------------------	--------------------

Special Revenue Funds

Water Fund

Water User Fees	\$162,486
Water Special	\$12,400
Water Interest & Penalties	\$862
Water Liens added to tax	\$19,500
Water Connection Fees	\$1,000
Water Application Fees	\$200
Water Other Fees	\$54
Total Water Fund Revenues	\$196,502

Sewer Fund

Sewer User Fees	\$148,460
Sewer Liens added to tax	\$940
Sewer Special	\$64,665
Sewer Interest & Penalties	\$333
Sewer Connection Fees	\$13,850
Sewer Application Fees	\$1,300
Sewer Other Fees	\$510
Total Sewer Fund Revenues	\$230,058

Community Preservation Fund

Community Preservation Tax	\$73,005
Community Preservation State Match	\$63,672
Community Preservation Interest & Penalties	\$248
Community Preservation Investment Income	\$1,375
Total Community Preservation Revenues	\$138,300

Total Revenues \$5,554,989

Board of Assessors

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The tax rate of \$6.52 for Fiscal Year 2005 was set and approved on December 10, 2004. There was a decrease of \$3.19 in the Fiscal Year 2005 tax rate from the Fiscal Year 2004 tax rate.

The Tax Rate Recapitulation for Fiscal Year 2005 is as follows:

Gross Amount to be Raised	\$	7,326,429.44
Total Estimated Receipts and other Revenue Sources		<u>2,670,110.00</u>
Tax Levy (net amount to be raised by taxation)	\$	4,656,319.44

Real Property Valuations	\$	686,370,200.00
Personal Property Valuations		<u>27,789,224.00</u>
Total Valuation	\$	714,159,424.00

Tax Rate - \$6.52 per one thousand of value

Real Property Tax	\$	4,475,133.70
Personal Property Tax		<u>181,185.74</u>
Total Taxes Levied on Property	\$	4,656,319.44

Total Number of Parcels, Real Estate	1756
Total Number of Personal Property Assessments	696
Total Number of Parcels, Exempt	182

In the summer of 2004, the town hired company; Vision Appraisal Technology continued to conduct inspections of the final third of the properties in the Town as part of a required three-year data quality study for Fiscal Year 2006.

These inspections included a full measure of the exterior of all outbuildings and an interior inspection. Digital photographs were also taken of all properties to be included as part of the Assessors database.

In Fiscal Year 2005, the Assessor's Office conducted a state mandated three year revaluation of all real and personal property. Property valuations were certified by the Department of Revenue in November of 2004 and Fiscal Year 2005 tax bills reflect the new assessments.

The decrease in the town's tax rate was due to the major increase overall in the town's property assessments, which reflect current market value.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN A. MILLER, **Chairman**
CECILIA K. KILLFOILE
WILLIAM D. CAMPBELL

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

Collections during the Fiscal Year 2004 remained strong with in excess of 98% of property taxes collected for the current year, and nearly 100% for prior years.

Contributing to this was the use of taxpayer payment agreements which allow delinquent taxpayers to avoid Tax Title proceedings by paying taxes and penalties within a specified time period. It was not necessary to place any new taxpayers in Tax Title during the preceding year.

Overall collections by the town Collector's Office are \$524,505 higher than the previous year. The higher level of Real Estate personal property and water/sewer collections accounted for the preponderance of increased revenue.

The following information is provided to enable you to review major collection activity for the town:

TOWN COLLECTOR'S REPORT RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 6/30/04

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX:

FY '02 & PRIOR	\$204.18	
FY '03	\$1,392.55	
FY '04	\$284,068.56	
TOTAL PERSONAL PROPERTY		\$285,665.29

REAL ESTATE TAX:

FY '02 & PRIOR	\$13,178.05	
FY '03	\$77,866.77	
FY '03	\$1,307.01	
FY '04	\$3,853,609.72	
FY '04	\$71,683.71	
TOTAL REAL ESTATE		\$4,017,645.26

MOTOR VEHICLE TAX

FY '02 & PRIOR	\$4,866.52	
FY '03	\$54,649.50	
FY '04	\$188,639.40	
TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLE		\$248,155.42

WATER RECEIPTS:

WATER RATES	\$162,485.66	
WATER SPECIALS	\$12,400.00	
WATER APPLICATION/CONN. FEES	\$1,200.00	
TOTAL WATER RECEIPTS		\$176,085.66

SEWER RATES	\$148,460.11	
SEWER SPECIALS	\$65,175.00	
SEWER APPLICATION/CONN. FEES	\$15,660.00	
TOTAL SEWER RECEIPTS		\$229,295.11
WATER/SEWER LIENS		\$20,440.34
TOTAL WATER AND SEWER UTILITY RECEIPTS		\$425,821.11
SUBTOTAL		\$4,977,287.08
PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES:		
AUSTEN RIGGS CENTER	\$15,000.00	
STOCKBRIDGE HOUSING AUTH	\$1,677.68	
ST PAUL'S CHURCH	\$500.00	
MANHATTEN INS FOR CANCER	\$2,500.00	
TOTAL PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES		\$19,677.68
OTHER:		
AID TO ELDERLY & DISABLED	\$5,992.44	
TRI TOWN BOARD OF HEALTH	\$20,950.03	
COMPACTOR FEES/STICKERS	\$33,608.50	
MUNICIPAL LIENS	\$4,235.00	
INT. & DEMAND - REAL ESTATE	\$21,322.95	
INT. & DEMAND - MOTOR VEHICLE	\$7,895.90	
INT. & DEMAND - WATER & SEWER	\$1,194.81	
INTEREST CPA	\$248.36	
ROOM TAX	\$264,504.00	
TOTAL OTHER		\$359,951.99
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$5,356,916.75

TREASURER'S REPORT

June 30, 2004

Treasurer's Cash:

Berkshire Bank	(\$198,783.16)
Berkshire Bank Money Market	\$1,907,381.11
Berkshire Bank Arts Money Market	\$2,635.03
Berkshire Bank CPA Money Market	\$107,479.00
Berkshire Bank Elderly	\$5,905.87
Berkshire Bank Prime Outlets M.M.D.T.	\$927.85
Citizens Bank	\$279,352.26
Fleet	\$111,458.99
Banknorth	\$825,294.64
UBS	\$416,086.95
Legacy Banks CD	\$642,181.13
	\$200,000.00

Total Treasurer's Cash \$4,299,919.67

Stabilization Fund:

M.M.D.T.	\$14,613.39
Legacy Banks CD	\$135,297.63
Berkshire Bank	\$54,585.05
FirstFed	\$1,672,278.66
Citizens Bank	\$566,225.03

Total Stabilization Fund \$2,442,999.76

Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund:

FirstFed	\$363,127.65
----------	--------------

Total Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund \$363,127.65

Custodial Accounts:

FirstFed	\$166,497.87
Berkshire Bank Owen Fund	\$29,029.51
Berk. Bank/Smith Barney (Treadway)	\$75,034.42

Total Custodial Accounts \$270,561.80

TOTAL TREASURER'S INVESTMENTS \$7,376,608.88

CUSTODIAL ACCOUNTS

Conservation Fund:

Beginning Balance	\$22,436.07	
Interest	\$343.15	
Ending Balance		\$22,779.22

D.D. Field Chime Tower Fund:

Beginning Balance	\$1,208.16	
Interest	\$18.47	
Ending Balance		\$1,226.63

Stockbridge Bowl Fund:

Beginning Balance	\$98,578.97	
Transfer (from General Fund)	\$5,000.00	
Interest	\$1,534.41	
Ending Balance		\$105,113.38

War Memorial Fund:

Beginning Balance	\$1,078.35	
Interest	\$16.49	
Ending Balance		\$1,094.84

Merwin Trust:

Beginning Balance	\$35,737.25	
Interest	\$546.55	
Ending Balance		\$36,283.80

Performance Bonds:

Beginning Balance	\$11,732.42	
Withdrawals	(\$11,752.58)	
Interest	\$20.16	
Ending Balance		\$0.00

Charles D. Treadway Scholarship Fund

Beginning Balance	\$73,164.73	
Withdrawal	(\$1,200.00)	
Interest	\$3,069.69	
Ending Balance		\$75,034.42

C.M. Owen Scholarship Fund

Beginning Balance	\$0.00	
Deposit	\$30,221.42	
Withdrawal	(\$1,200.00)	
Interest	\$8.09	
Ending Balance		\$29,029.51

TOTAL CUSTODIAL FUNDS

\$270,561.80

Finance Committee

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The financial condition of the Town of Stockbridge remains sound. The Certified Free Cash balance is \$1,734,320 and the Stabilization Fund holds \$2,562,892, an aggregate decrease of \$51,904 from the previous year's balances. Significantly, FY2005 was a property revaluation year for the Town pursuant to State Proposition 2 ½ requirements. The sharp escalation in local property values, in concert with continued restraint in Town spending, enabled a reduction in the Town's tax levy rate from \$9.70 in FY2005 just ended to \$6.51 for FY2006 now underway. Nevertheless, the prospect of significant capital expenditures for renovation of the Plain School building and or Town Hall suggest renewed upward pressure on the tax rate in future years.

During the 2005 Fiscal Year, the Finance Committee continued its practice of coordinating the Department Budget review process with Selectmen. All Department heads presented their proposed budgets at combined Selectmen/Finance Committee review meetings. With very minor exceptions, departmental budgets were level funded except for 2 ½% across the board salary increases.

Completion by the Finance Committee of a comprehensive tabulation of the Town's physical assets (land, buildings, roads, utility infrastructure, vehicles and equipment) contributed to the Town's ability to comply with new accounting reporting practices mandated for all municipalities.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Rousseau, **Chairman**

Mary Bertocci

Susan Klebl

James McMenemy

John Morse

Keith Raftery

Holly Huggins Rhind

Craig Berger, Associate

Lisa Schneyer, Associate

Town Warrant

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BERKSHIRE COUNTY

To one of the constables of the Town of Stockbridge in said county.

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the

STOCKBRIDGE SPORTSMEN'S CLUB 24 WEST STOCKBRIDGE ROAD

in Stockbridge on MONDAY, THE SIXTEENTH DAY OF MAY 2005 at six-thirty o'clock in the evening Eastern Daylight Time, for the following purposes, to wit:

ARTICLE 1. To choose the following Town Offices viz: one Selectman for three years; one member of the Board of Assessors for three years; Town Collector for three years; one member of the Board of Health for three years; one member of the Board of Sewer and Water Commissioners for three years; one member of the Planning Board for five years; Treasurer for three years; one member of the Parks and Recreation Commission for three years; and one member of the Housing Authority for five years.

QUESTION 1. Do you support the option of home delivery of mail by the U. S. Postal Service in the Town of Stockbridge?

All of said officers and said ballot question are to be voted for using the official ballots furnished the voters at the polls. The polls will be opened at Town Hall, 6 Main Street, at 8:00 o'clock a.m. and may be closed at 6:30 o'clock p.m.

Action on the other articles in the warrant will be taken up at 6:30 o'clock p.m. at the Stockbridge Sportsmen's Club, 24 West Stockbridge Road, Stockbridge.

ARTICLE 2. To choose all other Town Officers necessary to be chosen at the Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 3. To hear the report of any Town Officer or Committee, and to see if the Town will vote to accept all printed reports, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town as provided by Chapter 41, section 108 of the General Laws as amended: Moderator, Selectmen, Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, Town Collector, Board Of Assessors, Board of Health, Tree Warden, and to raise and appropriate a sum of money therefor, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the following purposes, or to take any other action in relation thereto:

- Section 1. MODERATOR
2. SELECTMEN'S DEPARTMENT
3. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
4. FINANCE DEPARTMENT
5. RESERVE FUND
6. ACCOUNTANT
7. ASSESSORS' DEPARTMENT
8. TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT
9. TOWN COLLECTOR'S DEPARTMENT
10. LEGAL DEPARTMENT
11. TOWN CLERK'S DEPARTMENT
12. ELECTIONS & REGISTRATIONS
13. CONSERVATION COMMISSION
14. PLANNING BOARD
15. BOARD OF APPEALS
16. TOWN HALL
17. TOWN REPORT
18. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR
19. POLICE DEPARTMENT
20. FIRE DEPARTMENT
21. LEE AMBULANCE SERVICE
22. ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER
23. BUILDING INSPECTOR
24. GAS INSPECTOR
25. PLUMBING INSPECTOR
26. WIRE INSPECTOR
27. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
28. TREE WARDEN DEPARTMENT
29. VOCATIONAL EDUCATION
30. ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
31. HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
 - a.) MACHINERY
 - b.) COMPACTOR
 - c.) CEMETERY
32. STREETLIGHTS
33. TRASH REMOVAL
34. SEWER DEPARTMENT
35. WATER DEPARTMENT
36. HYDRANT RENTAL
37. HEALTH DEPARTMENT
 - a) BOARD OF HEALTH
 - b) HEALTH OFFICER
38. LEE REGIONAL VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION
39. MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES
40. COUNCIL ON AGING
41. VETERAN'S SERVICES
42. STOCKBRIDGE LIBRARY
43. CHIME TOWER
44. PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

45. HISTORICAL COMMISSION
46. MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE
47. HISTORIC DISTRICT
48. LONG-TERM DEBT
49. SHORT-TERM DEBT
50. BERKSHIRE REGIONAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM
51. UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION
52. BERKSHIRE COUNTY INSURANCE GROUP
53. INSURANCE

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money for the assessment of the Berkshire Hills Regional School District, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money toward the Berkshire Hills Regional School District's capital cost of constructing the new school buildings, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to allow the Berkshire Hills Regional School District to establish a Stabilization Fund according to the provisions of section 16G of Chapter 71 of General Laws, contingent upon the approval of a majority of District member municipalities at their respective 2005 Annual Town Meetings, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money for utilities and janitorial needs at the Plain School, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to petition the General Court for the passage of a Special Act reading substantially as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 241 of the Acts of 1910, as amended by Chapter 67 of the Acts of 1919, is hereby repealed.

Section 2. The Town of Stockbridge is hereby authorized to make use of the real property transferred, assigned, set over and conveyed to the inhabitants of the Town of Stockbridge by the trustees of the Williams Academy in a warranty-deed entitled "Proprietors and Trustees of Williams Academy to Inhabitants of Stockbridge," dated March 16, 1911, and by the Laurel Hill Association in a deed entitled "Laurel Hill Association to Inhabitants of the Town of Stockbridge," dated March 25, 1920, for any lawful purpose that said Town deems appropriate.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon its acceptance by a majority of the legal voters of the Town of Stockbridge present and voting at a legal meeting, in accordance with an article in the warrant therefor.

or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to purchase a four-wheel-drive vehicle for the Police Department, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to increase the Stabilization Fund, which sum is specified for the purchase of a fire truck, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to purchase new fire hose for the Fire Department, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money for blacktop for selected Town roads as determined by the Board of Selectmen and the Highway Superintendent, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Stabilization Fund, a sum of money to be added to monies previously transferred by Article 15 of the 2003 Annual Town Meeting and Article 16 of the 2004 Annual Town Meeting for the closure of the Landfill on Glendale Middle Road, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be added to the Stockbridge Bowl Fund, established by Article 22 of the 1990 Annual Town Meeting pursuant to section 5 of Chapter 40 of the General Laws, to be used, upon further appropriation, for maintenance, dredging, cleaning or improvement of the Stockbridge Bowl; public access thereto; retaining walls, piers, wharves or moorings thereof; or law enforcement or fire prevention in connection therewith, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money for the construction of a new water storage tank, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Sewer Available Surplus a sum of money, to provide for a portion of the cost of the debt service payment (principal and interest) of the Sewer System Expansion and Update Project authorized by Article 3 of the Special Town Meeting of April 1, 2002, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Sewer Available Surplus, a sum of money for the purchase of a riding lawn mower, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money as the Town's share of the Fiscal Year 2005 expenses associated with the group purchasing program authorized by Article 25 of the 2001 Annual Town Meeting, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be added to the sums appropriated by Article 24 of the 1997 Annual Town Meeting and Article 24 of the 2004 Annual Town Meeting, to meet the Town's share of the cost of

participating with other communities for the collection of household hazardous waste, or to take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee and pursuant to the Community Preservation Act, to:

- a) appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to provide financial assistance for the Pine Woods project for affordable housing purposes;
- b) appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to the open space reserve for open space purposes;
- c) appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to a reserve account to be spent, upon the approval of the Board of Selectmen, for repair and restoration of historic Town buildings to be used for Town offices, for historic preservation purposes;
- d) appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to Chesterwood for historic preservation purposes; and
- e) appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the Community Preservation Committee's administrative costs.

or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to digitalize the Town's Assessor Map, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to hire a consultant to survey historic properties in Stockbridge, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money for legal and expert witness fees and related expenses associated with defending against actions filed in court challenging the Town's Zoning Bylaws, Subdivision Regulations or seeking judicial review of decisions made thereunder, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 27 of the 2003 Annual Town Meeting by striking the year "2005" therefrom and replacing it with the year "2007", or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to retain the services of a consultant to provide technical assistance in reviewing the provisions of the Town's Zoning Bylaws and Subdivision Regulations to ensure that such provisions are necessary and adequate to protect public safety, health and the environment, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to perform restoration work on the Beach House at Stockbridge Bowl, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 29. To see if the Town will vote to request the Board of Health to explore the possibility of the Town's joining with the Towns of Lee and Lenox to form a Regional Health District

pursuant to section 27B of Chapter 111 of the General Laws, to consist of a regional Board of Health, a Director of Health and any staff, and to make any recommendations to a future Annual or Special Town Meeting, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 30. To see if the Town will vote to ratify and confirm the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility Municipal Agreement with Recycle America Alliance and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection for the receipt and processing of the Town's recyclable materials at the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility for ten years, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 31. To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws by adding the following thereto:

**Article XXIII
Regulation of Dogs and Kennels**

Section 1. Dog Licenses and Tags

A person who, as of April 1 of any calendar year, is, or at any other time of the year becomes the owner or keeper within the Town of a dog of at least six (6) months of age shall obtain a license and tag therefor from the Town Clerk and shall attach the tag to a collar or harness of said dog. If any such tag is lost, the owner or keeper of such dog shall secure a substitute tag from the Town Clerk.

When applying for a dog license the applicant must show proof, by a licensed veterinarian's certificate, that the dog has been vaccinated against rabies, as required by sections 137 and 145B of Chapter 140 of the General Laws.

Section 2. Dog License Fees

The annual fee for every dog license, except as otherwise provided for by law, shall be as follows:

Male	\$10.00
Female.....	\$10.00
Neutered Male.....	\$4.00
Spayed Female	\$4.00
Substitute Tag	\$1.00
Transfer License.....	\$1.00

No license fee shall be charged for a dog certified to serve a blind person or a deaf person, provided that the dog is actually in the service of a blind or deaf person.

No license fee or any part thereof shall be refunded because of the subsequent death, loss, spaying, neutering or removal from the Commonwealth or other disposal of the dog.

Section 3. Kennel Licenses

No person shall maintain a kennel in the Town of Stockbridge without first obtaining a license therefor from the Town Clerk. Such license shall be renewable annually no later than March 31 of each year.

The annual fee for every kennel license shall be as follows:

One to four dogs.....\$20.00
Five or more dogs\$40.00

Section 4. Late Fees

If any person fails to obtain a license required by this Article by May 1, or within one (1) month of the effective date of the licensing requirement, a late fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) shall be charged.

If any person fails to obtain a license required by this Article by June 1, or within two (2) months of the effective date of the licensing requirement, a late fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) shall be charged.

or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 32. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from Certified Free Cash for the purpose of lowering the property tax rate, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 33. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to increase the Stabilization Fund as defined in section 5B Chapter 40, of the General Laws, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 34. Petition Article - Petition For Peace

Where as; resident voters of Stockbridge, Massachusetts supports peace.

Where as; we have no quarrel with ordinary men, women and children of Middle East.

Where as; the billions of dollars spent to stage, invade and occupy the Middle East are billions of dollars taken away from Education, Health, and Social services.

Where as; this petition will be sent to state and federal governmental representatives, indicating the town's desire for PEACE.

ARTICLE 35. Petition Article – Special Act

To see if the Town will vote to direct the Board of Selectmen to file a Special Act with the Massachusetts General Court and to take any and all other necessary steps to establish the position of Town Manager in the Town of Stockbridge. The Town Manager is to be the chief administrative officer of the Town. He or she would be responsible to the

Board of Selectmen for the effective management of all Town affairs placed in the Town Manager's charge by the Special Act, the Board of Selectmen, or vote of the Town Meeting. The Town Manager is to be responsible for the implementation of Town policies, established by the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 36. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

You are directed to post true and attested copies of this Warrant, one in each of the Post Offices of said Town, the Town Hall, Stockbridge Firehouse and Interlaken Firehouse, at least seven days before time of said meeting. Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the undersigned or to the Town Clerk at or before the time of said meeting.

Given under our hands at Stockbridge, April 25, 2005

Board of Selectmen

J. Cristopher Irsfeld, Chairman
Deborah S. McMenemy
George E. Shippey

POSTED AT:
Stockbridge Post Office
Glendale Post Office
Stockbridge Firehouse
Interlaken Firehouse
Stockbridge Town Hall