



Annual Report

Of the Town of Brookfield, Massachusetts

2017



BROOKFIELD COMMON

NATIONAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

A WALKING GUIDE



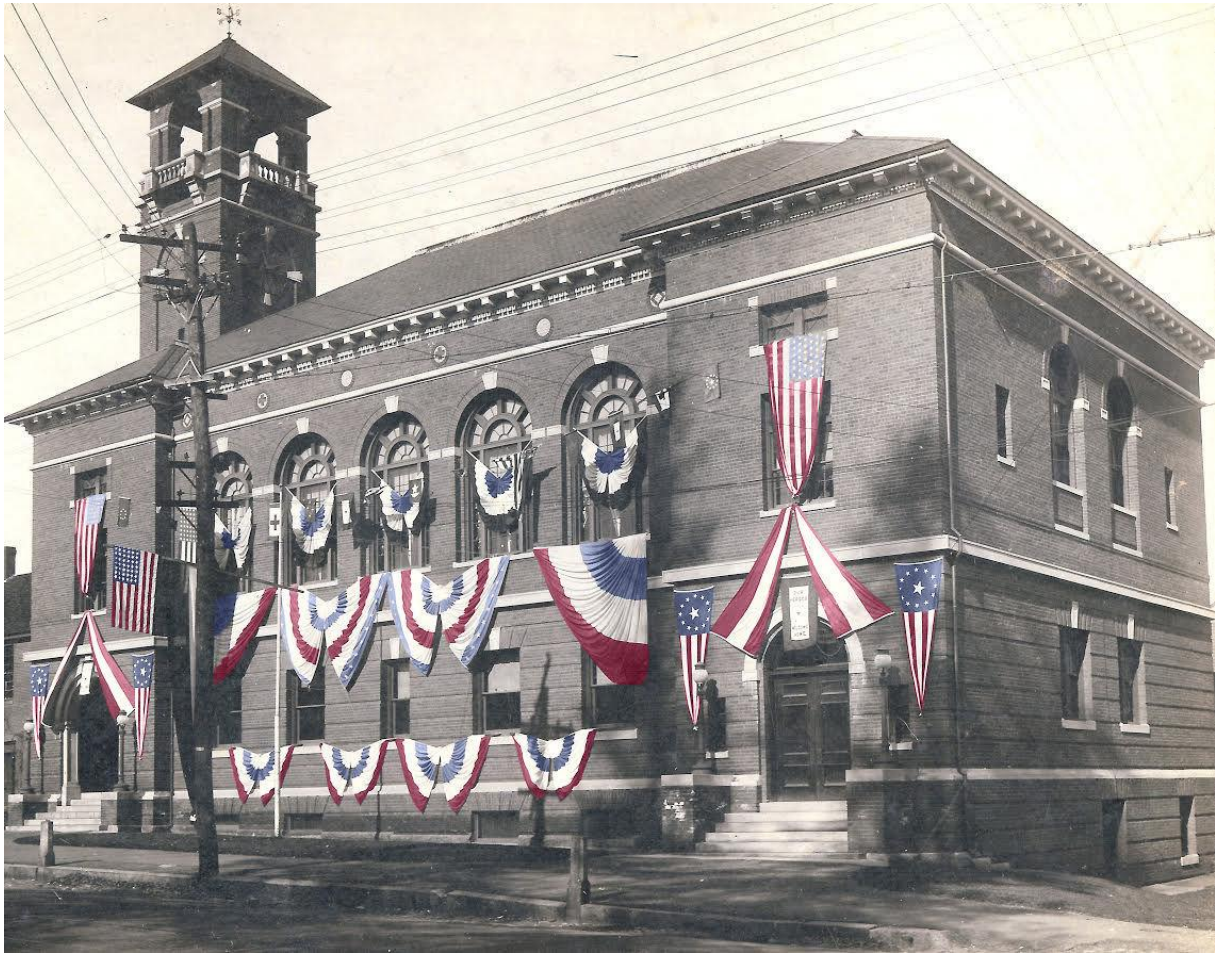
A Guide to the Architectural Highlights of the District

Early English travelers between Massachusetts Bay and the Connecticut River Valley noted the fine agricultural Indian lands of the Quaboag Valley. A group of business minded colonists, predominantly from Ipswich, obtained a grant for a plantation in 1660, known as Quaboag, and began to settle five years later.

The settlement was spread across what is known today as Foster Hill and down the eastern slope along Devil's Elbow Road and past Hovey Brook. In 1673 the plantation was incorporated as the town of Brookfield.

The isolated town grew until 1675, when it was attacked and burned in the "Seige of Brookfield" during the King Philip's War. The town lay almost abandoned until a resettlement grew cautiously in the 1680s. In 1701 Brookfield was expanded to an eight-mile square entity, and in 1718 became self-governing.

There is much to be told of the early history and the many personages who lived here, made their mark and moved on. As a member of the "Quaboag Towns" we look at the large landscape that was once Brookfield and the many divisions that came about from the original eight square miles. With well over 350 years of history and hundreds of archived pages, we hope you will enjoy the walking guide through highlights of the district as you learn of our truly fascinating past.



BROOKFIELD TOWN HALL, 6 CENTRAL STREET

This Neo-Classical structure was designed by Worcester architect George H. Clemence. Dedicated in 1904, it replaced the former Mansard style building from 1866 that burned in 1902. Both buildings had contained shops in the lower levels, a meeting hall on the second and a lodge hall (an important male institution in the late 1800's, early 1900's) on the third.

Both were also the scene of public scandals. Hiram Gerald founded the Brookfield Savings Bank in the earlier Town Hall and had established himself as a trustworthy citizen until he disappeared one day in 1899. Clever bookkeeping had covered his thefts and when he was later apprehended in Baltimore, he was given the job of keeping the books in jail! In 1925, the later building was the site of a Ku Klux Klan rally, an embarrassment to many in town.

Today, a "Friends of the Town Hall" group works towards improvements & restoration.



THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, COMMON STREET

Elbridge Boyden of Worcester designed this beautifully proportioned church which was dedicated in 1857. In keeping with the popular practice at the time, much emphasis was placed on making the wooden building look like stone. The original bell cracked and was recast in 1938. By the 1990's, weather and wear made it necessary to remove the original steeple which was rebuilt and replaced.

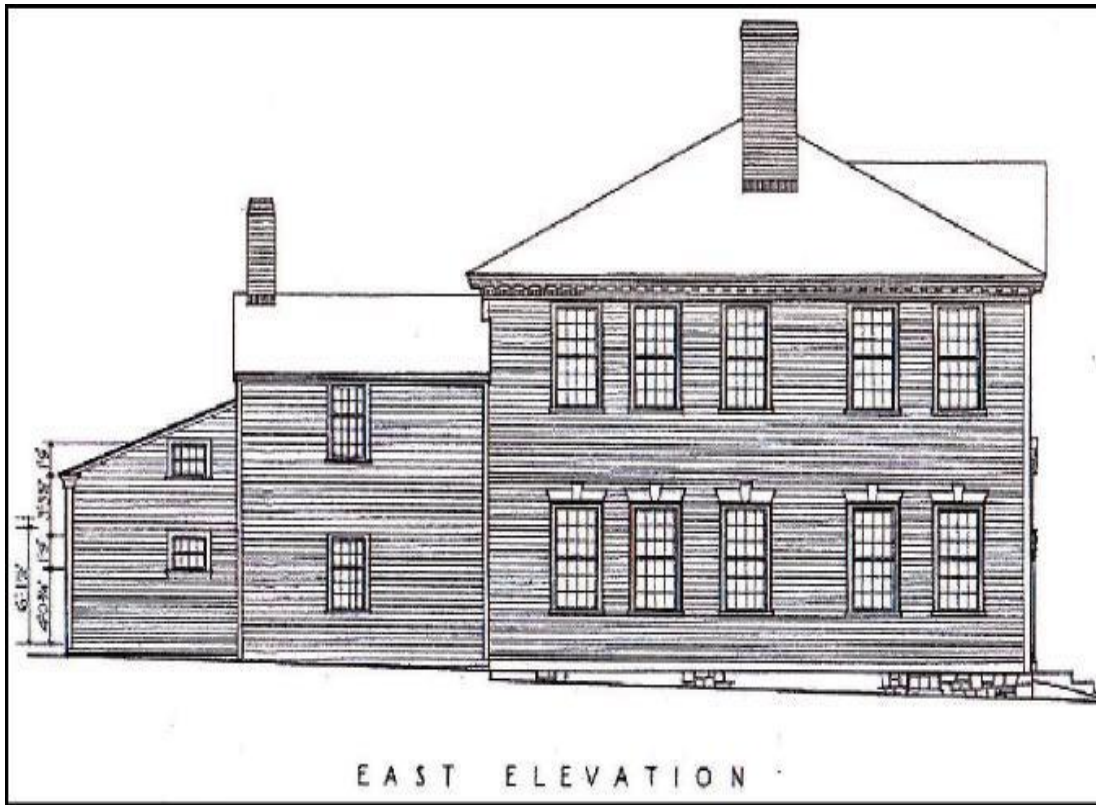
In 2000 the Historical Commission established an award for preservation. The first award went to the Congregational Church for their work in removing the rotted steeple and taking great care in replacing it with an exact replica. The Commission awarded a period style lantern and post for the front entrance.



BROOKFIELD HOUSE INN, 8 WEST MAIN STREET

Located on the nation's first long-distance highway system linking Boston to New York, the road was lined with taverns, inns, roadhouses and watering places, of which this is a rare, surviving example. The Brookfield House, renamed Inn in 1908, was originally the residence of Jabez Upham, a notorious loyalist who fled to Newport during the Revolution. The building was sold by his nephew and converted to a tavern in 1771. It turned away George Washington in 1775, entertained Teddy Roosevelt at the turn of the 20th century, boarded Calvin Coolidge in the Roaring Twenties and played host to FDR in 1932 and remained in business until the early 1960s.

The Brookfield Inn was built in 1768, and historically provided a resting place for presidents and aspiring presidents, as well as travelers from all over the world. Since its last heyday in the late 1940s and 1950s, the physical structure deteriorated significantly. The Inn finally closed in the 1960s after a fire destroyed a wing of the building. The current proprietors purchased the Inn in 1981, and began the process of restoration and rehabilitation into a multiple unit Bed & Breakfast Inn.



OLIVER CROSBY HOUSE, 13 WEST MAIN STREET

Oliver Crosby was a representative in the Massachusetts General Court from 1806 to 1814. He built his elaborate house in 1797 as a duplex containing two distinct residences. With its restrained elegance, this house is a supreme example of the Federal style at that time. The grand entrance bay with its Palladian window, spectacular fanlight and delicate sidelights is one of the most beautiful in New England and is featured in numerous architectural publications.

In 1933 the National Park Service established the Historic American Buildings Survey and included this home. See our Heritage Series – “The 1797 Oliver Crosby House.”

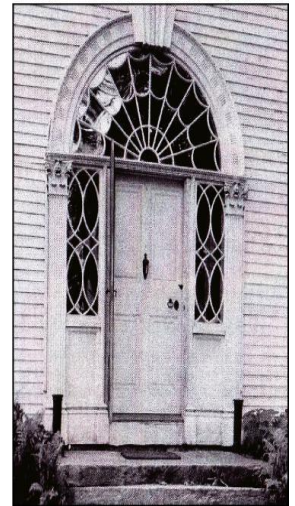


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**Our DEDICATION to
Sandy Kady**



Life is short and we have never too much time for gladdening the hearts of those who are travelling the dark journey with us. Oh be swift to love, make haste to be kind. ~ Henri Frederic Amiel

It is with great pleasure that the Board of Selectmen dedicate the 2017 Annual Town Report to Sandy Kady.

The former Town Treasurer left us too soon, leaving behind a legacy of kindness and generosity that lives on far beyond the halls of the Town offices. Small in stature, yet big in spirit and generosity, Sandy ruled her office with a strong hand and a gentle heart. In fact, she had the uncanny talent of mastering democracy even in the most challenging of circumstances, a trait that never failed to impress her colleagues.

“Sandy was soft spoken, yet always managed to get her point across – and quite impressively. Her demeanor was always very soothing. Someone could come into her office with an aggressive attitude, but by the time they left they would be calm and smiling,” noted Chairman of the Board of Selectmen Linda Lincoln, adding: “We never knew how she pulled that off.”

Not only was her positive attitude contagious, but so was her generosity. From gifting the municipal custodian with a tee shirt silkscreened with an image of his beloved dog, to sewing scarfs and heating pads for her fellow employees, Sandy’s expert handiwork is apparent throughout the Town Hall. In 2016, the talented seamstress designed and sewed a book-themed quilt that she presented it to the Merrick Public Library, where it proudly hangs today.

But Sandy Kady’s generosity doesn’t end there. She was instrumental in raising funds to construct a Gazebo in her hometown of East Brookfield and remained a staunch supporter of Toys for Joy for more than two decades, distributing toys and goods to local needy families at holiday time.

Always an advocate for the underdog, Sandy made it her mission to lend a hand and a voice to those less fortunate, both financially and socially. She wore her civic pride on her sleeve, volunteering for several committees in her hometown of East Brookfield, where she was the town’s Tax Collector. Among her impressive community achievements is her past work with the Friends of the Community Committee, where she served as co-chairman.

“Sandy’s smile could literally light up a room. As a friend she would do anything for you. If she cared about you, you knew it, and Sandy always let you know your true worth.” – Debbie Morgan

“Sandy’s enthusiasm sustained this committee. She carried forward a vision for the town gazebo, and organized the donated time and skills to get it built,” noted longtime friend and co-member Debbie Morgan, who added: “Sandy’s ‘can do’ attitude made things happen.”

Anyone who knew Sandy was aware of her unwavering love of family; her strong values apparent in her interactions with her husband, children and grandchildren when they visited her at work. Whether her husband Gary was stopping by for a quick hello to his “Sam,” or her daughters came to bring her lunch, Sandy’s light truly shone when she was surrounded by family and friends.

Sandy will be remembered for a multitude of reasons, whether it is her contribution to the community and strong work ethic or her bright blue eyes and her legendary love of peanut butter.

While life goes on, it would be a lie to say the Brookfield Town Hall is the same without Sandy. From the prayer card still taped to her office wall to her hand-scrawled hummus recipe tucked in a desk drawer, Sandy Kady’s presence continues to be felt (and embraced), amid the hustle and bustle of a busy municipality.

IN MEMORIAM



During 2017, several prominent citizens and veterans passed away leaving a big impact on their families, friends and the Town.

Each and every resident of the Town is an important citizen of course, but Brookfield suffers a major loss each year that we lose citizens like these. Their contributions, however, continue to bless us. Please help to keep their memories alive by doing your part for Brookfield.

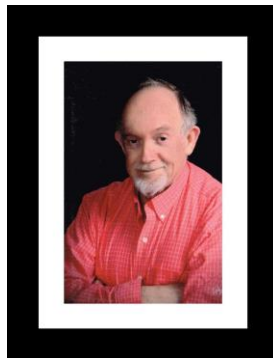
The following are honored for their gift of military service to the Town and to their Country. We appreciate their sacrifices in our behalf. Let us all take time to thank the dedicated military personnel in our Town and around the United States of America who continue to serve our country and protect our freedoms.

John MacDougall
William Brisbois
Albert Johnson
Philip Peirce
Charles Garrison

Navy
Army
Army
Army
Army

WWII
Vietnam
WWII
Vietnam
Peace time

“Courage. Kindness. Friendship. Character. These are the qualities that define us as human to greatness.” — R.J. Palacio



Former Selectman Philip H. Peirce is one of the Brookfield veterans whose life live on through their contributions to the community.

**GOVERNMENTAL DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE
TOWN OF BROOKFIELD - 2017**



UNITED STATES SENATORS

Edward J. Markey
and
Elizabeth Warren

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS

2nd Congressional District
Richard E. Neal

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL 7th District

Jennie Caissie

STATE SENATOR

Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin Senatorial District
Anne M. Gobi

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT

5th Worcester District
Donald D. Berthiaume Jr.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Joseph D. Early, Jr.

*calendar year 2017

FACTS ABOUT BROOKFIELD:

SETTLED: 1660 as part of the Quaboag Plantation

INCORPORATED AS A TOWN: Brookfield was incorporated as a Town in 1673.

LOCATION:

Brookfield is located in Central Massachusetts, bounded by North Brookfield on the north, East Brookfield on the east, Sturbridge on the south and West Brookfield, Warren and Brimfield on the west. Brookfield is 22 miles west of Worcester, 33 miles east of Springfield and 57 miles west of Boston.

POPULATION (per 2017 census): 3,394

FORM OF GOVERNMENT:

Open Town Meeting with a three member Board of Selectmen and a full-time Administrative Assistant.

FY2018 TAX RATE - \$19.14 per thousand dollars of valuation (as of 12/31/2017)

Residential	92.33%	\$251,848,397.00
Commercial	3.65%	\$ 9,947,545.00
Industrial	0.88%	\$ 2,392,500.00
Personal Property	3.14%	\$ 8,569,823.00
Total Value	100.00%	\$272,758,265.00
Exempt Value		\$ 33,282,300.00

Square Miles: 16.57

STREETS AND HIGHWAYS:

Brookfield has approximately 40 miles of paved roads, one half mile of dirt road, and two miles of private roads.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

Brookfield maintains a Pre-K through grade six Elementary School and belongs to the Union 61 Tantasqua Regional School District, which includes a junior high school, a high school and a vocational school.

FIRE PROTECTION:

The Fire Department, which is headed by Chief Peter Martell, consists of one assistant chief, two captains, two lieutenants and 22 volunteer fire fighters.

EMERGENCY SQUAD:

Brookfield’s Emergency Squad, which is headed by Chief Donna Lafleur, includes one captain, one lieutenant and 12 EMS personnel. There are six paramedics; five EMT basics and one EMT-intermediate. The service operates a 2008 Horton ambulance mounted on a GMC chassis.

POLICE:

During 2016, Brookfield had a 24/7 Police Department made up by its Chief, Sergeant and three full-time officers and a varying number of part time officers throughout the year.

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

Brookfield has one recreational field, Lewis Field, which is located on Main Street (Route 148). Lewis Field has a pavilion, softball, soccer and baseball fields, and a basketball court, as well as facilities for outings. We also have a Town beach on Quacumquasit Pond (also known as South Pond).

PUBLIC LIBRARY:

The Merrick Public Library, located at 2 Lincoln Street, on the Common, provides free public access to the Internet, as well as reader’s and reference advisory service. The Library is a mini-net member of CW/MARS, which allows our patrons to peruse the Central Massachusetts library catalog and place holds and pick-up location from the comfort of their home. The Romanesque Banister Memorial Hall was built in 1884; the Trustees and staff continue to maintain the architectural integrity of this historic building while offering modern conveniences.

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

POLICE:

Emergency 911
Non-Emergency 508-867-5570

FIRE:

Emergency 911
Non-Emergency 508-867-7306

AMBULANCE:

Emergency 911
Non-Emergency 508-867-6036

AREA HOSPITALS:

Mary Lane Hospital, Ware 413-967-6211
Harrington Memorial Hospital, Southbridge 508-765-9771
Hubbard Regional Hospital, Webster 508-943-2600
UMass Medical Center, Worcester 508-334-1000
Worcester Medical Center, Worcester 508-363-5000

ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS
AS OF MAY, 2017

BOARD OF SELECTMEN (3)

Linda M. Lincoln, Chair May 2019
Clarence M Snyder III, VC May 2018
Beth Coughlin, Clerk May 2020

BOARD OF ASSESSORS (3)

Holly Chisholm May 2018
Marlaine Burbank May 2019
Robert Falter May 2020

BOARD OF HEALTH (3)

Ronald Wassmer May 2020
Daniel Leahy, Chairman May 2018
Michael Seery May 2019

CONSTABLES

Richard Lapierre May 2019
Bruce W. Gadaire May 2019

CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS (3)

Edwin W. Foley May 2018
Emery J. Manning, Jr. May 2019
William Pratt May 2020

HOUSING AUTHORITY (4)

Michael Seery, Chairman May 2019
Melissa Glennon May 2018
State Appointed member (Vacant)
Eugene Toto May 2018

**Resigned*

MERRICK PUBLIC LIBRARY

TRUSTEES (6)

Barbara Clancy May 2020
Jean Eaton May 2020
Matthew Bansfield May 2018
Carol Plumb May 2018
Sally Brown, Chairman May 2019
Barbara Steadman May 2019

MODERATOR (1)

Donald Faugno May 2018

PLANNING BOARD (5)

Sharon Mahoney, Chair May 2018
Kevin Erkkila May 2022
Maureen Lepak May 2019
John David Holdcraft May 2020
Russell Phaneuf May 2021

ELEM SCHOOL COMMITTEE (3)

Megan Cunningham May 2018
Kyle Hill May 2018
Brian Oxman May 2019*

REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Sharron Austin May 2018*
William J. Gillmeister May 2019

TAX COLLECTOR

Brenda Parrish May 2020

TOWN CLERK

Michael Seery May 2019

WATER COMMISSIONERS (3)

Donald R. Taft May 2020
Robert R. Barnes May 2019
Kermit A. Eaton May 2018

APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS AND STAFF

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
& Chief Procurement Officer**

Karen Trainor Resseguie

ACCOUNTANT

Kerri Polakowski 2019

ADVISORY COMMITTEE (9)

Stephen Gillis 2020
Robert Barnes 2018
Robert Falter 2019*
Kenneth Cleveland 2020
Leonard Farr 2020
Maureen Meriano 2020
Curtis Schoen 2019
Anthony Aubin 2020
William Stendrup 2020*

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Members (5) :

Lucinda Thompson, Co Chair 2020
Barbara Haberlin, Co Chair 2020
James Dolan 2019
Ronald Starcher 2019
Steve Novak 2018
Alternates
Kenneth Cleveland 2018
Donald Grimes 2018
Donald Haberlin 2018
Mark Ledoux 2018

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Sara Prideaux 2019
Sydney Plant, Assistant 2020

ANIMAL INSPECTOR

William Thompson 2018

BOARD OF HEALTH SECRETARY

Lani Criasia

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Jeff Taylor 2018
Casey Burlingame Alternate 2018

BY-LAW COMMITTEE (5)

Sue Brogan 2018
James Cooke 2018
Robert Barnes 2018
Tara Browne 2018
Harry Pearson 2018

CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Michael P. Seery

CEMETERY STAFF

James Milner

CMRPC

Kevin Erkkila, Planning Bd 2018
Maureen Lepak 2018

(CDBG) ADVISORY COMMITTEE (5)

Beth Coughlin 2018
Bruce Clarke 2018
Lucinda Thompson 2018
Bethany Roberts 2018
Mary Lou Knight 2018

CONSERVATION COMMISSION (7)

Michael LaRocca, Chair 2020
Kenneth Cleveland 2019
Dina LeDuke 2019
Michael Dean 2019

CONSTABLE

Arthur Tatro 2018

COUNCIL ON AGING (9)

Barbara Clancy 2018

Frederica LaMonda 2018
 Mary Falardeau 2018
 Bethany Roberts 2019
 Maura Cauty 2019
 Sally Brown 2019

COUNSEL, TOWN

Kopelman and Paige, P.C. 2018

CULTURAL COUNCIL (*up to 22*)

William Simpson, Chair 2018
 Barbara Wilson 2018
 Rosie Kadelski 2018
 Janet Seery 2019*
 Madelyn Swanson 2019
 Jeanne Lytle 2020
 Kathleen Landry 2020
 Damien Sargent 2018

CUSTODIAN, MUNICIPAL

Paul Mielowski

ELECTION WORKERS

Kathryn Latour, Warden 2018
 Sally Brown 2018
 Eugene Toto 2018
 Heidi Proulx 2018
 Lani Criasia 2018
 Jane Kay 2018
 Carol Lapierre 2018
 Sandra Renaud 2018
 Annette Lazili 2018
 Karen Simpson 2018
 Louise Woodard 2018
 Geraldine Pisarczyk 2018

ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR

(*see: Wiring Inspector*)

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (BEMA)

Keith Karmann, Director 2018
 Peter Martell, Deputy Dir. 2018

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SQUAD CHIEF

Donna Lafleur, Chief 2019

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SQUAD OFFICERS

Peter Martell, Captain, 2019
 Matthew Graves, Lt. 2019

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SQUAD

All until 2018 unless otherwise noted:

Terry Anderson, EMT
 Dan Driscoll, EMT
 Tammie Gadbois, EMT
 John Glennon, Paramedic
 Mark Lovely EMT
 Ashley Marks EMT
 David Martell, Paramedic
 Richard Phillips 2018
 Matthew Roderick, Intermediate
 Vontailin Rosario, EMT
 Donna Lafleur, Chief/Paramedic
 Peter Martell, Captain/Paramedic
 Matthew Graves, Lieut/Paramedic
 Raymond Ranellone

FINANCIAL OFFICIALS

Holly Chisholm, Clerk to Treasurer

FIRE CHIEF & FOREST FIRE WARDEN

Peter Martell 2019

FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Chief Peter Martell 2019
 Asst. Chief Herbert Chaffee 2019
 Captain Keith Karmann 2019
 Captain David Martell 2019
 Lt. William MacLeod 2019
 Lt. Richard Phillips 2019

FIREFIGHTERS

All until 2018 unless otherwise noted:

Steve Budnik
Philip Chaffee
Paul Comptois
Jesse Fimian
Shawn Edgette
Daniel Driscoll
Charles Edgette
Daniel Esser
Matthew Graves
Meghan Fortier
Donna Lafleur
Ashley Marks
Linda MacLeod
David Merlo
Matthew Phillips
Ray Ranellone
Matthew Roderick
Jay Haley
Jeffrey White
Aaron Rice
Jon Rose
Luke Quatricelli

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Herbert Chaffee, II 2018

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT STAFF

Donald L. Herbert, full-time
Cindy Thompson, Secretary part-time
Mike Duval, full-time

HISTORICAL COMMISSION (7)

Carol Plumb, Chairman 2020
Lois O’Leary 2018
Donald Clowes 2018
Thomas Morse 2019
Michael Metz 2019
Dina LaDuke 2019
Emery Manning 2020

HOMELAND SECURITY REP.

Keith Karrmann 2018

**INSURANCE ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

(all expire 2018)

Barbara Clancy, Retirees’ Representative
Linda M. Lincoln, Senior Rep
Sherry Gillen, Teachers Rep
Sgt. Steven Pariseau, Police Union Rep.
Holly Chisholm, Town Hall Clerk Staff
Joanne O’Connell, Non-Cert Sch. Staff
James Boos, Water Dept. Rep.
Donald Herbert, Highway Dept. Rep.

LOCAL PUBLIC ACCESS

COMMITTEE (Cable TV) (7)

Kevin Erkkila 2018
Danielle Kane 2020
Sharon Mahoney 2020

MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

Donald Taft 2018
Maureen Lepak 2018
Dr. Peter Levine 2018
Ruff Phaneuf 2018
Alison Welman 2018
Linda Peirce 2018

MERRICK PUBLIC LIBRARY STAFF

Brenda Metterville, Director
Andrea Faugno, Library Assisant
Katherine Simpson, Library Assistant
Michelle Taylor, Library Assistant
Julia Taylor, Library Assistant
Joan Sagendorph, Library Assistant, sub
Arthur Putnam, Custodian

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Rudy Heller
Cindy Thomnpson
Clarence Snyder
Kermit Eaton
Barbara Clancy
Lee Farr
Jeff Landine
Sarah Heller
Ian Nugent (Rec Rep)

BOARD OF OVERSEERS (DISPATCH)

Keith Karrmann 2018

PARKING CLERK/HEARING OFFICER

Michael P. Seery 2018

PERSONNEL BOARD (6)

Holly Chisholm 2018

Linda Lincoln 2018

Doug Ford 2018

Mary Lou Knight 2020

Lucinda Thompson 2018

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Michael Blanchard, Chief 2018

POLICE DEPARTMENT STAFF

Holly Chisholm, Administrative Assistant

POLICE PATROL OFFICERS*Terms end 2018*

Steven Pariseau, Sgt, Full-time

Sean T. Marino, Full-time

Lee Murphy, Full-time

Ryan Stanley, Full-time*

Paul Cowden, Full-time*

Brian Kibbe, Part-time

Serenity Allen, Part-time

Greg Pianka Part-time

Dane Jobst Part-time*

Herb Duggan, Part-time

Alex Johnson, Part-time

Michael Green, Part-time

Michael Lapiore, Part-time

John O'Connor, Part-time*

PLUMBING & GAS INSPECTOR

Robert Wall 2018

James McNeaney, Alternate 2018

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Jeffrey Landine, Chair 2020

Ian Nugent 2020

Lisa Hanrahan 2019

Jake Hill 2020

Kyle Hill 2020

Eric Blake 2020

REGISTRARS, BOARD OF

Shirley Sanborn 2019

Lois O'Leary 2018

Nancy Flynn 2018

SEXUAL HARASSMENT OFFICER

Lani Criasia 2020

SOURCE WATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE (7)

Bruce Clarke 2019

Mary T. O'Connell 2019

Donald Taft 2019

Jennifer Grybowski 2019

SUPT. OF INSECT & PEST CONTROL

Herbert Chaffee, II 2018

TREE WARDEN

Herbert Chaffee II 2018

TRENCH SAFETY OFFICER

Herbert Chaffee, II 2018

TOWN TREASURER

Lani Criasia 2020*

TRANSFER STATION STAFF

Daniel Leahy
James Milner
Arthur Morin
Ron Wassmer
Michael Seery

**VETERANS SERVICES DIRECTOR,
VETERANS AGENT and VETERANS
BURIAL AGENT**

Gary LaPine 2019

**resigned*

WATER DEPARTMENT STAFF

James Boos, Superintendent
Bruce Clarke - Secondary Operator
Dennis Clarke- Secondary Operator
Jeff Beauchamp - Secondary Operator
Holly Chisholm, Administrative Assistant

WIRING (Electrical), INSPECTOR

Scot Mansfield 2018
Martin Nagle, Alternate 2018

WRTA BOARD

Rudy Heller

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

5 with 3 Alternates

Steven J. Comtois, II, Chair 2021
William Neault 2022*
Kenneth Cleveland 2019
Danielle Forcier-White 2021
Charles Wilson 2020
Tim Simon, Alternate 2020

ZONING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Nicholas Thomo 2018





REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

2017 was a year of both closure and beginnings. As with most years, projects carried over from the prior and many started that we look forward to completing in order to move forward with enhancing the community experience of citizens in Brookfield.

Appointed and Elected Officials

As enunciated in the report of the Town Clerk, many changes occurred in the ranks of the appointed and elected officials. Structurally, the Board implemented the constitution or reconstitution of several committees, groups key to both strategic community planning and the tactical execution of community plans. The Board of Selectmen worked to find and appoint the talent needed in terms of both volunteers and employees to sustain town services and move the town forward.

Upon the retirement of Bruce Clark, the Town's Water Superintendent of 38 years at the end of 2016, in concurrence with the recommendation of the Water Commissioners, the Board of Selectmen appointed James (Jim) Boos as Water Superintendent.

Following the early retirement and subsequent passing of Town Treasurer Sandy Kady, the search for a Town Treasurer highlighted the challenges facing many small Massachusetts communities – that municipal financial teams are a specialty skill with many of the eligible candidates at or near retirement. The Board of Selectmen chose a hybrid approach to filling that role, selecting a current town employee, Lani Criasia for the role while implementing a support-system of hiring a retired Treasurer with 30+ years of experience, Keith Arsenault, to participate in the training and development of new talent.

In a key act of cooperative effort, the Board of Selectmen and the Brookfield Elementary School Committee solicited for applicants to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of BESC Chairman Brian Oxman. Andy Dunn would step forward to fill the role.

Structural changes, largely through encouraging volunteer engagement, was also a focus. One step was to create the Town Hall improvement Committee. This committee is a hybrid between the former Municipal Facilities Planning Committee and the more focused capital building committees such as the Police Station Committee as it has the charter to manage both immediate needs and develop or implement existing longer-term activities related to the Town Hall. This group, in partnership with civic organizations like Friends of the Brookfield Town Hall, would manage tasks varying from replacement of a failed furnace to contracting the engineering plans for the restroom and ADA activity whose funding had been approved two years prior.

The Board also re-constituted the Capital Improvement Planning committee with the intent to ensure that Brookfield has a roadmap for investing in community infrastructure and the durable goods needed for the departments to provide proper town services. Their initial efforts are expected to come before the town in 2018 as well. Early engagement, both by the committee members and the respective departments has been promising.

Finally, the Board of Selectmen encouraged the formation and activities of a less formal group working with CMRPC and the Massachusetts Office of Public Collaboration to

update the Brookfield Open Space and Recreation Plan. This group has been supporting the activities of soliciting community input via surveys and public hearings. This plan will act as a template for managing Open Space and Recreation Land development and help the town pursue financial support from sources other than the tax base to do so.

Grants and Awards

The Board of Selectmen supported the key recommendations of the Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee. The hard work of the CDBG AC in conjunction with CMRPC resulted in the FY 17 Mass CDBG award of \$363,699 in support of the following projects: Hayden/Hyde & Draper/High Streets - Water and Drainage Engineering Design Project (\$55,000), ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan (\$39,000), Senior Center Architectural Design Project (\$100,000), 15 Post Road Assessment and Reuse Plan (\$121,000), and Grant Administration (\$48,000).

Mass DOT announced allocation of \$163,720 of Chapter 90 Funds to the Town of Brookfield. These funds, combined with carry-over funds from previous years enabled the Town to support the critical repairs on short notice of the Dunn Brook Bridge on Quaboag Street when other sources of funding could not be accessed in a timely manner. 2017 was the year for completion of the Adena Campground Study and the receipt of the promised \$18,500 grant from Mass Historical that mitigated town cost for the study and clarification of the historical significance of the site. The Board of Selectmen, in cooperation with the Historical Committee and other community groups will continue to pursue how to best ensure that the findings benefit Brookfield while respecting the sensitive nature of the site. Efforts will continue in the foreseeable future to pursue funding in support of the development of educational and site enhancement resources. This may take the form of open space and regional historic education sites depending on further input from the community.

While these were the major activities, there were other smaller awards that help maintain or enhance services, including the Council on Aging Contract for \$7,790 in grant funds, and Assistant Assessor Al Jones receiving a \$500 scholarship from the Assessor's Association of MA, and the funding obtained for seeking input on the Open Space and Recreation Plan update. Each and every award contributes to community services while easing the tax burden on property owners.

Town Meetings and Elections

The Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting was held Friday, June 9th at Brookfield Elementary School. The Selectmen advised the town to delay on acting on the bulk of the high-cost capital request on the warrant due to the longstanding need to balance the town books. Following the town meeting, the Selectmen (on the advice of the Town Accountant) would retain Baystate Municipal Finance as a third party to help guide account reconciliation, restructuring in alignment with UMIS, and the eventual filing for free cash. No Fall Special Town Meeting was held to address those articles as the free cash filing was delayed due to the highly manual process related to researching the required account reconciliations. The results of that reconciliation and the subsequent Free Cash filing are still pending at the time of this writing. This effort is one focused on resolving nearly a decade of delayed inter-department reconciliation, with a particular emphasis on the period from 2013 through close of fiscal 2017.

Town Hall Improvements and Renovations

The Board of Selectmen has worked cooperatively with the THIC Chairman William Simpson Jr. to ensure the alignment of priorities of work between the two groups. Collectively, the following items of focus were established for the 2017/2018 time frame: the new Town Hall furnace (complete); making the Town Hall bathroom and other elements ADA accessible (engineering work in progress); making a recommendation on a stair lift; gathering information for snow cleats for the Town Hall roof; consider bringing Honor Roll memorial downstairs and updating it if the stair lift is not installed; bring antique counter from the Banquet Room upstairs to be used/stored.

Disposal of Excess Property

In cooperation with the Highway Department, the Board of Selectmen has made active use of municibid, selling three vehicles: the 1977 Mack parts truck sold as is for \$3,100, the 1980 Mack parts truck with spare motor and transmission sold as is for \$2,750, and the retired Fire Chief Cruiser parts vehicle sold for \$400.

Other Matters

In April, the Board of Selectmen adopted a Person Protective Equipment Policy that encouraged the Department Heads to actively review and provide for employee safety equipment needs. As part of both end of year purchases and the Town Meeting budgets, funding was identified to close some of those safety equipment gaps. After some pauses to develop funding plan, it was reinstated. More work is needed in this area in 2018 to help the Department Heads come into full compliance with the State of Massachusetts adoption of OSHA standards for municipalities.

The Board of Selectmen initiated the process of addressing some of the abandoned properties in town. In conjunction with efforts by of the Board of Health and the Health Agent, the Board held the requisite public hearings and took the legal steps necessary to prepare for the demolition of three long abandoned properties, all of which represented a certain level of safety hazard. In similar efforts to enhance the overall environment for residents and businesses in town, Board of Selectmen began active support of the ZEO holding residents accountable to a single standard of property maintenance, with an emphasis on not tolerating the open storage of trash and recyclable materials on property. Citizen complaints continue around excessive noise at the Plourde racetrack, and this matter continues to be one of concern for the Board and the community.

Tax Work Off Program for Senior and Veterans gained traction, with all available positions filled for the first time. In cooperation with the Board of Assessors, the program is under an informal review to determine opportunities for expansion or future definition to enhance its value to both individual citizens and the community.

Conclusion

Like each and every year, 2017 was a year of transition, of beginnings and endings. There is a lot of energy behind moving the town forward, and that comes from a source larger than that three of us. We are glad to carry the energy forward on behalf of the townspeople.



REPORT OF TOWN COUNSEL

During the fiscal year 2017, Town Counsel worked to promptly and efficiently respond to requests for opinions and advice from Town officials on a wide variety of issues. We advised regarding procedures for amending the Town's personnel policies, real estate transactions, zoning enforcement, and responding to public records requests, among other matters. We also represented the Town in several pending court actions in the Worcester Superior Court, Land Court, the East Brookfield District Court, and before state agencies. Additionally, we advised the Board of Selectmen, other Town officials, and various Town boards and committees on contracts and construction, conflict of interest, and labor and employment issues, and delivered harassment and discrimination prevention training to employees. We worked with the Selectmen to prepare Annual and Special Town Meeting Warrants, including providing sample bylaws, and advised the Town during the Annual and Special Town Meetings.

The following matters were pending in courts of the Commonwealth during fiscal year 2017, in which Town Counsel provided a defense on behalf of the Town:

James T. Correia v. Zoning Board of Appeals

Worcester Superior Court, C.A. No. WOCV2014-00655

This case is an appeal of the Zoning Board of Appeals' April 7, 2014 decision denying Mr. Correia's application for a special permit to expand a pre-existing, nonconforming use and structure at 7/11 Fiskdale Road to include a restaurant use. As of the close of the fiscal year, this matter was still pending.

James T. Correia v. Town

Worcester Superior Court, C.A. No. WOCV2014-00693

This is an appeal of the Town's award of a pro tanto payment in the amount of \$8,135.00 for property taken at Fiskdale Road as part of the Quaboag River Bridge Project. As of the close of the fiscal year, this matter was still pending.

Daniel Plourde, et al. v. Zoning Board of Appeals

This case is an appeal of the Zoning Board of Appeals' April 15, 2014 decision affirming the Zoning Enforcement Officer's order directing Daniel Plourde to cease using his property at 5 Quaboag Street for motocross racing. The Town filed a counterclaim against Mr. Plourde and his company, DP23 Bulldogs, LLC, seeking enforcement of the ZEO's order. As of the close of the fiscal year, this matter was still pending.

There are also several cases pending in Land Court, relative to tax title proceedings.

Town Counsel has continued to work to reduce municipal legal costs by preparing updates regarding changes in the law and addressing issues of general municipal interest, all at no charge to the Town. We also offer free training sessions, including "webinars" on many issues, from more traditional topics, such as the Open Meeting and Public Records Laws, to the more cutting edge issues such as the impacts of the legalization of medical and recreational marijuana, and related efforts to regulate same.

As always, we strive to provide the highest quality legal services as quickly and effectively as possible and we are committed to continuing to work to provide legal advice and representation in the best interests of the Town.

We extend our appreciation to the Board of Selectmen for their confidence in retaining KP Law (formerly Kopelman and Paige), and we appreciate the assistance and cooperation we have received on all matters from the Board of Selectmen and other Town officials, boards and personnel.



REPORT OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The prime function of the finance advisory committee is reviewing departmental budgets and submitting a balanced budget to town meeting. All municipal officers authorized to spend money provide the advisory committee with estimates of how much funding will be needed for the proper maintenance of their departments. These estimates are used in the preparation of the town's annual operating and capital budgets. The advisory committee meets monthly and more frequently for three to six months before town meeting. Throughout the budget cycle, the committee's main goals are to optimize the value of each dollar spent, address the town's long range as well as immediate needs and to present a balanced budget to town meeting.

The Advisory Committee saw a major restructuring in July 2017 with the appointment of five new members, four of whom are brand new to Brookfield town governance – Lee Farr, Curtis Schoen, Jeff Clark and Tom Regan. Long-time Brookfield resident, employee and volunteer/contributor to the improvement of our town, Ken Cleveland, adds his knowledge, range of experience and wit to the group. Finally, Advisory maintained three current members – Bob Barnes, Tony Aubin and Steve Gillis.

Since July, our goals have been to establish relationships with department heads and the Board of Selectmen, familiarize ourselves with the mechanics of municipal budgeting and educate our members regarding the duties, responsibilities and impact of budgeting decisions on all members of our community. To this end, two of our members were able to attend the Association of Town Finance Committees Annual Meeting in October 2017.

A number of financial issues loom: the certification of the town's budgets and free cash, establishing consistent accounting controls and procedures by continued integration of VADAR financial management software across all financial departments, planning for large capital expenses with the help of the Capital Improvement Planning Committee, and maintaining fair and fiscally manageable pay for town employees.

We will work to the best of our abilities for the greater good, fiscal discipline, intelligent growth and overall improvement of the Town of Brookfield.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Steve Gillis, Chairman. Lee Farr, Vice Chairman.

Bob Barnes, Ken Cleveland, Tony Aubin, Jeff Clark, Curtis Schoen, Tom Regan.



REPORT OF THE AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL

Brookfield's Agricultural Commission and Right to Farm Bylaw was established by Town Meeting vote in June 2011. In establishing the commission and bylaw the Town recognizes the importance agriculture has and will have into the future. The Agricultural Commission is comprised of ten members appointed by the Selectmen, 5 full-time and 5 alternates, the full-time positions serving 3-year terms each. Our purpose is "to serve as facilitators for encouraging the pursuit of agriculture in Brookfield, and to promote agricultural-based economic opportunities in the Town." Our mission is "to preserve, revitalize, and sustain Brookfield agriculture, its lands and to encourage the pursuit of agriculture, promoting agricultural-based opportunities and protect farmland."

Commission Objectives:

1. Increase public awareness of agriculture, and the positive impact it has on the Town;
2. Communicating the importance of the Right-to-Farm Bylaw which provides the guiding principles of the Commission;
3. Act as a mediator in disputes that may arise between farmers and their neighbors;
4. Work in close cooperation with other Town boards and committees to promote agricultural products and activities; and
5. Bring awareness to farms and farmers of federal, state and other programs.

The Commission continues to meet monthly in the Town Hall.

During the winter/spring we host learning opportunities. This year these have included sessions on raising raspberries, bees and backyard poultry. Everyone interested in learning more about agricultural topics are encouraged to watch the Brookfield Citizen for a list of our upcoming programs. We welcome your attendance at our meetings.

This year the commission hosted the "First Annual Brookfield Tractor Parade" in conjunction with the Brookfield Garden Club's Annual Plant Sale on the Common. Tractors of all sizes participated in a parade around "The Common." Our members provided pumpkin growing kits to "kids of all ages". Pumpkin growers were invited to bring their prize pumpkins to Apple Country Fair for display and friendly competition.

With expert guidance from former chair Clarence Snyder the commission continued our leadership with Central Mass Grown. This 'buy local' activity now represents all of Worcester County. In a recent Worcester Chamber of Commerce report the agricultural economy was ranked as the fastest growing segment.

The Commission thanks the Town for the continuing support in its efforts to promote a sustainable agricultural base.

Respectfully Submitted,

Your Agricultural Commission:

Lucinda Thompson, Chairman

Barbara Haberlin, Co-Chair

Steve Novak

James Dolan

Ron Starcher

Alternates/Advisors:

Ken Cleveland

Donald Grimes

Donald Haberlin

Dr. Mark Ledoux, DVM

REPORT OF THE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

2017 presented the usual challenges for our department this year as well as last. We picked up four dogs, all of which were claimed by their owners. Three dogs were hit by a car and deceased. Two cats were reported deceased, hit by a car.

The Assistant Animal Control Officer, picked up two dogs, both of which were claimed, and responded to one dog hit by a car.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Prideaux, ACO



REPORT OF THE ANIMAL INSPECTOR

Barns Inspected	23
Cattle	19
Goats	27
Sheep	2
Swine	3
Equines	136
Donkey/Mules	13
Llamas	6
Poultry	494
Rabbits	1
Waterfowl	12
Turkeys	2

Respectfully submitted,

William F. Thompson, Animal Inspector

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

2017 the Brookfield Board of Assessors completed the transition away from a traditional elected/working Board of Assessors to an elected Board and a full time Assistant Assessor and Assessor's Clerk.

In May Bob Falter was re-elected to the board and we also welcomed a new assessor to the board, Holly Chisholm, who brought with her experience having previously served as a member of the Board of Assessors several years ago, in September, Patty King was hired as our first Assessor's Clerk and in December we mourned the passing In of long time assessor Phillip Peirce.

A new document retention system has been implemented allowing for quick and easy access of assessing related data for every parcel in town. Information stored in this new filing system includes property record cards, assessment valuation details, site visit results, building permits, plot plans, deeds and other miscellaneous documentation related to the individual parcels.

In December the Massachusetts Department of Revenue certified our real estate values and the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to continue to maintain a single tax rate for all Residential, Commercial, Industrial and Personal Property in the Town of Brookfield.

The total assessed value of the 1448 taxed parcels in the Town of Brookfield was \$272,758,265.00. There are 148 tax exempt parcels in the town. In December the FY 2018 tax rate was set at \$19.14 per thousand dollars of value (the previous tax rate in FY 2017 was \$19.62 per thousand dollars of value). The mean or average value of a single family home in Brookfield is now \$217,924.65.

The levy percentages and values by tax class were:

Residential	92.32%	\$251,848,397.00
Commercial	3.65%	\$ 9,947,545.00
Industrial	0.88%	\$ 2,392,500.00
Personal Property	3.15%	\$ 8,569,823.00
Total Value	100.00%	\$272,758,265.00

Exempt Value \$ 33,282,300.00

Board Members

Marlaine J. Burbank, Chair (2019)
Robert G. Falter, Secretary (2020)
Holly J. Chisholm (2018)
Assistant Assessor – Alan K. Jones
Assessor's Clerk – Patricia A. King

2018 OFFICE HOURS

(508) 867-2930 Ext 16

Monday, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Tuesday, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Wednesday, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Thursday, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

First and Third Wednesday evenings, 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

The Board of Assessors would like to remind the taxpayers that all assessed property values in Massachusetts are based on their full and fair cash value or 100 percent of the fair market value. We would also like to thank the townspeople of Brookfield for their continued cooperation and support.



REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

In May Ron Wassmer was re-elected to his 2nd term as a member of the Board of Health. We look forward to continue serving with him.



Transfer Station

We continue to encourage citizens to use the transfer station because there is no question that it is less costly than using curbside pickup. Last year the number of annual users increased by twenty. We now have 560 households using the Transfer Station. The yearly permit fee is \$85.00 dollars and large bags are \$15.00 for a package of ten and kitchen sized bags are \$8.00 for a package of ten. The transfer station is open on Tuesdays from 3 to 6 P.M. and Saturdays 7 A.M. to 4 P.M. and is located on 7 Quaboag Street. Transfer station bags can be purchased at Cumberland Farms or Tip Top Country Store for your convenience. The Board voted at the end of the year to increase a roll of Brookfield Bags from \$12.50 to \$15.00 dollars. We anticipate this will bring an increased sum of \$6,750 dollars back to the town on an annual basis.

The board would also like to thank its dedicated transfer station staff who work through all kinds of weather and sacrifice every Saturday and Tuesday to be on duty at the transfer station. We are grateful for their dedication. Staffing Members are Jim Milner, George Hirtle and Dan Leahy.

Transfer Station Well Tests

The board has a 3 year contract with ECS who have provided service for the last 6 years. Currently we are obligated to have quarterly and bi-annual well tests and gas probes on the landfill cap. This year we increased the Well Tests by \$700 dollars due to a reoccurring test that the DEP mandates.

Local Condemnation Orders

The Board made a recommendation to condemn and tear down 3 houses in 2017 that have been abandoned and destroyed by fire. The houses are 30 Kimball Street, 4 South Maple Street and an abandoned structure on Limerick Ave. The Town voted to commit \$9,000 dollars to raze these buildings. The Highway Department has graciously agreed to

Remove these buildings to help the town save a significant sum of money as opposed to hiring a contractor.

Sanitary Code Inspections

The board and our inspector Lee Jarvis conducted all necessary sanitary code inspections. All were resolved to the board's satisfaction.

Nuisance Complaints-7

Nuisance enforcement letters-7

Nuisance re-inspections-4

Foodservice Inspections-16

Retail Food Inspections-11
Residential Kitchen Inspections-4
Food Pantry Inspections-2
Mobile Food inspection-1
Special Event Inspections-3
Housing Inspections-8
Housing Re-inspections-1
Housing enforcement letters-8
Attend BOH meeting-1

Board of Health Permits

The board received \$4,200.00 in permit fees. Permits issued by the Board of Health include Food Establishments, Title V Installers, Septic Haulers, Funeral Home Directors, and Trash Haulers. The board also collects pad fees on a monthly basis from our Mobile Home Parks and turns them over to the tax collector that sum was for \$41,760.00.

Flu Clinics and Community Health Program

The board held one flu clinic in October this year. It went very well, 39 citizens attended and received flu vaccines. Notice was published along with an automated phone call through our Blackboard Connect service to reach as many residents as possible that our town offers this vital service. Cheryl Rawinski of Sutton is our Community Health Coordinator and has saved our town a significant sum of money.

Title V Septic Systems

The board responded to several complaints of failed septic systems this year. All have been resolved to the boards' satisfaction.

South Pond

The South Pond Beach was used for fishing and swimming. Fishing on the beach was restricted during the swimming season.

North Pond

North Pond again had sporadic Algae blooms. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health was notified and will take action when necessary in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel F. Leahy-Chairman
Michael P. Seery-Vice Chairman
Ronald Wassmer
Lani Criasia-Secretary

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS

Single Family Dwelling	6
Sheds	1
Additions	5
Roofing	20
Garages	3
Windows/Siding	12
Renovations/Remodeling	18
Stoves/Pellet/Wood	9
Pools/In gr/ Above gr	2
Signs	0
Decks	4
Demolition	0
Barns	1
Storage Buildings	0
Temp Mobile Home for fire	0
Fence	0
Co-Locator/ Cell tower	0
Weatherization/insulation	3
Sheet Metal	1
Solar Residential	10
Police Station	0
Treatment Plant	0



TOTAL 95

Total permit income	\$20,570.00
Estimated value on permits	\$3,408,547.02

Respectfully Submitted,

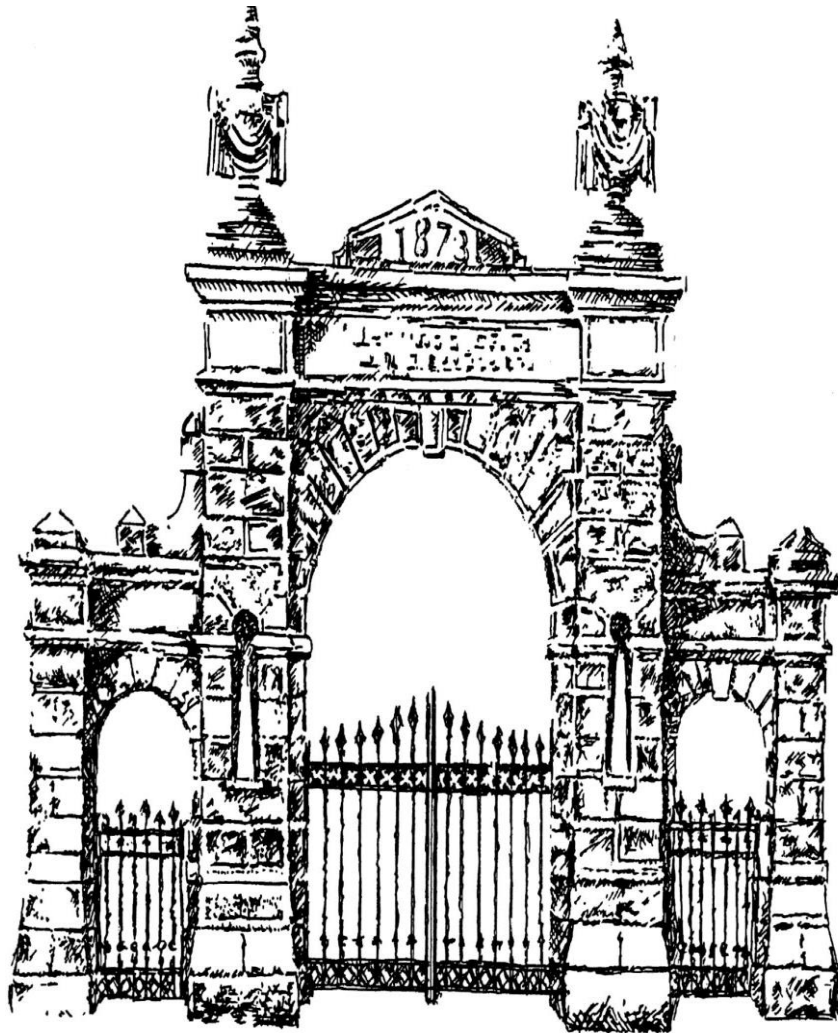
Jeff Taylor, CBO, Inspector of Buildings

REPORT OF THE CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS

The elected Cemetery Commissioners and the Superintendent of the historic Brookfield Cemetery provide this annual town report with pride. The internments of loved ones, the general grounds keeping and maintenance, as well as the continued preservation efforts in the cemetery, were all done with care.

During the past year, 16 people were interred to the Brookfield Cemetery. We extend our condolences to those family members and friends who have lost loved ones. The cemetery received \$5,200.00 in burial fees and \$1,200.00 in sale of lot fees. The non-expendable balance for the perpetual care fund is \$137,659.46, and the expendable balance is \$18,952.54. The total balance is \$156,612.00.

The Commissioners would like to thank Highway Superintendent Herb Chafee, Donald Herbert and Bruce Clarke for their help with grave openings and picking up and delivering material and plowing in the winter.



Jeppson Grant & Urban Forestry

The balance for the Jeppson Grant is \$5,101.46. The balance for the Urban Forestry Grant is \$6,200.00.

Cemetery Preservation

The preservation fund is active, and donations or memorial contributions in the memory of loved ones can be put towards the fund. Please consider making a donation in any amount. The current amount in the Preservation account is \$46,533.83

Cemetery Garage

In September the Tantasqua Carpentry Division students led by Instructors Keith Mero and Don Garfield built the new Cemetery Garage addition. We are grateful for their hard work and dedication. The town saved a significant amount of money by having this project built by the students. By December most all of the project was completed and we look forward to many years of use for this extra space that this building gives us.

Cemetery Commissioners

Bill Pratt was elected to a 3 year term in May.

Rules and Regulations

Please note that specific rules and regulations set by the Commissioners and voted by the townspeople have been in place for several years. Lot purchase in the Brookfield Cemetery is limited to former and current Brookfield residents only who have resided in town a minimum of 5 years. Also, there is a type and size limit for memorial gravestones and markers that are allowed. The planting of shrubs around gravestones must be approved by the commissioners or superintendent. The planting of any tree other than a small type shrub around a gravestone is prohibited. The Cemetery Commissioners reserve the right to remove any overgrown shrubs around gravestones. Remember to remove any flowers not in season, including artificial plants, and to maintain decorations.

For grave lot prices, detailed Rules and Regulations and general information, please call our Cemetery Superintendent Michael P. Seery at 508-867-5500 or 508-867-2930 X 12. Mike can also be reached at mseery@brookfieldma.us this information is also available online from the town's website: www.brookfieldma.us. Just click on Cemetery commission for a link within the site. As always, please respect this historic hallowed ground when visiting the cemetery.

Respectfully submitted,
Emery Manning Jr. Chairman
Edwin Foley
William Pratt
Michael P. Seery-Superintendent

**REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The purpose of this committee, which is appointed annually by the Board of Selectmen, is to apply for Community Development Block Grants that would be beneficial to the Town of Brookfield. As part of the competitive CDBG application process we help to gather information, select projects, and hold public meetings during the application period. If a grant is awarded, the Committee generally serves as the steering body for grant-funded projects, including procurement of consultants and contractors, project oversight, and public interaction.

2017 was a busy year for the Committee. Activities under the FY 2015 CDBG award (joint with Warren and North Brookfield) were finalized, including the last unit of housing rehabilitation assistance, and the Senior Center planning project. Early in the year Brookfield applied for its own FY 2017 Block Grant of nearly \$364,000 and over the summer the grant was awarded. These funds will be used to complete an ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan for the town, to complete environmental assessment work at the former service station at 15 Post Road, to design a Senior Center space in the lower level of Town Hall, and to design infrastructure (drainage, water, road, etc.) improvements in two neighborhoods near the Town Center. Late in the year, we began preparations for a 2018 CDBG application that is expected to request funds to begin implementing some of the activities being planned and designed in the 2017 grant.

Also this year, the Town transitioned to working with the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) to help us seek and administer CDBG funds. Future housing rehabilitation activities will continue to be coordinated through CMRPC's partners at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission in Springfield.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Clarke, Chairman
Lucinda Thompson
Mary Lou Knight
Bethany Roberts
William Simpson

REPORT OF THE CONSTABLES

All warrants were posted as directed with no returns made at no cost to the Town. Constable service was provided for all elections held at the Brookfield Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,
Richard Lapierre-Elected Bruce W. Gadaire-Elected Arthur Tatro-Appointed

REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Brookfield Conservation Commission meets every 3rd Tuesday of each month. Working closely with the Massachusetts Department of Environment Protection (MassDEP), the Conservation Commission is the official agency specifically charged with the protection of our community's natural resources.

The Commission also advises other municipal officials and boards on conservation issues that relate to their areas of responsibility. In Massachusetts, Conservation Commissions' authority comes from several sources: the Conservation Commission Act (MGL Chapter 40 section 8C) for open space protection; the Wetlands Protection Act (MGL Chapter 131 section 40) for protecting wetlands and waterways; and the home rule provisions of the state constitution for non-zoning wetlands bylaws.

The Conservation Commission had another busy year. The Commission also held site visits for every Wetlands form or correspondence that we received. The Conservation held two public hearings and received four Requests for Determination and four Notices of Intent. We are looking forward to renewing two Order of Conditions for three properties in town.

Brookfield Conservation Commission is a standing member of the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC). Our dues for membership in MACC continue to be paid.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Cleveland, Chairman
Michael LaRocca, Member; Michael Dean, Member
Lisa Barkoskie, Secretary



REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING

The Brookfield Council on Aging works to support the health and well being of Brookfield Seniors. We promote needed and available services through programs which educate them on how to maintain good health through regular Tai Chi classes, and a monthly Foot Clinic through a monthly podiatrist as well as a Medi car for seniors needing transportation for doctor's appointments.

Brookfield Seniors meet on the second Tuesday of the month at the Brookfield Congregational Church. A variety of programs are also offered for socialization and entertainment through which the Council is fortunate to obtain State and municipal grants. One of our programs included a visit by the Second Chance Dog rescue, with visiting dogs and an informational talk about how the dogs are obtained, fed, and cared for. We have parties to celebrate Valentine's Day, pizza and games, as well as an Ice Cream Social. We also invite Town services to talk to our Seniors such as our Town Assessor and our Fire Department that offers needed health and rescue items for Seniors in emergencies.

Seniors also played Bingo a number of times, made wreaths and Christmas Centerpieces with Tina Bemis as well as a catered Christmas Dinner in December.

Since many of our Seniors have looked forward to their own Senior Center, we still look forward to the opportunity someday. A number of our Seniors do attend the West Brookfield Senior Center as Brookfield does not yet have the ability to offer their variety.

Respectfully submitted: Barbara Clancy, Chair, Rikki LaMonda, Bethany Roberts, Sally Brown, Mary Falardeau Council on Aging Members



REPORT OF THE CULTURAL COUNCIL

The mission of the Brookfield Cultural Council is to promote excellence, access, education and diversity in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences in order to improve the quality of life for Brookfield residents and to contribute to the economic vitality of our community.

Funding for grants and events was obtained from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the Town of Brookfield, sales of Brookfield tee shirts, apple pies, popcorn and ‘Cat’s Meows’.

The members of the Brookfield Cultural Council maintained “streamlined” status with the Massachusetts Cultural Council. All members of the Brookfield Cultural Council have completed on-line basics training with the Massachusetts Cultural Council

The Brookfield Cultural Council with the Massachusetts Cultural Council fully or partially funded the following:

- Elementary School: Worcester Art Museum Trip , Exploring and Engaging in the Arts and “Music in the Parks”
- Council on Aging: “Heroic Women”
- Group drumming circle with Tim Kane.
- Henry the Juggler.
- Beautification of the Brookfield Common with the Brookfield Garden Club.
- “Blues Brothers Briefcase”

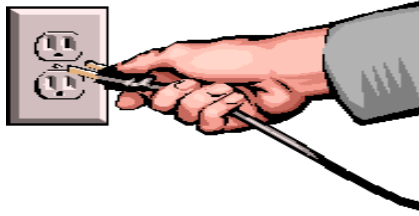
In addition to the LCC grants, the Brookfield Cultural Council:

- Joined with the Friends of the Brookfield Town Hall for a third “Not in the Brookfield Town Hall Variety Show”.
- Purchased and installed U. S. flags and wreaths. Organized Brookfield’s Memorial Day ceremonies.
- Cleaned, painted and decorated the Town Common gazebo. New roof on gazebo.
- Organized ‘Friday Evening Concerts on the Common’, with baking contests, concessions, apple pies and popcorn.
- Held the 10th ‘Pumpkinfest’ Pumpkin Carving Contest on the Common, with music by “Doolin’ Lads.
- Organized the 20th annual ‘Brookfield Holiday House Decorating Contest’.
- Sponsored third “Theater and Art in the Park”.
- Welcomed Santa to Brookfield with the Tree Lighting on the Common.
- Had the Town Hall piano tuned.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Simpson, Jeanne Lytle, Janet Frykenberg, Madelyn Swanson, Kathy Landry,
Barbara Wilson and Damien Sargent

REPORT OF THE ELECTRICAL (WIRING) INSPECTOR



Town of Brookfield
Building Department
Inspector of Wires
6 Central Street Brookfield, MA, 01506
508-867-2930 ext. 20 fax 508-867-5091

- 4 NEW SINGLE FAMILY HOMES
- 5 SERVICE UPGRADES UP TO 200 AMPS
- 1 TEMPORARY SERVICE
- 2 ADDITIONS
- 7 REMODEL , REWIRE
- 3 GARAGE or BARNs
- 9 COMMERCIAL PROJECTS
- 9 MISCELLANEOUS WIRING (SINGLE CIRCUITS)
- 3 GENERATORS
- 1 HOT TUB
- 1 INGROUND POOLS
- 6 A/C UNITS
- 2 SECURITY SYSTEMS
- 1 VIDEO SERVANANCE SYSTEMS
- 3 BOILER OR FURNACES
- 25 RESIDENTIAL SOLAR ARRAY; PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM

If you had an Electrical Contractor, an Electrician, or even a Handyman perform Electrical Work of any type at your home and you did not see an Electrical Inspector Please contact me immediately.

Your Family's Safety is our First Concern

Scot Mansfield, Inspector of Wires

REPORT OF THE BROOKFIELD EMERGENCY SQUAD



Our ambulance squad is a Paramedic level Emergency Medical Service (EMS) available for calls 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The squad consists of 14 members; 6 Paramedics, 1 intermediate, and 7 EMT Basics.

Our staff represents 200 years of service to Brookfield EMS. We are overseen and certified by the Massachusetts State Department of Public Health.

We continue to operate our 2008 Horton/GMC ambulance, but wear and tear is taking their toll. The plan is to look at replacement in 2019. The expected replacement costs, coupled with new requirements and improved technology in the field of stretcher loading and mounting will result in a significant investment in a new ambulance.

Our staff consists of one full time Paramedic/Firefighter that does various EMS and Fire department jobs while he is on duty Monday through Friday. The rest of our staff is considered "on call". The on-call EMT's carry a two way radio and are alerted for calls from home or work. Beyond this, members spend many hours of their own time working for the upkeep and improvement of our service, as well as their own training.

Coverage was provided during the Apple Country fair, Halloween activities, and the Memorial Day observances.

The ambulance responded to 547 calls.

Advanced Life Support - 247

Medical Calls - 295

Trauma - 44

Fire standby - 10

Police Standby - 8

Refusal, assistance or cancelled - 160

Mutual Aid to other towns - 142.

Brookfield EMS is grateful to everyone who has supported us in our efforts to provide quality emergency medical care to our town. We extend a special thank-you to the

police, fire, and highway departments, and the families, friends, and neighbors of our patients who help us in many ways.

“Neighbor Helping Neighbor” is truly the motto of our ambulance service.

The Emergency Squad has free “File of Life” magnetic packets available to store your medical and emergency information. This “file” is kept on your refrigerator and would be used in case you are unable to give the EMT’s your information in an emergency. Just call 508-867-6036 for your copy.

PLEASE, NUMBER YOUR HOUSE SO IT IS VISIBLE FROM THE STREET. PRECIOUS MINUTES CAN BE LOST WITH MISSING OR INCORRECT NUMBERS.

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna M. Lafleur, Paramedic, Chief
Brookfield Emergency Squad

REPORT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Public preparedness education continued. We always urge people to look at what can disrupt their lives, as well as previous incidents and disruptions, and prepare themselves and their families. Communications, heat, displacement, food, water, and medical preparedness are just some of the areas people should look at. We will always be happy to provide people with information and guidance.

Maintenance was performed as needed on the support trailer, the snowblower that is used around the public safety compound. The Fire Department performed monthly checks on the two facility generators located within the fire station.

We applied for, received, and executed a grant from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) that provided items to various public safety agencies.

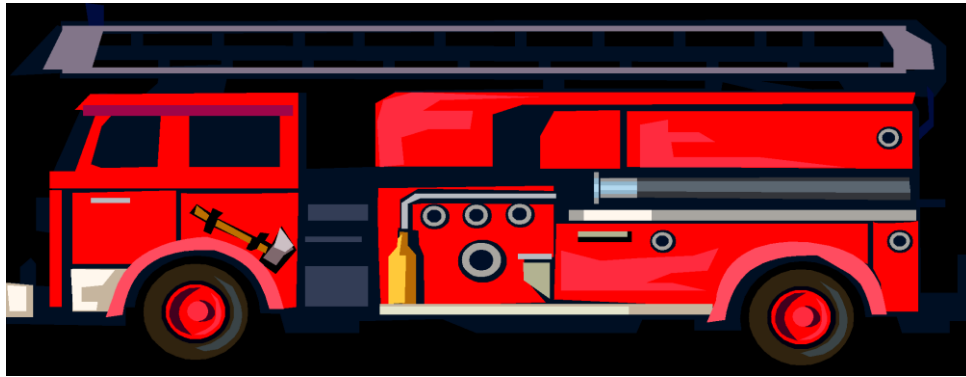
Brookfield continues to maintain the Blackboard Connect reverse 9-1-1 system in order to have timely public notifications.

As needed during threatening weather, we stayed in communication with other Brookfield public safety agencies. Advisories from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency were distributed to partner agencies.

Director Keith Karmann recommended that I be named Director and that he be appointed Deputy Director. The Board of Selectmen took this action in November of 2017. While still involved, I would like to thank Keith for his leadership of this agency over the years.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Martell, Director

REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT



2017 was another busy year for the members of the fire department with incident responses, continuous training, fire prevention, code enforcement, and the maintenance of department vehicles, equipment, & facilities.

In 2017 the department responded to one hundred and eighteen incidents, a slight decrease from last year. The breakdown of the types of incidents that we responded to is provided below.

Structure Fires – 2	Brush/Outside Fires – 6	Fire Alarm Activations – 11
Vehicle Fires – 2	Utility Problems – 3	Motor Vehicle Accidents - 28
Rescues – 4	False Alarms – 13	Medical Assists – 11
HazMat Incident – 2	Investigations – 15	Carbon Monoxide Alarms – 9

Mutual Aid was provided to other towns 13 times. Mutual Aid was called in to assist us at incidents in town 2 times.

Department personnel spent 1,737.5 hours preparing themselves for responses by training on topics such as firefighting skills & tactics, motor pump operation, fire prevention, emergency vehicle operation, fire & life safety education, and incident command just to name a few. Training was done in house by department instructors & officers, and off site by the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, the National Fire Academy in Emmetsburg Maryland, and other regional resources.

Personnel spent eighty-five hours maintaining department assets. Much of this was done by members volunteering their time to the town. The stairwell and rear corridor of the station was repainted. Much remains to be done in order to keep our facility in proper serviceable condition. Roof repairs and electrical upgrades are being planned for the upcoming year.

The department continued to enforce the Commonwealth's comprehensive fire code by conducting required inspections. This year 13 oil burner/storage inspections were conducted as well as 25 propane storage and 57 smoke detector/carbon monoxide detector inspections. The elementary school was inspected 4 times and evacuation drills were conducted. 343 open burning permits were issued.

One hundred sixty-two hours were spent on fire prevention activities. Personnel presented multiple fire safety lessons at the Elementary School, staffed the station for an open house Columbus Day weekend, and held other informational events. Personnel also conducted home fire safety visits to older citizens in Brookfield. During these visits

older citizens were given fire safety literature and were presented with important fire & life safety information. House numbers, key vaults, smoke detectors, and carbon monoxide detectors were installed free of charge, and batteries were replaced in existing detectors. This was all done utilizing grant money awarded to the department by the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services.

Annual town meeting provided funding to replace SCBA air cylinders and firefighter protective clothing. Unfortunately, town meeting did not take action on further vehicle replacement, necessary building upgrades, or the purchase of a thermal imager. Funding was also made available to compensate our personnel for the time spent providing emergency response to the community.

Grant money was received from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation to purchase equipment to improve our brush firefighting capabilities. We were denied grant money from the Federal Emergency Management Agency that would have allowed us to replace the 1987 Ford/Grumman fire engine.

The department remains involved with Massachusetts Fire District Seven, the Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts, and the Massachusetts Call/Volunteer Firefighters Association.

A 2017 Ford Expedition replaced the 1999 Crown Victoria as Squad Two. The 1986 GMC Sierra forestry truck underwent additional repairs to keep it in service. It has been removed from service multiple times over the past several years for repair work. This vehicle should be replaced in the very near future. Engine One and Engine Three are both over thirty years old. These vehicles have long surpassed their useful service lives of twenty years per industry standard. An effort should be made for the better planning to address the replacement of our aging fleet and other capital needs. Our newest fire engine, the 2007 Spartan/Crimson rescue pumper continues to serve us well. The remainder of the fleet remains in good working condition due to the diligence of our members.

The department has been taking advantage of technology to streamline information management. Web-based software allows us to create and electronically submit fire reports to state and national databases, document & track training, track inventory & maintenance, update personnel files, and create customized digital maps for emergency response purposes. Personnel receive dispatch information and indicate if they are responding with the touch of a button on a cell phone. The department maintains a website (www.brookfieldfd.com) and a Facebook page to provide information about the department to the community.

We said good bye to Captain Keith Karmann who retired from the department after twenty-five years of service. We were fortunate to add five additional firefighters to our ranks in 2017. John Rose, Aaron Rice, Jay Haley, Micah Laird, Matthew Langevin, Lucas Quattrocelli are valuable additions to a department that is always looking for additional personnel.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter E. Martell, Fire Chief

REPORT OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT



Bridges

Dunn Brook Bridge on Quaboag St.

History- the Dunn Brook Bridge was built in 1961. The bridge has a concrete deck set on wooden piles. The wooden piles had a considerable amount of decay. On July 26, 2016 the town was notified via certified mail from MassDot of the need to close the bridge. The selectmen subsequently hired Collins Engineers from Dedham, MA to provide the necessary design and construction plans to erect precast or cast-in-place support foundations for a proposed temporary bridge. The bridge was opened temporarily as a single lane bridge. Following further investigation it was decided to repair the existing bridge and not install a temporary bridge.

Bids for repairs to the existing bridge were opened by the selectmen on July 11, 2017.

The two bidders were Northern Construction Service from Weymouth with a bid of \$271,000.00 and New England Infrastructure from Hudson with a bid of \$332,200.00. Both bids were much higher than we had expected. The bid was subsequently awarded to Northern Construction. Work began on the bridge in early September and was completed by September 30, 2017

Lake Road Bridge – repairs were made on the bridge at Sawmill Pond (Lake Rd. where the big yellow barrels were located.)The department repaired one of the support beams for the bridge following a plan developed by MassDot a high strength epoxy and repair plates were used to repair the deteriorated beam, webs and flanges on the bridge.

Rice Corner Cross Road Culvert

The department applied for and was awarded a grant not to exceed \$25,000 for an engineering study of the 60” culvert which crosses Rice Corner Cross Rd. The grant included the following tasks: Geotechnical Evaluation (subsurface investigations, soil analysis & borings.), site reconnaissance & resource delineation, survey of the stream crossings, hydrologic/hydraulic studies (determine existing hydrology of each site as necessary to inform design.) Recommendation of structure type & cost estimate and a technical report. Information received from this study was used to apply for a second grant to replace this deteriorating culvert. We were fortunate enough to be awarded a second grant from Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration in the amount of \$70,230.00. This money will be used to pay for the engineering costs to design a replacement for this 60” culvert which has decayed substantially. The new culvert must comply with the Massachusetts Stream Crossing Standards.

Innovation

Brookfield Highway’s Sidewalk Sander was a featured exhibit in the Innovative Solutions Showcase at the MassDot Innovation & Tech Transfer Exchange held March 7 & 8 at the DCU Center in Worcester. The department retrofitted a tow behind sidewalk sander for use with the Wacker loader in sanding sidewalks. MassDot felt that this type of hometown innovation was exactly what they needed so we were invited to participate.

The Highway Department received a donated 1984 Ford (former fire truck) from the town of Wales which they have retrofitted to a catch basin truck. New catch basin trucks cost approximately \$200,000. The crane & retrofitting of the truck cost approximately \$10,000 to date.

Decommissioned Trucks & Equipment

The department was quite successful in selling our trucks through the online auction site “Municibid.”

The 1980 Mack cab & chassis which had 116,701 miles and some serious frame issues & a motor which is no longer manufactured sold for \$2,750.00.

The 1977 Mack dump truck which had 626,207 miles sold for \$3,100.00.

The 1997 Ford One Ton Truck with platform body and snow plow which had frame issues sold for \$4,900.00

1991 Mack

By the time a dump truck is twenty –six years old it has passed the prime of its life and frequently develops some condition issues. In the case of our 1991 Mack ten wheeler which is an integral part of the Highway Department fleet these issues were affecting the dump body. The alternatives for the truck were not attractive. We could purchase a new truck at a cost of approximately \$200,000. We could purchase a new dump body separate from the truck which would cost approximately \$35,000 or we could do what any frugal New England small town highway department would do and rebuild the body. Annual Town Meeting vote in 2016 appropriated \$4,700 to repair the dump body. Donald Herbert took the lead on the project spending weeks disassembling, cutting apart, with a torch and then rebuilding the dump body. This work also involved removing the 10,000 lb. 12’ x 8’ x 5’ body from the truck and setting it on Jersey Barriers in the garage. When the renovations were complete this same body now minus a few pounds of rust had to be picked up and put back on the truck. Thanks to East Brookfield Highway for helping us with this task. All the holes and pins had to line up perfectly. We estimate the total job took approximately 137 man hours @ an average rate of \$21.71. Total cost to the town was approximately \$8,000.

Equipment Acquisitions

2017 John Deere Loader

The department purchased a new John Deere loader using a three year lease purchase agreement through Chapter 90. The total purchase price was \$ 193,948.00 with 3 annual payments of \$61,316.00 and a \$10,000 trade in allowance for the 1995 Dresser loader which was traded in as a part of this purchase agreement.

2017 Ford One Ton

The department also purchased a 2017 Ford F450 cab & chassis to replace the 1997 Ford One Ton. The platform dump body for the truck was purchased separately and the department spent considerable time retrofitting this body.

Crack Seal & Microsurfacing

During the month of September the department worked with Sealcoating Inc. to crack seal & micro-surface the following roads: River St., Common St., Central St., Lower River St., Howard St., Lincoln St., Lincoln St. Ext., Sherman St. and Pleasant St

Retirement

Bruce Clarke has officially retired as Water Superintendent. We wish him a long, happy, healthy retirement. Bruce has been a huge asset to this department and town. We miss his willingness to help out with repairs, his ability to operate any of the machinery and his great ability as a wordsmith on grant applications.

In closing I would like to thank all the other town departments for their assistance and cooperation. I would also like to thank the staff at the Highway Department.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbert A. Chaffee II
Highway Superintendent
Donald Herbert

Michael Duval

Lucinda Thompson

REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

In 2017, the Historical Commission welcomed Emery Manning as our newest member. The BHC has instituted an attendance policy. If a member misses more than five consecutive



meetings, that name will be forwarded to the selectmen for removal so that we can appoint new people who want to work with the Board on our projects.

The BHC continues to work with the Board of Selectmen to determine the next phase of the Adena connected campground project. The archeological survey has been completed.

The BHC is getting involved with Preservation Massachusetts. We attended one seminar in Worcester and the annual conference in Lowell to learn about grants for preservation projects and

setting up local historic districts.

The BHC did not give a Preservation Award this year. We will spend time in 2018 researching worthy recipients, based on the preservation efforts on their properties to the Town.

In June the BHC once again cleaned older gravestones in the Brookfield Cemetery. This is an annual event and we invite interested residents to join us.

Kermit Eaton has developed a list of all historical properties in Town and has asked the BHC to choose a few to maintain on a yearly basis. It is so important to preserve our past for future generations.

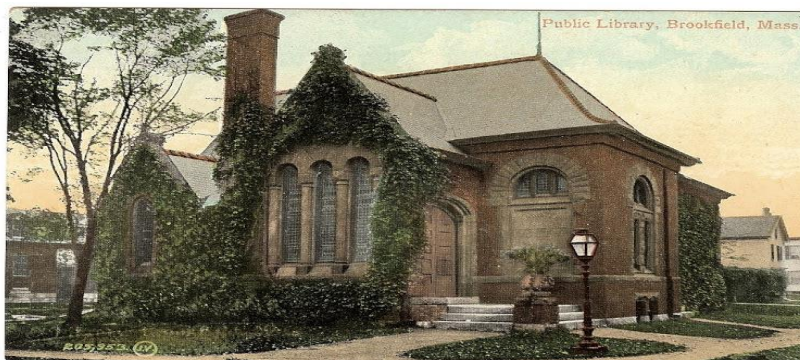
Ronald Couture, advisor to the BHC, has developed a fourth booklet in the Brookfield Heritage Series entitled "Brookfield Common National Historic District – A Walking Guide."

This 32 page booklet is a guide to the Architectural Highlights of the National Historic District. The booklets are free and are available at the Merrick Public Library or through members of the Brookfield Historical Commission.

The Commission continues to urge preservation in all that we do.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Plumb, Chairman. Lois O'leary, Don Clowes, Thomas Morse, Michael Metz, Dina Leduke and Emery Manning.



REPORT OF THE MERRICK PUBLIC LIBRARY

TRUSTEES:

Sally Brown, Chair 2019
Barbara Clancy, Secretary, 2020
Matthew Bansfield, 2018
Jeanne Eaton, 2020
Carol Plumb, 2018
Barbara Steadman, 2019

STAFF:

Brenda Metterville, Library Director
Julia Taylor, Sr. Library Assistant
Andrea Faugno, Library Assistant
Holly Simpson, Library Assistant
Kate Simpson, Library Assistant
Carrie VonHold, Library Assistant
Joan Sagendorph, Library Substitute
Michelle Taylor, Library Substitute
Arthur Putnam, Custodian

The Merrick Public Library was established in 1867 by Mr. Pliny Merrick with his large collection of books and \$10,000 Merrick Trust Fund. In 1883, Mrs. Nancy Felton donated the land on the corner of Lincoln Street and Common Street to the town for the purpose of building a library. Mr. William A. Banister of New York donated \$10,000 in 1883, with the provision of naming the building Banister Memorial Hall. By January 1884 the building was built and dedicated. The trustees and staff continue to maintain the historic integrity of the library while offering modern conveniences.

The library houses more than 25,000 volumes, including new releases, hardcovers, paperbacks, books on CD, DVDs, Wii and X-Box games, and magazines. Our collections range from board books for infants to books for elementary schoolers and teens, and a wide-ranging adult assortment of fiction and nonfiction. As we purchase new items, we have an ebb and flow of the collection. We are constantly evaluating materials for popularity, for wear and tear, and moving classics to the upstairs gallery, or discarding. Our discarded materials are sent to the Brookfield Transfer Station for public access at the Take-it-or-Leave-it.

We are a card-distributing member of C/W Mars and patrons may use their cards at most libraries in central and western Massachusetts as well as for ordering materials online. C/W Mars has a large amount of material available for e-readers—Kindles, Nooks, iPad, etc. The new library app *Libby* will allow multiple library cards to be added including an easy to get Boston Public Library e-card. Borrowed e-books/e-audios may be read through this app for easier access. The staff of the library provide free training to patrons on how to use devices and on downloading from the C/W Mars website. We provide wireless Internet access and free computer use. As a courtesy we offer free paperbacks, puzzles, and magazines, located in the foyer.

Hailey Smith of Spencer, a student attending MCLA, has completed her second summer painting character murals in the children's room and in the juvenile section of the Gallery. With suggestions from the staff of the library she also created a nature painting in remembrance of John O'Leary, who passed away in December 2016 at the age of 70. This memorial was funded by the donations to the Friends of the Library in memory of John.

This year we upgraded the wiring on all the hanging lights and replaced the piping for the plumbing with new copper. The ramp door has been made ADA compliant, the molding repaired and the rear basement door replaced.

The library has completed scanning the historic weekly local newspapers on microfilm to an external hard drive which has optical character recognition (OCR) through PDF files. The newspapers scanned are the *Brookfield*

Times, Spencer Leader, and County Courier from 1872 to 1953 and are completely searchable with printing abilities.

The library's local history collection contains the Robert Wilder Collection of historic books, notes, and files. The Friends of the Quabbin donated through a grant the archival file boxes to house Mr. Wilder's files and notes. These papers are all available for public perusal, along with Mr. Wilder's maps. We maintain Mr. Wilder's map collection and it sees much use from visiting historians. The maps are also available online at www.robertwildermaps.com.

The historic image archive is growing with donations of Brookfield images from the past. Another important site for research of the Quaboag Plantation is www.brookfieldsresearch.com; this site is being built by Dan Hamilton of West Brookfield along with historians from the surrounding communities. We invite the community to spend time with these materials and thank those who are freely sharing.

The Friends of the Library continue to be a valuable financial support system outside the scope of our budget. Funding is provided for programs such as the annual babysitting class, summer reading programs, snacks for our music story time, scholarships for graduating Brookfield students, and more. The Friends provide a year-round book sale (\$1.00 each) in the foyer of the library. Their main fundraiser is the Silent Auction every May. Donations may be sent to: Friends of the Library, P.O. Box 528, Brookfield, MA 01506.

The library and the Brookfield Elementary School held a joint summer reading program: students who completed the summer reading chart could receive rewards from both the library and the school. A grant received from the Jeppson Memorial Fund for Brookfield, Greater Worcester Community Foundation provided pre-school children and their parents/caregivers a school year of Ms. Renée and her music therapy and songs with stories. The library has funded three passes to the Springfield Museums.

We are delighted to be the recipient of birthday party books: parents ask guests of their children's birthday parties to donate books to the library in lieu of gifts (we are happy to supply a wish list). We install a bookplate in these donations in honor of the child. We also receive books several times a year from family members in memory of a relative who has passed away. We are grateful for the community spirit in all these kindnesses.

We are a drop-off point for food and toiletries (food pantry), soda can tabs (Rainbow girls), eye glasses and hearing aids (Lions Club), new toys (Toys for JOY), printer cartridges and Box Tops (elementary school).

The library hours are Tuesday and Thursday 1:00 to 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and Friday 11:00 to 5:00 p.m., and Saturday 10:00 to 1:00 p.m. We are closed Sunday, Monday, and holidays. Contact us by telephone (508-867-6339) or e-mail (brookfieldlibrary@gmail.com), or visit us at our websites: www.merrickpubliclibrary.org (maintained by Phil Mailloux) and www.merrickpubliclibrary.blogspot.com and follow us on Twitter (@MerrickPL) and Facebook (Brookfield Merrick Public Library. Free services for all include receiving and sending faxes (508-867-2981), photocopying, printing, and Notary Public. Items available to borrow include slide projector and screen, puppet theater, Wii, reading aids, and book magnifier.



Town of Brookfield, Massachusetts
IN MEMORY OF VETERANS OF ALL WARS
Memorial Day Parade, Monday, May 29, 2017

Again is a grateful nation called to refresh the memory of her fallen sons and daughters. The veterans of the republic come once more to reverently call the roll of the "mustered out" and strew with wreaths and flowers their honored graves.

Memorial Day calls upon a united nation to appropriately mark the last resting place of our sons and daughters who saw service while following the flag in times of war. Fellow citizens, Comrades of any military organization, all Comrades of the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force or returned Comrades of the same, Veterans of all wars, all Service Men and Women, Town of Brookfield Police, Firefighters, First Responders, Civil Defense, Emergency Medical Technicians, Sons of the American Legion and V.F.W., Scouts, 4-H Youths, Recreation Teams, Students and Parade Units are earnestly invited to join us in a proper observance of this day.

In Memoriam

Virginia D. Brennan	Army	Vietnam
John MacDougall	Navy	WWII
Lorenzo Forgit	Marines	WWII
Richard Finney	Army Nat'l Guard	
Robert Woodbury	Navy	
Ronald Olson	Navy	

Program from 2017:

**Town of Brookfield, Massachusetts
IN MEMORY OF VETERANS OF ALL WARS
Memorial Day Parade, Monday, May 29, 2017**

**PROGRAM AT SOLDIERS' MONUMENT
BROOKFIELD CEMETERY**

Assembly 10:30 a. m.

Pledge of Allegiance	Selectboard
National Anthem	
Prayer	Pastor John Condon
Selection	Quaboag Highlanders
Gettysburg Address	Michael Tamburri
Selection	Tantasqua Marching Band
"In Flanders Fields"	Damien Sargent
Selection	Quaboag Highlanders
Salute to the Dead	
In Memory	
Firing Detail	Brookfield Police
Taps	Tantasqua Marching Band
National Anthem / Raising of the Flag	
Dismissal	Selectboard

**PROGRAM AT SOLDIER'S MONUMENT
BROOKFIELD TOWN COMMON**

Assembly 11:30 a. m.

Pledge of Allegiance	Selectboard
Prayer	Pastor John Condon
Selection	Quaboag Highlanders
Gettysburg Address	
Selection	THS
"In Flanders Fields"	Jackson Landine
Selection	Quaboag Highlanders
Salute to the Dead	
In Memory	
Firing Detail	Brookfield Police
Taps	THS
National Anthem / Raising of the Flag	
Dismissal	Selectboard

Disband and Refreshments on Town Common, noon.

REPORT OF THE TOWN MODERATOR

The moderator presided at the annual town meeting, June 9, and at a special town meeting, also June 9, during 2017. This was the first time in a number of years that only one date was needed to conduct all of the meetings for the year.

The meetings were conducted according to parliamentary procedure as provided for by town bylaws, state laws, and Town Meeting Time, A Handbook of Parliamentary Law, 3rd Edition, published by the Massachusetts Moderators Association.

The moderator wishes to thank all those citizens who volunteer to be counters for the meetings and the residents that take the time to attend the meetings.

The moderator is a member of the Massachusetts Moderators Association.

Respectfully,

Donald Faugno, Moderator



REPORT OF THE PERSONNEL BOARD

In 2017 the Personnel Board completed an application for a grant through the Community Compact for a Position Classification and Compensation Study and a review of Human Resources Organization and Policy. The Town of Brookfield subsequently received a grant of \$30,000 for these studies.

The Personnel Board recommended that the Board of Selectmen contract with the Collins Center for Public Management, University of Massachusetts in Boston to conduct the studies. Representatives from the Collins center will meet with Brookfield employees in February 2018 to begin the project and expect to complete the studies by mid-year.

We are continuing to sign wage authorizations and updating job descriptions for all town positions.

The Personnel Board would like to thank all Department Heads for their cooperation in our efforts to ensure that every position in the Town of Brookfield has a current job description.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Lincoln, Chairman; Mary Lou Knight, Clerk, Member; Holly Chisholm, Member; Doug Ford, Member; Cindy Thompson, Member





REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD

In 2017 the Planning Board met thirteen times and acted on a variety of land use issues, including approval of two new or revised lots on existing roads, a Special Permit for a contractor's yard on Quaboag Street, and a Special Permit for a large-scale commercial solar power generation facility on South Maple Street. The Board also voted to formally endorse the Select Board's

"Complete Streets" policy, and responded to a number of inquiries from the public and other town boards and officials regarding zoning bylaws and general land use issues.

In October the Board also unanimously voted to file a Judicial Appeal in Land Court against a decision by the Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals granting a Use Variance for an Auto Sales Business in a Rural Residential District. Concurrent with the appeal, the Board met with the ZBA's applicant, who agreed upon a set of conditions enabling the Planning Board to grant a Special Permit to operate a "Business Office/Home Occupation" instead, with the automobiles in question to be stored and displayed at a separate location within a Business A District. This outcome resulted in all parties withdrawing their respective complaints from Land Court, and prevented a lengthy litigation.

We welcomed back Planning Board member Kevin Erkkila, who was re-elected to the Planning Board for a second five-year term.

The Town of Brookfield is a member of the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission. Sharon Mahoney serves as Brookfield's CMRPC representative, with Kevin Erkkila serving as Alternate. The Board also maintains membership in the American Planning Association.

In May the Board invited CMRPC Community Development Manager Chris Ryan to present a proposal for technical assistance for two tasks: A comprehensive review of existing zoning bylaws for increased readability, functionality, and eliminating ambiguities and contradictions and enable more effective enforcement; and identifying unaddressed land use issues, including those that weren't relevant when the town's zoning bylaws were first adopted in 1988. As part of that process, Ms. Mahoney met with Mr. Ryan and Planning Assistant Eli Goldman, and along with Select Board member Beth Coughlin, discussed zoning's role in the town's physical and economic development, and recommendations in the Master Plan requiring Planning Board action. This discussion resulted in a report on zoning in Brookfield that has been adopted by the Planning Board and will shape our work in the months to come.

We continue to work on ways to facilitate greater communication between the Board and other town committees to more efficiently coordinate and carry out our respective duties, and we are especially grateful to Building Inspector Jeffrey Taylor, Assessor Al Jones, and Zoning Enforcement Officer Nicholas Thomo for their continuing help in this effort.

Unfortunately, the Board has been unsuccessful in its ongoing search for a new Administrative Clerk, but we plan to continue posting the position in hopes that a suitable candidate will be found in 2018. In the meantime, the Board gratefully acknowledges the willingness of Chair Sharon Mahoney and Clerk Kevin Erkkila to assume the responsibilities of that position until a Clerk can be hired.

As always, the Planning Board is happy to acknowledge the assistance provided by Town Counsel K-P Law, the Brookfield Conservation and Historical Commissions, Consulting Engineer John Scannell, Town Clerk Michael Seery, and the Board of Selectmen in responding to citizen and Planning Board inquiries.

The *Zoning By-law, Subdivision Rules and Regulations, and Rules and Regulations of the Planning Board* are available in hard copy and on CD and can be purchased from the Town Clerk. *The Zoning By-Law* can also be downloaded in PDF form at www.brookfieldma.us.

The Board meets on the first Wednesday of each month in the Town Hall. We expect a very busy year in the months to come, and as always will strive to provide the best possible service and to respond respectfully and efficiently to citizens, business owners, and applicants appearing before us.

Sharon Mahoney, Chair
Maureen Lepak

Kevin I. Erkkila, Clerk
Russell Phaneuf

John David Holdcraft

REPORT OF THE PLUMBING AND GAS INSPECTOR

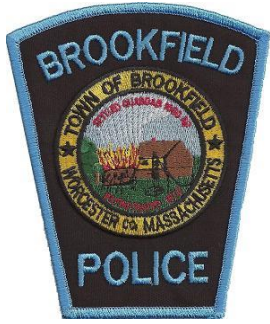


66 – Permits
28 – Plumbing
38 - Gas
62 – Inspections

Respectfully submitted,

Robert F. Wall – Inspector of Plumbing & Gas
James McNeaney – Alternate Inspector

Brookfield Police Department 2017 Annual Report



During 2017, the Brookfield Police Department had a major upgrade to its records management system. This update has been years in the making and has been finally made possibly in part by the efforts of Hardwick Police Lt. Kevin Landine.

Prior to the upgrade, The Brookfield Police Department could only access reports and logs that were generated by the Brookfield Police Department. Since the upgrade, we can now access and view logs and reports from all ten town that use the Regional Dispatch Center in New Braintree. These towns include West Brookfield, East Brookfield, North Brookfield, Hardwick, New Braintree,

Petersham, Holland, Wales and Brimfield.

The upgrade has made for more effective law enforcement as we can now view records from all the area towns and see what type of interactions people we encounter have had with other police departments in the area. It is very beneficial when conducting investigations.

Another benefit of the records management upgrade is that it now gives officers the ability to add a narrative to the police log. Previously, only the dispatcher could do this and now that the officers can also add to the log, it makes for a more accurate police log and gives the officer the ability to make any corrections needed.

The records management upgrade has also given the officers the ability to do reports in their cruisers, which means more time out on the road and less time in the station writing reports. Prior to the upgrade, officers would have to return to the station to enter a report into the computer system. Now with the new upgrade, officers can enter their reports while in their cruiser using the cruiser lap top. This can be done while the officer is sitting on the side of the road monitoring traffic or they can even begin to enter an accident report while on scene waiting for the tow truck to arrive. It definitely allows the officer to spend more time out on the road and less time in the station doing paper work.

In January of 2017, Officer Sean Marino attended the forty-hour sexual assault investigators course and is now certified to conduct sexual assault investigations. The Department now has two sexual assault investigators, Officer Marino and Reserve Officer Serenity Allen, who was already trained prior to joining the Brookfield Police Department

Sgt. Steven Pariseau continued to be a member of the Central Massachusetts Law Enforcement Counsel S.W.A.T team. He attended monthly trainings that include barricaded suspects, crowd control and active shooter incidents.

The Brookfield Police Department remained dedicated to ensuring safety in our schools. The Department has participated in A.L.I.C.E safety drills at both our elementary school and at Tantasqua Regional Junior and Senior High Schools. These drills are conducted with the assistance of other area police departments.

The Brookfield Police Department had an increase in calls for service from the previous year. The total calls for service for 2017 was 4,869 as compared to 3,963 in 2016. The Department had a decrease in arrests in 2017. The total number of arrests in 2017 was 130, as compared to 177 in 2016.

The following is a summary of the activity for 2017:

Medical Calls – 327

Alarm Calls – 103

Motor Vehicle Accidents – 77

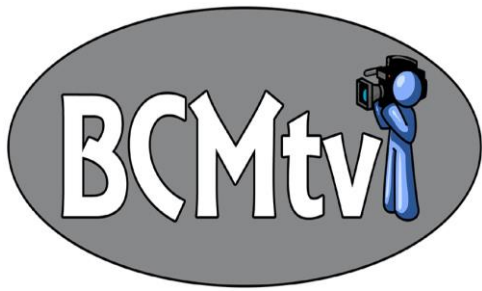
Motor Vehicle Stops -913

Larcenies – 26

Custodial Arrests – 73

Criminal Complaint Summons – 57

Yours in Safety, Chief Michael K. Blanchard



REPORT OF THE BROOKFIELD PUBLIC ACCESS AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

In 2017, despite being currently at three members – down from seven – the Brookfield Public Access and Communications Committee, popularly known as Brookfield Community Media, has continued in its mission of *enabling, empowering and connecting the community*. In all, committee members recorded, uploaded and aired a total of 63 programs in 2017, an average of more than one per week:

Event	Number
Select Board Meetings	34
Advisory Committee Meetings	8
Agricultural Commission Presentations	4
Zoning Board of Appeals Meetings	4
Brookfield Elementary St. Patrick’s Day Luncheon	1
“Meet the Candidates” Night	1
Friends of the Brookfield Town Hall Variety Show	1
Memorial Day Observances	1
Brookfield Elementary School Spring Concerts	2
2017 Special/Annual Town Meeting	1
BES Play: “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory”	1
Brookfield Indivisible Climate Change Workshop	1
Apple Country Fair Public Service Announcement	1
BES Thanksgiving Senior Luncheon Show	1
Brookfield Elementary School Winter Concerts	2

We have also continued the practice, begun in 2014, of posting recorded events to our dedicated channel at YouTube (at www.youtube.com/user/brookfieldmedia), expanding our audience beyond the Town’s cable subscribers to anyone with a computer and/or Internet access. Of these, the most popular videos have been those of Brookfield Elementary School concerts and events. We have discontinued the practice of leaving DVD copies of each program at the Merrick Public Library main desk, but those who without a computer or Internet access at home can view these videos on the Library’s computer equipment instead via the Internet. With the advent of a new and improved official town website, we hope to be able to post our videos there as well to make them easier to find online.

Needless to say, we can always use more volunteers! To that end, the committee, in consultation with the Personnel Committee and the Select Board, initiated the process of developing the position of part-time Studio Coordinator, to be funded from our Charter Communications contract grant monies. This person will be in charge of maintaining and troubleshooting video equipment, assisting in the recording and production of programming, and – perhaps most importantly – maintaining regular hours at the Cable Access Studio in the Brookfield Elementary School to recruit and instruct prospective volunteers in media and

videography skills. We hope to have this new hire in place by the summer of 2018.

Administration of the Town's Facebook page and Twitter feed throughout 2017 continued to be in the capable hands of volunteer Lindsay Holm, and we are grateful for her ongoing support.

And as always, we are grateful to the Town Hall staff and the Select Board for their willing accommodation to the taping process. Requests from Brookfield organizations and nonprofits to record of meetings and events should still be e-mailed at least 30 days in advance of the recording date to localaccess@brookfieldma.us. Event announcements for the Channel 192 bulletin board should be sent to bulletinboard@brookfieldma.us.

For Brookfield Community Media,
Kevin Erkkila (Chair), Sharon Mahoney (Treasurer and Clerk), and Danielle Kane.

REPORT OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE



The Brookfield Recreation Committee works to provide an opportunity for the residents of Brookfield to participate in enjoyable activities at various times of the year. Our primary focus is to ensure that the Town's children have access to activities and organized sports with the ultimate goal being to provide a safe, fun learning experience. We also offer public recreation programs for all ages and sponsor special events throughout the year.

We are responsible for the administration of, or are affiliated with the following youth sports programs:

Little League Baseball	Little League	Softball
T-Ball	TRY	Soccer
TRYBIL Basketball		

The success of these programs could not be accomplished without the numerous people that volunteer their time and energy to our programs. We wish to thank all of the volunteer coaches, assistant coaches, referees, clean-up crews, snack volunteers and many more for their continued support of our youth programs. All volunteers are required to be CORI checked in order to

participate in any capacity in any of our programs. Sign-ups for these sports and all of our events are posted in the *White Tiger News* (The Elementary School Newsletter), the Brookfield Citizen, The Quabog Current, our Facebook page and our new website: <http://brookfieldrecreation.weebly.com/>

With the generous support of the Brookfield Elementary School and its facilities, we are able to run our basketball program and start “Spring Training” for baseball and softball. The use of these facilities also allows us to offer a Co-ed Adult Basketball/Volleyball program throughout the fall and winter (when school is open).

Our annual Trick or Treat event was a huge success once again this year. An estimated 700 children and their parents made their way to the homes around the common and in the town center, followed by a parade and costume contest at the gazebo on the common. Special thanks to everyone that donated candy to the folks that live in the center of town, it was greatly appreciated. As always, a huge thanks to Brookfield Police and Fire for supporting this event and ensuring the safety of all participants.

As is the case each year, the South Pond Beach was a very popular spot for families in the summer. We were happy to once again have the Southbridge YMCA offer swimming lessons for two weeks as they do every summer (more information about these lessons can be found by calling the Southbridge YMCA). The committee would like to thank the volunteers that coordinate the weekly water testing to ensure swimmer safety and all who volunteer their time for the weekly clean-up of the beach area.

We are always looking for new faces to support our committee or to volunteer in the many capacities required to make these programs successful. If you are interested in becoming a member of the committee or volunteering to be part of one of our programs, please contact any of our members or attend one of our meetings the first Thursday of each month at the Brookfield Elementary School.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Landine, Chairperson
Kyle Hill
Erik Blake
Ian Nugent

Jake
Lisa
Carrie

Hill
Hanrahan
VonHold



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT



School Committee

Brian Oxman, Chair

Kyle Hill, Vice-Chair/Secretary
Megan Cunningham, Tan. Rep.

Term expires 2019

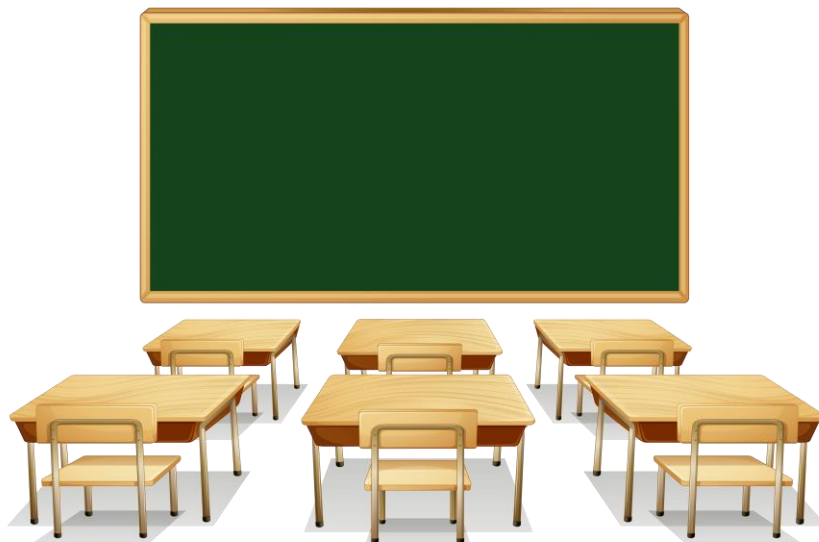
Term expires 2018
Term expires 2018

Superintendent of Schools

Erin M. Nosek	320A Brookfield Road, Fiskdale	347-5977
	Associate Superintendent	
Deborah J. Boyd	320A Brookfield Rd., Fiskdale	347-3077
	Assistant Superintendent	
Jeffrey Zanghi	320A Brookfield Rd., Fiskdale	347-3077
	Special Education/Pupil Services Director	
Brenda Looney	320A Brookfield Rd., Fiskdale	347-3560
	Principal	
Kathleen Hosterman		867-8988
	Secretary	
Jennifer Grybowski		867-8988
	School Nurse and Supervisor of Attendance	
Elaine Gittens, R.N., B.S.N.		867-8988

School Enrollment as of October 2, 2017

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Pre-S</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>Total</u>
Elem	33	40	29	36	31	30	33	34	267
<u>Grade</u>		<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>						
TJHS		38	41						79
			<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>PG</u>		
TSHS			26	18	20	21			85
Tech.Div.			17	14	17	12			<u>60</u>
Total TRSD Enrollment									224



Town of Brookfield

TEACHERS IN SERVICE – BROOKFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

<u>2016-2017</u> <u>POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>COLL./DEGREE</u>	<u>TEACHING EXP. IN</u> <u>BROOKFIELD AS OF</u> <u>6-30-17</u>
Principal	Kathleen Hosterman	M.Ed., Keen State College B.A., Norwich Univ. Ed. D, Walden University	12
Kindergarten	Mary Casey	M.Ed., Anna Maria B.S., Salem State	15
Kindergarten	Jean Monahan	B.S., Bridgewater State	20
Grade 1	Elizabeth Dwyer	B.S., Fitchburg State	27
Grade 1	Karen O’Neill	B.A., UMass	30
Grade 2	Rebecca Choquet	B.A., Worcester State	3
Grade 2	Helen Tarr	M.Ed., Cambridge College B.A., Notre Dame College	12
Grade 3	Ashley Barringer	B.S., Worcester State	11
Grade 3	Mallory Farinato	M.S. Ed, Anna Maria College B.S., Franklin Pierce College	9
Grade 4	Claudia Forgit	M.Ed., Worcester State	29
Grade 4	Christine Rapagnola	A.S., Fisher College B.S., Northeastern University M.S., Bay Path University	1
Grade 5	Colleen Parker	M.A., Framingham State B.S., Springfield College	10
Grade 5	Jolene Jalbert	B.S., Worcester State M.Ed., Worcester State	6
Grade 6	Belinda Gibson-Kiesiner	M.Ed., Worcester State B.A., Anna Maria	19
Grade 6	Donna Morin-Wermter	B.S., Worcester State	24
Special Needs	Paula Casey	M.Ed., Fitchburg State B.A., UMass	6
Special Needs	Bonnie Couming	B.A., U. West FL M.Ed., Framingham State University	12
Special Needs	Kimberly Ferreira	M.S. Ed, Simmons College B.S., North Adams State	6
Special Needs	Erin Messier	B.S., Westfield State	2
Special Needs	Melissa Murphy	B.A., Framingham State	3
Speech	Jane Daubney-Goyette	M.S., Worcester State B.S., Worcester State	7
Speech	Kaitlyn Smith	M.S., Worcester State University B.S., University of Massachusetts Amherst	2
Sch. Psych.	Jena DelCid	B.A. Clark University M.Ed. Worcester State University C.A.G.S. Worcester State University	2
Teacher, Art	Diane Simonds	B.A., Univ. of Hartford M.Ed., UMass Amherst	4

Teacher, Rem. Math	Sharon Thayer	B.A., Chatham College M.Ed, Anna Maria College	1
Teacher, Rem. Reading	Katrina Annunziata	B.S., Worcester State College M.Ed., Worcester State University	1
Library/Media Technology	Karen Silva	M.Ed., Worcester State M.Ed., Westfield State B.A., UMass	6
Music	Mark Weissman	B.A., Westfield State M.A, UMass G.D., New England Conservatory of Music	1
Music	Lindsey Paras	B.A., Anna Maria College M.A., Anna Maria College	3
Physical Ed.	Thomas Goyette	B.S., Bridgewater State	29
Un61 PreSch	Janice Labuski	B.S., Worcester State	20
Sch. Nurse	Elaine Gittens	B.S., Northeastern Univ. MSN, Elms College	15

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2016-2017

School Appropriation July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

\$2,957,688.00

Miscellaneous Receipts & Reimbursements

Expenditures: 1000 Series

School Committee	\$2,225.61
Superintendent's Office	\$113,096.87

Instruction: 2000 Series

Principal's Office	\$178,151.08
Teachers' Salaries	\$1,159,086.15
Teachers, Substitutes & Tutors	\$11,820.75
Supplies & Materials	\$26,167.40
Aides Salaries	\$244,318.03
Professional Development	\$17,987.43
Special Education Salaries (Perceptually Handicapped & Speech)	\$422,466.75
Supplies & Materials – Sp.Ed.	\$3,477.04
Textbooks/Sp.Ed.	\$939.39
Textbooks	\$25,956.33
Technology Services	\$53,857.23
Library Services	\$43,005.07
Audio Visual	\$1,804.39
Guidance Services	\$54,627.93
Psychological Services	

Other School Services:

Health Services	\$76,673.49
Pupil Transportation/ Reg Day	\$134,100.00
Pupil Transportation/ Sped Ed (Special Education & Phys. Handicapped)	\$50,093.96
Field Trips	

Operation and Maintenance of Plant:

Custodial Salaries	\$112,029.13
Supplies & Materials	\$10,381.49
Fuel	\$31,572.64
Utilities - School	\$39,369.97
Maintenance of Grounds	\$6,835.85
Maintenance of Buildings S&M	\$7,571.43
Maintenance of Equipment – School (inc tech line)/ Contracted services	\$38,627.81
Extraordinary Projects	

Acquisition of Fixed Assets:

Equipment – School	\$26,424.60
Equipment – Sp.Ed.	
Replacement of Equipment – School	\$7,362.32

Programs with Other Districts & Schools:

Special Education	\$25,486.80
Vocational	

Total Appropriation Expenditures July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017 **\$2,925,516.94**

Estimated Reimbursements:

Chapter 70	\$1,419,330.00
Chapter 71	
Chapter 76	
Total Appropriations Est. Reimbursements	\$1,419,330.00

Total Expenditures	\$2,925,516.94
Less Total Estimated Receipts	\$1,419,330.00
<u>Cost to Taxpayer</u>	<u>\$1,506,186.94</u>

Town of Brookfield

2017-2018
Budget

Administration (1000)	\$131,284.00
Instruction (2000)	\$2,184,908.00
Other School Services (3000)	\$314,718.00
Operation & Maintenance (4000)	\$271,216.00
Acquisition of Fixed Assets (7000)	\$7,200.00
Program with Other Districts (9000)	\$91,650.00

Regional and Private Schools (VOC)	\$16,000.00
Total Appropriations 2017-2018	\$3,016,976.00

Special Needs Programs Included in Budget:

2000	Instructional	\$629,982.00
3000	Other	\$314,718.00
7000	Equipment	\$7,200.00
9000	Programs with Other Districts	\$91,650.00
<u>TOTAL:</u>		<u>\$1,043,550.00</u>

**REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL
BROOKFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

As I complete my thirteenth year as principal of Brookfield Elementary School I would like to reflect on our wonderful community. Brookfield has supported our public school’s responsibility to continue moving forward with all of the tools and training necessary for the technology age in which we live, while still allowing us to remain rooted in our heritage and our traditional family values. This is unique and should be noted as the foundation by which we are able to, year after year, continue to grow, progress, and support children in receiving the best possible education.

As a school we have added one very new and important focus by hiring a school Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Lisa Day-Lewis. As pressures for families mount we have seen a marked increase in students needing social and emotional support while at school. This position allows students to receive the help and support needed to remain successful and productive.

We see growth in all of our programs, and student interest continues to increase in extracurricular and musical courses. We are sending our very first competition team to First Lego League Robotics Competition. We have over 50 students in band and over 50 in chorus. Our core values are fully established throughout the culture of the building and we all are working to use Teamwork, Integrity, Greatness, being Engaged, and Respectful. These core values are represented in our school mascot, the Brookfield White “TIGER.”

This year we have added a new reading program, Reading Wonders, as well as new science curriculum materials to support the new Science Standards for the state of Massachusetts. In the next year we plan to begin mapping, or recording, our curriculum using a software program called Atlas. This will allow all students to receive consistent instruction regardless of teacher or classroom. This will be our second year participating in the Next Generation MCAS assessment which is all

computer based testing. Last year was our baseline year and Brookfield performed well, outpacing the state performance on both ELA and Mathematics.

We would like to thank Rich Bouchard, our night custodian, for over 22 years of faithful service. Rich retired at the end of November, 2017. Our building and grounds department wishes Rich all the best as he enjoys his new found freedom. The school itself is in great condition and will only make a few building changes this year, including an adjustment to our roof line to divert the ice that forms ice dams at the front of our building. We are also adding new security cameras at the back and side our building to monitor and record activity on the court and in the playground.

Thank you again to this amazing community and the opportunity you gave me 13 years ago to take on my very first principal's role. I have been blessed to serve in this position for all these years and have become an educator who grasps the importance and power of a school, family, and community collaboration.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Kathleen Hosterman
Brookfield Principal

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**
Union 61 and Tantasqua Regional School Districts
Brimfield Brookfield Holland Sturbridge Wales

Now in my sixth year as Superintendent of Tantasqua Regional and Union 61 School Districts, I take great pride in the accomplishments of our students as well as the dedication and collaborative work of our staff.

The curriculum, instruction and assessment work in the district continues to progress and have a very positive impact on students. The teachers are working hard every day and continue to show a commitment to all the students in their classrooms. The MCAS scores highlight gains in many areas and also help our teachers identify individual student needs. The individual schools offer action plans to help students close any learning gaps that may exist. As the State transitions to a new assessment system, Next Generation MCAS, we are confident that our curriculum planning and classroom instruction has prepared our students for success.

Our commitment to enhanced writing, reading, and rigorous Math and Science instruction at our schools has continued to help our children grow in all of the academic areas. We continue to transition to the new Massachusetts Science Standards and are piloting curriculum materials in this area. Our elementary Standards Based Report Cards provide greater detail for parents and serve as a wonderful communication tool between the school and the home. Our teachers have made changes to the report cards so that the maximum benefits may be realized by the children and their families.

Both the Junior and Senior High School teachers are always working to ensure that our curriculum is in full alignment with the State Standards and that our children experience academic rigor throughout their day. After undertaking three literacy pilots last year; two closer reading (Nancy Boyles and Accessing Complex Text) and one writing (Collins), we have implemented

these programs and believe they will expand and greatly enhance our already strong literacy curriculum. In addition, we have expanded the use of the Atlas curriculum mapping software into our elementary school. We are piloting a new Science program (National Geographic Explorer) in grades K-5 and a separate Science program (Pearson) in grades 6, 7 and 8.

We continue to support both our faculty members and our paraprofessionals by continually providing professional development opportunities. In addition to our two full-day professional development days, we provide staff with four early release days scheduled during the year. We have provided training in Writing, as well as Common Assessment development, Technology Integration, Applied Non-Violence Interventions, MCAS Data Analysis, Understanding by Design, Atlas Mapping, Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and content based best practices. We continue to provide a great deal of professional development to support the needs of students with learning disabilities. As evidenced by the many high-quality activities undertaken throughout Tantasqua and Union 61, our district's mission is alive and well.

In FY 2017, many technology improvements were implemented. We continue to expand options for assistive technology, most notably installing Co-Writer on many of our devices. A working group at Holland Elementary School continues to further define uses of assistive technology that will support student learning. We successfully implemented a MDM (Mobile Device Management) platform district/union wide. This will allow our support team to more easily deploy apps and manage our mobile devices, while giving staff flexibility with the devices. Numerous carts of mobile devices were employed at various buildings. We also deployed mobile devices to many staff in each building to enhance teaching and learning. To help simplify network access, the IT team consolidated our 7 network domains into one single domain. This will allow students and staff to use only one account to gain access to network resources. A working group, which included teachers, technology, and administrators, was also assembled in the spring to review cloud-based collaboration. Options included Microsoft Office 365 and Suite for Education. Our department was able to secure eRate funding for Category 1 connections. The technology team completed over 2000 helpdesk tickets between the 7 buildings.

The new artificial turf fields, which were ready for use at the start of the FY 2016-2017 school year, had a full season of use by our Warrior athletes and has served as a benefit to Tantasqua Youth Sports as well.

Our administrative leadership continues as a strong, collaborative group of individuals. Each member brings to the table personal strengths, solidifying us as a cohesive team. Our senior administrative team remained whole, allowing for an experienced administration to continue in service to our students.

As always, the Administration of the Tantasqua Regional/School Union 61 Districts is deeply appreciative and values the support of our school committees and community members. We continue to work together collaboratively to achieve the goal of providing our students with every possibility for success.

Respectfully,
Erin M. Nosek, Ed.D
Superintendent of Schools

REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTOR

As of
December 31,
2017

<u>REAL ESTATE</u>	Collections	Uncollected	Commitments	Abatements	Exemptions
<u>2018</u>	\$ 2,296,986.33	\$ 124,061.69	\$ 4,933,740.77	\$ -	\$ -
<u>2017</u>	\$ 2,548,982.64	\$ 80,007.31	\$ -	\$ (13,839.81)	\$ (20,150.00)
<u>2016</u>	\$ 27,400.42	\$ 53,658.57	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<2016	\$ 2,919.40	\$ 9,119.12	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 4,876,288.79	\$ 266,846.69	\$ 4,933,740.77	\$ (13,839.81)	\$ (20,150.00)
<u>PERSONAL PROPERTY</u>	Collection	Uncollected	Commitments	Abatements	Refunds
<u>2018</u>	\$ 82,622.43	\$ 124.04	\$ 82,746.47	\$ -	\$ -
<u>2017</u>	\$ 91,337.35	\$ 290.40	\$ 91,337.35	\$ (3,589.19)	\$ (4,026.19)
<u>2016</u>	\$ -	\$ 435.43	\$ 82,622.43	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 173,959.78	\$ 849.87	\$ 256,706.25	\$ (3,589.19)	\$ (4,026.19)
<u>M.V. EXCISE</u>	Collection	Uncollected	Commitments	Abatements	Refunds
-					
<u>2017</u>	\$ 488,183.53	\$ 18,522.41	\$ 484,852.95	\$ (19,895.25)	\$ (7,854.96)
<u>2016</u>	\$ 77,584.21	\$ 6,820.54	\$ 3,330.58	\$ (851.58)	\$ (855.77)
<u>2015</u>	\$ 8,412.29	\$ 5,412.49	\$ -	\$ (113.75)	\$ (384.15)
Total	\$ 574,180.03	\$ 30,755.44	\$ 488,183.53	\$ (20,860.58)	\$ (9,094.88)

Respectfully
Submitted,

Brenda
Parish

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

2017 was a busy year for this office as usual. Election results can be found on the Board of Registers Annual Report.

Open Meeting Law

Open Meeting Law Materials can be found on the official Commonwealth of Massachusetts website: www.mass.gov . The law is found in G.L. C. 30A 18-25.

Newly appointed committee members and elected officials are obligated to sign off on open meeting law materials that will be distributed and received when necessary.

All Town board and committee meetings can be found online at www.mytowngovernment.org. This site has simplified the posting of meetings to a great degree. For those that do not use a computer, a 24/7 access line with all meeting postings and agendas can be used. The phone number is: 978-561-9995. Meeting minutes can also be found on this site and the town website at: www.brookfieldma.us

Census

The annual census was taken as usual. Unfortunately a large number of people did not respond. When this happens, this office is obligated to send out postcards to non-respondents asking them if they are still citizens of the town. If the cards are not sent back to this office the citizens are then considered inactive voters and cannot participate in an election unless they sign an affidavit. It is my hope that more people respond to the census, which in turn will save this office time and money.

Dog Licenses

All dogs must be licensed by April 6th of every year or owners will face a \$25.00 dollar fine on top of the licensing fee. A rabies vaccination clinic on March 17th 2017 was held at the Brookfield Fire Station. Much thanks to Dr. Mark Ledoux, Dog Officer Sarah Prideaux and Chief Peter Martell for their time and efforts.

Vital Statistics

Deaths-49 Births-29 Marriages-22

More detailed information can be found on these statistics later in this report.

Office Hours

Hours of operation are:
Monday-Tuesday and Thursday 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.
Wednesday – 2 P.M. to 8 P.M.
508-867-2930 X 12
mseery@brookfieldma.us
Respectfully Submitted, Michael P. Seery Town Clerk



DEATHS 2017

Name	Date of Death	Age at Death
1. Ronald Joseph Laviera	February 9, 2017	65
2. John Macdougall	February 9, 2017	94
3. Patricia Ann Stockmal	March 7, 2017	66
4. Doris M. Nugent	February 26, 2017	97
5. Cecile R. Gustafson	March 14, 2017	85
6. Pauline A. Burke	March 4, 2017	89
7. Elizabeth A. Tibbetts	March 15, 2017	72
8. Michelle H. Carpenter	March 22, 2017	96
9. Levi Francis Benway	March 20, 2017	94
10. Paul A. Plummer	April 4, 2017	49
11. Dorothy St. Denis	April 9, 2017	99
12. Torin R. Nye	April 10, 2017	1
13. Edgar J. Boisjolie	April 15, 2017	78
14. Glenn R. Geraway	April 27, 2017	73
15. William Remington Sr.	May 3, 2017	86
16. Judith M. Careau	May 6, 2017	74
17. Karl B. Kennan	May 12, 2017	61
18. Vienna J. Wessell	June 3, 2017	82
19. Floyd R. Richardson	April 2, 2017	91
20. Maya I. Dahrouj	June 23, 2017	13
21. Normand J. Tremblay	June 23, 2017	14
22. Howard J. Ferguson Jr.	July 1, 2017	73
23. Christopher J. Fontaine	July 12, 2017	27
24. William R. Keough	July 19, 2017	52
25. Evelyn M. Routhier	August 10, 1938	78
26. Sandra J. Janes	August 23, 2017	74
27. Patricia A. Tryba	August 28, 2017	68
28. Donna M. Richer	September 4, 2017	63
29. Bernard Duhamel	September 20, 2017	79

30. Glenn Reynolds	September 15, 2017	58
31. Norman R. Leduc	September 23, 2017	81
32. Mary F. Rizzelli	October 10, 2017	70
33. Bryan T. Gilligan	October 16, 2017	38
34. Louise B. Means	October 23, 2017	74
35. Dominic M. Gallant	October 26, 2017	2 Days
36. Diane J. Jewell	October 30, 2017	63
37. Murial Mitchell	November 3, 2017	86
38. Rita Fern Toto	November 12, 2017	89
39. William Brisbois	November 17, 2017	74 Vietnam Vet-Army SP4
40. Albert Johnson	November 18, 2017	90 World War II Vet-Army PFC
41. John Bullard	December 4, 2017	85
42. Philip Peirce	December 9, 2017	81 Vietnam Army-SP4
43. Aime J. Labonte Jr.	December 6, 2017	82
44. Patricia Carlson	December 9, 2017	64
45. Betty J. Hatstat	December 15, 2017	81
46. Douglas Brown	December 27, 2017	67
47. Suzanne Thibeault	December 27, 2017	71
48. Craig Stout	December 28, 2017	50
49. Charles Garrison	December 30, 2017	73 Veteran-Peacetime-SP4- Army

MARRIAGES & INTENTIONS
(Filed in Brookfield)
2017

Date of Marriage	To Whom Issued	Intention No.	Registered No.
January 18, 2017	Scott W. Sliwoski to Sandra J. Lee	1	1
February 3, 2017	Christopher Michael Shea to Amy Lee Normandeau	2	2
April 22, 2017	Paul G. Comptois to Lynne M. Compton	3	3
May 27, 2017	Sabrina M. Thibeault to Austin R. Worthington	4	4
May 28, 2017	Jenna M. Tasse to Kristopher A. Beaton	5	6

June 23, 2017	Terry L. Anderson to Steven D. Anderson	6	5
July 15, 2017	Daniel Lomme to Kathryn Milner	7	7
August 6, 2017	Brittney E. Roughan to Joseph T. Vigder	8	9
August 19, 2017	Jason A. Chemero to Krystal M. Goodwin	9	8
September 23, 2017	Cecile H. Afable to Gabriel C. Phelan	10	13
September 24, 2017	Kendra R. Wright to Thomas A. Furtek III	11	11
September 24, 2017	Lonald K. O'Clair to Elizabeth A. Hawes	12	10
September 30, 2017	Julia A. Stein to Patrick Tampellini Jr.	13	16
September 23, 2017	Cari L. Toth to William O. Anderson	14	13
October 7, 2017	Andrew G. Delmastro to Jennifer Labay	15	14
October 7, 2017	Jillian A. Reed to Scott J. Valcourt	16	15
November 11, 2017	Angelo Sposato to Kathleen Cooper	17	17
November 11, 2017	Richard Kemp to Lynn Lapierre	18	18
November 18, 2017	John P. Sipsev to Cathryn Lafebvre	19	19
December 8, 2017	Adam Laflower to Stacy Dalby	20	20
December 29, 2017	Anthony Darlington to Jesse Jalbert	21	22
December 24, 2017	David J. Roche to Melissa J. Befford	22	21

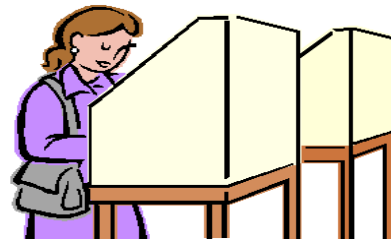
BUSINESS CERTIFICATES ISSUED – 2017

Date Issued	Business Name	To Whom Issued/Address
1.5.17	M&C Contracting	Michael E. Gustafson – 5 Main Street
2.6.17	Island Transport	Tyler JM Latour - 75 Old Fiskdale Road
2.6.17	Fire and Ice Tattoo	Michael Ledrich – 32 West Main Street
2.6.17	Curios George	George A. Hirtle – 17 Pleasant Street
2.6.17	Island Container	Tyler JM Latour – 75 Old Fiskdale Road
3.1.17	Lamoureux Landscape Company	Steven C Lamoureux – 14 Schoolhouse Rd
3.13.17	Clearview Training Stables	Clinton Jury – 24 East Main Street
4.13.17	Roseann’s Farm	Roseann Carrier – 11 Main Street
4.19.17	Ron Wassmer Contracting	Ronald J Wassmer – 8 Old Rice Corner Rd
4.19.17	Taylor’d Installations	Steven Taylor – 177 Rice Corner Rd
5.18.17	R&R Trucking & Restorations	Robert F Henry – 24 Allen Road
6.14.17	Fire and Ice Tattoo	Michael Ledrich – 32 West Main St
6.14.17	Dianna’s Thrift Store	Dianna Carlson – 32 West Main Street
7.10.17	Greg Bracconnier	Greg Bracconnier – 28 Lake Rd
7.24.17	Tara E. Browne	Tara E. Browne DBA Admin Compendium – 8 High Street
8.22.17	Urgent Transport Carrier	Laurence Berard – 118 Quaboag St
8.22.17	Hobbit Hole Enterprises	Laurence Berard – 118 Quaboag St
8.28.17	Sposato Realty Group	Kathleen Cooper – 133 Rice Corner Rd
8.28.17	Quaboag Import and Export Compnay	Wallace L Connor, JR – 122 Long Hill Rd
9.19.17	Heller Language Solutions	Rudolf Heller – 8 Central Street
9.25.17	Kane School of Drums	Tim Kane – 195 Rice Corner Rd
10.11.17	SkinGlo Esthetics	Gloria Tuttle – 8 Central Street
11.2.17	Building Remodeling and Home Services	Gary Leblond – 43 Rice Corner Rd
12.12.17	Diamonds from the Dust	Reagan Paras
12.19.17	JP McCarthy & Sons LLC	John P McCarthy – 4 West Brookfield Rd

Annual Town Election Results Report	
Monday May 1, 2017	
Brookfield Town Hall	
6 Central Street	
Brookfield MA 01506	
Total Ballots Cast for the Election = 459 out of 2,241 Voters	
Moderator-1Year	
Blanks	36
Donald D. Faugno	421
Write-Ins	2
Board of Selectmen-3 Years	
Blanks	18
Beth Coughlin	400
Write-Ins	41
Tax Collector	
Blanks	49
Brenda C. McElroy	407
Write-Ins	3
Board of Assessors- 3 Years	
Blanks	112
Robert Falter	379
Write-Ins	2
Board of Assessors	
Blanks	69
Holly J. Chisholm	390
Write—Ins	0
Planning Board-5 Years	
Blanks	80
Kevin Erkkila	379
Write-Ins	0
Elementary School Committee-3 Years	
Blanks	67
Kyle T. Hill	391
Write-Ins	1
Cemetery Commissioner-3 Years	
Blanks	42
Thomas Morse	37
William Pratt	117
Robert Barnes	63
Write-Ins	0
Water Commissioner-3 Years	
Blanks	70
Donald R. Taft	386
Write-Ins	3
Board of Health- 3 Years	
Blanks	81

Ronald J. Wassmer Jr.	373
Write-Ins	5
Public Library Trustee-3 Years-Vote for Two	
Blanks	257
Barbara A. Clancy	380
Jeanne A. Eaton	279
Write-Ins	1

Certified this 2nd Day of May 2017: _____
Michael P. Seery-Town Clerk



REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGISTRARS

During 2017, there was 1 Annual Town Election. One Special Town Meeting was held in June along with the Annual Town Meeting. The results of the election and all town meetings can be found in this report.

The Annual Town Census was taken during the months of January and February.

Respectfully submitted,
 Lois O’Leary, Chairman of the Board of Registrars
 Shirley Sanborn
 Nancy J. Flynn
 Michael P. Seery, Clerk of the Board of Registrars



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT
11 PAGES

Page 1 OF 11
ACCOUNTANTS REPORT
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Page 11 OF 11 ACCOUNTANTS REPORT
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REPORT OF THE TREASURER

7/1/2016-6/30/2017

NORTH BROOKFIELD SAVINGS BANK	PAYROLL	\$ 91,333.57
NORTH BROOKFIELD SAVINGS BANK	CAFETERIA	\$ 81,950.19
NORTH BROOKFIELD SAVINGS BANK	STUDENT ACTIVITY	\$ 17,340.49
NORTH BROOKFIELD SAVINGS BANK	DEPOSITORY	\$ 730,337.25
NORTH BROOKFIELD SAVINGS BANK	DR. PEASE	\$ 1,601.76
NORTH BROOKFIELD SAVINGS BANK	NON-INTEREST	\$ 2,500.00
PEOPLES UNITED	VENDOR	\$ 884,663.39
CITI BANK	GRANT FUNDS	\$ 3,655.00
UNIBANK	DEPOSITORY	\$ 466,961.43
UNIBANK	LOAN & NOTE PROCEEDS	\$ 1,496,373.57
HOMETOWN	DEPOSITORY	\$ 333,326.35
TD BANK	CULTURAL COUNCIL	\$ 7,289.22
BARTHOLOMEW & COMPANY	TRUST INVESTMENTS	\$ 901,227.44
Total ending balance		\$ 5,018,559.66

Respectfully submitted, Lani Criasia Town Treasurer



PAYROLL FY17

<i>LAST NAME</i>	<i>FIRST NAME</i>	<i>GROSS</i>
ALLEN	SERENITY	\$5,164.45
ALONZO	AARON	\$520.00
ANDERSON	TERRY	\$15,098.87
ANDERSON	VALERIE	\$30,100.10
ANNUNZIATA	KATRINA	\$52,904.39
ARSENAULT	WILLIAM	\$262.50
BARKOSKIE	LISA	\$561.00
BARNES	ROBERT R	\$600.00
BARRINGER	ASHLEY	\$72,781.00
BENNETT	PAULA	\$30,585.49
BENNETT	RUTH	\$595.50
BISCHOFF	SARAH	\$16,840.52
BLANCHARD	MICHAEL	\$69,119.44
BOOS	JAMES	\$25,114.85
BOUCHARD	RICHARD	\$34,566.40
BRECHT	TIMOTHY	\$51,300.39
BROSNAN	KAITLIN	\$23,812.39
BROTHERS	DIANNA	\$25,454.89
BUDNIK	STEVEN	\$6,253.08
BURBANK	MARLAINE	\$8,490.44
CASEY	MARY	\$98,261.44
CASEY	PAULA	\$71,827.71
CHAFFEE	JOSHUA	\$3,328.52
CHAFFEE	PHILIP	\$522.90
CHAFFEE II	HERBERT	\$64,540.90
CHISHOLM	HOLLY	\$38,248.72
CHOQUET	REBECCA	\$48,136.98
CLARK	CATHY	\$141.00
CLARKE	BRUCE	\$45,918.82
CLARKE	DENNIS	\$353.00
COMTOIS II	STEPHEN	\$1,666.70
COUGHLIN	BETH	\$333.34
COUMING	BONNIE	\$90,135.02
COUTURE	GRETCHEN	\$412.50
COWDEN	PAUL	\$53,757.73
CREVIER	CHARLES	\$521.04
CRIASIA	LANI	\$11,394.61
CUNNINGHAM	MEGAN	\$500.00
D'AMATO	RICHARD	\$1,190.00
DAUBNEY-GOYETTE	JANE	\$30,985.20
DAVOL	ELIZABETH	\$552.50

DELCID	JENA	\$52,367.64
DODGE	DARREN	\$15,722.88
DRISCOLL	DANIEL	\$10,112.92
DUGGAN	HERBERT	\$6,602.26
DUSTY	JOANNA	\$126.50
DUVAL	MICHAEL	\$40,562.00
DWYER	ELIZABETH	\$83,955.17
EASLEY	PAMELA	\$75.00
EATON	KERMIT	\$600.00
EDGETTE III	CHARLES	\$726.00
EGAN	HEATHER	\$187.50
EGAN	JACQUELINE	\$675.00
EHRHARD	KAREN	\$122.50
ERKKILA	KEVIN	\$500.00
ESSER	DANIEL	\$1,146.00
FALTER	ROBERT	\$3,377.17
FANCY	REBECCA	\$22,347.77
FARINATO	MALLORY	\$70,414.94
FAUGNO	ANDREA	\$9,232.08
FAZIO	FRANCIS	\$3,231.67
FERREIRA	KIMBERLY	\$68,019.00
FIMIAN	JESSE	\$48.00
FORGIT	CLAUDIA	\$85,561.00
FORTIER	MEGAN	\$522.00
FORTIN	MARLENE	\$15,866.77
GERSTEL	ALAN	\$2,304.00
GIBSON-KIESINER	BELINDA	\$76,472.00
GILLEN	SHERRY	\$22,932.61
GILLMEISTER	WILLIAM	\$375.00
GITTENS	ELAINE	\$74,872.00
GOYETTE	THOMAS	\$72,100.01
GRAVES	MATTHEW	\$25,193.18
GREEN	MICHAEL	\$5,146.29
GRIFFING	BRYAN	\$772.52
GRYBOWSKI	JENNIFER	\$33,124.50
HAGUE	JACQUELINE	\$13,289.01
HALEY	JAY	\$252.00
HAYES	KELLY	\$23,034.34
HEALEY	JEANNE	\$107.25
HERBERT	DONALD	\$52,121.33
HILL	KYLE	\$500.00
HIRTLE	GEORGE	\$1,980.00
HOSTERMAN	KATHLEEN	\$101,893.29
JALBERT	JOLENE	\$56,918.06

JOBST	DANE	\$22,172.32
JOHNSON	ALEX	\$6,853.56
JONES	ALAN	\$35,871.86
KADY	SANDRA	\$27,637.22
KARRMANN	KEITH	\$455.00
KAY	JANE	\$306.72
KELLEY	CHARLENE	\$150.00
KIBBE	BRIAN	\$7,251.76
LABUSKI	JANICE	\$56,826.97
LAFLEUR	DONNA	\$23,165.94
LANDRY	KATHLEEN	\$264.00
LAPIERRE	CAROLE	\$318.08
LAPINE	GARY	\$3,862.60
LATOUR	KATHRYN	\$742.35
LAZILI	ANNETTE	\$659.04
LEAHY	DANIEL	\$9,329.94
LEPAK	MAUREEN	\$500.00
LINCOLN	LINDA	\$2,000.04
LOVE	EMILY	\$137.50
LOVELY	MARK	\$15,438.88
LYTLE	JEANNE	\$2,019.00
MACLEOD	LINDA	\$564.00
MACLEOD	WILLIAM	\$492.00
MAHONEY	SHARON	\$500.00
MANNING JR	EMERY	\$2,361.12
MANSFIELD	SCOT	\$3,962.04
MARINO	SEAN	\$56,584.56
MARKS	ASHLEY	\$13,708.44
MARTELL	DAVID	\$4,942.74
MARTELL	PETER	\$65,045.13
MCDONALD	DONNA	\$510.00
MCGOVERN	LISA	\$31,299.29
MCNEANEY	JAMES	\$340.00
MERLO	DAVID	\$636.00
MESSIER	ERIN	\$49,316.70
METTERVILLE	BRENDA	\$40,046.14
MIELTOWSKI	PAUL	\$13,975.00
MILNER	JAMES	\$21,591.89
MONAHAN	JEAN	\$83,453.23
MORIN-WERMTER	DONNA	\$81,109.56
MURPHY	LEE	\$67,226.12
MURPHY	MELISSA	\$49,625.50
NAGLE	MARTIN	\$342.00
O'CONNELL	JOANNE	\$24,463.17

O'DAY	SHARRON	\$125.00
O'LEARY	LOIS	\$1,496.11
O'NEILL	KAREN	\$81,683.42
OXMAN	BRIAN	\$500.00
OXMAN	SARAH	\$2,850.00
PARAS	LINDSEY	\$41,078.21
PARISEAU	STEVEN	\$83,060.29
PARISH	BRENDA	\$41,710.76
PARKER	ADAM	\$25,740.42
PARKER	COLLEEN JOY	\$64,509.00
PEARSON	GLENNA	\$75.00
PEARSON	HARRY	\$712.50
PECORE	MARIE	\$500.00
PEIRCE	PHILIP	\$8,323.77
PHILLIPS	MATTHEW	\$1,050.00
PHILLIPS	RICHARD	\$3,666.00
PIANKA	GRZEGORZ	\$4,257.07
PISARCZYK	GERALDINE	\$159.04
PLUMB	CAROL	\$500.00
POLAKOWSKI	KERRI	\$20,604.50
PORTWOOD	NICOLE	\$1,050.00
PRIDEAUX	SARA	\$4,359.06
PROUX	HEIDI	\$79.52
PUTNAM	ARTHUR	\$7,367.36
RABBITT	SUSAN	\$255.00
RANELONE	RAYMOND	\$240.00
RAPAGNOLA	CHRISTINE	\$44,892.00
RENAUD	SANDRA M.	\$727.20
RESSEGUIE	KAREN	\$41,922.72
RICCI	LISA	\$6,925.19
RICE	AARON	\$132.00
RODERICK	MATTHEW	\$1,159.03
ROSE	JON	\$276.00
RYAN	CHRISSEY	\$85.00
SAGENDORPH	JOAN	\$692.58
SANBORN	SHIRLEY	\$85.20
SEERY	MICHAEL	\$40,971.11
SHIPMAN-HESCOCK	KELLI	\$525.00
SILVA	KAREN	\$83,586.00
SIMMONS	MEREDITH	\$29,003.09
SIMONDS	DIANE	\$33,435.06
SIMONELLI	TRACEY	\$22,929.48
SIMPSON	HOLLY	\$375.00
SIMPSON	KAREN	\$159.04

SIMPSON	KATHERINE	\$5,940.48
SMITH	KAITLYN	\$34,071.56
SNYDER	CLARENCE	\$2,000.04
SPENCE	SHELBIA	\$712.50
STANLEY	RYAN	\$6,748.04
STRAIGHT	REBECCA LEE	\$29,314.49
TAFT	DONALD	\$600.00
TARR	HELEN	\$83,595.00
TAUDEL	CYNTHIA	\$680.00
TAYLOR	JEFFREY	\$16,116.00
TAYLOR	JULIA	\$16,713.13
TAYLOR	MICHELLE	\$3,369.08
THAYER	SHARON	\$23,933.50
THOMO	NICHOLAS	\$7,871.25
THOMPSON	LUCINDA	\$18,781.68
THOMPSON	WILLIAM	\$1,421.07
VIRCHOW	KRISTA	\$4,391.94
VONTAILIN	ROSARIO	\$379.30
WALKER	JOAN	\$4,447.65
WALL	ROBERT	\$3,990.00
WASSMER	RON	\$1,509.94
WATTERSON	CAROL	\$2,550.00
WEISSMAN	MARK	\$27,187.50
WHITCRAFT	JESSICA	\$122.50
WHITE	JEFFREY	\$1,056.00
WOODARD	LOUISE	\$539.60
YOUNG	EDMUND	\$2,999.04
YOUNG	MARGARET	\$25,828.59

\$3,947,103.51



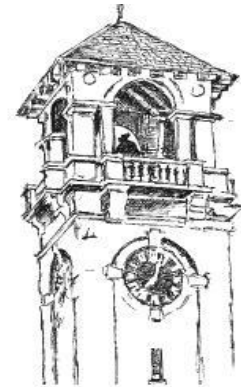
BROOKFIELD TOWN HALL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

In 2017 the Brookfield Town Hall Improvement Committee was established by the Board of Selectmen to oversee the design, planning and management of projects relating to repairs and upgrades of our historic Town Hall. The first task was to assemble and prioritize a list of projects that were in need of attention.

The failure of one of the two primary heating systems, the forced air furnace, during the winter of 2017 was considered the priority. The old heating system was removed and the new gas fired furnace was installed in November 2017, the install included new ductwork to correct the consistent cold temperature issues that have always plagued the lobby area in the winter months.

The design of an ADA accessible bathroom and other ADA access related issues on the first floor of Town Hall was discussed and as of year-end plans are being developed by Austin Design.

The Town Hall tower clock had several issues this year. In recent years the hour bell had been ringing only intermittently and last winter the hands on the south face froze to the clock face causing a large 100 plus year old gear to break along with a drive shaft. Led by the volunteer efforts of Skip Nielsen, the bells are back to ringing regularly and all four sides of the clock should be running again in the very near future. Up to this point there has been no cost to the town for these repairs, including the manufacturing of a new brass gear as well as a spare gear.



Other issues our committee is working on include:

- Stair Lift from the first to the second floor
- Snow cleats to prevent snow slides from the roof
- Senior Center Design and ADA Plan (CDBG Grant)
- Relocation of Banquet Hall desk/counter
- Relocation of Honor Roll from second floor
- Overall structural integrity of Town Hall (CDBG and CIPC)
- Main lobby lighting issue

Town Hall Improvement Committee Members

William R. Simpson (2020) (Chair)

Don Taft (2020)

Mary Lou Knight (2019) (Clerk)

Al Jones (2019)

Carol Plumb (2018)

The Town Hall Improvement Committee would like to thank all of the townspeople of Brookfield for their support.

REPORT OF THE TREE WARDEN



In 2017 approximately 544 hours were spent by highway department staff and vendors removing hazardous trees. Trees were removed from “The Common”, Long Hill Rd., Lake Rd., Rice Corner Rd., Gay Rd. and West Brookfield Rd.

Brookfield’s Wood Policy states in part:

If the wood can be used as firewood, the property abutter has the right of first refusal, all or part of the wood may be left as requested. This is providing that if the wood were left on site, it would not create any safety hazard to the public. The wood is left in large sections that would need to be cut and split by the recipient for use.

If the abutter does not want the wood it becomes available for neighbors and other residents.

If the wood cannot be used as firewood due to the type or condition and has no value, then it is disposed of at the town property on Herbert Rd.

Please contact the Highway Department before taking any wood.

Once the wood is left at a property the town is no longer responsible for its disposal.

The department maintains a list of residents interested in obtaining wood when the abutter does not want or need the wood. If you would like to be placed on our list please email the highway office. highway@brookfieldma.us

Please call the Highway Department 508-867-8357 with any tree related questions.

In closing I would like to thank Ed Searah of E.J. Searah Services & Jim Russ of Rusty’s Tree Service for their assistance and scheduling flexibility while working with the Highway Department to remove hazardous trees.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbert A. Chaffee, Tree Warden



REPORT OF THE VETERAN'S AGENT

The Veterans Services Office for the Town of Brookfield witnessed a marked increase in requests for services in general and with a great deal of interest in the Veterans Administration Programs.

As our veterans age, their physical healthcare and the cost of healthcare is of a major concern. The Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter

115 Benefit Program as well as the United States Veterans Administration Health Programs are available to our veterans who qualify. Please contact the Veterans Services Officer at (508) 344-5592 or drop into my office at the Brookfield Town Hall on Wednesdays from 12:30 PM until 2:30 PM or call to make an appointment at your home.

For family members who would like to have a bronze plaque installed at the gravesite of their veteran family member, please contact me to obtain the application to the Veterans Administration for said plaque or grave stone.

For those veterans that are currently seeking employment, training and education, please contact me for assistance.

For families of veterans who are currently suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome or other active duty related illnesses and injuries, please contact me for referrals of agencies and support groups that will help.

As always, it is both an extreme pleasure and honor to serve those who have served.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary W. Lapine, Veterans' Services Officer



**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WATER DEPARTMENT
January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017**

Respectfully Submitted
James Boos, Superintendent
Commissioners
Donald Taft, Chairman
Robert R. Barnes, Member
Kermit Eaton, Member

Administrative Clerk
Holly Chisholm
Secondary Operators
Jeff Beauchamp
Bruce Clarke
Dennis Clarke

The year 2017 was a year of change and transition for the Brookfield Water Department. After serving as the Superintendent for 17 years, Bruce Clarke retired at the end of 2016. Bruce has always been a great asset not just to the Water Dept. but also to the Town of Brookfield. Bruce gave countless hours of his time for volunteering to help make Brookfield a better place. He also worked to secure almost \$3 million in CDBG grants for the Town of Brookfield. Donald Herbert also retired from the Dept. after 23 years as an On Call Operator. Both men will be missed greatly. We thank them for their services to Brookfield and wish them both the very best. The Commissioner’s hired Jim Boos as our new Water Superintendent. Jim comes to us from the Water Dept. in West Brookfield; we welcome Jim to Brookfield, and look forward to having him serve with us for many years to come.

The Water Commissioners held monthly meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of the month in the Brookfield Town Hall at 1:00 p.m. or as posted.

The Water Department treated and pumped 29.4 million gallons of water. We currently have 472 active services in town.

Service connections in town represent 81% of water usage while the bulk pool water represents 17% of the water usage. Remainder usage used for maintenance purposes.

The Water Department operates under Massachusetts General Laws, which allows us to retain revenues that exceed our yearly expense. This enables us to retain a surplus account for capital expenditures. Continuation of education in D.E.P. approved classes is mandated in order to maintain a water operator license. These classes also keep the water departments informed of all current regulation changes.

Monthly testing performed for bacteria. Scheduled testing is performed for iron, manganese, and nitrate. The pumping station is checked seven days a week and recordings are taken. Maintenance, backflow testing, system flushing and customer support is given to provide an uninterrupted water supply.

**FY17 REPORT
July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017**

Water Users	\$116,101.60
Bulk Water	\$25,883.62
Demand and Interest	\$3,912.63
On Off Fee/Repair	\$2,404.61
Backflow/Sprinkler	\$962.50
Revenue Collected	\$149,264.96
Expense Account	29,980.30
Wage Account	84,897.97
Surplus	34,386.69

REPORT OF THE ZONING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Regular office hours were maintained to assist the Building Inspector to expedite permit required projects and ensure compliance to the Town of Brookfield Zoning By-Laws. During this past 2017 year, this office has taken approximately 175 telephone calls and 150 e-mail requests.

Numerous letters were sent to individual property owners and businesses for zoning infractions and requesting they comply with the zoning by-laws to avoid further action. In most situations, these issues were resolved in a timely manner without further action being taken to correct the violation. In some instances fines have been imposed to enforce compliance. Other departments were needed to intervene and help enforce the request to and avoid utilizing town counsel incurring additional expenses to the town. There are those cases where town counsel input has been necessary in order to be involved for resolution. There are cases that are currently in litigation that we are actively involved with town counsel to resolve.

I continue to respond to many complaints, give directions and resolve zoning issues and violations within the town. I work closely with other departments and residents to ensure that the rules and regulations set forth by the town of Brookfield are being adhered to. Town Counsel will continue to be utilized only when absolutely necessary to assist residents and business owners to comply with the zoning by-laws. Cooperation and compliance with the zoning by-laws, Zoning Board of appeals, The Planning Board, Board of Health, and respect for neighbors is appreciated and necessary to reduce to cost to the town of Brookfield when issues can be settled without the need for town counsel assistance.

Copies to the Town of Brookfield Zoning By-Laws are available from the town clerk and on the Town of Brookfield website.

Respectfully submitted,
Nicholas M. Thomo
Zoning Enforcement Officer

A big “thank you” to the municipal departments for their timely submissions to the Annual Town Report, and to Lois O’Leary or her expert data collection.

And a special thanks to Ron Couture for allowing the use of his “Brookfield Heritage Series” text, photos and original drawings.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 2017

TO EITHER OF THE CONSTABLES OF THE TOWN OF BROOKFIELD IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

IN THE NAME OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, YOU ARE HEREBY DIRECTED TO NOTIFY AND WARN THE INHABITANTS OF SAID TOWN, QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN TOWN AFFAIRS, TO MEET AT THE **BROOKFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 37 CENTRAL STREET, BROOKFIELD, MA ON FRIDAY THE NINTH DAY OF JUNE IN THE YEAR 2017 AT 6:30 P.M.** THEN AND THERE TO ACT ON THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES:

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to the Assistant Assessor Wages Account to pay for a FY17 wage short fall or take any action relative thereto. *(Sponsored by the Assessor's Office)*

The Town voted unanimously to transfer the sum of \$2,500.00 from the Consulting Services Account to the Assistant Assessor Wages Account.

Shortfall is due to the extra amount of hours required to be worked by the Assistant Assessor above what was originally budgeted for FY2017 wages. The extra hours were required due to the work time missed by the working members of the Board of Assessors totaling 32.5 weeks (487.50 hours) during Q1 and Q2 of FY2017

The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee support this article

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to the Assistant Assessor Wages Account to pay for a FY17 wage short fall or take any action relative thereto. *(Sponsored by the Assessor's Office)*

The Town voted unanimously to transfer the sum of \$964.38 from the Municipal Fuel Account to the Assistant Assessor Wages Account.

Shortfall is due to the extra amount of hours required to be worked by the Assistant Assessor above what was originally budgeted for FY2017 wages. The extra hours were required due to the work time missed by the working members of the Board of Assessors totaling 32.5 weeks (487.50 hours) during Q1 and Q2 of FY2017

The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee support this article

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to the Board of Assessor's Salary Account to pay for a FY17 wage shortfall or take any action relative thereto. *(Sponsored by the Assessor's Office)*

The Town voted unanimously to transfer the sum of \$2,793.71 from the Municipal Fuel Account to the Board of Assessors Salary Account.

When a new member was elected to the Board of Assessors in May of 2016, the Board of Assessors neglected to pay him for the 2 month period of May/June 2016. This sum represents what he was owed for that 2 month period and what he was paid in March of 2017 when the issue was resolved.

The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee support this article

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to the Wells Testing Account or take any action relative thereto. *(Sponsored by the Board of Health)*

The Town voted unanimously to transfer the sum of \$1,005.00 from the Municipal Fuel Account to the Wells Testing Account.

The DEP required an extra test at the well site due to the presence of 1.4 dioxin found in the test. This is the 3rd time in the last 3 years the DEP has mandated this. It should be noted that this has been found consistently throughout the years in the testing but only recently has the DEP required extra testing which always shows the same results. Our board has asked for a waiver of this extra testing and DEP is reviewing our request now. By the way this element is not a threat because there are no wells within 500 feet of the landfill cap. If the DEP denies our request for a waiver we will be requesting additional money on an annual basis for this account.

The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee support this article

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to the Transfer Station Expense Account or take any action relative thereto. *(Sponsored by the Board of Health)*

The Town voted unanimously to transfer the sum of \$5,000.00 from the Municipal Fuel Account to the Transfer Station Expense Account.

We anticipate a shortage of about \$5,000 dollars in this account this year. We just paid Casella Waste Services \$6,130.00 for April and only have \$7,325 left in our Expense account. The board anticipated this shortage when we met with the Advisory Committee earlier this year. This shortage is due to the fact that we have had increased expenses over the last two years regarding our Electronic waste costs.

The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee support this article

The Special Town Meeting Adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

And you are directed to serve this warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof, at the Town Hall and Post Office in said Town, fourteen days at least before the time of the holding of said meeting.

Hereof, fail not, and make due return of this warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of the meeting, *as aforesaid*. Given under our hands this day of in the year Two Thousand and Seventeen.

Respectfully Submitted,

SELECTMEN OF BROOKFIELD

Linda M. Lincoln, Chairman

Clarence R. Snyder, III, Vice Chairman

Beth L. Coughlin, Clerk

A True Copy, Attest:

Constable of Brookfield

Worcester, SS:
Brookfield, Massachusetts

Pursuant to the within warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Brookfield by posting attested copies of same at the U.S. Post Office on at a.m./p.m. and at the Brookfield Town Hall at a.m./p.m. on the same day.

Fourteen days before the date of the meeting, as within directed.

Constable of Brookfield

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

MICHAEL P. SEERY, TOWN CLERK

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
FRIDAY JUNE 9, 2017

WORCESTER, SS:

TO EITHER OF THE CONSTABLES OF THE TOWN OF BROOKFIELD IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

GREETINGS:

IN THE NAME OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, YOU ARE HEREBY DIRECTED TO NOTIFY AND WARN THE INHABITANTS OF SAID TOWN, QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN ELECTIONS AND IN TOWN AFFAIRS, TO MEET AT THE **ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**, 37 CENTRAL STREET, BROOKFIELD, MA ON **FRIDAY THE NINTH DAY OF JUNE IN THE YEAR 2017 AT 7:00 P.M.** THEN AND THERE TO ACT ON THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES:

NOTE: AFTER THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE A MOMENT OF SILENCE WAS HELD FOR SANDRA KADY OUR TOWN TREASURER WHO RECENTLY PASSED AWAY.

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to accept the annual report of the Town officials, as printed, or take any action relative thereto.

The Town voted unanimously to accept the Annual Report of the Town Officials as printed.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for the ensuing year, or take any action relative thereto.

The Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be necessary to defray the expense of the Town for the ensuing year.

Articles shown in the box below are on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant every year and are often voted as a block. The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee unanimously support these articles.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017 in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, section 4 and to issue a note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, section 17, or take any action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to foreclose on certain Tax Titles held by the Treasurer, or take any action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to instruct the Selectmen or their agent to sell for the Town any land or building acquired by the Town by Tax Title foreclosure after first giving notice of said sale, by posting a notice at the Town Hall and the Post Office, 14 days at least before said sale stating what parcels are to be sold or offered for sale and the time and place of holding said sale, or take any action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to sell any old and obsolete equipment or personal property by sealed bids; at public auction after first giving notice of the time and place of sale by posting such notice of sale in some convenient and public place in Town, and by advertising once in a local newspaper, fourteen days at least before the sale, any old and obsolete equipment or personal property, provided that the Selectmen or whomsoever they may authorize to hold such auction or sale may reject any bid which they deem inadequate; or at an established market, or take any action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for any and to expend any State, Federal or other grants that may become available to the Town of Brookfield, or take any action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Health to appoint one of its members to hold the position of Health Agent, Title V Administrator, and Transfer Station Administrator and to provide compensation therefore, or take any action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Health to fund additional betterment projects through the existing Community Septic Management Program account, or take any action relative thereto.

The Board of Health already has money in an account which may be used for septic loans to qualified residents. An annual re-authorization by Town Meeting is required to loan these funds.

The Town unanimously voted to approve articles 3 through 9.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.44, §53E½, as most recently amended, to (1) establish the following revolving funds and fiscal year spending limits as set forth below, and further (2) to amend the General Bylaws by inserting a new bylaw establishing various revolving funds, specifying the departmental receipts to be credited to each fund, the departmental purposes or programs for which each fund may be expended, and the entity authorized to expend each fund, such bylaw to provide as follows:

Chapter V, “Financial Affairs”, Section 8

- a. There are hereby established in the Town of Brookfield pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.44, §53E½, the following Revolving Funds, from which the specified department head, board, committee, or officer may incur liabilities against and spend monies from without appropriation in accordance with the limitations set forth in this by-law.
- b. Fringe benefits of full-time employees whose salaries or wages are paid from the fund shall also be paid from the fund.
- c. No liability shall be incurred in excess of the available balance of the fund.
- d. The total amount spent during a fiscal year shall not exceed the amount authorized by Annual Town Meeting or any increase therein as may later be authorized by the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in accordance with G.L. c.44, §53E½.
- e. Interest earned on monies credited to a revolving fund established by this by-law shall be credited to the General Fund.
- f. Authorized Revolving Funds

Revolving Fund Program or Purpose	Representative or Board Authorized to Spend Fund	Department Receipts to be Credited to Fund
Board of Health Inspector/Professional Engineer Costs	Board of Health	Engineering, inspection, and review fees charged in relation to witnessing of percolation test, septic plan review,

		site inspections, and resolution of variances.
Regional Highway Equipment Cooperative	RHE COOP Board of Directors with the approval of the Brookfield Board of Selectmen	Fees and other receipts received, in accordance with the Regional Highway Equipment Cooperative Agreement.

g. Procedures and Reports. Except as provided in General Laws Chapter 44, §53E½ and this by-law, all applicable state and local laws and regulations that govern the receipt, custody, expenditure and payment of town funds shall apply to the use of revolving funds established and authorized by this by-law.

And, further, to establish the following fiscal year spending limit for such funds:

Authorized Revolving Funds	Fiscal Year Expenditure Limit
Board of Health Inspector/Professional Engineer Costs	\$20,000
Regional Highway Equipment Cooperative	\$20,000

Or take any action relative thereto.

The Town unanimously voted to approve Article 10 as written in the Town Warrant, except that the phrase “or take any action relative thereto” be omitted.

Under the Municipal Modernization Act, the Town must have a revolving fund bylaw. After the bylaw is adopted, the only thing Town Meeting does is annually reauthorize the spending limits.

The Board of Selectmen supports this article; The Advisory Committee did not vote whether or not to support on this article

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions G.L. c. 44, §53F3/4, and establish a special revenue fund to be known as the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund, effective for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, for the purposes identified in G.L. c. 44, §53F3/4; and further, to appropriate a sum be expended by the Public Access and Communications Committee, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, for cable-related purposes, or take an action relative thereto.

The Town unanimously voted to accept the provisions G.L. c. 44, §53F3/4, and establish a special revenue fund to be known as the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund, effective for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, for the purposes identified in G.L. c. 44, §53F3/4; and further, to appropriate a sum be expended by the Public Access and Communications Committee, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, for cable-related purposes.

Under changes to the law, monies received under the Town’s cable license agreement with Charter Communications will be General Fund Revenue unless community adopts G.L. Chapter 44 §53F3/4 establishing a special revenue (receipts reserved for appropriation) fund. Communities have until the close of the fiscal year 2017 to establish this fund; otherwise the funds currently in the Cable Revolving Fund will be closed to general fund balance at June 30, 2017.

The Board of Selectmen support this article; The Advisory Committee did not vote whether or not to support this article.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 to plow private roads or take any action relative thereto.

The Town unanimously voted to pass over Article 12.

The department currently plows three miles of private roads. The actual cost to plow these three miles is approximately \$15,000 not \$1.00 which has been the annual vote.

The Board of Selectmen supports this article. The Advisory Committee does not support the \$15,000 figure; does support a figure of one dollar.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money for the Library Building Maintenance Account, or take any action relative thereto. *(Sponsored by the Library)*

The Town unanimously voted to pass over Article 13.

To pay an architect required by the Mass Historical Society for the Mass Preservation Project funds (grant MPPF). We have saved \$12,000 over several years and applied for this matching funds grant to improve the front façade of the library (gargoyle, downspout, and window restoration). The Trustees and staff continue to prioritize upgrades, maintenance to the Town's historic building.

The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee support this article

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter XV of the Personnel Bylaws, Section 2, Mandatory Classification to include the position of Cable Studio Coordinator, or take any action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Local Public Access Committee)

The Town unanimously voted to amend Chapter XV of the Personnel Bylaws, Section 2, Mandatory Classification to include the position of Cable Studio Coordinator

Position will be funded through quarterly payments from Charter Communications per its contract with the Town

The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee support this article

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter XV of the Personnel Bylaws, Section 2, Mandatory Classification to include the position of Assistant Treasurer, or take any action relative thereto.

(Sponsored by the Personnel Board)

The Town voted by a moderator declared voice majority to amend Chapter XV of the Personnel Bylaws, Section 2, Mandatory Classification to include the position of Assistant Treasurer.

The title Assistant Treasurer will enable the employee in that position to perform all the duties of the Treasurer in his/her absence. This designation will also omit the need for a financial clerk for the Treasurer's Office.

The Board of Selectmen supports this article; the Advisory Committee does not support this article

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to place street lights on the area of the Murray Memorial Bridge from Mill Road to Town Farm Road; at the entrance of Wagon Wheel Park; at the intersection of Rice Corner and Rice Corner Cross Road; and the intersection of Gay Road and Rice Corner Road, or take any action relative thereto. *(by Citizen Petition)*

The Town unanimously voted to pass over Article 16

The petition seeks \$1700 to improve public road safety by lighting the Murray Bridge, the intersection of Mill Street and Rt 148, and three points on Rice Corner Road. The estimated annual costs to rent street lights and pay energy costs are: Three 30 Watt LED street lights for Rice Corner (3 x \$110 per light=\$330), two 250w HPS with 15 to 25 foot pole extensions at Mill Street (2 x \$330 per light =\$660) and three 70wHPS for bridge (3 x \$170 per light = \$510.) Along with \$1500 for estimated street lights costs, the article asks for another \$200 to cover any cost overruns.

The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee support this article.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money for the purpose of designing, constructing and equipping improvements to the fire station, including any work incidental or related thereto, or take any action relative thereto. (*Sponsored by the Fire Department*)

The town voted unanimously to pass over Article 17.

The brick station's main electrical panel needs to be replaced. Also, as part of the heating and generator upgrade to natural gas, the fire department no longer has a working cooking stove, because you cannot have natural gas and propane functioning in the same building. Plumbing needs to be run to supply the kitchen with natural gas and a natural gas stove needs to be purchased. Building work /Gas plumbing: \$1,000; Stove: \$650.00; Electrical/Replace panel :\$10,000; other electrical: \$1,400. Total = \$13,050

The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee support this article.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to the Fleet Repair/Replacement Account, or take any action relative thereto. (*Sponsored by the Fire Dept*)
\$200,000

The Town unanimously voted to pass over Article 18.

National standards clearly state that fire pumpers should not be used beyond 25 years old. Brookfield has a 30 year old pumper and a 34 year old pumper. The 30 year old pumper has an open crew compartment which means that the firefighters are exposed to extreme cold, extreme heat, and all types of precipitation. A new pumper will cost over \$400,000. A used pumper that will serve for several years may be possible with \$200,000.

*The Board of Selectmen two to one support this article
The Advisory Committee does not support this article.*

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to purchase air tanks and protective clothing for the Fire Department, or take any action relative thereto. (*Sponsored by the Fire Chief.*)

The Town unanimously voted to transfer the sum of \$15,000 from Stabilization to purchase protective clothing for the Fire Department.

Protective clothing needs to be replaced after ten years and air bottles need to be replaced after 15 years. Some of the current funds were used to comply with the safety equipment policy.

The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee support this article.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to purchase a thermal image camera, or take any action relative thereto. (*Sponsored by the Fire Chief.*)

The Town unanimously voted to pass over Article 20.

The department only has one thermal imager, and it was purchased with a Federal grant and money from the firefighters association. That imager uses 20 year old technology. With the ability to utilize at least one interior firefighting crew per engine, there should be a thermal imager on each main pumpers. Thermal imagers allow firefighter to detect differences in heat. This allows them to detect fire in void spaces, and locate victims.

The Board of Selectmen two to one support this article; The Advisory Committee does not support this article.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved Account to fund the fiscal 2018 Emergency Squad Expense Account, or take any action relative thereto. *(Sponsored by the Emergency Squad.)*

The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee support this article.

The Town unanimously voted to transfer the sum of \$40,000 from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved Account to fund the fiscal 2018 Emergency Squad Expense Account.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved Account to fund the fiscal 2018 Emergency Squad Wages Account, or take any action relative thereto. *(Sponsored by the Emergency Squad.)*

The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee support this article.

The Town unanimously voted to transfer the sum of \$176,400 from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved Account to fund the fiscal 2018 Emergency Squad Wages Account.

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Water Surplus Account to the New Vehicle Purchase Account, or take any action relative thereto. *(Sponsored by the Water Dept.)*

The Town unanimously voted to transfer the sum of \$39,000 from the Water Surplus Account to the New Vehicle Purchase Account.

The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee support this article.

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to fund the Road Construction and Reconstruction Account, or take any action relative thereto. *(Sponsored by the Highway Dept.)*

The Town voted unanimously to transfer the sum of \$35,000.00 from Stabilization to fund the Road Construction and Reconstruction Account. (Standing Vote \$43 to 0 in favor) Requires 2/3rds vote.

The Road Reconstruction Account is used for projects and purchases that cannot be paid from Chapter 90 funds. These include, but are not limited to, patching potholes, drainage repairs, repairs to short sections of roads, repairs to catch basins and surveying.

The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee support this article.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to the Center Line Painting Account, or take any action relative thereto. *(Sponsored by the Highway Dept.)*

The Town voted to pass over Article 25.

A study by the American Safety Services Association and the National Association of County Engineers found that on two-lane rural roads with an average daily traffic (ADT) of at least 500 vehicles per day, edge lines yield \$17 in safety benefits for every dollar invested.

The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee support this article

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to replace the 1997 Ford 1 Ton truck, or take any action relative thereto. (*Sponsored by the Highway Dept*)

The Town voted by a standing 2/3rds majority of 44 in favor to 9 opposed to transfer the sum of \$58,900.00 from the Stabilization Account to replace the 1997 Ford 1 Ton Truck.

Balance in Fleet account is \$24,961.97 + transfers from General Fund from above = \$46,436.69. The 1997 Ford required many repairs during the past winter. This is also the truck we use for patching potholes. During a snowstorm we use three one ton trucks to plow the smaller roads & clean up intersections

The Board of Selectmen supports this article

The Advisory Committee does not support this article.

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to purchase welding air recycler and storage cabinets for flammable liquids, or take any action relative thereto. (*Sponsored by the Highway Dept*)
\$6,000

The Town unanimously voted to transfer the sum of \$6,000 from Stabilization to purchase welding air recycler and storage cabinets for flammable liquids.

Two departments are currently noncompliant in these two areas. These purchases will bring us into compliance and provide better protection for our employees.

The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee support this article.

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds a sum of money to increase the Highway Department Administrative Assistant's hours from 20 hours per week to 24 hours per week, or take any action relative thereto. (*Sponsored by the Highway Dept*)

The Town voted by a standing majority 34 yes to 5 no to raise and appropriate \$3,470 to increase the Highway Department Administrative Assistant's hours from 20 hours per week to 24 hours per week.

The amount of paperwork at the garage has increased with grants & required paperwork for Chapter 90 and bids. Four more hours a week would help us to get the work done timely.

The Board of Selectmen support this article

The Advisory Committee does not support this article.

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money for two cruiser radios and two portable radios that will that are necessary due to the mandated state upgrade, or take any action relative thereto. (*Sponsored by the Police Dept.*)

The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee support this article.

The Town voted to pass over Article 29.

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow a sum of money to supply six highway employees (three full time; one seasonal and two emergency operators) with Personal Protective Equipment, or take any action relative thereto. (*Sponsored by the Highway Dept*)

The Town voted by a 2/3rds standing majority 34 yes to 4 no to transfer the sum of \$8,736.00 from Stabilization to purchase six sets of Personal Protective Equipment for Highway Employees.

\$1,456 x 6 = \$8,736, the remainder would update gear for the two flagger positions.

Gear: work boots; safety glasses; hard hats; ear muffs; work gloves; ANSI compliant safety vests; ANSI compliant safety tee shirts; ANSI compliant jacket; safety light head lamps ; chain saw boots.

The Board of Selectmen supports this article.

The Advisory Committee does not support this article.

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will borrow, transfer or raise and appropriate a sum of money to condemn and raze up to three uninhabitable buildings in the Town of Brookfield, or take any action thereto. (*Sponsored by the Board of Health*)

The town unanimously voted to transfer the sum of \$9,000.00 from Stabilization to condemn and raze up to three uninhabitable buildings in the Town of Brookfield.

The buildings are no longer suitable for human habitation and one has extensive fire damage (4 South Maple St); the other (30 Kimball Street) has a septic system on someone neighbor's property and is not habitable. Estimated cost is \$4,500 per building.

The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee support this article.

ARTICLE 32 : To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter IV of the General By-laws, "Advisory Committee", as follows, with new language to be added to the existing Sections 1 and 4 noted in bold type, below:

Section 1: There shall be a Advisory Committee for the Town to which shall be referred all articles **of a financial nature contained** in any warrant hereafter issued for Town Meeting. The Selectmen, after drawing a warrant for a Town Meeting, shall immediately forward a copy thereof to each member of said committee, which shall consider all articles **of a financial nature** in the warrant and make such report, in print or otherwise, to the Town Meeting as it deems for the best interest of the Town. The Committee will also make reports and issue recommendations for all articles, questions or other matters referring to Proposition 2 ½ so called. ...

(remainder of Section 1, and Sections 2 and 3, unchanged).

Section 4: In the discharge of its duty, said Committee shall have free access to all books or records and accounts **having to do with the financial affairs of the Town, including** bills and vouchers on which money has been or may be paid from the Town treasury. **Requests for information from the Committee shall be responded to by Town officers, boards, committees or departments in a reasonable manner, and in a reasonable time frame. However, the provision of such access (including requests for information) shall not unduly interfere with the conduct of official Town business, or the ability of Town employees to perform the functions of their positions.**

The Town voted unanimously to pass over Article 32.

The Board of Selectmen supports this article.

The Advisory Committee does not support this article.

ARTICLE 33: To see if the Town will borrow, transfer or raise and appropriate a sum of money to purchase a platform lift for access to the second floor of the Town Hall, or take any action thereto. (*Sponsored by the Advisory Committee*)

The Town voted unanimously to pass over Article 33.

The Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Committee support this article

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

75 voters were in attendance.

And you are directed to serve this warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof, at the Town Hall and Post Office in said Town, seven days at least before the time of the holding of said meeting.

Hereof, fail not, and make due return of this warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of the meeting, as aforesaid. Given under our hands this day of in the year Two Thousand and Seventeen.

Respectfully Submitted,

SELECTMEN OF BROOKFIELD

Linda M. Lincoln, Chairman

Clarence R. Snyder III, Vice Chairman

Beth L. Coughlin, Clerk

A True Copy, Attest:

Constable of Brookfield

Worcester, SS:
Brookfield, Massachusetts

Pursuant to the within warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Brookfield by posting attested copies of same at the U.S. Post Office on 2017 at a.m./p.m. and at the Brookfield Town Hall at a.m./p.m. on the same day. Seven days before the date of the meeting, as within directed.

Constable of Brookfield

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

MICHAEL P. SEERY, TOWN CLERK



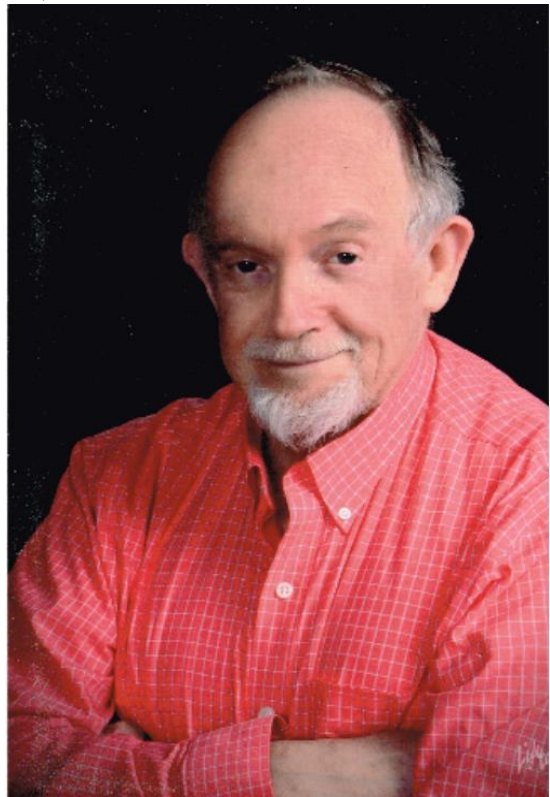
Legacy of a Volunteer

Philip Peirce was far more than just a community leader. As Brookfield residents continue to mourn his loss and honor his life, they are reflecting on a man who transcended local volunteerism. Peirce passed away in December, 2017 at the age of 81 years old. During a memorial service at Brookfield Congregational Church, attendees didn't have to look far to remember what Peirce meant to the community.

The BCC renovation was made possible because of Peirce and others whose vision and leadership led to its refurbishment when the building was crumbling. Phil was the project manager for the renovation – he literally gave the church a stronger foundation. Peirce was also instrumental in the formation of A.P.P.L.E. Seed, Inc., an organization dedicated to the betterment of the community. The group assists with countless local projects, including the recent establishment of a volunteer-run radio station focusing on local news and artists. But it never would have been possible without the creative vision of Peirce, who also got involved in municipal government by serving as a selectman, an assessor, and a member of other committees.

Giving back was in Peirce's blood. Almost everyone in town knew him, and he was always eager to assist with community projects, school events, craft fairs, and countless other programs. Peirce was one of the first people to join the Center Stage Community Theatre group and help out. He was a selectman at the time, and he was instrumental in allowing the group to perform in the town hall. Phil was a truly kind man, and was always willing to help people. Reflecting on his life will hopefully inspire others to also consider volunteering and give back.

At a time when participation in town government and community involvement significantly dipped nationwide, Phil exemplified what it means to step up and lend a hand. Phil is an inspiration to the rest of us on how to become involved.



Kevin Flanders Spencer New Leader article January 5, 2018

**ABEL W. REED HOUSE
17 WEST MAIN ST**

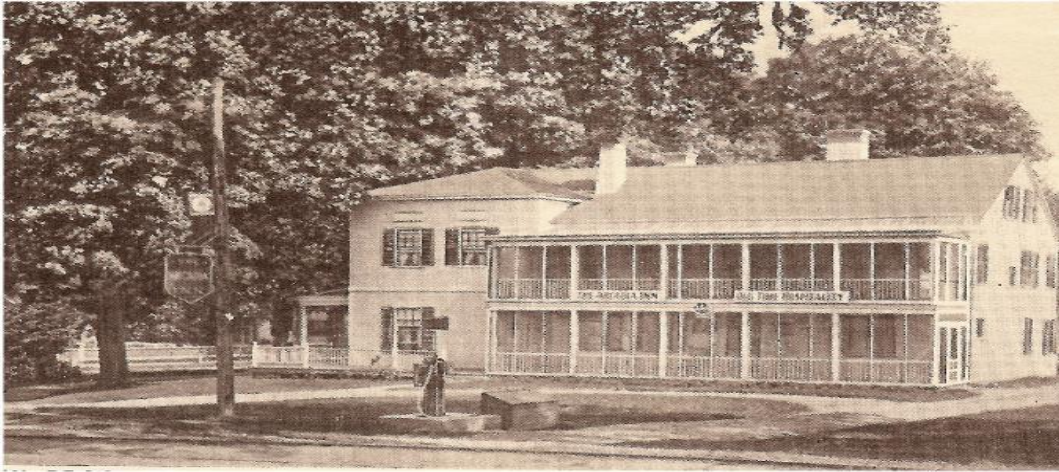


Originally a late 19th century, Federal style structure, this house was purchased by land owner developer Abel W. Reed prior to 1855 and was “Victorianized” with Italianate decoration. In 1911 the house was bought by Lindoff Bassett as a gift for his wife, Louise Galloway, a well-known stage personality who had often summered in Brookfield.

Galloway was a member of David Belasco’s theater company and from 1911 to 1916 managed her own vaudeville troupe. She converted the home to the “Louise Galloway Tea House” in 1924 and it became a popular gathering place for New York celebrities in the arts and sports worlds throughout the next decade.

In 1931 she organized the Galloway Players and set up a summer theater in the Great Hall of the Brookfield Town Hall. Her well known generosity to unemployed colleagues proved her undoing: in 1934 the bank foreclosed and she was evicted. Louise went on to start the Red Barn Theater in Westborough and worked in summer stock at the Provincetown Players Theater.

WILLIAM HOWE HOUSE 1 MAIN STREET



This Federal style house, dating from the early development of Main Street in 1810, was built by William Howe, the town's leading merchant in provisions and its sole express agent.

On the north-west corner of the property stood Brookfield's first post office & pony express, a tenement, a warehouse and a series of general stores.

The building became a stage tavern in the 1860's, reverted to a private dwelling, and again became an inn, the Arcadia, around 1900. Charles F. Koppel, the proprietor of the inn, bought the place in 1923 and ran it as an annex to his hotel until 1930.

KIMBALL & ROBINSON SHOE FACTORY-- CENTRAL STREET



“The Big Shop” was built in 1859 when the company had outgrown the facility on Main Street and remains the earliest business structure in Brookfield still operating. When Aaron Kimball retired in 1861, he sold the property to his bookkeeper, Henry E. Twitchell, who sold it to his brother, Emmons in 1864. As E. Twitchell & Co. it continued as the town’s major employer until its bankruptcy in 1879. The factory stood vacant for two years as Brookfield endured the hardships of mass unemployment during the depression of 1879-80.

George H. Burt & Co. acquired the shop in 1881 and with 500 employees producing 300 cases of shoes per day, the town prospered. In 1906 Burt sold out to Foster & Moulton who demolished two-thirds of the buildings and continued until 1924 when the Daly Bros., Brookfield’s last shoe manufacturer, moved in. The Gavitt Company took over the property in 1927 and continues a limited business there.



Crossing the River Causeway

Although no remnants exist, this river crossing is thought to have been part of a Native American fordway and path system which connected the small river villages of the Quaboag - Nipmuc people.

Historian J.H. Temple mentions this area in his "Account of Old Quaboag" when he describes this place as, "Mason's Point - the hard land that reaches the river opposite the mouth of Mason's Brook, where the causeway is built."

The Brookfield town meeting record of 1715 indicates the appointment of a committee of William Old, Edward Walker, Jr. and Elisha Rice to build a bridge at Mason's Point. The bridge established a much needed connection to the growing southern section of land



