



Town of Washington

Annual Report

2006

TOWN ORGANIZATIONS

American Legion Gage Zumpf Post #87	Washington Citizen's Scholarship
Daughters of the American Revolution	Washington Community Fund
Devereux-Glenholme School	Washington Community Housing Trust
Dramalites	Washington Conservation Commission
First Congregational Church of Washington	Washington Democratic Town Committee
First Ecclesiastical Society of New Preston	Washington Environmental Council
Gunn Memorial Library & Museum	Washington Garden Club
The Gunnery School	Washington Grange #11
Judea Cemetery Commission	Washington-Gunnery Hockey Association
Lake Waramaug Authority	Washington Inland Wetlands Commission
Lion's Club of Washington	Washington Housing Commission
New Milford Visiting Nurse Association	Washington Historic District Commission
New Preston Boys and Girls Club	Washington Montessori School
New Preston Cemetery Association	Washington Parks and Recreation Commission
New Preston Congregational Church	Washington Rod and Gun Club
New Preston Rod & Gun Club	Washington Planning Commission
New Preston Women's Club	Washington Primary School
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	Washington Republican Town Committee
Parent-Teacher Organizations	Washington Senior Center
Rotary Club of Washington	Washington Volunteer Fire Department
Rumsey Hall School	Washington Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary
Salem Covenant Church	Washington-Warren Food Bank
Scouts-Boy & Girl	Washington Zoning Commission
Shepaug Valley Middle-High School	Washington Zoning Board of Appeals
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church	
St. John's Episcopal Church	
Steep Rock Association	
Village Improvement Society	
Visiting Nurse & Home Care NW	
VNA Thrift Shop	
Washington Ambulance Association	
Washington Art Association	
Washington Board of Education	
Washington Board of Finance	
Washington Board of Selectmen	
Washington Business Association	
Washington Cemetery Association	

DEDICATED TO MAJOR STEPHEN C. REICH

May 22, 1971 - June 28, 2005



This annual report is dedicated to Major Stephen C. Reich who with unselfish courage gave his life defending our freedoms.

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TOWN CALENDAR 2006-2007

MEETINGS OF TOWN BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

July 1	Beginning of fiscal year. First payment of property tax during July.
August 2	Interest begins on unpaid taxes.
September 30	Military discharge to be recorded by new residents for tax exemptions.
Oct. 1 – Nov. 1	All personal property, excluding cars, to be listed with Assessor.
October 3	Annual Town Meeting.
November 7	Election Day.
December 1	Gregory Seeley Bryan Birthday (1868).
January 1	Happy New Year! Second payment of property tax due during January.
Feb. 1 – Oct. 1	Additional veteran's exemption applications received (income requirements).
February 2	Interest begins on unpaid taxes.
February 20	Board of Assessment Appeals must receive written appeals for hearings scheduled during March.
Feb. 1 – May 15	Elderly or disabled homeowners apply for tax credit (income requirements).
May 10	Annual Town Budget Hearing.
May 15 – Sept. 15	Elderly or disabled renters apply for tax credit (income requirements).
May 24	Annual Town Budget Meeting.
June	Dog license fees payable.
June 30	Fiscal year ends.

Board of Selectmen
Every other Thursday 4:30 p.m.

Board of Finance
3rd Monday of each month 5:00 p.m.

Conservation Commission
1st Wednesday of each month 5:00 p.m.

Historic District Commission
3rd Monday of each month 7:30 p.m.

Housing Commission
2nd Monday of each month 5:00 p.m.

Inland Wetlands Commission
2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month 7:00 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commission
2nd Monday of each month 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission
1st Tuesday of each month 7:30 p.m.

Zoning Commission
4th Monday of each month 7:30 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals
3rd Tuesday of each month 7:30 p.m.

Building Official
Daily 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Sanitarian
Monday and Wednesday 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Board of Education
2nd Monday of each month 7:30 p.m. and as posted.

- Please check Town Clerk's notice board for changes and special meetings.
- Bryan Memorial Town Hall is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.
- The Land Use Office is open from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. daily.
- The Agent for the Elderly is available Tuesday at the Senior Center (It is suggested specific appointments be made.)
- The Probate Office is open Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., or by appointment.
- The Senior Center is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

TOWN OFFICERS AND OTHERS SERVING IN A FIDUCIARY CAPACITY *As of July 1, 2006*

Animal Control Officer

(appointed)
Cynthia F. Brissett

Board of Assessment

Appeals

(elected-4 year term)
Ann Fisher Bruzzi, Chairman
John J. Allen
Roderick M. Wyant III

Assessor

(appointed-4 year term)
Barbara S. Johnson

Auditor

Charles P. Heaven &
Company

Building Official

William T. P. Jenks

Building & Property Commission

(appointed-3 year term)
John J. Allen, Chairman
David Showalter
Reese Owens

Conservation Commission

(appointed-3 year term)
Susan F. Payne, Chairman
Kelly Boling
Phillip Markert
Linda Frank
Joseph Gitterman
Diane M. Dupuis, alt.
Elizabeth Corrigan, alt.
Daniel Sherr, alt.

Emergency Management

(appointed)
Robert Tomlinson
Thomas Hearn

Board of Finance

(elected-6 year term)
Michael C. Jackson,
Chairman
Barbara Brown
John Boyer
John H. Field
Rexford Swain

Craig G. Schoon
James L. Brinton, alt.
Lisabeth D. Adams, alt.
John J. Allen, alt.

Fire Chiefs

Dick Murchison, Chief
Craig Wilber, 1st Asst. Chief

Fire Marshall

(appointed)
Donald S. Etherington

Health Director

(appointed)
Michael A. Crespan

Historic District Commission

(appointed-5 year term)
Peter Arturi, Chairman
William H. Smith
Peter Talbot
Alison Gilchrist
Ronald K. Chute
Jane Boyer, alt.
Phyllis J. Mills, alt.
Elizabeth M. Rives, alt.

Housing Commission

(appointed-3 year term)
Wayne Hileman, Chairman
Jean Suddaby
F. Donald Brigham
Lisabeth D. Adams
Susan M. Werkhoven

Inland Wetlands Commission

(appointed-3 year term)
Mark E. Picton, Chairman
Marguerite Purnell
Charles LaMuniere
Anthony J. Bedini
Dorothy G. Hill
David E. Thomson, alt.
John Potter, alt.
Kathryn E. Coe, alt.
Michael Ajello, Enforcement
Officer

Judea Cemetery Commission

(appointed-5 year term)
Dennis Hussey, Chairman
Ruth M. Alex
Phyllis Allen
Ellen J. Condon
Georgia P. Whitney

Justices of the Peace

(elected)
Frank Adams
Randall J. Breeckner
Ann Fisher Bruzzi
Matthew W. Cain
Kenneth Cornet
Reginald W. Fairbairn
Edith C. Johnson
Adam J. Korpalski
Daniel J. Leab
John J. Muckstadt
Joseph A. Mustich
John Olear
Davyne E. Verstandig
Joshua Weiner

Lake Waramaug Authority

(appointed-3 year term)
Sandra Papsin
Edwin S. Matthews, Jr.
Dean Sarjeant

Land Use Coordinator

(appointed)
Janet M. Hill

Probate Court Judge

(elected-4 year term)
Judge Victoria M. Cherniske

Municipal Agent for the Elderly

(appointed)
Pamela F. Collins

Open Burning Official

(appointed)
Gunnar Neilson

Parks and Recreation Commission

(appointed-3 year term)
Sheila M. Anson, Chairman
Timothy A. Cook
Raymond W. Reich
Joseph B. Fredlund
Joan M. Gauthey
Holly Z. Haas
Christopher J. Kersten
Louis Magnoli

Planning Commission

(appointed-5 year term)
Adelaide Roberts, Chairman
Paul Frank
Christopher Charles
Dimitri Rimsky
Sarah E. Gager
Barbara G. Braverman, alt.
J. Winston Fowlkes III, alt.
Richard O. Carey, alt.

Police

(appointed)
Stephen Sordi, Resident
State Trooper
Caleb Shropshire, Full Time
Officer
Patrick J. Kessler, Full Time
Officer
John Wyshynski, Part Time
Officer
Herbert Furhman, Part Time
Officer
Thomas J. Accousti, Part
Time Officer
Lee Levesque, Part Time
Officer

Region #12 School Board

(elected-4 year term)
Washington Representatives:
Irene Allan, Chairman
James Hirschfield
Valerie J. Andersen
Matthew Franjola
Michelle Gorra
Lawrence H. O'Toole

Registrars of Voters

(elected-4 year term)
Constance Kaylor
Lillian Lyon

Board of Selectmen

(elected-2 year term)
Richard C. Sears, First
Selectman
Nicholas N. Solley
Mark E. Lyon

Senior Center Director

(appointed)
Pamela F. Collins

Tax Collector

(elected-2 year term)
Tanya J. Wescott

Town Clerk (elected-4 year term) Sheila M. Anson	Ralph V. Averill Luis Abella, alt. Andrew Shapiro, alt. Harry H. Wyant, alt. Michael Ajello, Enforcement Officer
Treasurer (elected-2 year term) Linda M. McGarr	
Tree Warden (appointed) William C. Bader	Zoning Board of Appeals (elected-4 year term) Edmund White, Chairman Katherine K. Leab Randolph W. Snook Bradford Sedito Mary J. Roberts Peter Bowman, alt. Georgia P. Middlebrook, alt. Todd Catlin, alt.
Zoning Commission (elected-6 year term) David L. Owen, Chairman Henry Martin Gary Fitzherbert Valerie Friedman	

William B. Larmore and Jacqueline H. Jones New Milford May 6, 2006
Andrew M. Ancel and Charlotte B. Calcagni Washington May 20, 2006
Keith M. Smith and Kathryn A. Breeckner Washington May 20, 2006
Eric H. Leitz and Sherry A. Griswold Washington May 20, 2006
Thomas R. Szwejkowski, Jr., and Santina N. Matyschsyk Westbrook May 20, 2006
Dana A. Perrin and Rebecca W. Tanuis Washington May 20, 2006
Matthew D. Kirshner and Leah A. Sterry Wolcott June 17, 2006
Stephen Tibor Kiss and Linda J. Migalti Washington June 17, 2006
Jarrod M. Sisk and Michelle R. O'Brien Watertown June 30, 2006

VITAL STATISTICS

Births: 24

Marriages:

53 (partial list)

Paul K. Navratil and Stacey J. Trippel
Tolland July 9, 2005

John R. Daudelin and Kristina L. Childs
Winchester July 16, 2005

James J. Rudzavice and Sarah B. Tripp
Washington August 13, 2005

Ronald A. Garfunkel and Sandra B. Breakstone
Washington September 4, 2005

Richard E. Whalen and Stefanie J. Brown
Warren September 10, 2005

Christopher P. Gardner and Jacqueline M. Moots
Warren November 6, 2005

Stephen J. Nicholas and Elizabeth G. Getsinger
Warren November 26, 2005

Alexi I. Tchernichov and Andrea Swiedler
Washington December 20, 2005

Ernest A. Silvernail III and Sarah K. Morton
Washington December 22, 2005

Paul R. Lattanzi and AnnMarie K. Reich
Washington December 31, 2005

Ken E. Gines and Tonja M. Mitchell
Washington January 7, 2006

Clinton W. Rumble and Jenilyn R. Olsen
Warren April 29, 2006

Civil Unions:

11 (partial list)

Joan M. Gauthey and Charlotte E. Johnson
Washington October 1, 2005

Kenneth W. Cornet and Joseph A. Mustich
Washington October 1, 2005

Louis Altschul and Joseph H. Simo
Washington October 11, 2005

William E. Fore and Joe E. Loose
Washington May 27, 2006

Deaths: 34

Ruamah A. Smith	July 5, 2005
Matthew P. Murgio	July 9, 2005
Diane Crosby	July 13, 2005
Robert Longley	July 16, 2005
Karin L. DiMasso	July 23, 2005
Edgar D. Mason, Jr.	August 7, 2005
Gary W. Ramos	August 17, 2005
Howard W. Tallmadge	August 30, 2005
Rose E. Cable	September 11, 2005
Martin Nelson, Jr.	September 22, 2005
Jean M. Weeks	October 2, 2005
Harold Krasnow	October 9, 2005
Elizabeth D. Miller	October 18, 2005
Mildred Wright	October 20, 2005
Shirley McKenney	October 20, 2005
George Verenes	December 7, 2005
Gary Brainard	December 17, 2005
Charlotte B. Smith	December 20, 2005
James J. Raymunt, Sr.	December 31, 2005
Brian Anderson	January 1, 2006
John Paul Revere	January 26, 2006

Rhoda Addison	February 7, 2006
Jean M. Wallis	February 27, 2006
Francis Heiser	March 28, 2006
Edward R. Weeks	April 2, 2006
Robert C. Buck	April 11, 2006
Helen E. Armstrong	April 28, 2006
Leona J. Krom	May 1, 2006
Roger Dana Gibson	May 22, 2006
John S. Smegielski, Sr.	May 25, 2006
Rose Stolfi	June 12, 2006
Joan Johnson	June 17, 2006
Jeanne E. Bronson	June 22, 2006
Ima I. Aminti	June 25, 2006

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The Board of Selectmen meets every other Thursday to conduct the business of the Town. The Selectmen also set the agenda for and conduct Town Meetings. Highlights of the year include:

The Church Street Improvements project bid was awarded to Stone Construction Company in August. Major drainage, parking, sidewalks and roadwork upgrades, made possible by a STEAP grant, were completed by winter.

The Selectmen, acting upon the recommendation of the Housing Diversity Committee and in accordance with a new ordinance, established the Housing Commission by appointing its first members.

The Selectmen worked to solve the Shepaug Regional School District's elementary school space needs. The First Selectman and members of the Board of Finance served on the School Options Steering Committee in hopes of collaborating with Roxbury and Bridgewater toward a solution. In March 2006, Washington Town voters at a non-binding referendum favored a consolidated school over a local school. Three times (June 2005, April and June 2006) Washington did not approve funding renovation of the three, local primary schools.

A bid to prepare engineering plans to improve drainage issues at Plumb Hill Road was awarded to Lenard Engineering of Winsted. Lenard was awarded another design project to replace a culvert bridge in 2008 on Nettleton Hollow Road.

The Board agreed to an experimental use of biodiesel fuel in its highway trucks. This renewable fuel is being produced by Shepaug High School students with the support of the Washington Environmental Council.

Numerous improvements to municipal properties took place under the watchful eye of the Buildings and Property Manager including: The Gage-Zumpf American Legion Post building that houses the town Senior Center enjoyed a new

roof, exterior paint job and interior spruce-up. The Salt-Sand building at the town garage was painted and the Bee Brook Firehouse meeting room was painted. Plans for relocating the Land Use offices in Town Hall and moving of the Police Department to the old Depot Fire House were finalized.

Town Meetings: Two regular and four special town meetings were held: In August an Ordinance limiting the uses of Eminent Domain and an amendment to the Open Space Land Acquisition Fund were approved. In September a motion to establish a formal policy regarding the availability and completeness of town meeting minutes failed. The Annual Town meeting in October approved Land Use and Transfer station fee increases. Ordinances for 4-year terms of office for certain municipal officials and tax-exemptions for farm machinery were defeated. At the request of the Board of Finance a November meeting voted favorably on an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Towns of Bridgewater and Roxbury and a motion to spend \$33,400 for a feasibility study regarding the elementary school space issue. A February meeting approved the filing of an application for a \$440,000 Small Cities Block Grant for renovations to Dodge Farm apartments. The May meeting approved the 2006-2007 Town Budget, increases in Building Department fees and an amendment to the Town Meeting ordinance requiring meetings to be held at 7:30 p.m.

The vitality of our New England small town is due to the passion and commitment, the time, energy and dedication of hundreds of volunteers who give thousands of hours to make our common life rich and rewarding. I wish to thank all who serve on Town Boards, Commissions, Committees and Task Forces. Joining them are the tireless workers of our Emergency Services Corps. Together these volunteers make Washington a great place in which to live.

Richard C. Sears
For the Board of Selectmen

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

The fiscal year 2005-2006 exceeded all previous years with the volume of calls handled, seeing more animal activity of all kinds to this area than ever before. Approximately 1600 calls were answered within this department.

Only 21 animals had to actually be impounded vs the over 100 turned in by way of a telephone call - the person who found the animal describing it and with the owner having already called to report it missing. If that happens, providing there haven't been any problems, the owner is called and they pick up their missing animal from the person who found it. No impoundment is necessary. At least not the first time. Out of the 21 animals impounded, 4 were cats that either bit someone or appeared injured. 10 of the impounded were claimed by their owners while 10

were not(4 cats and 6 dogs.) One dog died from injuries sustained in a dog vs motor vehicle accident. All unclaimed animals found new homes.

There were 7 dog bites to humans that required hospitalization/surgery or a visit to the ER.

The amount of wildlife calls are equal to all other calls. Bears are seen on a daily basis as are coyote, fox, and bobcat. It used to be an occasional raccoon or skunk that would be sighted but they are being overshadowed by the more uncommon creatures. Moose sightings are also joining the ranks of what to watch for as over 100 live in this state.

With the large amount of wildlife it can only be expected for rabies to be on the rise. And it is. This Spring saw a rabid fox wreak such havoc that our town wound up on TV and made newspaper headlines. Five people had to undergo the series of shots after being exposed to the fox...remember, if left untreated, rabies is fatal.

Make sure your animals are up to date with their rabies vaccine. If not currently vaccinated and attacked by a rabid animal the state strongly recommends you euthanize your pet, or,(state law) it will have to be quarantined in a special state approved facility for 6 months with you, the pet owner, having to pay the board. Please vaccinate!

Dog licenses are renewable each June through the Town Clerk's office - a current proof of rabies certificate is necessary to purchase your license.

Any animal concerns or question please call 868-2870.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Brissett
Animal Control Officer/Dog Warden

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

The Grand List for 2005 continued the slow, steady pace of growth with a 1.95 increase to \$950,309,330. The value of all property in Town is over a billion dollars when the tax-exempt properties are included and these figures are at 2003 values. We haven't seen a down-turn in value - rather a longer marketing period. Washington's next revaluation will be as of October 1, 2008, and the market could change a great deal in the next two years. Not being Nostradamus, I'm making no predictions.

As usual, the bulk of the increase is in real estate, but taxable personal property increases at about the same rate. In the office, at tax time, we spend an inordinate amount of time, adjusting motor vehicle taxes. Motor vehicles make up 4 % of the Grand List so possible elimination of this tax at the local level would be welcomed not only by the public but

also the Tax Collector and the Assessor.

The cooperation of all the Land Use offices as well as the Town Clerk and Tax Collector is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted:
Barbara S. Johnson, C.C.M.A.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Fiscal year 2005-2006 has once again exceeded all of my expectations in respect to the amount of construction and has reached a new milestone. The \$50 million mark was exceeded this year with total construction value 100% above what would be considered normal. The past couple of years we have had large projects with total construction values that equal a whole years worth of construction in the rest of town. I do not expect this trend to continue much longer with the rapid rise in interest rates and feel we will soon return to a more normal \$20 to \$25 million per year.

The following is a four year comparison:

FISCAL YEAR:	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06
# PERMITS:	560	623	712	636
# NEW HOUSES:	17	29	15	20
PERMIT FEES:	\$145,872	\$253,426	\$238,426	\$311,510
TOTAL VALUE:	\$22,928,157	\$40,170,567	\$39,027,597	\$50,296,105
AVERAGE				
PERMIT VALUE:	\$40,943	\$64,479	\$54,814	\$79,081

Construction this past year increased 20% above the last two years that were already increases over the end of the 1900's and the start of the 2000's. The last ½ of the year we closed out several large projects that added to the increase as well as issued a few new large commercial project permits. Even with the increase in volume this spring I did see a noted decrease in general permit activity. We have not seen any "spec" home permits in the past six months however, we are seeing more addition and renovation permits. I don't think new housing units for fiscal 06/07 will be much above the low to mid teens and also think the total number of permits issued will fall back to the 500 per year range.

William T. P. Jenks
Town of Washington
Building Department

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Conservation Commission was created by Town Ordinance #7096, effective January 1, 2000. Its powers and duties are those set forth in Section 7-131a of the CT General Statutes. Per the statute: "Any town...may establish a conservation commission for the development, conservation, supervision and regulation of natural resources, including water resources, within its territorial limits."

Activities during fiscal year 2005-2006

The role of the Conservation Commission is advisory. Referrals from other land use commissions are appreciated.

The Ridgeline Protection Committee, after considerable research, proposed some regulatory recommendations to help protect the rural character and scenic ridgelines of the town by limiting the visual prominence of structures. The Zoning Commission has adopted one recommendation that requires that the finished height of a building be measured from the pre-existing grade and must be measured on site prior to any site disturbance. Other regulatory recommendations are under consideration by Zoning.

During spring 2006, the Greenway Committee connected the Town Greenway to the Macricostas Preserve. Signs have been posted along Route 47 to Route 202 to Christian Street. Parking is available behind the red colonial house where there is a detailed trailhead directing you to Waramaug's Rock.

The Scenic Roads Ordinance was adopted at the fall 2003 town meeting. As of June 30, 2006, 12 roads have been approved by the Planning Commission. Information packets to propose a scenic road designation are available in the Land Use office, on the town web site, or by contacting Conservation Commission member, Joe Gitterman, 868-1090.

A list of invasive plants is now available on the town web site.

Copies of the Natural Resource Inventory Report and Recommendations are available at Town Hall and the Hickory Stick Bookshop. (\$25 per copy)

Copies of Land Use in Washington, CT: Regulations, Agencies and Commissions are available from the Land Use office, Town Hall.

Standing Subcommittees:

- Cell Tower-Phil Markert, chair; Diane Dupuis
- Data Management for Land Use Needs-Kelly Boling, chair;
- Flora & Fauna/Invasives, Endangered Species & Bird Identification - Betsy Corrigan, chair; Natalie Dyer, Diane Dupuis, Robbie Barnett and Linda Potter

- Greenway - Susan Payne, chair; Bob Williams, Addie Roberts, Elisha Dyer, Bonnie Matthews, Bob deCourcy, Kelly Boling, Linda Potter, Dan Sherr, Barbara Templeton and Dorothy Wilson.
 - o Greenway is on Town Web Site
 - o Historic Points-of-Interest Trail Guide published summer 2005
 - o Annual trail monitoring needs volunteers.
- Monitoring of Town properties -Linda Frank, chair; all commission members and alternates.
- Open Space Committee - Dan Sherr, chair; Joanne Caldara, Patte Doran, Rod Funston, Phil Gorrvan, Eileen Hearn, Charles LaMuniere, Phil Markert, Susan Payne, Chick Treadway, and Jack Field, advisor. Meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5 PM.
- School Connection/ways to involve public and private school students -Linda Frank
- Water Resources - Phil Markert, chair; Randy Bernard and Susan Payne

Representatives from other town commissions are invited to participate. Volunteers are always needed.

The commission is most grateful for the expert services of Pam Osborne as our secretary.

We urge you all to be stewards of this beautiful, rural community we live in: conserve water, eradicate invasives, protect our New England stonewalls, minimize outdoor lighting, care for our woodlands, do not clear cut, drive slowly and participate in the town.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Payne, chair; Kelly Boling, vice-chair; Linda Frank, Joe Gitterman and Phil Markert; alternates: Betsy Corrigan, Diane Dupuis and Dan Sherr.

The Conservation Commission meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at 5PM in the Land Use Room.

"Honorary First Selectman" Erik Quist



ELECTIONS REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

In October 2006, the Registrars held two (2) mandatory Voter Registration Sessions - Saturday, October 21, 2006 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Tuesday, October 31, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Only new residents, new citizens and residents who turned 18 after October 31st could register on Monday, November 6, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Many thanks to all that voted in the November Town Election. Also a big thank you to our great group of poll workers.

The State required canvass went out in February 2006. Your prompt returns were greatly appreciated.

The Registrars hosted a training session for the new phone voting system in October 2006 which was attended by other area towns and our poll workers.

November 7, 2006 was Election Day and the polls were open 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and we had a great turnout.

Respectfully submitted,
Constance Kaylor
Lillian Lyon
Registrars

The coming year's budget (2006-2007) is based upon a Grand List which increased approximately \$18.6 million or 2% over last year's budget. The Region's budget, not including debt service, increased \$1,065,400 or 6.1%. Our Town's share will increase \$473,003 or 5.9% to \$8,464,512 before grants and reimbursements. After anticipated credits, our net expense would increase by 6%. The Town's operating expense budget is \$3,602,479 before debt service, which is an increase of \$242,159 or 7% over last year's budget, but just \$18,231 or .5% over last year's actual expenditures before ex-budget expenditures of \$88,615. The Town's capital budget decreased to \$927,050, 5.4% lower than the previous year. Given the increase in the Grand List for the year, your Board felt it should increase the current mill rate to 12. Given the changes in administration of Region 12, the Board is hopeful that future increases in the Region's budget will be limited to the increase in the Grand List. However, the building program currently being considered can only increase our mill rate.

Again, this year I would like to thank the members of the Board of Finance for their dedication and participation: Jack Boyer, Rex Swain, Jack Field, Craig Schoon, Barbara Brown, Liddy Adams, John Allen and Jim Brinton. I would particularly like to thank our vice-chairman, Jack Field, for all his effort on the school construction program. His help is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael C. Jackson, Chairman

BOARD OF FINANCE

Our budget for the 2005-2006 fiscal year was based on our Grand List of \$932 million, which was 3% higher than the preceding year. Region 12's budget for the past year increased \$671,347, or just under 4% over the prior year. Our Town's share of the Region's expenditure, before grants, increased \$447,483 or 5% to \$7,991,509. (Our student population in the Region actually decreased slightly over the prior year.) After Education grant credits from the State and reimbursements from the Region, our actual educational expense increased 5% to \$7,502,442.

Actual Town Operating Expenditures increased by \$128,269 or 4% to \$3,584,248 before debt service, while the Town's net capital budget was \$980,004, including anticipated grants of \$214,076 for projects which would not be undertaken without the grants. Consequently, the capital expenditure budget actually increased from last year by \$268,450. Given the increase in the Town Grand List, the Board maintained the mill rate at 11.

FIRE MARSHAL

Town residents are urged to have their furnaces and other heating appliances cleaned and serviced by a license technician to assure safe operation during the coming heating season. This will help to insure against carbon monoxide poisoning which is an invisible and odorless gas which can be fatal if not detected promptly.

Residents are urged to use caution when burning brush during the spring dry season, typically late March through late May. Burning permits are required at all times and may be obtained from the Burning Official, Mr. Gunnar Neilson, by calling 868-0620.

As requested last year, the Town needs to provide a static water supply tank on Church Street in New Preston to supply water for the buildings in this area and the village below.

Fire loss for the year was approximately \$24,000.00

Respectfully submitted,
Donald S. Etherington
Fire Marshal

THE GUNN MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

The Library and Museum remain dedicated to providing free public library services to Washington, Connecticut, and the surrounding communities and to promoting literacy, education, and preservation of the Town's history and culture. We are pleased to report another successful year, as noted by the statistics below.

We are pleased to have seen so many residents - young and old, groups and individuals, through organized programs or simply people choosing to meet for daily interaction - coming through our door during the past fiscal year. If you are not a regular user of our many resources, we welcome you to join your friends and neighbors. We look forward to seeing you.

Items of note during the past year include:

- 43,413 people came into the library.
We circulated 61,088 items.
3,505 titles were requested and held for patrons.
- 1,831 interlibrary loans were borrowed from other libraries for our patrons.
- The GML loaned 1,974 volumes to other libraries on interlibrary loan.
- 105 researchers visited the Connecticut Room researching topics of local interest.
- Registered borrowers, all residents of Washington, total 3,921.
- 5,006 items were added, increasing our collection to 51,184.
- Electronic resources remained in high demand & were accessed 17,925 times.
- 2,114 adults attended 74 diverse programs in the form of lectures, book discussions, talks and workshops offered, or hosted, by GML.
- The Gunn Writers Series showcased Pulitzer winner, Edmund Morris, and National Book Critics award winner, Francine du Plessix Gray, among many other distinguished authors.
- Our enthusiastic and loyal corps of volunteers boasted 77 people.
- In the Junior Library, 180 programs were held for 5 age ranges (2's, 3-4's, K-1st, 2nd-3rd, and 4th-5th grades) with a total attendance of 2,156 children/924 adults.
- The Summer Reading Program entitled "Claws, Paws, Scales & Tails" drew 257 readers who completed 5,684 hours of reading.
- Museum attendance tallied
- 250 years of New Preston history was gifted to our institution in the form of papers, ledgers, and vast archival documents, now referred to as the Cogswell Tavern Collection.
- Brinsmade Family Papers, pertaining to early Washington history, was donated by relatives.
- Museum exhibits included: Visions and Dreams of Beauty: Ehrick Rossiter's Washington,
Cogswell Family Papers: 250 Years of One Family's Records, The History of a Town; Connecticut's First

Heritage Lake: Waramaug; and Look Pa, No Batteries: Toys That Move.

- Rossiter: Country Houses of Washington, Connecticut, photographic volume written by Stephen Ketterer highlighting the work of local noted architect, Ehrick Rossiter, was published.
- A House Tour of Rossiter designed homes on and around the Green was held.

A multitude of thanks to the trustees, volunteers, staff, donors, and supporters whose contributions on so many levels make all the above noted achievements possible.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Chapin
Executive Director

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The public health service agreement between the Town of Washington and the Town of New Milford continued during this fiscal year. The services provided cover all basic services related to environmental and public health. These include permitting and approval of subsurface sewage disposal systems and private wells for any building activity, inspections of food service establishments, investigation of complaints, water testing at the Town Beach and follow-up on cases of reportable disease.

Service hours in the Town of Washington are held on Monday and Wednesday mornings. Office hours are from 9:30 to 10:30 AM and field inspections are conducted after office hours and at other times. Business may also be conducted during the regular hours of the New Milford Health Department, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. A part-time sanitarian was also hired during the last fiscal year and again provided additional services during the summer, early fall and spring.

The activities performed by the Department for the current fiscal year were as follows:

Septic Permits Issued:	New	25
	Repair	19
Private Well Permits Issued		37
Food Service Inspections		54

The total amount of permit fees collected for all Health Department activities was \$9,235.00

Several bathing water samples were collected at the Washington Town Beach during the year. Results showed that the water quality continues to be excellent for bathing.

In regard to reportable diseases, there were thirty (30) reports received from area physicians and medical laboratories. The diseases that were reported most frequently were ehrlichiosis (10 reports), influenza (3 reports) and hepatitis C (3 reports).

Michael A. Crespan
Director of Health

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

The Historic District Commission conducted twelve regular meetings and seventeen public hearings concerning applications for Certificates of Appropriateness. Fifteen Certificates of Appropriateness were issued.

The Commission continued the procedure whereby a memo is sent to all residents in a district notifying them when a public hearing is scheduled for an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness. This action has been shown to increase the attendance of district residents at public hearings.

Mr. Arturi and Ms. Gilchrist attended a seminar in Litchfield presented by the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation titled "Public Relations 911! Simple and Effective Ways to Communicate with the Public". One suggestion that the Commission is in the process of implementing is to send new purchasers of properties in districts a letter introducing them to the Commission, its jurisdiction and procedures.

Mr. Arturi and Mr. Talbot met with residents of Marble Dale who are potentially interested in a fourth district in that part of town.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Arturi, Chair
Alison Gilchrist, Vice Chair
Peter Talbot, Secretary
William Smith
Ronald Chute
Elizabeth Rives, Alternate
Jane Boyer, Alternate
Phyllis Mills, Alternate

HOUSING COMMISSION

The Washington Housing Commission was created by town ordinance and approved at the annual Town Meeting on May 19, 2005. Members were appointed by Board of Selectmen and began meeting on January 9, 2006.

As the newest town commission, we have spent our first months together getting our heads and hands around an incredibly complex and complicated issue—promoting and encouraging the development and continued availability of affordable housing for the people of Washington.

Our first step has been to assess the current state of housing in our town and come up with a plan to supplement the number of affordable dwellings. With this in mind we are actively engaged in the attainment of deed restrictions on several private properties so that they may be included in our official inventory of affordable housing.

The Housing Commission is also charged with analyzing the housing needs of the town. We have embarked on a town-wide survey of senior housing issues to understand further the special circumstances of our older citizens. Seniors are the fastest growing segment of our community, and we want to make recommendations that serve the interests of the town as a whole and seniors in particular.

Washington is fortunate to have a dedicated group of people willing to bring their various talents and insights to this challenging task. We look forward to serving the community in the year ahead.

The Washington Housing Commission
Wayne Hileman, chair
Liddy Adams, vice-chair
Don Brigham
Jean Suddaby
Sue Werkhoven
Patte Doran, secretary

Road Foreman & New Snowplow



INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

The Inland Wetlands Commission is mandated by State Statute to protect the Town's wetlands and watercourses from degradation and pollution. Except for July, August, and December when it meets only once and the month of November when the second meeting may be changed to accommodate Thanksgiving, the Commission meets twice a month on the second and fourth Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Land Use Meeting Room, Bryan Memorial Town Hall.

Its members give many hours of their time. In addition to attending the regularly scheduled meetings, they also attend educational seminars and inspect the site conditions on properties where regulated activities are proposed. During fiscal year 2005- 2006 the Commission conducted 34 site inspections and held 5 Special Meetings. It considered 79 applications, approving 64, ruling 1 was eligible for an exemption, and denying 6. Two applications were withdrawn and 6 were pending at the end of the year. A total of 27 violations were the subject of ongoing discussions; 12 of those remained unresolved at the end of the year. Ten public hearings were held to consider applications for significant activities, citations, and enforcement matters.

Michael Ajello, Wetlands Enforcement Officer, and Janet Hill, Commission Clerk and Land Use Coordinator, manned the Land Use Office, serving both the public and the Commission.

The Commission members as of June 2006 were Mark Picton, Chairman, Dorothy Hill, Vice Chairman, Tony Bedini, Charles LaMunier, and Marquerite Purnell. Alternates were Katherine Coe and David Thomson. Vice Chairman Candace Korzenko moved in 2005. The Commission recognizes her dedication and thanks her for her service. Her tireless efforts on its behalf will be hard to duplicate. Her work to update the Commission forms and Regulations and to draft and print the "Applicant's Guide to Completing and Processing an Application for an Inland Wetlands Permit" are greatly appreciated by both the Commission and the public.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Picton, Chairman

JUDEA CEMETERY COMMISSION

The Judea Cemetery is one of the oldest cemeteries in the State of Connecticut. It is owned by the Town of Washington and maintained by a commission of five volunteers appointed by the Board of Selectmen. At present, Dennis Hussey, Nelly Condon, Dolly Whitney, Ruth Alex and Phyllis Allen serve as members on the Judea Cemetery Commission. Sexton, Dave Swanson, maintains the grounds

and does the burials. The annual meeting took place in July 2005 in Bryan Memorial Town Hall. Records show that nine plots were purchased and three burials took place this fiscal year. Mapping for an additional one hundred plots has been done and the work for these site plots should begin in the Spring of next year.

The Cemetery is located one mile from the First Congregational Church on the Green on Judea Cemetery Road. It is situated on a hill in a very rural and picturesque part of town. The site is beautiful and serene to all who come to honor and to pray for their loved ones buried. Washington and its residents take pride in having such a peaceful and lovely site.

Dennis Hussey
Chairman

LAKE WARAMAUG AUTHORITY

During the spring and summer of 2006, The Lake Waramaug Authority in conjunction with the Washington Volunteer Fire Department, raised funds and was able to purchase a Search and Rescue Airboat. This is the newest rescue/patrol vessel; it is fully equipped and will soon be put into full service on the Lake.

Personnel from the Lake Waramaug Authority, the Washington Fire Department, and the Resident Troopers Office are currently undergoing training associated with water and ice rescue operations. It is anticipated that all training exercises will be concluded on the Lake before it freezes for the 2006-2007 winter season.

Known as "Marine One" this vessel is capable of traversing ice, snow and open water interchangeably at high speeds, during any season, and under the most adverse conditions to reach victims otherwise inaccessible. The Authority believes that this Search and Rescue Airboat is essential to save the lives of lake users who may find themselves in peril, as well as to the safety of their emergency rescuers. Marine Ones' Standard Operating Procedures dictates an all condition emergency water rescue vessel shall be located on the Lake Waramaug shoreline at all times.

Prior to the purchase of this boat, there was no safe, dependable, fast, effective way to provide winter rescue. The Lake Waramaug Authority is most appreciative of the funding donated by members of the Lake Waramaug Association for this important rescue boat.

Representation for The Lake Waramaug Authority is divided among the three bordering towns of Kent, Warren and Washington. Representatives in Warren are elected, whereas The Board of Selectmen nominates those from Kent and Washington. The primary function of the Lake Authority is for safety and law enforcement of anyone using the lake.

Under the superb direction of Washington Resident Trooper Steve Sordi, the Marine Patrol Officers have both scheduled and conducted random patrol shifts on the Lake. This season saw a total of 124 Officer Patrol hours, which included 5 violations, 3 infractions, safety checks, warnings both written and verbal, and 2 disabled vessels were towed to shore.

The Lake Waramaug Authority reminds Lake Residents of the importance of having their docks in good repair, and also numbered to correspond to their specific street address to aid in emergency responses.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sandy Papsin
Lake Waramaug Authority Secretary

MUNICIPAL AGENT

The office of the Municipal Agent is responsible for assisting elders by providing information and referrals to services and benefit programs. In the calendar year 2005, this office received approximately 336 inquiries from seniors and the disabled. The services of this office are available to all residents of the Town of Washington over the age of 60 and their families, as well as the disabled. There are no fees or income limitations. My office is open on Tuesdays or by appointment. The phone number is 860-868-0735.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Collins
Municipal Agent for the Elderly

NEW MILFORD VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION

The New Milford Visiting Nurse Association has once again seen a large increase in activities during the past fiscal year in the Town of Washington. We are pleased to be able to care for clients in Washington and very grateful for the continued support of the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Finance and the people of the Washington community.

During this year a full-time R.N. served the patient population in Washington. In total, 1,978 visits were made to Washington residents. These visits were made by RNs, physical, occupational and speech therapists, medical social workers, and home health aides. Through our Medicare Certified Hospice Program, we provided care for terminally ill patients and their families who are residents of the Town of Washington. We continue to visit the elderly in our Health Promotion Program, an essential community

preventive program in which the visiting nurse checks in on a healthy person every month or two to help clients prevent serious health problems. We also continue to offer Well Child Clinic to Washington residents. This well-respected program of the New Milford VNA provides uninsured and underinsured children with examinations and immunizations from birth through 18 years of age. We have also been very busy with our Lyme Disease Education Program, which is available to all within our service area. Our "Flex Appeal" a program of exercises for senior citizens was a very big success and a favorite at the senior center. We have been requested to make this a regular program.

Volunteers are an important component of our agency's outreach, and many hours of volunteer work were given to Washington residents both in our Care of the Sick and Hospice Programs. Six Hospice volunteers are residents of the Town of Washington and they provide support in many ways for the terminally ill and their families.

Community Health Nurse Geri Rodda has participated in community programs such as Senior Stroke Screening at the Senior Center. We continue to be part of the Greater New Milford Breast Care Coalition along with New Milford Hospital and its Regional Cancer Center, the New Milford Health Dept., and the American Cancer Society. Utilizing a grant from the Susan Koman Breast Cancer Foundation, this group is expanding breast care education and the importance of mammography. This service is available to anyone in our service area. NMVNA facilitated a Skin Cancer Screening at the Senior Center with Dr. Jeffrey Knispel. We have also provided cholesterol screening and heart health education programs. At the Washington Primary School, we were happy to put on a "Handwashing and Cough Etiquette" program for the kindergarten students.

Because many of the services and programs provided by NMVNA are non-reimbursable through insurance or are programs offered free of charge to the community, fundraising is an important component of our non-profit agency. This past year Washington residents enthusiastically supported both our New Milford VNA Foundation fundraising drive and our annual "Tree of Life" campaign. We are very grateful for the support of Washington citizens, and look forward to this ceremony which takes place every Second Sunday in December at 4:30 p.m. Many thanks to the many committee members in Washington who worked so hard putting their committee together every year. We also receive great support in Washington from the ladies of the Women's Guild of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church who finance the lunches and snacks for Camp Jonathan, our summer day camp for bereaved children. They have done this for the past three years. It is a considerable expense, and a time-consuming labor of love for these ladies who buy and deliver all the food for the week. We very much appreciate their help.

New Milford VNA continues to be a state of the art provider of home health care and community health programs. We are newly accredited by the Community Health Accreditation Program and licensed by the State of Connecticut for all of our homecare programs.

A very important initiative in which we are involved is the preparation of a mass vaccination clinic in the event of an emergency.

2005 – 2006 Washington Annual Statistics:

The following information details all home care services provided by the New Milford Visiting Nurse Association to the Town of Washington during the period covering July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006:

Home Care	# Visits YE 6/30/06
Total:	1,978
Skilled Nursing	736
Occupational Therapy	110
Home Health Aides	563
Physical Therapy	520
MSW	39
Speech Therapy	10

“Holiday in the Depot” singers



The Shepaug River in January



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

The Washington Parks & Recreation begins every fiscal year with the annual 4th of July fireworks extravaganza and road race. The 4th of July holiday picnic was a bittersweet event this year, with the still raw emotions from the recent loss of one of Washington's own, Major Stephen C. Reich, in combat in Afghanistan on June 28th 2005. Stephen's dad, Ray Reich, is our "Mr. Fireworks" and insisted that the show must go on. At 6:30 pm the crowd was silenced by a rumble of helicopter engines as two Chinook Helicopters like the one Major Reich piloted, flew over the crowd in a silent remembrance to Stephen. The show did go on, and we were treated to another wonderful fireworks show to celebrate our great nation's birth, and remember that our freedom has been won and is still maintained by the true sacrifice of our brave military men & women both past and present.

The first male and female finishers of the "Stephen Reich Freedom Run" 5K Road Race were David Hunt of New Milford with a time of 17:28 and "our own" MacKenzie Stuart with a time of 21:51. Lake Warmaug Town Beach was again under the direction of Jessica Galbraith and Jeff Cox who reported another great beach season. In August Washington Parks & Recreation hosted a bus trip to Yankee Stadium in New York to see the Yankees beat the Anaheim Angels. The day was sunny, but hot, hot, hot! The temperature at game time was 110 degrees on the field! Luckily, we packed coolers with ice and bottled water so everyone could stay hydrated.

Labor Day weekend we celebrated the "First Flush", the opening of our newly constructed bathroom facility, with Ruth Alex and "Papa" Joe Martin being the official first flushers. A family picnic was held afterwards, and entertainment for the afternoon was provided by "Just Friends" bluegrass band. In September Larry Cable joined our staff as the new Groundskeeper. One of the first jobs for Larry was to help transfer the warming shed next to the pavilion into a garage for the "gator" and his other maintenance equipment. This transformation was made possible with a generous gift from the Washington Grange. Another wonderful donation was made to the Pavilion Fund, which allowed us the necessary funds to have a "River Walk Pavilion" sign created and installed.

Late fall brought with it some heavy storms and the threat of a hurricane to our area. This resulted in a clean up of some heavy debris at the Beach & Boat Launch done by our Caretaker, Hank Vallely and our Town Highway Crew.

Winter was kicked off with our November 16th biannual bus trip to Radio City Music Hall for the Christmas Spectacular, followed on December 9th by the annual Holiday in The Deopt celebration, co sponsored by the Washington Business Association.

In the spring issue of "The Town Times" we asked residents to give their opinion on what The Parks & Recreation should do next. The popular opinion was to establish a kitchen facility in the pavilion followed closely by the installation of new playground equipment at the Tot Lot at River Walk Park. Since the poll, we have purchased 60 new tables & chairs, a gas cooking grill and refrigerator, and hope to build a kitchen in the next fiscal year. As for the playground, a committee has been formed, and we hope to be able to install new playground equipment at the River Walk Park, at the beach on Lake Warmaug and build a new playground at the Nick Platt Field in New Preston sometime in the spring of 2007.

With the never-ending generosity of the Washington Garden Club, new plantings and an irrigation system will be installed at the entrance to River Walk Park in the near future.

One last note, a request from the children of Washington, they want to see more of "Papa" Joe at their games, and he is doing his very best to accommodate them. Thank you, "Papa" Joe.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheila M. Anson, Chairman
Joan Gauthey
Tim Cook, Vice Chairman
Ray Reich
Holly Haas
Lou Magnoli
Joe Fredlund, Vice Chairman
C.J. Kersten
Lisa A. Easter, Coordinator
Mary Anne Greene, Recording Clerk

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Washington Planning Commission meets on the first Tuesday of each month, except in November when it meets on the first Wednesday. Regular Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. in the Land Use Meeting Room, Bryan Memorial Town Hall, Washington Depot, Ct.

During the past fiscal year the Planning Commission conducted the following business:

- 11 Regular Meetings were held.
- 6 Special Meetings, including 4 site inspections and 2 to work on the Washington Depot Business District study, were held.
- 4 Public Hearings were conducted.
- 5 Referrals from the Zoning Commission, Board of Selectmen, and neighboring towns were considered.
- 2 Subdivision applications were considered.
- 4 New lots were approved.

Continuing with the trend in recent years, the Commission

received few subdivision and resubdivision applications. This enabled it to spend more time evaluating applications for scenic road designations and preparing for and conducting the Depot study.

The Planning Commission received and approved 2 applications for scenic road designation. A site inspection was conducted and a public hearing was required for each of these applications. Washington's two new scenic roads are Wheaton Road and Hinkle Road. This brings the total to eleven scenic roads designated since November 2003 when the Scenic Road Ordinance was adopted.

The Planning Commission continues the process of examining the issues raised by the Depot study and the response of the community. In 2006 it began preparation for two public informational meetings to further discuss traffic, parking, pedestrian access, and the River Loop property. When this public input is received, the Commission will then establish priorities for the implementation of the Depot study.

The membership of the Planning Commission underwent changes in 2005-2006 with the resignations of Fritz Byerly and Bill Fairbairn. Both men have intimate knowledge of the history of our Town and were conscientious members of the Commission. Fritz Byerly was first appointed to the Planning Commission in January 1998 and served the Town in many other capacities including service on other commissions. He was meticulous in his questions, leading to careful consideration of matters before the Planning Commission. Bill Fairbairn, a more recent appointee, brought humor and balance to the commission's thinking. Alternate Paul Frank moved up as a full member and Richard Carey and Barbara Braverman were appointed as alternates.

Respectfully submitted,
Addie Roberts, Chairman
Chris Charles, Vice Chairman
Paul Frank
Sarah Gager
Dimitri Rimsky
Winston Fowlkes, Alternate
Barbara Braverman, Alternate
Richard Carey, Alternate

Town Boat Launch at Lake Warmaug



POLICE

The Connecticut State Police Department was established in 1903; the Resident Trooper Program was established in 1947. The purpose of the program was to offer personalized police services to the towns of Connecticut. The Resident Trooper provides a direct link to the State Police Troop Commander and to all segments within the Department of Public Safety.

The Washington Resident Trooper Office devotes full attention to the town's special policing and public safety needs. The following community service programs have been designed and implemented to improve the quality of life of the towns' people.

- Child Safety Seat Inspections
- D.A.R.E.
- The Shepaug Youth Patrol
- Connecticut Safety Boating Certification Classes
- Residence Vacation Checks
- Lake Patrol (Lake Waramaug Authority)
- Speed Reduction Programs

Detailed Statistics for the 2005-2006 Fiscal year are as follows:

Residential Alarms (Unfounded):	397
Medical Assists	50
Burglaries	8
Assaults	3
Criminal Mischief	9
Narcotics	5
DUI's	9
Larcenies	25
Motor Vehicle Accidents	109
Missing Persons	3
Family Violence	10
Disturbances	8
911 calls (unfounded)	106

During the 2005-2006 fiscal year, speed on the neighborhood roadways continued to be the number one concern amongst the towns' people. An aggressive speed reduction program has aided in reducing the speed of vehicles on the roads, as well as, the number of motor vehicle collisions which occurred over the past fiscal year. The speed reduction program will continue throughout the upcoming year. If there is a specific area in town, where speed on the roadway is an issue, feel free to call or come into the office and discuss the locale of the problem.

I would request all homeowners, who make use of residential burglar alarms, have their alarms serviced on an annual basis and the people authorized to use them appropriately trained. Last year there were 397 unfounded alarms, a good percentage of these false alarms were due to poor maintenance or user error.

I would also request that all homeowners clearly mark their residence with their assigned street number. The numbers should be visible from the road, both during the day and at night. Your assistance with this matter will allow emergency personnel to offer the quickest possible response time.

Thank you to the citizens of Washington, for their continued support of the Police Department.

Current Police Department Personnel

- Cpl. Caleb Shropshire
- Officer Patrick Kessler
- Officer John Wyshynski
- Officer Tom Accuosti
- Officer Lee Levesque

Respectfully Submitted,
Trooper Stephen Sordi
Washington Resident Trooper

PROBATE COURT

The Annual Meeting of the Probate Court Assembly was held on April 25, 2006 at the Supreme Court in Hartford, Connecticut. President Judge Joseph Marino welcomed all present and read a letter addressed to the Assembly from Governor Jodi Rell. Linda Leigh, Southbury's Probate Clerk, began the meeting by singing the National Anthem.

The regular meeting included submission of the January Meeting Minutes, a report from the Treasurer and proposed budget for the 2006-2007 Probate Assembly which were all unanimously approved. Next on the agenda was the election of 2006-2007 Probate Assembly Officers, the 2006-2009 Executive Committee representatives and nominees for the Council on Probate Judicial Conduct. The nominees for serving on the Judicial Conduct Council received full endorsement. The election of Officers and Executive Committee members was conducted by paper ballot. There was an Endorsed and a Second slate submitted with the former succeeding thereby placing the Honorable Dianne E. Yamin from the District of Danbury Probate Court as the newly elected President Judge of the Probate Assembly. There was a tie vote for the Recording Secretary and both Judges agreed to work together as Co-Recording Secretaries.

The Probate Administrator, Honorable James J. Lawlor, introduced the new Chief Court Administrator, the Honorable William J. Lavery. Judge Lavery acknowledged the Probate Assembly in his brief speech pointing out various issues and stressing communication. He willed the group to work together and "resolve your own problems".

Judge Marino, as outgoing President Judge, commented on his tenure in an analogy as the Captain of a large ship going to run aground, trying to turn the ship but with time running out. He declared he was fair to all sides and thanked many for their assistance. Judge Marino concluded by stating his pride in being a Probate Judge and in his service to the Assembly.

In his report, the Probate Court Administrator thanked his staff and their services. He commented on the Laserfiche project, education seminars, form revisions and financial improvements. Judge Lawlor echoed the words of Judge Lavery, stating optimism in looking at both sides and communicating.

The Honorable Dianne Yamin, as newly elected President Judge, thanked everyone for their vote, emanating calm as she knows she will do the right thing. She stated she will work to preserve, protect, defend and improve the 300-year-old Probate Court System, requesting support from all. Her areas of concern include better training for judges and clerks, a review of salaries and standards along with proposed changes to the system. In closing, Judge Yamin stated she is available to all and welcomed comments, passing out her business cards to those in attendance.

Your local Probate Court has worked efficiently and effectively with compassionate consideration to the delicate matters that are managed on a daily basis. The Hon. Victoria M. Cherniske and Clerk Pamela L. Osborne are diligently providing their services to the community while keeping information available of the proposed and enacted legislative changes to the Probate Court System. The Washington Probate Court office hours are from 9 A.M. to noon and 1 P.M. to 5 P.M. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays or anytime by appointment.

Respectfully submitted,
Hon. Victoria M. Cherniske
Judge of Probate
District of Washington

SENIOR CENTER

Washington Senior Center was established to provide services and activities to senior citizens of the town. The Senior Center serves as a resource for the community, providing information on aging for family caregivers and for assistance in addressing aging issues.

During the past year the following programs and activities were provided:

- **Regularly Scheduled Activities** offer fun and socialization. Bridge and Scrabble games, knitting and quilting are among the regular activities. Luncheons are held, often with speakers or entertainment. This year's topics included an Overview of the Probate Court Process, the Health Watch Personal Response System, Medicare Part D, "What Happens In Emergencies / What You Can Expect When You Call 911" and Identity Theft.
- **Fitness:** The Senior Center exercise program has been and is ongoing with regular 40-minute low impact aerobics video workout at 9:00 daily. The exercise programs are free of charge.
- **Computer Technology:** Individual computer instruction continues to be available at no charge on the computers at the Senior Center. Additional support is offered through the Center's Computer Club that meets monthly.
- **Health:** Blood pressure screenings continue to be held at the Senior Center on the third Thursday of each month by Visiting Nurse and Homecare Northwest. The New Milford VNA conducted the annual flu clinic in the fall and a "Flexappeal" exercise program designed to improve strength, balance and flexibility. In addition, New Milford Hospital and the New Milford VNA conducted cholesterol, skin cancer and foot screening clinics. Veralyn Davis, audiologist with Hearing Aid Specialist of CT, conducted a free hearing screening and Carol O'Toole conducts a bi-monthly acupressure clinic. The Senior Center also sponsored a vision screening this past May.
- **Trips** continue to be very popular. This past year saw trips to the Aqua Turf Club, the Spinning Wheel Inn, the Westchester Broadway Theatre, the Cabaret Lulu in Groton and Christmas in Hawaii With Bright Nights in Massachusetts. Other trips offered included Chez Josef, the Sharon Playhouse and Warner Theater.
- **Senior Van Transportation:** The town van provides free transportation for seniors and disabled persons on Wednesdays and Thursdays. In addition, shopping trips to the Danbury Fair Mall take place monthly. Reservations for the van can be made by calling the Senior Center at least one day ahead.

Town Boathouse



- **Litchfield Hills Chore Service:** This program is available to help elderly and handicapped residents to stay safely independent and at home in the community. The service is available to anyone. Chore Service workers provide light and heavy housekeeping, shopping, laundry, cooking, yard maintenance and minor home repairs. Suggested client contribution is based on a sliding scale of monthly income.
- **Additional Programs:** Other speakers and topics included Information on Electric Restructuring, Free Income Tax Advice, Reiki Yoga Clinic, How to Conserve Energy and Increase Endurance, Medication Management, AARP Mature Driving Course and Kayak Odysseys in the South Pacific.
- **Volunteers:** Volunteers play a vital role in the workings of the Senior Center. Our dedicated volunteer staff offers their time and expertise in newsletter preparation, web site development, computer instruction, office tasks and assisting with programs.

We invite those who may not currently participate to stop in or call for information.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Collins
Senior Center Director

SHEPAUG VALLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #12

Introduction

The 2005-2006 school year was marked by impressive accomplishments of our students and by indecision on the part of taxpayers regarding the method of rehabilitating the district's elementary school facilities. Student accomplishments, many of which are listed below, are proof of the dedication to learning exhibited by the young people of Bridgewater, Roxbury, and Washington. The district's staff joins me in applauding the fine work of our students.

This was the second year of operation for the district's strategic plan. During the year, the goals and objectives of the plan were advanced significantly. Perhaps the most visible aspect of that work was the hiring of a .5 Director of Curriculum and Instruction. In filling of this position, we were able to move forward in the curriculum areas of elementary school mathematics and science, participate in a review of elementary school report cards, oversee work in language arts, and begin work on the art curriculum. The new director initiated a district-wide Council for Curriculum and Professional Development and served as the staff liaison to the Board of Education's Education Committee.

The high school staff devoted much of the year to completing the two-year follow-up response to its most recent report from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. The theater classes again entertained the community with productions of *The Saga of the Prospector's Daughter* and *Animal Crackers*. The athletic teams won the prestigious Michael's Cup for the best overall athletic program in Connecticut. The school held its first Steven Reich Memorial Day Assembly.

The middle school was lead by first-year principal Lorrie Rodrigue. Under Mrs. Rodrigue's direction, the school devised its first "School Improvement Plan." The plan is based on three essential questions: How can we promote a middle school culture that is supportive, collaborative, and focused on excellence for all? How can we better coordinate the 6-8 curriculum to ensure student success? How can the Shepaug competencies become an integral part of the middle school culture? These questions represent the beginning of a process to move the school in a positive direction

The elementary schools focused on their new science curriculum and on the work that their students were doing in mathematics. An Early Intervention Process for students with special needs was implemented and has been well received. Writing has also been an area in which the schools worked more successfully with their students.

Overall, district students and staff have been challenged to achieve academic success throughout the school year. Much has been accomplished. Much is left to do.

2005-2006 Student Achievement

84% of the class of 2006 will be continuing their formal education
75% will be attending four year colleges/universities

Top "5" Seniors/Class of 2006 and College/University Attending

Kristie Anderson	Trinity College
Sarah Dupuis-Kornreich	MIT
John Lent	Wake Forest University
Natasha Little	George Washington University
Justin Wright	RIT

Student of the Year

Michael Fiorito

Teacher of the Year for RSD #12 (2004-2005)

Pamela Wilson - Shepaug Valley High School
- Language Arts Teacher

Superintendent's Awards (CAPSS)

WPS - 5th grade, Billy Heyne
BES - 5th grade, Mia Landegren
BFS - 5th grade, Emily Morris
MS - 8th grade, Megan Piersall
HS - 11th grade, Chelsea Berg
HS - 12th grade, Leigh Childs

Western Connecticut Superintendent's Awards (CAPSS)

MA - 8th grade, Megan Woodruff
HS - 11th grade, Kyla Peters
HS - 12th grade, Jenna Temple

CABE (CT Association of Boards of Education) Student Leadership Award (HS)

12th grade, Aubri Gillespie
12th grade, Kevin Uniacke

CAS (CT Association of Schools) Scholar-Athlete Awards (H.S.)

Colby Chapin
Jenna Temple

CAS (CT Association of Schools) Scholar Leader Awards (M.S.)

Christina Dumas, Samian Roy

President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement

Melinda Maher

High Honors all year for Academic Achievement at High School

Grade 9 - Emily Andre, Hannah Andrews, Riley Brigham, Anna Carlson, William Curnan, Carley Davenport, Laruen Dever, Amanda Edwards, Ansley Flanagan, Claire Franjola, Tara Furey, Kerry Gallagher, Sarah Gomez, Gina Graziani, Margaret Hirschfield, Alexa Hopkins, Tiede Horrigan, Lily Horton, Arielle Johnson-Leahy, Sarah Kelly, Sara Little, Joanna Nappi, Emmeline Pappas, Brittany Ronan, Meghan Scanlon, Cecily Scovin

Grade 10 - Julia Benivegna, Jessica Bisignano, Eleanor Curren, Carolyn Gribble, Zachary Gross, Daniel Harris, Patrick Horrigan, Emilie Kracen, Ryan O'Donnell, Samantha Steinmetz

Grade 11 - Nora Allen, Katherine Andre, Cristina Fernandez-O'Toole, Conor Galligan, Rebecca Hora, Susannah Horton, Tara O'Connell-Santos, Kyla Peters, Caitlin Ronan

Grade 12 - Kristie Anderson, Emily Baron, Colby Chapin, Emma Curnan, Lauryn Droessler, Sarah Dupuis-Kornreich, Stephen Edelstein, Daren Hrelac, John Lent, Rebecca O'Brien, Emma Pascal, Katherine Pascal, Michelle Pirone, Jenna Temple, Ryan Walsh, Stacy Walsh, Nicholas Woodfield, Taylor Young

National Honor Society Members at High School

Present Members:

Kristie Anderson, Emily Baron, Conor Calabro, Ashley Cartagena, Colby Chapin, Kathryn Clair, Carolyn Coons, Katelyn Donovan, Sarah Dupuis-Kornreich, Jessica Fernandes, Michael Fiorito, Drew Firmender, Aimee Furey, Daren Hrelac, Erin Koslosky, John Lent, Natasha Little, Stephen Nappi, Rebecca O'Brien, Emma Pascal, Katherine Pascal, Eric Pratt, Matthew Rebillard, Jenna Temple, Grace Unicake, Ryan Walsh, Nicholas Woodfield, Anni Ylagan

Newly Elected Members:

Nora Allen, Katherine Andre, Rachel Barth, Christine Beatty, Chelsea Berg, Eleni Drakatos, Stephen Edelstein, Sarah Edwards, Cristina Fernandez-O'Toole, Conor Galligan, Christopher Gomez, Laura Hirschfield, Rebecca Hora, Susannah Horton, David Kinkade, Callie Larson, Sara Osborne, Kevin Parzuchowski, Kyla Peters, Cassandra Pinter, Kristyn Prendergast, Rebecca Rebillard, Caitlin Ronan, Ruth Tompkins, Christina Wells

Athletic Achievements/Information

Number of Athletes by Season

Fall	(M) 90	(F) 93	TOTAL 183
Winter	(M) 70	(F) 58	TOTAL 128
Spring	(M) 105	(F) 83	TOTAL 188

Combined Records

45 wins - 14 losses - 6 ties
40 wins - 32 losses
80 wins - 32 losses
Total 165 wins - 78 losses - 6 ties

Lake Waramaug Authority Airboat



Athletic Programs Offered

Female: Field Hockey, Cross Country, Soccer, Basketball, Swimming, Cheerleading, Track, Tennis, Softball, Golf (10 programs)

Male: Soccer, Cross Country, Basketball, Swimming, Ice Hockey, Wrestling, Track, Tennis, Baseball, Golf (10 programs)

CIAC State Champion

Boys' Cross Country

Berkshire League Championships

Swimming
Boy's Track

First Place Sportsmanship Awards

Boys' Basketball

Michaels Cup Award

1st place Overall Michaels' Achievement Cup (Second consecutive year third of last four years)

Charles McGinnus Award (top male athlete)

Tim Hall

Joseph Babcock Award (top female athlete)

Jenna Temple

Northern Regional Music Festival

Julia Benivegna, Jenna Bollard, Emma Cooke, Mic Urban

Outstanding Academic Achievement (Middle School) (8th Grade)

Excellence in English - Megan Woodruff
Achievement in English - Jason vonReyn
Commitment to Reading - James Hall
Achievement in Reading - Kelly Clarke
Excellence in Mathematics - Alison Connolly
Achievement in Mathematics - Luis Garcia
Excellence in Science - Alison Connolly
Achievement in Science - Jacob Collette
Excellence in Social Studies - Nicole Dianne
Achievement in Social Studies - Allison Pratt
Excellence in Spanish - Chris Urban
Achievement in Spanish - Megan Woodruff
Excellence in French - Alexandria Bierce
Achievement in French - Samian Roy
For Excellence in English as a Foreign Language - Luis Garcia
Excellence in Art - Lindsay Walsh, Samian Roy
Excellence in Chorus - Emma Cava
Excellence in Drama - Tyler Stinson & Julie Elwood

Excellence in Band - Aimee Reutzel
Excellence in Technology - Michael Josefson
Excellence in Computer Technology - Christina Dumas
Excellence in Girls' Physical Education - Morgan McCarthy
Excellence in Boys' Physical Education - Samian Roy
Special Award for Excellence in Metrology Forecasting - Brendan Howser
D.A.R. Award - Sarah Prawius, Evan Wright
The Roxbury Good Citizenship Awards - Alessandro Criollo, Nicole Hartman

Facilities

The high school/middle school facility has undergone several upgrades in the past year. A new telephone system was installed; additional security cameras were put in place, new lockers were brought in, the front doors were replaced, and considerable painting was done.

The major area of concern for the school district, however, was the elementary school facilities. Throughout the year, committees of political leaders, townspeople, board of education members, and administrators worked to determine possible solutions to the failing condition of these school buildings. A non-binding referendum in March resulted in a decision to proceed with renovations to each of the three schools. Subsequent referenda, later in the spring, to provide bonding for these projects resulted in defeats. Thus, no real progress was made during the 2005-2006 school to remedy this situation.

Mastery Testing Scores

Mastery tests for students in Connecticut were moved from the fall to the spring during the 2005-2006 school year, thus scores for the most recent administration of the test are not currently available. The most recent scores on Connecticut Mastery test results for grades 4, 6 and 8 are as follows (taken fall 2004):

Math	4th Grade	6th Grade	8th Grade
RSD #12	64.9	71	61.6
State Average	56.8	60.9	55.7
Reading	4th Grade	6th Grade	8th Grade
RSD #12	74.4	79.3	73.8
State Average	52.8	60.5	64.9
Writing	4th Grade	6th Grade	8th Grade
RSD #12	71.6	66.7	63.3
State Average	63.3	61.3	60.7

In addition, the Connecticut Mastery Test results lead to the following important information for our district as they relate to the federal No Child Left Behind legislation:

% of RSD #12 4th Graders at levels of proficiency

Math 89

Reading 78

% of RSD #12 6th Graders at levels of proficiency

Math 88

Reading 85

% of RSD #12 8th Graders at levels of proficiency

Math 86

Reading 79

SAT Scores

Verbal

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
RSD #12	548	554	513	532	542	542	545	526
State	510	510	508	509	509	N/A	515	???

Math

RSD #12	524	527	519	522	538	542	527	515
State	509	509	509	510	509	N/A	515	???

Combined

RSD #12	1072	1081	1032	1054	1080	1082	1072	xxx
State	1019	1019	1017	1019	1018	N/A	1030	xxx

2005 Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT)

CAPT Test	% Mastery	% Prof.
Math	63.4	90.1
Science	65.7	95.1
Reading	56.3	91.3
Writing	69.9	97.1

2005-2006 Enrollment Information

October 1, 2005 Enrollment Information

Burnham School	122
Booth Free School	134
Washington Primary School	191
Middle School	245
High School	413
REACH	19
Out-of-District	27
Total	1,151

Financial Information

- The appropriated 2005-06 budget was \$17,950,380
- The unaudited/unofficial 2005-06 budget ended with a surplus of \$138,756 made up of the unspent appropriation of \$20,746 and additional revenue over budget of \$118,010.
- The bond rating for the district remained at AA (Fitch rating).

- % distribution between towns for student population and budget payments - (assessment) for 2005-06 based upon Oct. 1, 2004 student population:

Bridgewater	Roxbury	Washington
24.04%	31.44%	44.53%

- Recent history of budget increases and enrollment increases over previous years.

	00-01	01-02	02-03	03-04	04-05	05-06
Enrollment	1,145	1,149	1,147	1,166	1,157	1,151
Budget Incr.	6.07%	7.31%	8.97%	4.84%	4.84%	3.89%

Note: The budget increase for 2006-2007 is 5.8%

BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 12 2005-2006

	Term Expires
Irene Allan (Chair)	Washington 2009
Valerie Andersen (Treasurer)	Washington 2009
David Baron	Roxbury 2009
Mardie Ford (Secretary)	Bridgewater 2007
Sheila Gross	Roxbury 2007
James Hirschfield	Washington 2009
Matthew Franjola	Washington 2009
Michelle Gorra	Washington 2007
Lawrence O'Toole	Washington 2007
Laszlo Pinter	Bridgewater 2007
Gary Steinman (Vice Chair)	Roxbury 2007
Edgar Wainwright	Bridgewater 2009

Richard E. Carmelich, Jr., Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Bryan Memorial Town Hall



VNA NORTHWEST, INC.

VNA Northwest, Inc. provided a variety of health care services to Washington residents during the past year, including:

- 273 skilled nursing visits
- 130 physical therapy calls
- 100 home health aide service hours
- 130 adult health guidance visits
- 42.25 hours of bath aide service

Six sessions of the bend and stretch program were offered, with funding provided by proceeds from VNA Northwest Thrift Shop. These programs are known to build muscle strength, improve balance and prevent falls. All those participating responded positively on questionnaires.

Blood pressure clinics were held monthly at the Washington Senior Center. These sessions have been found to be invaluable in early detection of a wide range of health problems.

Full Report of Services:

Service	Town Paid Service	Service Paid By Other Payor
Blood Pressure Screening Clinic	15.75 hours	
Community Liaison	2.50 hours	
Nursing:		
Adult Health Guidance	130 visits	
Skilled Nursing		273 visits
Physical Therapy		130 visits
Medical Social Worker		4 visits
Occupational Therapy		1 visits
Home Health Aide		100 hours
Bath Aide		42.25 hours
Program		
Bend and Stretch Clinic		6 one-hour sessions

WASHINGTON AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION

The Washington Ambulance Association responded to 267 requests for emergency medical services during the year 2005-06. These ranged from stand-bys at fire calls and minor incidents to major trauma and serious illness. Our Regional Paramedic was automatically dispatched or requested by us 87 times. Life Star Aero-Medical helicopter was used 8 times for transport of a patient to a Trauma Center. Most of our patients went to New Milford Hospital, unless we were in a part of town where Charlotte Hungerford Hospital was closer. Of our patients, 64% were ill, 33% had traumatic

injuries and 3% were psychiatric calls. We also delivered a baby boy last summer.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Washington Lions Club for their support and the to the Washington Police and Fire Departments for their assistance when responding to calls. While many services around the state have begun billing for services, we do not. We are able to operate through funding provided by your donations and the support of the Lion's Club. These contributions are greatly appreciated.

The ambulance has been very fortunate in having personnel available during the day. Our personnel are highly trained and dedicated (Over 2,000 hours) in order to serve the Town of Washington. During this year we conducted two EMT Education courses and are delighted to add five new emergency medical technicians to our roster.

A new ambulance committee was formed by Captain Jeff Gueniat and chaired by Butch Wyant to research ambulance options and make a recommendation on a new ambulance purchase. The committee worked hard during the spring and summer of 2006, defining our requirements and evaluating different companies. We selected a new ambulance and anticipate its delivery in the fall of 2007.

We are always looking for more help, especially during the day. If you are interested in joining us, please call 860-868-7913 or come to one of our meetings which are held at the Depot Firehouse every second Tuesday at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted.
Susan Wallace-Wyant
Chief of Operations

WASHINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Washington Volunteer Fire Department, made up of professional volunteer men and women, is dedicated to the preservation of life and property to the citizens who live in our community, and guests who visit. The Washington Volunteer Fire department responds to a wide range of calls for emergency and public service assistance. Besides responding to fire related emergencies, the fire department responds to various hazardous material incidences, varying types of rescue incidents, carbon monoxide incidents, and emergency medical assistance in conjunction with Washington Ambulance. The fire department also provides cellar pump-outs (water evacuation) and searches for lost persons.

With the scope of service broadened to include more than fire extinguishment, a significant amount of training enables

us to meet the demands set forth on a modern day fire department. Members of the fire department train to meet the many standards required. These standards incorporate Federal, State of Connecticut, as well as Washington Fire Department standards. Individual members of the fire department, who are certified instructors by the Connecticut Fire Academy, accomplish firefighter training routinely. When there is a need for specialized training, instructors who specialize in specific disciplines of training maintain the training mandates of the department.

The fire department obtained several new pieces of equipment to enhance our overall efficiency and safety. The delivery of a new rescue truck will enable the department to serve the community more effectively. This vehicle is larger than the old rescue vehicle. The new rescue truck provides more storage space for equipment, increased lighting capabilities, and has a command center to meet the needs of interoperability with other fire departments and emergency service agencies.

Under a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the fire department was awarded a grant to replace our outdated compressor to fill our breathing air tanks, and provide a vehicle exhaust extraction system in each fire station. This grant saved the taxpayers \$117,967.00. The fire department was also awarded a private grant for \$14,162 to assist in replacing outdated hydraulic extrication tools. The new tools provide a means to increase our operational effectiveness during extrications.

In conjunction with the Lake Waramaug Authority and the Washington Police, a new airboat will enable rescuers to rescue individuals on the waterways. This is a joint effort by these agencies to provide another means for water rescue.

The fire department will continue to establish new locations for dry hydrants. Every year the water resource committee takes on the task of securing permission from landowners, obtaining the proper permits, and securing equipment to install these dry hydrants. Some of these dry hydrants are financed in part through the Connecticut DEP Division of Forestry through grants.

The fire prevention committee provides public fire education to school children. This program is critical to educating children of the dangers of fire. This type of public fire education not only takes a proactive approach to fire safety, but also teaches the school children about the responsibilities of being a firefighter.

The department responded to a total of 239 calls for the fiscal year. This included a total of 1634 individual firefighter responses, with a total of 1572 man-hours dedicated to emergency calls. Listed herein is a breakdown of the type of calls responded to, as well as the total count for each type of call.

• Automatic Fire Alarm	74
• Brush Fire	4
• Chimney Fire	3
• Carbon Monoxide Alarm	7
• Dumpster Fire	2
• EMS Assist	9
• Hazardous Materials	4
• Lock-in/Lock-out	1
• Lifestar Helicopter Landing Assist	8
• Missing Person/Search	3
• Mutual Aid (Misc.)	2
• Mutual Aid (Structure Fire)	1
• Motor Vehicle Accident	38
• Odor of Gas	2
• Oven Fire	2
• Possible Drowning	1
• Public Assistance (Misc.)	22
• Smoke in Building	7
• Smoke Scare	8
• Standby	2
• Structure Fire	2
• Tree Down	1
• Tree Fire	1
• Unattended Burn	1
• Vehicle Fire	4
• Wires Down	30

The Washington Volunteer Fire Department has positions available for any individual wishing to volunteer their time. Besides firefighting and emergency work, administrative positions are available to assist in daily operations of the department. Any individual who wishes to join and assist us in serving the community, please call the Depot Fire Station for information.

On behalf of all the members of the fire department, I would like to thank the citizens of our community for their support, businesses who let the individual volunteer firefighters leave work to serve our citizens in a time of need, as well as the Washington Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary, who are always there to support the firefighters.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dick Murchison, Fire Chief



ZONING COMMISSION

The Washington Zoning Commission conducts its monthly Regular Meetings on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Land Use Meeting Room, Bryan Memorial Town Hall. These meetings are open to the public.

During the 2005-2006 fiscal year, the Commission held 12 Regular Meetings, 1 Special Meeting, and 20 Public Hearings to consider Special Permit applications and revisions to the Washington Zoning Regulations. The Zoning Department processed a total of 172 applications. Of these, 149 were acted upon by the Zoning Enforcement Officer and 23 were considered by the Zoning Commission. The Commission approved 16 Special Permits and 2 first cut applications. It also approved two requests to revise Special Permits it had previously issued.

Applications Approved

Type	02-03	03-04	04-05	05-06
New House	11	12	12	9
Attached Acc.Apart.	1	2	0	0
Detached Acc.Apart.	3	3	5	5
Additions/ Alterations To exist. Dwellings	40	53	47	46
Accessory Structures New/Repair	28	39	25	22
Swimming Pools	12	12	10	13
Gravel Mine Or Excavate	0	0	0	0
Commercial	4	8	4	10
Tennis and Sports Courts	1	0	1	3
Change of Use	7	6	1	4
Demolition	4	7	1	2
Signs, Fences, etc	18	15	12	8

Bed and Breakfast	0	0 +2 renewals	0 +2 renewals	0
Creation of Building Lot	1	1	2	2
Home Occupation	0 +2 renewals	1	0 +2 renewals	0
Temporary: Tents, Events	1	0	0	0
Affordable Housing	1	0	0	1
Other	10	19	15	26
Lot Line Revisions	6	7	5	8
1 Does not include tag sales				

During this fiscal year the Zoning Commission worked to revise and update several sections of the Washington Zoning Regulations. These included:

• Amended Regulations

Section 12.1. Revisions were approved in August 2005 that exempted structures such as boathouses, docks, one municipal boat ramp, and structures for erosion control from the 50 foot setback from Lake Waramaug. This will facilitate the implementation of the Lake Waramaug Agreement and the construction of a new boat ramp at the Town Beach as was previously approved at a Town Meeting.

• Regulation Revisions Under Study

Section 16 - Signs. In response to the growing number of commercial signs posted without zoning permits and in violation of the current Zoning Regulations, the Commission continued with consideration of revisions to the sign regulations.

Regulations for Protection of Scenic Vistas. The Zoning Commission continued to work on evaluating options for protecting the Town's scenic vistas. It was stressed that the only options to be considered would involve regulating, not banning, development on ridgelines.

Multi Family Housing Regulations. The Zoning Commission continued its consideration of possible housing diversity options for Washington in response to the recommendations made in the 2003 Plan of Conservation and Development. After extensive discussions, it was the consensus to postpone the adoption of multi family housing regulations until after the completion of the Depot Business District study by the Planning Commission.

Washington Depot and New Preston Business District Regulations. Both of these business districts consist mainly of structures that predate zoning in Washington and that could not be rebuilt under the existing regulations because they are too close together, too close to various setback lines, and cover too much of their lots. These non-conforming features of the existing structures are not undesirable; indeed, they are largely responsible for what we think of as the unique “village character” of both districts. The proposed modifications to the regulations will make it possible for applicants in both districts to build new structures or remodel old ones, in ways that truly embody these same desirable characteristics. The public hearing to consider these revisions was scheduled for July 2006.

Section 15: Parking. Under the old parking requirements most commercial applicants either couldn’t meet the strict standards or ended up building parking lots that were larger than they needed to be, sometimes far larger. The new proposed regulations are based on “Model Zoning Regulations for Parking for Northwest Connecticut,” a report prepared for the NW Ct. Council of Governments and the Litchfield Hills Council of Elected Officials, with funding by the Ct. Department of Environmental Protection, in September 2003. These model regulations were written after an extensive study of parking needs in towns like ours. The proposed revisions to Section 15, like the model regulations, include realistic maximum and minimum requirements for providing parking spaces and give the Commission the latitude to adjust the requirements in cases where adjustments are necessary. Because they may result in less parking spaces being required, they also are a more environmentally sensitive approach to parking. A public hearing to consider the amendments was scheduled for July 2006.

There were several changes in membership during 2005-2006. Cecilia Page, full member, and Jim Brinton, alternate, no longer serve on the Commission. Cecilia’s expertise about inland wetlands matters and Jim’s knowledge of public safety issues will be greatly missed. New member Ralph Averill and Alternate, Harry Wyant, were elected in November. Henry Martin decided not to run for another term as Chairman. He served in that capacity from November 1999 thru 2005. Hank put in a huge number of hours outside the Zoning meetings and continually strived to include public input in the Commission’s decision making process. Among his many notable accomplishments was the modernization of the Town’s soil based zoning regulations, including the introduction of the concept of “net useable land.” These revised regulations won an award from the Connecticut chapter of the American Planning Association, and have become a model for other towns. Hank remains on the Commission as a regular member. David Owen succeeded him as Chairman.

Up to date Zoning Regulations as well as recent meeting minutes, agendas, and legal notices are posted on line on the Town’s website; www.washingtonct.org.

David Owen, Chairman
Gary Fitzherbert, Vice Chairman
Valerie Friedman, Secretary
Henry Martin
Ralph Averill
Luis Abella, Alternate
Andrew Shapiro, Alternate
Harry Wyant, Alternate

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Between July 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006 the Zoning Board of Appeals received 29 applications for either a Variance or a Special Exception from the Zoning Regulations. Two applications were withdrawn and 27 were approved. 15 of the applications were requests for a Special Exception. No application was denied.

While a number of the applications were approved at their initial presentation, many were continued to allow the applicant time to incorporate suggestions and conditions imposed by the Board to limit the impact of the requested changes.

Virtually all of the applications for a Special Exception involved a standby power generator to be located more than 25’ from the structure principally served. After some research, the Board adopted a philosophy of requiring that the sound level at the nearest property line be limited to a maximum of 50 decibels. (50 decibels is equivalent to the hum of a refrigerator or the sound of rainfall.) If this sound level cannot be obtained by distance, the Board has required that the equipment be enclosed within a properly ventilated shed or barn or completely surrounded by a 6’ tall stockade type fence.

It should be noted that the adoption of Section 12.14.5 (permitting a Special Exception) by the Zoning Commission, has given the ZBA the latitude to approve a number of requests regarding the location of noise generating equipment which previously would have been denied.

No personnel changes occurred in the reporting period.

Respectfully Submitted,
Edmund J. White, Chairman
Polly Roberts, Vice Chairman
Katherine K. Leab
Bradford Sedito
Randolph Snook
Todd Catlin, Alt.
Georgia Middlebrook, Alt.

FINANCIAL REPORTS AND DISCUSSION—JUNE 30, 2006

The Town of Washington is pleased to present this narrative overview of the financial activities of the Town for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006. Copies of the audited financial statements, financial statement notes and supplemental schedules are available from the Selectmen's Office, Post Office Box 383, Washington Depot, CT 06794 or on the Town's website: www.washingtonct.org.

Financial Highlights

- The assets of the Town of Washington exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent year by \$13,479,963 (net assets). Of this amount, \$2,125,627 (unrestricted net assets) may be used to meet government's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.
- The government's total net assets increased by \$270,707 during the fiscal year.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Town of Washington's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$3,911,507, a decrease of \$297,264 in comparison with the prior year. These fund balances are considered expenditures. The unreserved undesignated balance of \$2,255,592 is available for spending at the government's discretion.
- At the end of the current fiscal year, the unreserved undesignated fund balance of the general fund was \$1,628,548, or 14.3% of total general fund expenditures of \$11,396,499.
- Our bonded debt decreased by \$55,000 (11.1%) during the fiscal year as a result of scheduled repayment of principal on our outstanding bond issue.

Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Town of Washington's finances for all those with an interest in the government's operations. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the Office of the First Selectman, Bryan Memorial Town Hall, Post Office Box 383, Washington Depot, CT 06794.

New Elevator in Town Hall



Recycling is Fun in Washington!



Government Wide Financial Statements

This statement presents information on all of the Town's assets and liabilities, with the difference reported as net assets. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as an indicator of whether the financial position of the Town is improving or deteriorating. It speaks to the question of whether or not the Town as a whole is better or worse off as a result of this year's activities. Other non-financial factors will need to be considered, however, such as changes in the Town's property tax base and the condition of the Town's infrastructure, to assess the overall health of the Town.

Town of Washington Statement of Net Assets June 30, 2006

	Governmental Activities
Assets	
Current assets	
Cash	\$ 614,148
Investments	3,468,387
Prepaid expenses	22,000
Property Taxes Receivable - net	163,980
Pledge receivable - contributions in lieu of taxes	16,945
Total current assets	<u>4,285,460</u>
Noncurrent Assets	
Net pension asset	1,409
Capital assets, net of depreciation of \$13,140,964	10,025,062
Total noncurrent assets	<u>10,026,471</u>
Total Assets	14,311,931
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts payable	93,773
Performance bonds held	80,200
Due to State of Connecticut	2,505
Prepaid property taxes	49,384
Accrued interest	19,841
Long-term liabilities due within one year	58,000
Total current liabilities	<u>303,703</u>
Noncurrent Liabilities	
Due in more than one year	528,265
Total Liabilities	<u>831,968</u>
Net Assets	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	9,585,062
Restricted for :	
Non-Recurring Capital Expenditure	1,114,637
Judea Cemetery	54,078
Road improvements	289,432
Park and recreation	112,192
Senior center	14,363
Greenway committee	5,377
Land Acquisition for open space	174,196
Dodge Farm project	4,999
Unrestricted	2,125,627
Total Net assets	<u><u>\$ 13,479,963</u></u>

Government Wide Financial Statements

This statement presents information showing how the government's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flow in some future fiscal period. Uncollected taxes and earned but unused vacation leave are examples of these types of items.

Governmental activities of the Town encompass most of the Town's basic services and include general government, public safety, public works, health and welfare, parks and recreation, education, library and other activities. Property taxes, charges for services and state grants finance most of these activities.

Town of Washington Statement of Activities Year Ended June 30, 2006

Statement of Activities					Total
Year Ended June 30, 2006					Net (Expense)
Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues			Revenue and Changes in Net Assets
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	
Governmental Activities:					
General government	\$ 1,357,390	\$ 665,260	\$ 21,883	\$ ---	\$ (670,247)
Public safety	669,591	99,831	---	---	(569,760)
Highways (public works)	1,605,963	---	137,417	703,781	(764,765)
Sanitation	417,277	50,610	---	---	(366,667)
Social services	4,024	---	---	---	(4,024)
Health	85,341	10,060	5,000	---	(70,281)
Parks and recreation	327,408	171,892	---	---	(155,516)
Education	7,684,429	---	180,883	---	(7,503,546)
Other	361,342	40,035	---	---	(321,307)
Interest on long-term debt	19,841	---	---	---	(19,841)
Total governmental activities	\$ 12,532,606	\$ 1,037,688	\$ 345,183	\$ 703,781	(10,445,954)

General revenues:

Property taxes	10,360,579
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs	105,069
Investment earnings	227,122
Lease income and other miscellaneous	23,891
Total general revenues	10,716,661

Change in net assets 270,707

Net assets - beginning	13,209,256
Net assets - ending	\$ 13,479,963

Fund Financial Statement Balance Sheet

This statement focus' on near-term inflows and outflows or spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Both the Governmental fund balance sheet and the Government fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate a comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

Town of Washington
Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
June 30, 2006

	Major Funds			
		Non-Recurring		
		Capital	Other	Total
	General Fund	Expenditure	Governmental	Governmental
		Fund	Funds	Funds
Assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 351,584	\$ 7,905	\$ 254,659	\$ 614,148
Investments - at fair value	1,798,445	1,287,464	382,478	3,468,387
Property tax receivable, net	163,980	-	-	163,980
Grant and pledge receivable	16,945	-	-	16,945
Due from other funds	169,468	-	-	169,468
Prepaid expenditures	-	-	22,000	22,000
Total Assets	\$ 2,500,422	\$ 1,295,369	\$ 659,137	\$ 4,454,928
Liabilities:				
Accounts payable	\$ 78,009	\$ 11,264	\$ 4,500	\$ 93,773
Performance bonds payable	80,200	-	-	80,200
Due to State of Connecticut	2,505	-	-	2,505
Due to other funds	-	169,468	-	169,468
Prepaid property taxes	49,384	-	-	49,384
Deferred property tax revenue	148,091	-	-	148,091
Total Liabilities	358,189	180,732	4,500	543,421
Fund Balances:				
Unreserved:				
Designated for subsequent years expenditures	513,685	1,142,230	-	1,655,915
Undesignated				
General fund	1,628,548	-	-	1,628,548
Special revenue funds	-	(27,593)	654,637	627,044
Total Fund Balances	2,142,233	1,114,637	654,637	3,911,507
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$ 2,500,422	\$ 1,295,369	\$ 659,137	\$ 4,454,928

Town of Washington
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
Year Ended June 30, 2006

	Major Funds			
	General Fund	Non-Recurring Capital Expenditure Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:				
Property taxes	\$ 10,292,515	\$ -	\$ -	10,292,515
Interest and lien fees on property taxes	75,462	-	-	75,462
Intergovernmental	268,260	651,087	146,916	1,066,263
Contribution in lieu of taxes	64,270	-	-	64,270
Investment income	141,553	69,840	15,729	227,122
Lease income - Town building	21,841	-	-	21,841
Licenses and permits	844,547	-	-	844,547
Fines and penalties	1,272	-	-	1,272
Program fees and other receipts	14,158	23,500	179,761	217,419
Total Revenues	11,723,878	744,427	342,406	12,810,711
Expenditures:				
Current:				
General government	1,345,789	-	-	1,345,789
Public safety	478,099	-	-	478,099
Highways	814,787	-	-	814,787
Sanitation	420,277	-	-	420,277
Social services	4,024	-	-	4,024
Health	79,625	-	-	79,625
Recreation	130,535	-	189,362	319,897
Education	7,684,429	-	-	7,684,429
Other	361,618	-	29,947	391,565
Capital outlay	-	1,450,327	41,840	1,492,167
Debt service	77,316	-	-	77,316
Total Expenditures	11,396,499	1,450,327	261,149	13,107,975
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	327,379	(705,900)	81,257	(297,264)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Operating transfers	(812,536)	635,536	177,000	-
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues And Other Sources Over Expenditures and other Financing uses	(485,157)	(70,364)	258,257	(297,264)
Fund Balance - beginning of year	2,627,390	1,185,001	396,380	4,208,771
Fund Balance - end of year	\$ 2,142,233	\$ 1,114,637	\$ 654,637	\$ 3,911,507

State law requires a statement in this Annual Town Report that shows the amount of state aid the Town receives for road maintenance and repair. Revenue and expenses for the Town Aid Road Fund are shown below in the Special Revenue Funds report.

Town of Washington
Nonmajor Governmental Funds - Special Revenue Funds
Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Year Ended June 30, 2006

	Judea Cemetery Fund	Town Aid Road Fund	Park and Recreation Fund	Senior Center Fund	Greenway Committee Fund	Land Acquisition Open Space Fund	Dodge Farm Fund	Totals
Revenues:								
Governmental grants	\$ -	\$ 137,417	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,499	\$ 146,916
Investment income	434	10,715	748	288	6	3,538	-	15,729
Program fees and other receipts	3,600	-	165,714	10,447	-	-	-	179,761
Total Revenues	4,034	148,132	166,462	10,735	6	3,538	9,499	342,406
Expenditures:								
Highways	-	41,840	-	-	-	-	-	41,840
Cemetery expenditures	6,025	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,025
Programs and Activities	-	-	189,362	12,555	2,525	4,342	4,500	213,284
Total Expenditures	6,025	41,840	189,362	12,555	2,525	4,342	4,500	261,149
Excess (Deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(1,991)	106,292	(22,900)	(1,820)	(2,519)	(804)	4,999	81,257
Other Financing Sources:								
Operating transfers in	2,000	-	-	-	-	175,000	-	177,000
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues and Other Sources over Expenditures and Other Uses	9	106,292	(22,900)	(1,820)	(2,519)	174,196	4,999	258,257
Fund Balance - beginning of year	54,069	183,140	135,092	16,183	7,896	-	-	396,380
Fund Balance - end of year	\$ 54,078	\$ 289,432	\$ 112,192	\$ 14,363	\$ 5,377	\$ 174,196	\$ 4,999	\$ 654,637

The Town adopts an Annual Appropriated Budget for its general fund. A detailed, year-end budgetary comparison statement to demonstrate compliance with the authorized budget is included in the Town of Washington Audited Financial Statements available from the Selectman's office or on the Town's Website: www.washingtonct.org. A condensed schedule, which shows the approved budget and actual results follows:

Town of Washington
Condensed Schedule of Revenue and Expenditures
Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP, Budgetary Basis)
Year Ended June 30, 2006

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues:			
Property taxes	\$ 10,103,763	\$ 10,256,415	\$ 152,652
Interest and lien fees on property taxes	55,753	75,462	19,709
Intergovernmental	281,331	304,360	23,029
Contribution in lieu of taxes	63,000	64,270	1,270
Investment income	35,350	141,553	106,203
Lease income - Town building	18,400	21,841	3,441
Licenses, permits and other receipts	464,000	686,328	222,328
Fines and penalties	-	1,272	1,272
Total Revenues	11,021,597	11,551,501	529,904
Expenditures:			
Current:			
General government	1,194,276	1,194,276	-
Public safety	428,583	401,468	27,115
Highways	814,787	814,787	-
Sanitation	449,556	420,277	29,279
Social services	4,325	4,024	301
Health	85,228	79,625	5,603
Recreation	130,654	130,535	119
Education	7,737,690	7,737,690	-
Other	401,636	364,124	37,512
Debt service	77,316	77,316	-
Total Expenditures	11,324,051	11,224,122	99,929
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	(302,454)	327,379	629,833
Other Financing (Sources) Uses :			
Operating transfers:			
Judea Cemetery	2,000	2,000	-
Non-recurring capital expenditures fund	-	(169,468)	169,468
Non-recurring capital expenditures fund	980,004	980,004	-
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues And Other Sources Over Expenditures and other Financing uses	(1,284,458)	(485,157)	799,301
Fund Balance - beginning of year	1,284,458	2,627,390	1,342,932
Fund Balance - end of year	\$ -	\$ 2,142,233	\$ 2,142,233