

**TOWN OF BLANDFORD**  
**MASSACHUSETTS**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**2003-2004**

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## GLOSSARY

**APPROPRIATION:** An authorization granted by a Town Meeting to make expenditures and to incur obligations for specific purposes. An appropriation is usually limited in amount as to the time when it may be expended. Only a Town meeting or the School Committee can authorize money appropriated for one purpose to be used for another. Any amount which is appropriated may be encumbered (see definition).

**AVAILABLE FUNDS:** Free cash, reserves and unexpended balances available for appropriation.

**COLLECTOR:** Is responsible for the overall administration of local taxes. The Collector enforces the tax laws to insure a high level of voluntary payment and is responsible for properly maintaining tax records, accounting for taxes received, and paying over all receipts to the Treasurer.

**ENCUMBRANCES: .....** Obligations in the form of purchase orders, contracts or salary commitments which are chargeable to the appropriation and for which a part of the appropriation is reserves.

**ESTIMATED RECEIPTS:** Estimate of money to be received by the Town from various sources, such as licenses, state reimbursements, etc. The estimate is deducted by the Assessors from the gross amount to be raised by taxes when the tax rate is set.

**EXCESS AND DEFICIENCY:** Also called the "surplus revenue" account, this is the amount by which cash, accounts receivable and other assets exceed the liabilities and reserves. It is akin to the "stockholders equity" account on a corporation balance sheet. It is not; however, available for appropriation in full because of a portion of the assets listed as "accounts receivable" may be taxes receivable and uncollected. (See "Free Cash")

**FISCAL YEAR:** A twelve-month period commencing July 1 to which the annual budget applies and at the end of which a Town determines its financial position and the results of its operations.

**FREE CASH:** Certified each July 1 by the Director of Accounts, this is the surplus revenue account (Also called "excess and deficiency") less any uncollected taxes of prior years. It is available for appropriation upon certification. By action of a Special Town Meeting after certification and before setting the tax rate, part or all of any unexpected "free cash" may be applied to reduce the tax rate of the current year. (See also "Excess and Deficiency"). "Free Cash" is also referred to as "Available Funds."

**OVERLAY:** Amount of money raised by Assessors for purpose of creating a fund to cover abatements and uncollectible taxes.

**RESERVE FUND:** Amount transferred from Overlay and/or appropriated for unforeseen or emergency purposes. Controlled by the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen.

**ROAD MACHINERY FUND:** A fund which is the accumulated town charge for certain uses for town equipment and which may be appropriated for maintenance and repair of that equipment.

**SURPLUS REVENUE:** The amount by which the cash, accounts receivable and other floating assets exceed the liabilities and reserves.

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING:** A meeting of the registered voters of a Town called by the Board of Selectmen at their discretion or by written request of 20% of all registered voters in the Town.

**TOWN MEETING WARRANT:** A written order calling the annual or a special town meeting and containing a list of the subjects to be acted upon. The Selectmen shall insert in the warrant for the annual Town Meeting all subjects which are requested in writing by ten or more registered voters and in the warrant for a Special Town Meeting all subjects requested by 10% of all the Town's voters.

## GOVERNMENTAL DISTRICTS

### Representatives in Massachusetts General Court

Representative:	William Smitty Pignatelli (D) Room 437 State House Boston, MA 02133 Tel: (617) 722-2582 <a href="mailto:Rep.smittypignatelli@hou.state.ma.us">Rep.smittypignatelli@hou.state.ma.us</a>	Fourth Berkshire District Airolti Building 45 Railroad Street Lee, MA 01238 Tel: (413) 243-5534
Senator: District	Michael R. Knapik (R) Room 421 Boston, MA 02133 Tel: (617) 722-1415	Second Hampden & Hampshire 57 North Elm St. Westfield, MA 01085 Tel: (413) 562-6454 <a href="mailto:MKnapik@senate.state.ma.us">MKnapik@senate.state.ma.us</a>
Congressman:	John W. Olver (D) 1027 Longworth HOB Washington, D.C. 20515 Tel: (202) 225-5335	1 <sup>st</sup> District 57 Suffolk St., Suite 310 Holyoke, MA 01040 Tel: (413) 532-7010 <a href="http://www.house.gov/writerep">www.house.gov/writerep</a>
District Attorney	William M. Bennett One Bulfinch Place, Suite 202 Boston, MA 02114 (617) 723-0642	Hall of Justice 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Tel: (413) 747-1000 <a href="mailto:webmail@daa.state.ma.us">webmail@daa.state.ma.us</a>

### Representatives in United States Congress

U.S. Senator:	Edward M. Kennedy (D) 315 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 Tel: (202) 224-4543 <a href="http://kenedy.senate.gov/contact.html">http://kenedy.senate.gov/contact.html</a>	Senator Kennedy 2400 J.F.K. Federal Building Boston, MA 02108 (617) 565-3170 – Telephone
U.S. Senator:	John Kerry (D) One Bowdoin Square, 10 <sup>th</sup> Fl. Boston, MA 02114 Tel: (617) 565-8519	Senator Kerry One Financial Plaza Springfield, MA 01103 Tel: (413) 747-3942 <a href="mailto:john_kerry@kerry.senate.gov">john_kerry@kerry.senate.gov</a>
Secretary of the Commonwealth	William Francis Galvin State House, Room 337 Boston, MA 02133 Tel: (617) 727-7030 <a href="mailto:cis@sec.state.ma.us">cis@sec.state.ma.us</a>	

Also, Please check out the Massachusetts website for more information: [www.state.ma.us](http://www.state.ma.us)

# ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

May 10, 2003-May 8, 2004

(In Alphabetical Order)

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
<b>Assessors (3 years)</b>	
Vacant	2004
Vacant	2005
Don Blanchette	2006
<b>Cemetery Commissioners (3 years)</b>	
Vacant	2004
Vacant	2005
T.J. Cousineau	2006
<b>Fence Viewer (3 years)</b>	
Andy Iglesias	2005
George Reichert	2006
<b>Field Driver (3 years)</b>	
George Reichert	2006
<b>Health, Board of (3 years)</b>	
Chris Smith	2004
Les Eldridge	2005
Mike Wojcik	2006
<b>Library Trustees (3 years)</b>	
Chuck Benson	2004
Mary Kronholm	2005
Chris Keenan	2006
<b>Moderator (3 years)</b>	
David Hopson	2006
<b>Planning Board (5 years)</b>	
Juliana Mueller	2004
Mary Brainerd	2005
John Bianco	2006
John Caswell	2007
Opal Poteat	2008
<b>Recreation Committee (3 years)</b>	
Julie Fitzgerald (appointed)	2004
Staci Iglesias	2004
Vacant	2004
Vacant	2004
Vacant	2004
<b>School Committee (3 years)</b>	
Vacant	2004
Mary E. Oleksak	2006

## **ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS**

**May 10, 2003-May 8, 2004**

Continued

<u><b>TITLE</b></u>	<u><b>TERM EXPIRES</b></u>
<b>Selectmen (3 years)</b>	
Chet Broughton	2004
Bill Devin	2005
Vacant	2006
<b>Tax Collector (3 years)</b>	
Lee Ann Thompson	2005
<b>Town Clerk (3 years)</b>	
Staci Iglesias	2005
<b>Treasurer (3 years)</b>	
Anne Holliday	2004
<b>Tree Warden (3 years)</b>	
Michael Wojcik	2006
<b>Water Commissioners (3 years)</b>	
Bill Levakis	2004
Frank Verderber	2005
Les Eldridge	2006

## **APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS**

**June 30, 2003 – July 1, 2004**

(In Alphabetical Order)

<b>Aging Council on (1 year)</b>	
Cheryl Hopson	2004
Sally Robbins	2004
Summer Robbins	2004
Jo Taudel	2006
Linda VanWerkhoven	2006
<b>Arts Council (2 years)</b>	
Nicole Devin	2004
Mary Martin	2004
Darlene Horne	2005
Robin Stevens	2005
Mary Jo Litchard	2005
<b>Building Inspector (1 year)</b>	
Eric Munson	2004
<b>Building Inspector, Assistant (1 year)</b>	
Vacant	2004

# APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS

June 30, 2003 – July 1, 2004

Continued

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
<b>Burial Agent (1 year)</b> Don Brainerd	2004
<b>Burial Agent, Asst. (1 year)</b> T. J. Cousineau	2004
<b>Chief Procurement Officer (1 year)</b> Chet Broughton	2004
<b>Conservation Commission (3 years)</b> Robin Stevens	2004
Chuck Benson	2004
Kim Bergland (Assoc.)	2004
Rosemary Arnold	2005
John Caswell	2005
Pete Sutherland (Assoc.)	2006
Laura Scalise Kadzik	2006
<b>Constables (3 years)</b> Tate Walker	2004
John Haight	2006
<b>Dog Officer (1 year)</b> Brenda Blood	2004
<b>Dog Officer, Assistant (1 year)</b> Vacant	2004
<b>Election Clerk (1 year)</b> Kim Blanchette	2004
<b>Election Officers (1 year)</b> Charlotte Cook	2004
Sandra Wyman	2004
Kim Blanchette	2004
<b>Election Warden (1 year)</b> Mary Kronholm	2004
<b>Election Warden, Alternate (1 year)</b> Kim Blanchette	2004
<b>Emergency Management Co-Directors (1 year)</b> Thomas Ackley	2004
Keith Ackley	2004

# APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS

June 30, 2003 – July 1, 2004

Continued

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
<b>Finance Committee (3 years)</b>	
Sue Racine	2004
Co Cousineau	2004
Carol Adams	2005
Vacant	2006
Vacant	2006
<b>Fire Chief &amp; Forest Fire Warden (3 years)</b>	
Thomas Ackley	2005
<b>Hazardous Waste Coordinator (1 year)</b>	
Thomas Ackley	2004
<b>Highway Superintendent (1 year)</b>	
Keith Ackley	2004
<b>Historical Commission (3 years)</b>	
Julie Mueller	2004
LeeAnn Thompson	2004
Katy Milford	2005
Mary MacDonnell	2005
Rosemary Arnold	2005
Mike Urbanski	2006
Peter Milford	2006
<b>Inspector of Animals &amp; Slaughtering (1 year)</b>	
Brenda Blood	2004
<b>Inspector of Servicemen's Graves (1 year)</b>	
Michael Wojcik	2004
<b>Measurer of Wood &amp; Bark (1 year)</b>	
Michael Wojcik	2004
<b>Pest Control Officer (1 year)</b>	
Michael Wojcik	2004
<b>Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (1 year)</b>	
Julianna Mueller	2004
<b>Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, Alternate (1 year)</b>	
Opal Poteat	2004
<b>Plumbing &amp; Gas Inspector (1 year)</b>	
Robert Gardner	2004



## **APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS**

**June 30, 2003 – July 1, 2004**

Continued

<u><b>TITLE</b></u>	<u><b>TERM EXPIRES</b></u>
<b>Plumbing &amp; Gas Inspector, Assistant</b> David Ritchie	2004
<b>Police Chief (3 years)</b> Charles Harner	2004
<b>Police Officers (3 years)</b> Tate Walker	2004
Sean Cloutier	2004
Scott King	2005
Joe Coach	2005
<b>Police Officer, Special (1 year)</b> Vacant	
<b>Registrars of Voters (1 year)</b> Mary Kronholm	2004
Staci Iglesias	2004
<b>Town Accountant (1 year)</b> Staci Iglesias	2004
<b>Town Counsel (1 year)</b> Kopelman & Paige	2004
<b>Veteran's Agent (1 year)</b> Katherine Stucenski	2004
<b>Watson Park Superintendent (1 year)</b> Doug Emo	2004
<b>Wiring Inspector (1 year)</b> Edward LaPlante	2004
<b>Wiring Inspector, Assistant (1 year)</b> Michael Dintzner	2004
<b>Zoning Board of Appeals (3 years)</b> Summer Robbins	2004
Don Brainerd	2006
Theodore Jensen	2006
James Kronholm, Alternate	2006

**THE FOLLOWING REPORTS ARE IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY DEPARTMENT**

## **REPORT OF THE BLANDFORD ARTS COUNCIL**

This has been a challenging year for the arts in Massachusetts. The Blandford Arts Council received state funding from Mass. Cultural Council for \$2000, representing a 61% reduction from the previous year. However, the Council set its priorities to assist locally based artists and organizations followed by Hilltown artists.

The Blandford Arts Council was able to provide grant funding to the Blandford Fair Art Show, the White Church, Henry Lappen, a juggler, and Patty Carpenter, for performances in Blandford. Grants to organizations located in the Hilltowns included the miniature theatre of Chester, the Huntington Dance Co., the North Hall presenting the Festival of Hilltown Artists, Kathleen Nesbitt, a writer from Granville, and the Sevenars in Worthington.

The members of the Arts Council believe that the Arts in the Hilltowns improve the quality of life in our communities. We urge all residents to participate in the arts as a member of the Council, a volunteer for events, and most importantly as an audience member. Support your local arts organizations and artists. Your reward will be a life changing experience.

Respectfully submitted,  
Darlene Horne, Chair  
Robin Stevens  
Nicole Devin  
Mary Martin  
Mary Jo Litchard

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

This year the Board of Assessors consists of Donald Blanchette, Chairman, Jeni Masiuk and Laura Lee Bertram. Jeni attended the annual MAAO school at the University of Massachusetts, and has been certified as an Assessor by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Laura Lee Bertram joined the Board when she was appointed Acting Principal Assessor by the Selectmen. Laura Lee brings with her a vast knowledge of assessing and related fields. Also new in the office is the Assistant to the Board, Alicia Brazie. Alicia has open office hours Monday evenings 7-9, and Tuesday mornings 9-1. She is in the office most mornings, (except Friday), and is happy to assist you if you call ahead.

We deeply regret the resignations of Jared Heeter and Debra Forish. Both were dedicated to the well-being of the Town of Blandford.

The triennial revaluation has been completed with an average property increase of 24%. The tax rate for fiscal year 2004 has been set. The tax rate has decreased by 21.6%. Both the revaluation and the tax rate were approved by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

At a special town meeting, Massachusetts General Law Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 17C was accepted. This reduces some of the eligibility requirements for the elderly and surviving spouse exemption which will allow more people to qualify. Any questions regarding exemptions should be directed to the Assessors' office.

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS (continued)

The Board of Assessors is always available to answer valuation and assessing questions. The Board meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month, excluding holidays. Changes are posted on the town bulletin board.

The Board of Assessors wishes to thanks the taxpayers, all Town Officials, Departments and Boards for their continued cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donald Blanchette, Chairman  
Jeni Masiuk  
Laura Lee Bertram, Acting Principal Assessor

## REPORT OF THE BUILDING INSPECTOR

A total of 28 permits were issued in 2003 on buildings for an estimated value of \$2,344,875.00. The permits issued were as follows:

• New Dwellings	10	\$2,026,000
• Additions and Remodels	8	177,750
• Decks and Porches	2	4,800
• Garages and Sheds	6	84,325
• Pools	2	52,000
Total		\$2,344,875

### Special Notes

1. Office Hours: By appointment (413) 258-4590.
2. The seventh edition of the MA State Building code is now being worked on. When it is ready, copies will be available at the Town Hall and the Library.
3. Before any construction is started, new or old work repairs, additions, garden sheds etc., check with the Building Inspector to see if a permit is needed or if your plan needs to go to the Planning Board.
4. Applications and Building Information can be found at the Town Hall.
5. No building or dwelling with an outstanding building permit shall be used or inhabited until a "Certificate of Occupancy" has been issued. Use or occupancy without this certificate will result in a fine according to the MA. Building code, Section 120.1. It is the homeowner's responsibility to see that this certificate is obtained.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eric R. Munson, Jr.  
Building Inspector

## **REPORT OF THE CEMETERY COMMISSION**

(no report submitted)

## **REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

The open space plan is near completion, the BBC is working on the final draft. The open space in Blandford continues to grow. The Springfield Water and Sewer Comm. Has acquired 3 parcels with conservation restriction: Dover Trust (130 acres), LaBomard (275 acres) and Wescott (50 acres) which are open for passive recreation.

Last Spring, the BBC was joined by biologist Molly Hale and was successful in certifying two vernal pools in town. For people who would like to learn more about unique vernal pool habitats, please contact the BBC and we will provide assistance.

One of our projects this year was writing an Order of Conditions that entailed dealing with a collapsed culvert on the Old Huckleberry Trolley Line adjacent to Cross Pond. The BBC has a series of ongoing meetings and site visits with regards to the complete Long Pond Project including distribution. We have met with several DEP and MEPA officials to discuss the project.

Lastly, in conjunction with the Board of Health, BCC is researching the extent of road salt infiltration into ground water supplies. The BCC is always working to find new ways to protect our town's natural environment while also educating local citizens about "green" living.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rosemary Arnold  
Chuck Benson  
John Caswell  
Laura Scalise Kadzik  
Robin Stevens  
Pete Sunderland

## **REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING**

The Blandford Council on Aging is once again forging ahead with new ideas and plans. Jo Taudel and Linda Van Werkhoven are serving as co-chairmen and an active Council has begun meeting monthly to plan activities for seniors.

Monthly blood pressure clinics continue in the Town Hall the third Wednesday of the month at 10:00. A lively and active group meets each Wednesday afternoon at the Town Hall to play cards and they are always looking for additional members. Two flu clinics were very well attended in November at the Elementary School.

The Council recently held a very successful Coffee Hour with approximately 30 individuals attending. Plans are underway to continue the Coffee Hour on a monthly basis. There will be a Mini-Health Fair at the Elementary School on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and a spring luncheon is also in the works, so save the date of Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING (continued)\**

All interested seniors are invited to COA planning meetings, which currently are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 1:00pm in the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,  
Josephine Taudel  
Linda Van Werkhoven  
Sumner Robbins  
Corry Lucia  
Sally Robbins  
Ed Trusty  
Cheryl Hopson

## **REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our out-going members, Michelle Urbanski and Paula Biledeau and welcome our new member, Susan Racine.

The departments have been very cooperative dealing with state cuts. Gateway School has also had to deal with large state cuts. But until the economy strengthens, this will be our challenge. Our immediate goal is to maintain Free Cash, Stabilization and Reserve Accounts to get us through the hard times.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Adams  
Co Cousineau  
Sue Racine

## **REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

In the past year the Fire Department responded to a total of 100 alarms. The breakdown follows:

Structure	7
False Alarms	7
Vehicle Fires	5
In-Service	5
Mutual Aid	20
Emergency Medical	41
Brush Fires	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	11
Haz Mat (Propane Leaks)	3

Emergency medical calls still dominate our responses. This has become a large responsibility to our firefighters.

## **REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT (continued)**

The majority of our false alarms are accidentally triggered automatic alarms. If you own one of these and "burn the bacon or toast," please call your alarm company immediately so the alarm may be cancelled.

At this time I would like to thank all of the excellent people I have had the privilege to work with over my years as Fire Chief. Those years have been enlightening and entertaining, as well as demanding.

To the men and women of the department, my thanks for their dedication and excellence.

Respectfully submitted,  
Thomas Ackley, Fire Chief

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH**

As most of you know, we improved the transfer station with the help of all volunteers just coming down to help. Most of the work on the new building was done by Les Eldridge, Mike Wojcik, Al Flyte & Danny Wojick, plus there were others that helped. We are personally thanking all who gave their free time to make this building a reality. We would like to thank Carlos of C & A construction for hauling in the grindings from the turnpike and Mike Wojcik for making arrangements to get the grindings spread. The transfer station will now be mud free for the citizens of Blandford.

We have made all the food establishments, including the turnpike areas, safe and clean due to many spot Board of Health inspections. All stores, food establishments, fair grounds and any and all places are and will be inspected in the future year by spot inspections at any part of the day, 24 hours a day without notice.

Since the new water system has been installed, the quality of the water has much improved. We also make spot water tests along with the Water Department's monthly testing, and the Water Superintendent, Paul Kvitek, tests the water every day.

We are planning to have hazardous waste containers placed at the transfer station after June 1<sup>st</sup> as soon as possible. This would include containers for TVs, computers, air conditioners, refrigerators, freezers, and the like. We will announce the time and dates as soon as we know. We will post it at the transfer station and in the local papers.

We are also going to try to get a sewer line from the school to the turnpike. We will be working with Russell and the turnpike to get this accomplished on our own before it gets mandated by the department of environmental protection. This way it will be much less in cost, as we can do it at our own speed and progress as we have funds. This is needed very badly in the center of town due to failing septic systems that the board has noticed and for the ones that have failed Title V inspections. The average cost of a new septic system from perc to design to installation is from \$18,000 to \$35,000. This is what your neighbors are paying for their new and repaired systems.

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH (continued)**

We hope to condemn some of the bad buildings in town to make the town safer for residents and rid the area from unwanted critters. We are constantly trying to make the Town of Blandford a better and cleaner place to live.

Any person can reach the Board by contacting Les Eldridge at his home at 848-0950, or if it is an emergency, you can call his beeper at 261-3838 toll free from anywhere in the 413 calling area.

Respectfully submitted,  
Les Eldridge  
Chris Smith  
Mike Wojcik

## **REPORT OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Since August of this year the department has had the grader repaired so we could finish the project on Blair Road and begin the grading of various dirt roads. Unfortunately the cold arrived and put grading to a halt sooner than expected. Severe wind and heavy rains this fall kept us busy cutting trees and fixing washouts on many of our dirt roads.

The purchase of an All Wheel Drive Mack Dump truck has helped us tremendously this winter and hopefully will continue to do so for many years to come.

A thanks to my crew and all those who have helped out in the past months.

Respectfully submitted,  
Keith Ackley

## **REPORT OF THE HILLTOWN COMMUNITY AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION**

### **Overview**

Hilltown Community Ambulance Association (HCAA), formed November 2001, is a non-profit corporation governed by an all-volunteer board of directors, with representatives from the towns served. Additionally, the Board includes representatives from Hilltown Community Health Center and the Massachusetts State Police Dispatch Control, Northampton.

HCAA owns two fully equipped and licensed Class I ambulances and serves six towns—more than 8400 residents in a 22-square-mile area in both Hampden and Hampshire counties. Our center of operations is located at 1 Bromley Road, Huntington, which is the geographic center of our service area. Western Massachusetts Electric Company owns and maintains the facility, and generously donates its use.

## **REPORT OF THE HILLTOWN COMMUNITY AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION**

(continued)

### **Direct Personnel**

Kathleen Rider, a veteran Emergency Medical Technician and Ambulance Service Director, manages day-to-day operations and is responsible to the board of directors. Additionally, HCAA is staffed by two full time EMTs and over 28 volunteer EMTs, all of whom are dedicated professionals certified by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Massachusetts Dept. of Public Health Office of Emergency Management Services (OEMS).

### **Calendar 2003 Activity Overview**

During calendar year 2003, HCAA responded to 434 calls. Of these, 42% occurred weekdays 8 am –4 pm, 25% occurred weeknights 6 pm – 6 am, 23% occurred during weekends, and the remaining 10% during weekday early mornings and early evenings. In May 2003, we purchased a model year 2000 ambulance with 20K miles, replacing a 1993 with over 200K miles.

### **2004-05 Improvement/Ongoing Projects**

Currently HCAA is licensed to provide basic level ambulance service and, when needed, arranges intercepts by area advanced-level providers. During FY 2005, increasing value to its service area, HCAA will upgrade its capabilities from Basic to Intermediate Level Advanced Life Support (ALS). This need was illustrated when 434 calls were analyzed to show 60% required at least some ALS treatment.

Thanks to grants from McKesson Corporation, and the Gage Olmstead and Lockridge-Watkins funds of the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, nine EMTs will train to function at the intermediate level. The extensive program includes 100 classroom hours, minimum 40 hours of in-hospital training, and minimum 80 hours on-ambulance training. EMTs then take an OEMS-administered test to become certified. In addition to the actual EMT training, HCAA will purchase equipment and obtain licensure to provide ALS –intermediate level service. The entire project began Feb.2004 and will be completed May 2005.

This year, HCAA will again offer an emergency response subscription service. In May, invitations to participate will be mailed to all households in the communities served by HCAA. Participation is voluntary, covers emergency transports and physician-ordered non-emergency transports, and payment of subscription fees is considered payment-in-full for any service provided by HCAA which is not covered by the client's insurance.

Sensitive to the network of support so heavily relied upon by residents, HCAA and other local emergency agents acknowledge the increased benefit to patient care that can be had with mutual corroboration and continue to encourage it.

### **Personnel Resources**

We are fortunate to have several resources from which to draw. Most important are first responders, who have provided invaluable assistance to our EMTs at accident scenes and other medical emergencies. Many first responders are members of town fire departments. Others include local and state police, and ski patrol personnel. In case of multiple emergencies, HCAA has mutual aid



## REPORT OF THE HILLTOWN COMMUNITY AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION (continued)

agreements with ambulance services in surrounding communities. Finally, paramedic intercept agreements have been established with the Westfield Fire Department, County Ambulance, and American Medical Response to provide assistance with the most serious cases. Alliance with these resources has strengthened the overall effort to serve our communities.

### Funding (current/future)

Concerning HCAA funding, reimbursements from Medicare, Medicaid, insurance companies and private payments cover the majority of costs. Additionally, towns served by HCAA appropriate funds to help meet operating costs. Grants and generous donations from individuals, families and businesses cover the balance.

*Sensitive to host towns' austere financial circumstances, HCAA requests communities level fund ambulance service, appropriating the same dollars in FY 2005 as in FYs 2004 and 2003. Acknowledging HCAA's growth, we are pleased to advise that each year community funding becomes less a percentage of our total funding.*

We are grateful for the overwhelming support the communities, particularly the town fire departments, have given us. It has enabled HCAA to fulfill its mission to provide quality emergency medical service to the residents of the Hilltowns. Thank you.

*If you are an EMT or would like to become one, please call us, 413-667-3277. We sponsor local certification and continuing education programs for qualified persons willing to serve with HCCA.*

## REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Blandford Historical Commission has had a very busy second year. Though we did not receive a DEM grant last year, due to it not being funded by the state, we were very pleased to learn that we were one of only two communities that were invited to be part of a pilot program that the state was offering. We are receiving "free" help from state agencies to begin the work of identifying the historic resources in Blandford and documenting them on Massachusetts Historical Commission Inventory Forms.

The Commission is also very pleased to report that we have recently received a \$3,500.00 grant from the Highland Communities Initiative, a program of The Trustees of Reservations. This grant will be used to continue the inventory by professional arborists of the plants, shrubs, and trees in Watson Park. This is the first step in what we hope will result in restoring the Park to its former grandeur.

We will continue to seek other grants and funding sources for this project, and more, and hope to some day be able to acquire properties of historical value within Town. We look forward to continuing to work with the Planning Board and Conservation Commission as we have on multiple issues in Town. It has been a pleasure working with these boards; their dedication and hard work is appreciated. We

## **REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION (continued)**

would also like to thank the Historical Society. Their tireless efforts have made our job so much easier. We are very fortunate to have them in Town and look forward to having our work compliment each other. We look forward to another rewarding and challenging year of trying to protect those things of historical significance and value in our Town.

Sincerely,  
LeeAnn Thompson, Chair  
Peter Milford, Vice-Chair  
Mike Urbanski  
Rosemary Arnold  
Julie Mueller  
Mary MacDonnell  
Katy Milford

## **REPORT OF THE LEE VISITING NURSES**

The following is a report of the services performed in the Town of Blandford during the calendar year 2003:

HOME VISITS		VISITS
Skilled Nursing		1
Maternal Child Health		3
CLINICS		ATTENDANCE
	SESSIONS	
Blood Pressure	12	61
Flu/pneumonia	2	58/2

## **REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN**

The Porter Memorial Library has had another wonderful year. We continue to add to our reference and nonfiction collections to keep information up to date and meet educational needs. As always, we continue to add to our fiction collection for pleasure reading.

This year's Summer Reading Program had a Read, Think, Create Theme. Julie Collier of Wingmasters did a special show, The Owls of Harry Potter with live birds of prey, bringing in an example of all the different owls in the films.

Julie is licensed to rescue birds of prey and rehabilitate them and she explained to the audience the habits and hunting patterns of each type of owl, including the Bard owl, Great-Horned owl, and the Barn owl.

## REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN (continued)

Henry Lappen entertained us with A Juggling Act: An Interactive show which included audience participation, plus a free training lesson in; Juggling for all the kids. They loved it!

Tony Toledo led the audience in a story telling adventure from animals that live in the woods, to the different fish in the ocean. Tony's stories were much enjoyed by all, with lots of laughter.

Ann Marie Rosberg presented two workshops. One was on Making Bubble Sculptures, which the kids made and placed on display at the library; the other was on Making A Bookmark from Nature, which resulted in the kids bringing in an item they found in nature and making it into a unique, custom bookmark.

Thanks to everyone who has donated materials throughout the year, and to everyone who has given their support to the library. Special thanks to Kevin Green for helping out with repairs.

Adult fiction	1,614
Adult nonfiction	777
Juv. Fiction	1,212
Juv. Nonfiction	354
YA fiction	65
YA nonfiction	50
Periodicals	144
Total print	4,216
Videos	6,803
Audios	259
C.D.s	254
Total nonprint	7,316
TOTAL	11,532

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Chandler, Director  
Anne Chandler  
Cindy Montanaro

## REPORT OF THE LIBRARY TRUSTEES

The Trustees have had to secure the library building by eliminating use of the book drop slot located on the left side of the entry way. Having the drop slot open posed potential risk to the library, according to the town's insurer, so it was closed. The trustees have been awarded a loss control grant by Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association to purchase a proper drop box that will be installed at the same side of the entry that the original book drop slot was located. The grant is for \$1,600.

The trustees have met twice with the charter members of the Friends of the Porter Memorial Library. The group plans an organizational kick-off for late spring or early summer this year.

The library continues to be a gathering place and now hosts a knitting group as well as a reading club.

### **REPORT OF THE LIBRARY TRUSTEES (continued)**

The trustees are responsible for the management of the Utley Fund, which this year earned \$317.36 from June 30 1002 to June 30, 2003. This is a restricted fund and only the interest may be used for library materials and programs. Interest on the Utley Fund Interest earned \$70.74.

The Tiffany/Porter/Haight fund earned \$368.56 from June 30, 2002 to June 30, 2003; and the Schwab investment account earned \$284.08 from June 30, 2002 to June 30, 2003. The interest on the checking account (Schwab) earned \$62.19: \$781.01 was expended and new income was \$274.14 from donations and book sales.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Kronholm, Chairman  
Chuck Benson  
Christine Keenan

### **REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD**

The Planning Board continues to work with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission in completing the Community Development Plan. Though behind schedule, we hope this plan will provide a better understanding of what the future of Blandford can hold for its residents and how this vision can be implemented.

The Board was disappointed at the failure of the Scenic Roads ByLaw to pass Town Meeting, but looks forward to presenting other innovative bylaws that will help protect the rural quality of our town. Under discussion is a conservation subdivision bylaw that will offer developers an option that will protect open space while still allowing housing development.

In addition to approving the division of several parcels of land, numerous forms for the construction of new homes were signed. This new building has prompted some residents to question the effectiveness of our current zoning bylaws in protecting Blandford's quality of life. The Board is applying for a grant to hire a consultant to help in the process of revising the Bylaws. Input from residents will be required in order to make this as representative of the wishes of the majority as possible.

The Board has changed its meeting night to the first Thursday of the month so that the large table in the office might be used in reviewing plans more efficiently. We encourage residents to attend our meetings to express concerns or offer ideas.

Respectfully submitted,  
Juliana Mueller, Chair  
Opal Geanne Poteat, Secretary  
John Caswell  
Mary Brainerd  
Joh Bianco

### **REPORT OF THE PLUMBING/GAS INSPECTOR** (no report submitted)

## **REPORT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

I was appointed as Acting Chief of Police in mid December of 2003 and can not give an accurate or comprehensive report for the Department's activity last year.

Firearms' licensing is the number one concern I have been dealing with. The majority of licenses that had been applied for have come back from the Commonwealth and have been issued.

The Department is attempting to have office hours every Monday evening, excepting holidays, from 7:00 P.M. till 8:00 P.M. We are finding that it is usually a steady time of people submitting applications for their FID's and LTC's.

I would encourage the townspeople to stop by and voice their concerns or ask their questions during that time.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charles E. Harner  
Acting Chief of Police

## **REPORT OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE**

The Recreation Committee has had to pare down its activities and adjust its focus for two reasons. First, we are currently only 2 people. Despite our enthusiasm and dedication, 2 people can only do so much. Second, we feel the need to provide more services to older children and adults in our community, having concentrated on the littler ones for quite awhile.

During the past year we were able to put together a Halloween event in keeping with the community-based nature of that holiday. We did not have the usual party and games in the School gym –partly for lack of manpower, but also because we like to have the party on alternate years so the kids don't get bored with it! Instead we had fun building on a new tradition: the Blandford Ghosts came to play in Julie's back yard, to the delight of all the little children who came to meet them. The help of neighbors, friends and parents made this effort a success.

In our effort to accommodate the needs of our "older" Community members, we have started an adult men's basketball league in the Blandford School Gym. We started with about 5 guys and after several weeks have increased to about an average of 25. We are looking into start women's basketball and some weekend activities for family with crafts and games. Please watch for upcoming events.

As summer approaches we remind everyone that a sizeable part of our Rec budget goes to Russell Pond. This is an unbelievably beautiful, clean, private place to play safely in the sand, the sun, and the water. For a small fee, Blandford residents have access to this unique, idyllic resource. We hope more families will take advantage of it this year.

## **REPORT OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE, (continued)**

Even one more person on the Recreation Committee could make a huge difference!! We would be able to pair up on different projects of particular interest, divvy up the work according to our abilities and experience, organize our undertakings to conform to our time schedules, and more effectively brainstorm to come up with new ideas and refine old traditions. To be “officially” on the Committee, you actually have to be voted in, but if you have even a small interest in Blandford’s “recreational activities” – you want to work on a certain event, or promote a new idea, or you have some time and you feel the pull of community service – give us a call and we’ll make you a member. Come play with us!!

Respectfully submitted,  
Julie Fitzgerald 848-2421  
Staci Iglesias 848-0054

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

This was another busy year for the Board of Selectmen. We thank Andy Iglesias for his service to the town as a member of the Board for the past three years. We will look for his continued involvement in other areas of Blandford.

There have been many changes in personnel in the town, and we thank all those who have served over the years, as well as the people who have stepped forward into elected and appointed positions. We would like to acknowledge the efforts of those individuals who worked directly with the Selectmen on a regular basis including Police Chief Doug Pisano, Highway Superintendent Mitch Forish along with Don Wojick on the Highway Department, Town Accountant Linda Broughton, and Building Inspector Rick Moraweic. The town welcomed Charlie Harner as the new Police Chief, Keith Ackley as the new Highway Superintendent along with returning Highway Department employee Tate Walker, Staci Iglesias who is serving as Acting Town Accountant, and new Building Inspector Eric Munson. Their assistance is most helpful in addressing many of the issues being faced by the Town of Blandford.

To begin with a review of the year’s activities, we are pleased to say that there has been some work done at Watson Park. The grounds received some much-needed attention by a tree company to the damaged trees through pruning and removal of dangerous branches. In addition, the Historical Commission has hired professional arborists who have begun to inventory the plants, shrubs, and trees at the park, as well as identifying remnants of historical plant matter from the 1930s when the park was created. As the Trustees of Watson Park, we hope to begin to return the park to something closer to its original design and condition. This, of course, will take several years, but it is good to be started on this important task. With two historic barns on that property, this is a significant area at the center of town. The Blandford Historical Society has financed some restoration of the back barn to stabilize its condition in hopes for the future of housing a museum there for their collection of historic Blandford farming equipment. The town is fortunate to have these two historical groups recognizing and caring for these landmarks. Finally, a core of parents is spearheading improvements and completion of the soccer fields at the park.

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN, (continued)

Another area that received attention is the creation of a personnel policy with specific procedures for town workers. This benefits the town as well as the employees by providing clarity in expectations and responsibilities that should serve everyone better. As always, communication, careful listening, and cooperation in working together to solve problems is needed in our dealings with one another in town government and with town residents.

One way we continue to communicate between town departments is to hold quarterly All-Boards meetings. These have been well attended by appointed and elected department chairs, and the opportunity for such gatherings has afforded us all the chance to share ideas and information. We will continue this valuable format.

Three examples of how the group effort has paid off deal with the school, use of local land, and the townspeople's vision for Blandford in the future. First, progress has been made on the strong possibility that the Blandford Elementary School will again be open for our children to attend. This will also mark the return of one of our local gathering places where we can see our fellow residents on a more regular basis. Secondly, the Open Space Plan Committee, comprised of members of several town boards, is putting the finishing touches on the town's update of the Open Space Plan. Not only will this assure the protection of key characteristics of our rural landscape, but it will also put the town in a better position to be considered for grant money. Lastly, the Community Development Planning Committee (again made up of a variety of residents) has kept up its work in gathering input from town residents about what we want for Blandford's future.

An additional critical issue is the serious consideration of hiring a part-time town administrator as a central contact in town – for residents as well as for town boards. The Selectmen have received positive feedback for some time about the importance of this role for grant writing, coordination of efforts, and knowledge of state government, all of which appointed and elected officials do not have adequate time to handle. The aim also is to establish some consistency from year to year. As a result, residents will see an article to be voted on at our Annual Town Meeting to establish this essential position. Although hard to find extra money in the budget for this job, in the end, the investment into this position should pay off almost immediately. We must address this need now as we are continually forced to consider state policies and procedures. The Town of Blandford can no longer afford not to take action on this matter.

One of the projects that has called for much coordination on several fronts has been the ongoing water project. As the work moves forward to completion, we hope to be able to have the Highway Department focus on finally having the chance to repair and improve many of the town roads. Overall, it has been a very muddy and messy year for road conditions, and hopefully the spring will be drier and we can start getting the roads back in shape once the weather improves. We have STRAP grant monies for road repair, and Second Division Road will be first on the list. Along with its condition, we are investigating the effects of traffic and speed on the repeated deterioration of that road. Studies and samples have been completed to help determine an appropriate speed.

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN, (continued)

As is so often the case, governmental regulations at the state and federal level continue to add a tremendous burden to the town both financially and in terms of time, as we must constantly meet new regulations. One such situation that will have a costly impact on Blandford's budget for the next few years is bringing our town buildings up to current standards to meet the ADA accessibility requirements. While this is an important matter, there are rarely provisions to assist small towns such as ours in meeting these new laws. We, no doubt, will be looking for creative and cost-effective ways to complete these mandates.

On a positive note, although it has been a slow process with small steps taken along the way, the two Selectmen have acquired a good deal of free hardware equipment and donations so that the Town Offices are finally coming into the current century in terms of computer capabilities! Not only will this assist residents in staying up to date on issues facing the town, it will also allow town boards to communicate with each other as well as with the state in conducting town business. This should make all departments much more efficient, thus saving money in the long run.

Finally, speaking of finances, we have been actively seeking ways to increase revenues coming into the town. Several procedures in this effort that are already underway include collecting back taxes owed to the town, considering the financial benefits of wind turbines, and investigating ways to receive our fair share of PILOT monies and appropriate compensation from organizations that impact Blandford such as Springfield Water and Sewer Commission, The Springfield Ski Club, the Massachusetts Turnpike, the

Massachusetts management and DEM for state forests and other state land located in town, and the other towns that own watershed land in Blandford. So much of the financial business can have a cumulative effect that it can sometimes be overwhelming and hard to close out past matters and focus on the present. Many town officers have put in long hours to clarify the town's financial picture in an effort to use our time more efficiently, to stop having to redo things, and to anticipate situations rather than being unprepared for the unexpected. We have gotten many of our state officials involved to assist us in these areas, and we will continue to consult the townspeople for their input and feedback on these matters.

Please do come and talk to us with your ideas, questions, and comments. We represent the townspeople and want to serve you as well as we can. Our job is more effective when we know your responses to the issues. Blandford is well served by many dedicated officials, most of whom are grossly underpaid for the time they put in working for the town. We thank you for your support of everyone who works on your behalf. In closing, remember: Volunteer! Ask how you can help! Get involved! It's our town, and Blandford needs the efforts of more of us working together.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chet Broughton, Chair  
Bill Devin, Clerk



## REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTOR

### MOTOR VEHICLE Y-T-D- TOTAL REPORT

Total Represent Posting Activity to 6/30/2003

Net Amounts	Debits	Credit	Total
Taxes	91,771.25	73,368.95	
Interest	4.03	4.03	
Abatements	0.00	1,069.27	
Exemptions	0.00	0.00	
Adjustments	0.00	0.00	
Credits	0.00	0.00	
Demand	0.00	0.00	
Warrant	0.00	0.00	
Other Charges	0.00	0.00	
Refunds Issued	0.00	0.00	
Refunds Possible	192.29	0.00	
Grand Totals	175.93	74,442.25	17,701.25

### WATER/SEWER BILLING Y-T-D TOTAL REPORT

Total Represent Posting Activity to 6/30/2003

Net Amounts	Debits	Credit	Total
Taxes	162,518.74	119,699.58	
Interest	1,893.19	,1893.19	
Abatements	0.00	250.00	
Exemptions	0.00	0.00	
Adjustments	0.00	0.00	
Credits	0.00	0.00	
Demand	0.00	0.00	
Warrant	0.00	0.00	
Other Charges	0.00	0.00	
Refunds Issued	0.00	0.00	
Refunds Possible	272.26	0.00	
Grand Totals	162,684.19	121,842.77	42,841.42

# PERSONAL PROPERTY Y-T-D TOTAL REPORT

Total Represent Posting Activity to 6/30/2003

Taxes	12,5301.18	121,975.85	
Interest	59.99	59.99	
Abatements	0.00	777.04	
Exemptions	0.00	0.00	
Adjustments	0.00	-2.07	
Credits	0.00	0.00	
Demand	0.00	0.00	
Warrant	0.00	0.00	
Other Charges	0.00	0.00	
Refunds Issued	1,084.49	0.00	
Refunds Possible	0.00	0.00	
Grand Totals	126,445.66	122,810.81	3,634.85

# REAL ESTATE Y-T-D TOTAL REPORT

Total Represent Posting Activity to 6/30/2003

Taxes	1,423,699.94	1,336,604.49	
Interest	2,825.11	2,825.11	
Betterments/liens	0.00	0.00	
Committed Interest	0.00	0.00	
Abatements	0.00	445.27	
Exemptions	0.00	5,700.00	
Adjustments	0.00	-18.30	
Credits	0.00	0.00	
Demand	0.00	0.00	
Warrant	0.00	0.00	
Other Charges	0.00	0.00	
Refunds Issued	11,274.44	0.00	
Refunds Possible	15,837.71	0.00	
Grand Total	1,453,637.20	1,345,556.57	108,080.63

## REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Expense Category / Account	Previous Year's Balance	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Revised Budget	Actual Expended	Balance	% Exp
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>							
Moderator's Salary 015114-000		45.00		45.00	45.00		100
Moderator's Expenses 015114-001		25.00		25.00		25.00	0
Selectmen's Salaries 015122-000		4,200.00		4,200.00	3,981.33	218.67	95
Selectmen's Secretary 015122-001		6,000.00		6,000.00	6,000.00		100
Selectmen's Expense 015122-002		1,800.00	418.24	2,218.24	2,168.24	50.00	98
Finance Committee 015131-000		245.00		245.00	68.20	176.80	28
Reserve Account 015132-000		15,000.00	9,059.38	24,059.38		24,059.38	0
Town Accountant Salary 015135-000		7,175.00	1,465.00	8,640.00	8,640.00		100
Town Accountant's Expe 015135-001		1,330.00	4.85	1,334.85	1,334.85		100
Assessor's Salaries 015141-000		3,600.00		3,600.00	2,858.33	741.67	79
Assessor's Expense 015141-001		4,940.00		4,940.00	4,903.59	36.41	99
Assessor's Clerk Salar 015141-002		7,600.00	800.00	8,400.00	8,400.00		100
Assessor's Reval 015141-006		7,500.00		7,500.00		7,500.00	0
ENCUMB. ASSESSORS EXPE 015141-999	13.00			13.00	13.00		100
Assessor's Contract Se 015142-000		10,300.00		10,300.00	8,350.00	1,950.00	81
Treasurer's Salary 015145-000		7,000.00		7,000.00	7,000.00		100
Treasurer's Clerk 015145-001		750.00		750.00	579.16	170.84	77
Treasurer's Expense 015145-002		2,150.00		2,150.00	2,132.09	17.91	99
Treas. Tax Title Legal 015145-005			15,000.00	15,000.00	6,807.50	8,192.50	45
Tax Collector's Salary 015146-000		9,000.00		9,000.00	9,000.00		100
Tax Collector's Expens 015146-001		8,550.00	1,519.55	10,069.55	10,004.55	65.00	99
ENCUMB TAX COLL EXPENS 015146-999	1,105.71			1,105.71	305.71	800.00	28
Town Counsel 015151-000		10,000.00	4,080.23	14,080.23	14,080.23		100
Town Clerk's Salary 015161-000		3,000.00		3,000.00	3,000.00		100
Town Clerk's Expense 015161-001		900.00		900.00	278.48	621.52	31
Street & Dog List Sala 015161-002		475.00		475.00	475.00		100
Street & Dog List Expe 015161-003		300.00		300.00	232.59	67.41	78
Vital Statistics Salar 015161-004		25.00		25.00	25.00		100
Election & Registratio 015162-000		1,450.00	342.45	1,792.45	1,792.45		100
Bd of Registrars Salar 015163-000		50.00		50.00	50.00		100
Conservation Commissio 015171-000		1,600.00	4,800.00	6,400.00	6,115.00	285.00	96
CONSERVATION MAPS 015173-000		250.00		250.00		250.00	0
Planning Board 015175-000		320.00	20.00	340.00	303.14	36.86	89
Zoning Board of Appeal 015176-000		350.00		350.00	119.96	230.04	34
Town Office Expense 015192-000		8,600.00	4,436.90	13,036.90	13,036.90		100
Town Insurance 015192-009		17,000.00	4,504.00	21,504.00	21,504.00		100
Portable PA System 015192-010	2,500.00			2,500.00		2,500.00	0
Town Reports Salary 015195-000		575.00		575.00	575.00		100
Town Reports Expenses 015195-001		1,100.00	105.50	1,205.50	1,205.50		100
Audit - Town Records 015199-000		17,500.00		17,500.00	9,500.00	8,000.00	54
ENCUMB AUDIT-TOWN RECO 015199-998	17,500.00			17,500.00		17,500.00	0
<b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>21,118.71</b>	<b>160,705.00</b>	<b>46,556.10</b>	<b>228,379.81</b>	<b>154,884.80</b>	<b>73,495.01</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>PROTECT. PERSONS &amp; PROPERTY</b>							
Police Salaries 015210-000		4,900.00		4,900.00	3,810.00	1,090.00	78
Police Expense 015210-001		2,680.00		2,680.00	1,190.99	1,489.01	44

## FY2003 Expense Report (All Entries) - General Fund

Expense Category / Account	Previous Year's Balance	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Revised Budget	Actual Expended	Balance	% Exp
Cruiser Maintenance 015210-002		2,500.00		2,500.00	29.00	2,471.00	1
Police New Equipments 015210-004		900.00		900.00	812.81	87.19	90
Police Uniforms 015210-005		900.00	85.10	985.10	985.10		100
ENCUMB. POLICE EXPENSE 015210-999	158.32			158.32	158.32		100
POLICE FAIR DUTY 015211-000		850.00		850.00	620.00	230.00	73
Police Dept. Court Tim 015211-001		700.00		700.00	280.00	420.00	40
Secretary Salary 015211-002		400.00		400.00	400.00		100
Fire Chief Salary 015220-000		1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00		100
Forest Warden Salary 015220-002		500.00		500.00	500.00		100
Fire Dept. Utilities 015220-003		4,600.00		4,600.00	3,618.88	981.12	79
Equipment Maint. Repai 015220-004		5,000.00		5,000.00	1,795.49	3,204.51	36
Radio Maintenance 015220-005		3,000.00		3,000.00	1,291.85	1,708.15	43
DISPATCH 911 015220-007		4,000.00		4,000.00	3,660.87	339.13	92
Fire Training/Supplies 015220-008		10,000.00		10,000.00	8,757.37	1,242.63	88
Fire Gas/Oil 015220-009		1,000.00	1,277.42	2,277.42	2,277.42		100
Hilltown Comm. Ambulan 015231-000		6,611.00	1.00	6,612.00	6,612.00		100
Otis Ambulance Service 015232-000		1,500.00		1,500.00		1,500.00	0
Building Insp. Salary 015241-000		1,200.00		1,200.00	1,200.00		100
Building Insp. Fees 015241-001		1,000.00	500.00	1,500.00	1,121.00	379.00	75
Plumbing Insp Salary 015243-000		50.00		50.00	50.00		100
Plumbing Insp Fees 015243-001		500.00	400.00	900.00	812.79	87.21	90
Electrical Insp Salary 015245-000		50.00		50.00	50.00		100
Electrical Insp Fees 015245-001		1,200.00	480.00	1,680.00	1,680.00		100
Inspector of Animals 015249-010		500.00		500.00	500.00		100
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT 015291-000		100.00		100.00		100.00	0
Dog Officer Salary 015292-000		750.00		750.00	750.00		100
Dog Officer Expense 015292-003		200.00		200.00	60.00	140.00	30
Tree Warden Salary 015294-000		1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00		100
Tree Warden Expense 015294-001		1,000.00		1,000.00	743.46	256.54	74
Tree Warden Outside Sv 015294-002		7,400.00		7,400.00	7,140.00	260.00	96
TOTAL PROTECT. PERSONS & PROPERTY	158.32	65,991.00	2,743.52	68,892.84	52,907.35	15,985.49	77
<u>EDUCATION</u>							
Gateway Reg School Dis 015300-000		1,017,298.00		1,017,298.00	1,017,298.00		100
GATEWAY TRANSP & DEBT 015300-002		59,537.00		59,537.00	59,537.00		100
TOTAL EDUCATION	0.00	1,076,835.00	0.00	1,076,835.00	1,076,835.00	0.00	100
<u>PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES</u>							
Highway Salaries 015422-000		93,194.00		93,194.00	89,745.42	3,448.58	96
Highway Overtime Salar 015422-001		4,200.00		4,200.00	569.24	3,630.76	14
Highway Expenses 015422-002		3,500.00	1,372.50	4,872.50	4,872.50		100
Highway Utilities 015422-003		7,800.00	311.78	8,111.78	8,111.78		100
Hwy Equipment/Maint 015422-004		32,000.00	15,775.87	47,775.87	47,775.87		100
Highway Salt & Sand 015422-005		30,000.00	( 9,116.69)	20,883.31	20,883.31		100
Highway Gas & Oil 015422-006		20,000.00		20,000.00	19,386.85	613.15	97
Highway Road Maintenanc 015422-007		20,000.00	6,466.90	26,466.90	26,466.90		100

## FY2003 Expense Report (All Entries) - General Fund

Expense Category / Account	Previous Year's Balance	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Revised Budget	Actual Expended	Balance	% Exp
Highway P/T Salaries 015422-008		6,000.00		6,000.00	4,866.00	1,134.00	81
Highway Snow & Ice Lab 015422-011		27,000.00		27,000.00	24,948.28	2,051.72	92
ENCUMB. HIGHWAY EXPENS 015422-999	1,217.28			1,217.28	1,217.28		100
HIGHWAY DUMP TRUCK 015423-007		82,000.00		82,000.00	74,499.00	7,501.00	91
Street Lights 015424-000		4,000.00		4,000.00	3,200.64	799.36	80
Transfer Station Salar 015433-000		6,500.00	3,441.61	9,941.61	9,941.61		100
Cartage/Tipping 015433-001		60,000.00		60,000.00	42,946.20	17,053.80	72
Transfer St Expenses 015433-002		1,000.00	2,099.07	3,099.07	3,099.07		100
Transfer St Utilities 015433-004		1,500.00		1,500.00	1,292.57	207.43	86
Hazardous Waste 015433-005		1,000.00		1,000.00		1,000.00	0
ENCUMB TRANSF STA EXPE 015433-999	5,700.00			5,700.00	102.50	5,597.50	2
Transfer St Gen. Maint 015439-000		4,000.00	688.17	4,688.17	4,688.17		100
Cemetery Commission 015491-000		2,500.00		2,500.00	2,500.00		100
MAIN ST. CEMETERY 015492-000	502.00			502.00	58.85	443.15	12
MAIN ST CEMETERY TREES 015492-014		5,000.00		5,000.00	5,000.00		100
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES</b>	<b>7,419.28</b>	<b>411,194.00</b>	<b>21,039.21</b>	<b>439,652.49</b>	<b>396,172.04</b>	<b>43,480.45</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>HUMAN SERVICES</b>							
Board of Health Salari 015510-000		1,550.00		1,550.00	500.00	1,050.00	32
Bd of Health Sec. Sala 015510-001		2,500.00		2,500.00	2,500.00		100
BOH Contracted Service 015510-002		5,000.00		5,000.00		5,000.00	0
BOH Expenses 015510-003		800.00		800.00	730.66	69.34	91
BOH Perc Tests 015510-004		1,500.00		1,500.00		1,500.00	0
Lee Visiting Nurses 015522-000		3,700.00		3,700.00	3,700.00		100
COUN ON AGING SERVICE 015541-000		1,300.00		1,300.00		1,300.00	0
COUNCIL ON AGING EXPEN 015541-001		300.00		300.00		300.00	0
Veterans Administratio 015543-000		300.00		300.00	300.00		100
Veteran's Benefits 015543-001		300.00		300.00		300.00	0
Memorial Day 015543-004		600.00	122.17	722.17	722.17		100
<b>TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>17,850.00</b>	<b>122.17</b>	<b>17,972.17</b>	<b>8,452.83</b>	<b>9,519.34</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>CULTURE AND RECREATION</b>							
Library Salaries 015610-000		18,007.00		18,007.00	17,735.75	271.25	98
Library Expenses 015610-001		2,300.00		2,300.00	2,300.00		100
Library Outside Svcs. 015610-002		2,271.00		2,271.00	2,271.00		100
Library Utilities 015610-003		2,700.00		2,700.00	2,700.00		100
Library Books & Videos 015610-004		7,570.00		7,570.00	7,489.85	80.15	99
Recreation 015630-000		3,500.00		3,500.00	2,954.80	545.20	84
ENCUMB PARK & REC EXPE 015630-999	36.90			36.90	36.90		100
Town Common 015650-000		600.00	90.00	690.00	690.00		100
HISTORICAL COMMISSION 015651-000		750.00		750.00	146.75	603.25	20
<b>TOTAL CULTURE AND RECREATION</b>	<b>36.90</b>	<b>37,698.00</b>	<b>90.00</b>	<b>37,824.90</b>	<b>36,325.05</b>	<b>1,499.85</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>DEBT SERVICE</b>							
Long Term Debt Interes 015751-000			192,636.36	192,636.36	58,797.35	133,839.01	31

## FY2003 Expense Report (All Entries) - General Fund

Expense Category / Account	Previous Year's Balance	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Revised Budget	Actual Expended	Balance	% Exp
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	0.00	0.00	192,636.36	192,636.36	58,797.35	133,839.01	31
<u>INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXPENSES</u>							
St Assmnt MV Ex Tax Bi 015821-000					1,060.00	( 1,060.00)	0
St Assmnt Air Pollutio 015822-000			285.00	285.00	285.00		100
Pioneer Planning Comm 015823-000			182.10	182.10	182.10		100
Cnty Assmnt Count Tax 015830-000			7,597.00	7,597.00	7,597.00		100
TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXPENSES	0.00	0.00	8,064.10	8,064.10	9,124.10	( 1,060.00)	113
<u>MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES</u>							
Stabilization 015901-000		10,000.00	10,000.00	20,000.00		20,000.00	0
Hampden County Retirem 015911-000		12,279.00		12,279.00	12,279.00		100
Worker's Compensation 015912-000		3,200.00	1,142.00	4,342.00	4,342.00		100
Unemployment Compensat 015913-000		1,000.00	1,501.00	2,501.00	2,501.00		100
Group Insurance 015914-000		25,000.00		25,000.00	22,229.20	2,770.80	89
FICA - Town Share 015919-000		13,500.00		13,500.00	11,045.07	2,454.93	82
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	0.00	64,979.00	12,643.00	77,622.00	52,396.27	25,225.73	68
TOTAL EXPENSES:	28,733.21	1,835,252.00	283,894.46	2,147,879.67	1,845,894.79	301,984.88	86
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## FY2003 Expenses Report (All Entries) - Other Funds

Fund Number / Expense Account	Previous Year's Balance	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Revised Budget	Actual Expended	Balance
<b>FUND 22</b>						
Water Dept Supt Salary 225450-000		9,000.00		9,000.00	9,000.00	
Water Dept Clerk Salary 225450-001		600.00		600.00	600.00	
Water Dept Utilities 225450-002		8,400.00	( 725.88)	7,674.12	5,179.78	2,494.34
Water Dept Chemicals 225450-004		6,000.00	( 2,500.00)	3,500.00	2,456.46	1,043.54
Water Dept Breaks 225450-005		23,500.00	43,825.88	67,325.88	66,686.19	639.69
Water Dept Testing 225450-006		5,500.00	( 600.00)	4,900.00	3,966.00	934.00
Water Dept System Upgrade 225450-007		50,000.00	( 400.00)	49,600.00	48,914.55	685.45
Water Dept Loan 225450-008		8,402.00		8,402.00	8,402.00	
Water Dept Expenses 225450-010		4,500.00	( 1,400.00)	3,100.00	3,018.94	81.06
Water Dept Secretary Sal. 225450-011		2,500.00	1,000.00	3,500.00	3,465.00	35.00
Software/Support 225450-015		800.00		800.00	800.00	
Over Budget Payback 225450-016		20,000.00	( 9,600.00)	10,400.00		10,400.00
Water Commissioner Salary 225450-017		1,500.00		1,500.00	291.67	1,208.33
WATER EDUCA & TRAINING 225450-018		600.00	( 600.00)			
WATER SUPPLIES 225450-019		1,000.00	( 1,000.00)			
<b>TOTAL FUND 22:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>142,302.00</b>	<b>28,000.00</b>	<b>170,302.00</b>	<b>152,780.59</b>	<b>17,521.41</b>
<b>FUND 23</b>						
Chapter 53A 235422-005					53,979.31	( 53,979.31)
Chapter 53B 235422-006					76,099.64	( 76,099.64)
Chapter 127 235422-007					15,837.23	( 15,837.23)
<b>TOTAL FUND 23:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>145,916.18</b>	<b>( 145,916.18)</b>
<b>FUND 24</b>						
<b>TOTAL FUND 24:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>FUND 31</b>						
WATER ENG.SERV.PHASE I 315110-101			6,531,060.00	6,531,060.00	905,282.46	5,625,777.54
WATER ENG.SERV. PHASE 2 315110-201					43,455.10	( 43,455.10)
<b>TOTAL FUND 31:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>6,531,060.00</b>	<b>6,531,060.00</b>	<b>948,737.56</b>	<b>5,582,322.44</b>
<b>TTL OTHER FUND EXPENSES:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>142,302.00</b>	<b>6,559,060.00</b>	<b>6,701,362.00</b>	<b>1,247,434.33</b>	<b>5,453,927.67</b>

Town of Blandford  
FY2003 Revenue Report (All Entries) - General Fund

Revenue Category / Account	Estimated Revenue	Revenue Revisions	Revised Estimated Rev.	Actual Revenue	Balance	% Rec
<b>TAXES and EXCISES</b>						
Personal Property Taxes (01-4-110-000)	123,682.00		123,682.00	121,125.08	2,556.92	98
Real Estate Taxes (01-4-120-000)	1,405,299.00		1,405,299.00	1,271,039.07	134,259.93	90
Tax Liens Redeemed (01-4-142-000)				6,699.00	( 6,699.00)	0
Motor Vehicle Excise (01-4-150-000)	77,000.00		77,000.00	94,151.87	( 17,151.87)	122
Penalty & Int. on Taxes (01-4-171-000)	14,500.00		14,500.00	8,831.42	5,668.58	61
Penalty & Int. Excise (01-4-172-000)				527.01	( 527.01)	0
In Lieu of Taxes (01-4-180-000)	103,000.00		103,000.00	109,639.89	( 6,639.89)	106
<b>TOTAL TAXES and EXCISES:</b>	<b>1,723,481.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,723,481.00</b>	<b>1,612,013.34</b>	<b>111,467.66</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE</b>						
M.V. FLAGGINGS (01-4-320-001)				760.00	( 760.00)	0
Fees - Dump Stickers (01-4-324-000)	14,000.00		14,000.00	28,030.00	( 14,030.00)	200
Fees - Health Board (01-4-325-000)	3,700.00		3,700.00	1,670.00	2,030.00	45
Fees - Planning Board (01-4-327-000)				70.00	( 70.00)	0
Fees - Town Clerk (01-4-329-000)				281.00	( 281.00)	0
Fees - Zoning Board (01-4-330-000)				245.00	( 245.00)	0
Police Revolving Surcharge (01-4-331-000)				430.50	( 430.50)	0
FEES - OTHER (01-4-332-000)				447.87	( 447.87)	0
Rentals (01-4-360-000)	8,400.00		8,400.00	9,212.52	( 812.52)	110
Liquor Licenses (01-4-410-000)	11,000.00		11,000.00	500.00	10,500.00	5
Licenses - Other (01-4-442-000)				203.00	( 203.00)	0
Permits - Building Dept. (01-4-450-000)				5,045.15	( 5,045.15)	0
Permits - Police Dept. (01-4-451-000)				800.00	( 800.00)	0
Permits - Plumbing (01-4-452-000)				900.00	( 900.00)	0
Permits - Wiring (01-4-453-000)				2,650.00	( 2,650.00)	0
<b>TOTAL DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE:</b>	<b>37,100.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>37,100.00</b>	<b>51,245.04</b>	<b>( 14,145.04)</b>	<b>138</b>
<b>STATE REVENUE</b>						
Abatements to the Blind (01-4-615-000)	1,025.00		1,025.00		1,025.00	0
Abatements to the Elderly (01-4-616-000)	2,327.00		2,327.00	4,986.00	( 2,659.00)	214
Lottery Aid (01-4-661-000)	119,013.00		119,013.00	107,885.00	11,128.00	91
CS STATE OWNED LAND (01-4-664-000)	5,490.00		5,490.00	5,490.00		100
Other State Revenue (01-4-680-000)				284.00	( 284.00)	0
<b>TOTAL STATE REVENUE:</b>	<b>127,855.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>127,855.00</b>	<b>118,645.00</b>	<b>9,210.00</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL REV</b>						
Fines - District Court (01-4-771-000)	6,500.00		6,500.00	8,347.50	( 1,847.50)	128
<b>TOTAL OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL REV:</b>	<b>6,500.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>6,500.00</b>	<b>8,347.50</b>	<b>( 1,847.50)</b>	<b>128</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES</b>						
Earnings of Investments (01-4-820-000)	9,000.00		9,000.00	6,146.00	2,854.00	68
Miscellaneous Revenue (01-4-840-000)				30,682.98	( 30,682.98)	0
BORROWING PROCEEDS (01-4-850-000)	74,499.00		74,499.00	74,499.00		100



## FY2003 Revenue Report (All Entries) - General Fund

Revenue Category / Account	Estimated Revenue	Revenue Revisions	Revised Estimated Rev.	Actual Revenue	Balance	% Rec
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES:	83,499.00	0.00	83,499.00	111,327.98	( 27,828.98)	133
TOTAL REVENUES:	1,978,435.00	0.00	1,978,435.00	1,901,578.86	76,856.14	96

Town of Blandford  
FY2003 Revenue Report (All Entries) - Other Funds

Page 1

Fund Number / Revenue Account	Estimated Revenue	Revenue Revisions	Revised Estimated Rev.	Actual Revenue	Balance
<u>FUND 22</u>					
Water Rates (22-4-120-000)	140,102.00		140,102.00	121,920.58	18,181.42
Penalty & Int. on Water (22-4-170-000)	200.00		200.00	1,149.57	( 949.57)
EARNINGS ON INVESTMENTS (22-4-820-000)	2,000.00		2,000.00	3,033.37	( 1,033.37)
TOTAL FUND 22:	142,302.00	0.00	142,302.00	126,103.52	16,198.48
<u>FUND 23</u>					
HIGHWAY CHAPTER REVENUE (23-4-672-000)				38,568.25	( 38,568.25)
TOTAL FUND 23:	0.00	0.00	0.00	38,568.25	( 38,568.25)
<u>FUND 24</u>					
TOTAL FUND 24:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<u>FUND 31</u>					
TOTAL FUND 31:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TTL OTHER FUND BALANCES:	142,302.00	0.00	142,302.00	164,671.77	( 22,369.77)
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

Town of Blandford  
GENERAL FUND FY2003  
BALANCE SHEET

## ASSETS

Cash Unrestricted Checkng	568,980.24	
	-----	
Subtotal Cash		568,980.24
Personal Property Tax Receivable:	24,537.75	
Real Estate Tax Receivable:	341,034.07	
Allowance for Abatements:	-134,533.98	
Tax Titles and Possessions:	119,271.09	
Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Receivable:	68,518.32	
	-----	
Subtotal Taxes		418,827.25
Departmental Receivables		471.29
Tax Possessions		1,848.95
		-----
Total Assets		990,127.73
		=====

## LIABILITIES

Def Rev Real & Prop. Tax	-98,198.86
Def Rev Tax Liens	-119,271.09
Def Rev Tax Foreclosures	-1,848.95
Def Rev Motor Vehicle Ex	-68,518.32
Def Rev Departmental	-471.29
	-----
Subtotal Liabilities	-288,308.51
	-----

## FUND BALANCE

FB Res for Encumbrances	-43,779.88
Undesignated Fund Balance	-394,164.33
FB Unres Approp Deficits	1,060.00
FB Res. for School Debt	-264,935.01
	-----
Subtotal Fund Balance	-701,819.22
	-----
Total Liabilities/Fund Balance	-990,127.73
	=====

Town of Blandford  
OTHER FUNDS FY2003  
BALANCE SHEET

## FUND 22

## ASSETS

Cash	15,001.29
Water Rates FY2002	13,446.77
Water Rates FY2003	45,342.61
WATER LIENS - 2001	1,926.83
WATER LIENS - 2002	1,175.68

Total Assets	76,893.18
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## LIABILITIES

Def Revenue Water Rates	-61,891.89
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Subtotal Liabilities	-61,891.89
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## FUND BALANCE

FB Reserved for Encumbr.	-2,282.49
FB Undesignated	-12,718.80

Subtotal Fund Balance	-15,001.29
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Total Liabilities/Fund Balance	-76,893.18
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## FUND 23

## ASSETS

Pooled Cash	-132,237.98
Chapter 53 A A/R	42,000.00
Chapter 53B	68,143.41
Chapter 127	13,981.62
Chapter 150	68,143.41
Chapter 235	67,813.68
CH 53C REC	67,419.54
CH 246 REC	134,839.09

Total Assets	330,102.77
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## LIABILITIES

Def Rev Highway	-462,340.75
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Subtotal Liabilities	-462,340.75
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## FUND BALANCE

FB CHAPTER 53A	42,000.00
CH 235 FUND BALANCE	25,187.60
CH 127 FUND BALANCE	13,981.62
CHAPTER 53B	35,395.13
CH 150 FUND BALANCE	15,673.63

Subtotal Fund Balance	132,237.98
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Total Liabilities/Fund Balance	-330,102.77
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## FUND 24

## ASSETS

Pooled Cash

90,303.49

Total Assets

90,303.49

## FUND BALANCE

FB Arts Council

-2,697.06

FB Sale of Lots

-6,862.58

FB EOCD Septic

-33,139.47

FB State Aid to Libraries

-7,801.38

FB Council on Aging

-8,578.34

FB Friends of Library

-87.16

FB Bequeath C. Keene

-2,199.51

FB Wetland Protection

-778.27

FB Conservation Fund

-850.00

STRAP GRANT FUND BALANCE

1,408.58

FB FIRE EQUIPMENT GRANT

-23,230.30

FB FIRE S.A.F.E GRANT

-488.00

FB OPEN SPACE GRANT

-5,000.00

Subtotal Fund Balance

-90,303.49

Total Liabilities/Fund Balance

-90,303.49

## FUND 31

## ASSETS

CASH WATER IMPROV.PROJECT

201,262.44

Total Assets

201,262.44

## LIABILITIES

SHORT TERM NOTES PAYABLE

-1,150,000.00

Subtotal Liabilities

-1,150,000.00

## FUND BALANCE

FB WATER IMP.CAPITAL PROJ

948,737.56

Subtotal Fund Balance

948,737.56

Total Liabilities/Fund Balance

-201,262.44

## FUND 82

## ASSETS

Cash Trust Funds

164,526.99

Utley Library Investments

2,604.59

Total Assets

167,131.58

## FUND BALANCE

FB Exp. Cemetery 1 &amp; 2

-1,018.10

FB Exp. Soenburger Cem.

-1,397.59

FB Exp. Susan Tiffany Cem	-16,030.41
FB Cemetery Care	-343.98
FB Utley Library	-5,704.85
FB Exp. Taggart School	-2,163.90
FB Nye School	-5,760.43
FB Exp. Watson School	-1,092.23
FB Exp. Electa-Watson	-14,105.38
FB Exp. Arms Bicentennial	-32,299.23
FB Exp. Watson Dean Park	-24,091.10
FB Stabilization	-60,533.36
FB Exp. Library Building	-2,269.66
FB Exp Lot Sale Perp Care	-321.36

Subtotal Fund Balance	-167,131.58
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Total Liabilities/Fund Balance	-167,131.58
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## FUND 83

## ASSETS

Trust Fund Cash Non-Exp.	70,766.10
Trust Fund Investments	411,626.80

Total Assets	482,392.90
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## FUND BALANCE

Nonexp. Arms Bicentennial	-14,500.00
Nonexp. Watson Dean Park	-186,611.36
FB Nonexp. Cemetery 1&2	-10,550.00
FB Nonexp. Soenburger Cem	-2,500.00
FB Nonexp. Susan Tiffany	-203,666.82
FB Nonexp. Cemetery Care	-7,452.00
FB Nonexp. Utley Library	-10,000.00
FB Nonexp. Library Bldg.	-1,088.98
FB Nonexp. Taggart School	-4,985.95
FB Nonexp. Nye School	-1,000.00
FB Nonexp. Watson School	-2,965.68
FB Nonexp. Electa-Watson	-32,197.11
FB Nonexp Lot Sales PCare	-4,875.00

Subtotal Fund Balance	-482,392.90
-----------------------	-------------

Total Liabilities/Fund Balance	-482,392.90
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## FUND 89

## ASSETS

Pooled Cash	2,848.55
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Total Assets	2,848.55
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## LIABILITIES

Deputy Collector's Fees	-1,320.00
Collector's & MLC Fees	195.00
Town Clerk's Fees	-8.00

Police Dept Firearms Fund	-1,050.00
Federal Withhold.	-97.00
FICA Withhold.	-158.87
State Withhold.	-112.36
Retirement Withhld.	-18.94
Grp. Ins. Withhld.	-278.38
	-----
Subtotal Liabilities	-2,848.55
	-----
Total Liabilities/Fund Balance	-2,848.55
	=====
FUND 90	
ASSETS	
LOANS AUTHORIZED	6,538,561.00
LOANS AUTHORIZED & UNISSU	-6,538,561.00
Amounts to be provided	457,627.00
	-----
Total Assets	457,627.00
	=====
LIABILITIES	
FIRE TRUCK BONDS PAYABLE	-40,000.00
LOADER BONDS PAYABLE	-12,814.00
DUMP TRUCK PAYABLE	-74,499.00
LANDFILL CAP BOND PAYABLE	-218,400.00
WATER BON PAYABLE	-111,914.00
	-----
Subtotal Liabilities	-457,627.00
	-----
Total Liabilities/Fund Balance	-457,627.00
	=====

## REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

The following is the birth, deaths and marriages for Blandford in 2003.

### Births:

February 5	Son of William and Emma Hynes
February 6	Daughter of Corey and Lynn Russell
March 2	Son of Christopher and Jennifer Dolan
May 6	Son of Raymond Jette and Camille Orchard-Darrow
May 6	Son of Scott and Cara Loomis
May 9	Daughter of James and Tiffany Bixby
May 27	Son of James and Susan Wolfgang
September 15	Son of Joseph and Lynn Coach
September 15	Daughter of Michael and Michelle Urbanski
September 15	Daughter of Michael and Michelle Urbanski
October 19	Son of Paul and Junko Makuch
October 30	Daughter of Joseph and Samantha Domingos

### Deaths:

January 16	Margaret Frances Ryan of 82 years
May 3	Anne Teresa Keenan of 66 years
August 22	John Anable of 78 years
September 7	Judith Marlene Cooper of 69 years

### Marriages:

May 24	Rebecca Anne Koehler to James Brandt Kronholm
July 18	Jennifer Elisabeth Ackley to Matthew Sheldon Crocker
August 2	Julie M. Lewis to Jeremy T. Gagnon
October 18	Heather Marie Barber to Nathan Eugene Bowers

Respectfully submitted,  
Staci Iglesias



## REPORT OF THE TOWN TREASURER

CASH ON HAND 07-01-2002	\$ 607,661.37	PAYMENTS 7/1/02-6/30/03	\$3,108,522.60
RECEIPTS FY 2003	3,024,792.29	CASH ON HAND 06-30-03	523,931.06

### TOWN DEBT

WATER LOAN for CONSTRUCTION OF CHLORINE CT REACTION PIPE  
 FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION BOND \$129,000.00 @4.875% FOR 29 YEARS  
 PAYMENT #9 DUE FY 2005 PRINCIPAL \$3,089.09 INTEREST \$5,312.91

FIRE TRUCK LOAN – CURRENTLY FINANCED WITH A ONE YEAR REFUNDING LOAN  
 \$20,000 @ 1.49% - INTEREST DUE FY2005 \$ 297.18 – WILL PAYOFF IN FULL PRINCIPAL OF \$20,00.00

LOADER –CURRENTLY FINANCED WITH ONE YEAR BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE  
 \$12,814.00 @1.65% INTEREST DUE FY2004 \$210.85 – WILL PAYOFF IN FULL PRINCIPAL OF \$12,814.00

LANDFILL CAP-\$249,600 FINANCED BY STATE HOUSE NOTES FOR 24 YEARS BEGINNING FY2001@ 5.95%  
 INTEREST DUE FY 2005 \$11,757.20 – PRINCIPAL REDUCTION \$10,400.00

DUMP TRUCK LOAN – CURRENTLY FINANCED WITH ONE YEAR BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE  
 PRINCIPAL AMOUNT \$74,499.00 @ 1.39% INTEREST DUE FY04 \$936.24.

WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – APPROVED AMOUNT AT TOWN MEETING \$6,531,060. RURAL  
 DEVELOPMENT GRANTS APPROVED AT THIS TIME \$2,022,937. VARIOUS SHORT TERM BOND  
 ANTICIPATION NOTES AND FEDERAL AID ANITICIPATION NOTES WERE ISSUED IN FY 2004. TOTAL  
 INTEREST PAID IN FY 2004 \$29,422.95. KNOWN INTEREST AT THIS TIME FOR FY 2005 \$7540.27

### SECURITIES, TRUSTS AND OTHER FUNDS

#### CEMETARY PERPETUAL CARE FUNDS:

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>DEPOSIT</u>	<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>DEPOSIT</u>
Sarah Shepard	100.00	Camilla A. Tiffany	1,000.00
Frank Terrel	100.00	Julette Lloyd	200.00
O.B. Brockett & Maria Knox	100.00	Henry Blair	100.00
C. Hall, Henry or H.C. Moore	150.00	Electa B. Watson	1,000.00
Susan & Belle Tiffany	1,000.00	George D. Lloyd	100.00
James Babb	102.00	Percy Shurtleff	50.00
Maria Sennet	100.00	Edna Lloyd	500.00
Lester Moore	100.00	Hattie Herrick Brockett	100.00
Sylvester Peebles	100.00	Katherine Loomis Keene	100.00
Noah Nye	100.00	Anna & Amos Loomis, Sr.	100.00
Alman W. Lloyd	500.00	Frederick Ebel	100.00
John B. Riley	100.00	Jackson & Robert Kraushar	200.00
William Bates	100.00	Irving Bryan	100.00
Elisha Walker Shepard	1,000.00	Sven & Mae Anderson	200.00
Seymour Babb	100.00	Vernon & Florence Bodurtha	200.00
Wallace Heady	100.00	Howard & Christine Wyman	100.00
Franklin J. Hall	100.00	North Blandford Old Home Day	
George B.S. Lloyd	100.00	and Lorinda Gibbs	100.00
Lester W. Lloyd	50.00	Mildred H. Mason	500.00
Grace E. Raymond	100.00	Harold G. & Hazel I. Wyman	300.00
Dennison Loomis	100.00	Mr. & Mrs. Howard Waite	300.00
Taggart Prentice	200.00	Ester & David Ripley	100.00
Fayette E. Sheldon	100.00	Mark B. Cloutier	200.00
H.L. Hayden	300.00	Pauline S. Kuznicki	100.00
Berta E. Cross	200.00	Sarah H. Robbins	100.00
Albert D. Snow	50.00	Harold Gibbs	500.00
Winfield D. Healy	150.00	Ernest C. & Ruby J. Wyman	250.00
Nora Babb	100.00	Elwin W. & Ruth E. Wyman	250.00
C.R. Ripley	200.00	Milton Ripley	500.00
Mordecai Babb	300.00	Richard Robinson	500.00
C.W. Bates	100.00	John & Thehna Lathrop	200.00
Anna M. Hiland	100.00	Winifred Arms	2,500.00
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Weed	50.00	Total (Cemetery 1&2)	\$10,550.00
M.D. & B.T. Sornborger	300.00		
Charles W. Shepard	100.00	Mr. & Mrs. L.M. Sornborger	2,500.00
Achsah Shepard	100.00		
Frank B. Cook	100.00		
Percy Richard	100.00		
William Keene	100.00	Susan B. Tiffany	1,826.00
Leslie A. & Anna S. Miller	200.00		
Charles D. & Barbara R. Wilson	100.00	Lot Sale Perpetual Care Principal	4,875.00
Total (Cemetery Care)	\$ 7,452.00		

# SECURITIES, TRUST FUNDS AND OTHER FUNDS

Library Building Fund	3,358.64	Taggart School Fund	7,149.85
Robert A. Arms			
Bicentennial Park Fund	46,799.23	Watson School Fund	4,057.91
Susan Tiffany Stock Dividend Fund	19,755.04	Nye School Fund	6,760.43
Electa Watson Stock Dividend Fund	16,599.24	Sornberger Cemetery Fund	1,397.59
Watson Park Dividend Fund	24,091.10	Stabilization Fund	60,533.36
Cemetery 1 & 2 Fund	1,081.10	Cemetery Care Fund	354.19
Water Department Enterprise Fund	37,603.17	Lot Sale Perpetual Care Fund	321.36
Septic Repair Grant Fund	33,139.47		
Wallace Dean Watson Fund - Fleet Bank, Trustees Value as of 6/30/03			186,611.36

Utle Library Fund - In Custody of Library Trustees

## ELECTA WATSON SCHOOL FUND-STOCKS:

403 Shares SBC  
216 Shares Bellsouth Corporation  
12 Shares Avaya  
85 Shares Qwest (formerly US West)  
168 Shares Verizon (formerly Bell Atlantic)  
44 Shares AT&T (restructure and spinoff)  
120 Shares Vodaphone  
7 Shares NCR  
152 Shares Lucent Technologies  
1 Share Agere Class A  
40 Shares Agere Class B  
71 Shares AT&T Wireless (spinoff)  
72 Shares Comcast (spinoff)

Value of Fund \$29,703.25

## SUSAN TIFFANY CEMETARY FUND STOCKS:

161 Shares SBC  
20 Shares AT&T (restructure and spinoff)  
88 Shares Bellsouth  
34 Shares Qwest  
70 Shares Verizon  
5 Shares Avaya  
147 Shares J P Morgan Chase  
114 Shares Pepco (formerly ConectIV)  
160 Shares Dynergy  
2304 Shares General Electric  
1812 Shares Citicorp  
115 Shares Dow  
72 Shares Praxair  
2 Shares Conesco  
50 Shares Vodaphone  
68 Shares Lucent Technologies  
17 Shares Agere Class B  
32 Shares AT&T Wireless  
32 Shares Comcast (spinoff)  
78 Shares Travelers Property Cl A (spinoff)  
160 Shares Travelers Property Cl B (spinoff)

Value of Fund \$195,312.19

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne M. Holliday, Treasurer

## REPORT OF THE WATER COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Water Commissioners is pleased to announce that the Phase III portion of the Grant/Loan from USDA has been finalized. We would like to thank all of the Town Boards, especially the Board of Selectmen, Chet Broughton and Bill Devin, and the Town Treasurer, Anne Holliday, for all of their hard work and fortitude to make sure that the new Water Filtration System becomes a reality in the very near future.

Phase I has been completed with only a few water main breaks (all involving old pipes) and only two major water main freezes during this extremely cold and harsh winter. Phase II is entering the repair and construction portion of the access road and dam on Long Pond, which will commence as soon as the weather permits and the roads can be made accessible. This has been an extremely hard spring so far, with everyone experiencing high water levels and severe mud problems. The new water meters are in the process of being installed and we hope this is completed by mid-spring. The Water Commissioners would like to thank all of the water users for their patience and assistance in working with the meter company to get the new meters installed as quickly and as expediently as possible.

The Phase III part of the Rural Development - USDA - Grant/Loan for the engineering process of the Water Filtration Plant will begin in the spring with the anticipated construction of the Filtration plant scheduled for late 2004 or early 2005. The Water Filtration Plant, once constructed, will be a great asset to the Town of Blandford.

The downside to having such an excellent system in place is that the Water Commissioners had to raise the water rates. This action is only temporary until the new water meters are in operation and the water usage can be fully assessed and the rates adjusted to compensate for higher water users. The Water Department is in a high maintenance stage right now so that we can continue to keep major water main problems and leaks at a minimum, thus ensuring the quality and quantity of water that we are finally experiencing.

A special thanks to Ed Forish, Bruce Cooley, Sean Cloutier, Mitch Forish, and John Kelly for working to complete the Kaolin Road Project given to the Town of Blandford through a grant from the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority - and for staying within the budget. This project will be completed in early spring thanks to an extension from the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority. Great job guys!!!

Congratulations to Frank Verderber on his election to the Board of Water Commissioners and much appreciation to Les Eldridge for staying with the Commissioners during these trying times. Both men have literally been in the trenches during heavy rain, ice and snowstorms and severe cold to ensure that the water keeps flowing to all of the water customers in Blandford. And our extreme gratitude to the two women who have worked so hard in making all of this possible - Lee Ann Thompson and Elaine Kelly. Thanks just doesn't seem enough for all that you have done.

And finally, the Water Commissioners would like to express its sincere thanks to all of the Town Boards, the Town workers, and especially to the good people of Blandford for having the foresight to make our water resources one of the best in the State.

Respectfully submitted,  
William Levakis - Chairman  
Les Eldridge - Clerk  
Frank Verderber - Member

## REPORT OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Board received six applications in 2002-2003. Six public hearings were held. Two special permits were granted. One existing special permit was revised. Two variances were granted, one for division of property and one to build an addition slightly closer than fifteen feet from a property line. One application was withdrawn without prejudice.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sumner Robbins, Chairman  
Theodore Jensen  
Donald Brainerd  
James Kronholm, Alternate

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
TOWN OF BLANDFORD  
MARCH 13, 2003**

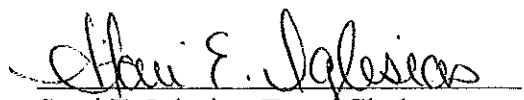
The Special Town Meeting was called to order by Town moderator, David Hopson, March 13, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. A quorum being declared present, the following matters were acted upon:

- Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$400 from reserve to Plumbing Inspector fees account.  
**PASSED BY UNAMIOUS VOTE.**
- Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$500 from reserve to Building Inspector fees account.  
**PASSED BY UNAMIOUS VOTE.**
- Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$3,000 from Water Department Chemicals account to Water Department Breaks account.  
**PASSED BY UNAMIOUS VOTE.**
- Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$18,000 from Water Department System Upgrade account to Water Department Breaks account.  
**PASSED BY UNAMIOUS VOTE.**
- Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$2,000 from Water Department Expenses account to Water Department Breaks account.  
**PASSED BY UNAMIOUS VOTE.**
- Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$600 from Water Education & Training account to Water Department Breaks account.  
**PASSED BY UNAMIOUS VOTE.**
- Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$1,000 from Water Supplies account to Water Department Breaks account.  
**PASSED BY UNAMIOUS VOTE.**
- Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$10,000 from Highway Salt/Sand account to Highway Equipment/Maintenance account.  
**PASSED BY UNAMIOUS VOTE.**
- Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$20.00 from reserve to Planning Board account.  
**PASSED BY UNAMIOUS VOTE.**

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned at 8:32 p.m. by unanimous vote.

A True Copy.

ATTEST:

  
Staci E. Iglesias, Town Clerk

# ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION

MAY 10, 2003

TO VOTE FOR A CANDIDATE, MARK A CROSS (X) IN THE SQUARE AT THE RIGHT OF THE NAME.(Use extra space below candidate's name if you wish to vote for a write-in.)\*Denotes Incumbent

<u>Assessor for Three Years</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Planning Board for Three Years</u>	<u>Vote</u>
BRUCE COOLEY, 11 Glasgow Rd. Blank 98, Other 31	61	JOHN BIANCO, 47 Blair Rd Blank 60, Others 6	124
<u>Assessor for Two Years</u>		<u>Recreation Committee for Three Years</u>	
DONALD BLANCHETTE, 10 Maple Ln Blank 34, Others 22	134		
<u>Cemetery Commissioner for Three Years</u>		<u>Recreation Committee for Three Years</u>	
*T.J. COUSINEAU, 99 Chester Rd. Blank 27	163	*JULIE FITZGERALD, 8 Herrick Rd. Blank 57	133
<u>Cemetery Commissioner for Two Years</u>		<u>Recreation Committee for Two Years</u>	
DONALD BRAINARD, 28 North St. Blank 29	161	Blank 190	
<u>Fence Viewer for Three Years</u>		<u>Recreation Committee for Two Years</u>	
GEORGE RIECHERT Blank 157, Others 12	21	Blank 190	
<u>Field Driver for Three Years</u>		<u>Recreation Committee for One Year</u>	
GEORGE REICHERT Blank 164, Others 6	20	STACI IGLESIAS, 7 Beagle Club Rd. Blank 37	153
<u>Board of Health for Three Years</u>		<u>School Committee for Three Years</u>	
ROBERT COSTELLO, 146 Otis Stage Rd.	76	*MARY E. OLESAK, 118 Chester Rd.	152
MICHAEL WOJCIK, 4 Beagle Club Rd. Blank 7	107	Blank 38	
<u>Library Trustee for Three Years</u>		<u>Selectmen for Three Years</u>	
* CHRIS KEENAN, 71 Main St. Blank 43	147	*ANDREW IGLESIAS, 7 Beagle Club Rd	94
		ELAINE KELLY, 61 Gibbs Rd Blank 4, Others 2	90
<u>Moderator for Three Years</u>		<u>Tree Warden for Three Years</u>	
* DAVID HOPSON, 55 Woronoco Rd.	133	*MICHAEL WOJCIK, 4 Beagle Club Rd.	147
JOHN KELLY, 61 Gibbs Rd. Blank 3	54	Blank 42, Others 1	
<u>Planning Board for Five Years</u>		<u>Water Department for Three Years</u>	
*OPAL POTEAT, 3 Huntington Rd.	107	LES ELDRIDGE, 2 North Blandford Rd.	150
GREG GARFIELD, 4 Julius Hall Rd. Blank 12	71	Blank 33, Others 7	
<u>Planning Board for Four Years</u>		<u>Water Department for Two Years</u>	
JOHN CASWELL, 52 Hiram Blair Rd.	129	FRANK VERDERBER, 215 Otis Stage Rd	72
Blank 59, Others 2		THOMAS ACKLEY, 7 Wyman Rd. Blank 53	65

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**  
**TOWN OF BLANDFORD**  
MAY 5, 2003 and continued on June 26, 2003

The Annual Town Meeting was called to order by Town moderator, David Hopson. A quorum being declared present, the following matters were acted upon:

- Article 1:* To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the Town Officials and act thereon.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**
- Article 2:* To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer and/or Tax Collector to enter into compensating balance agreements during Fiscal Year 2004 as permitted by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, section 53F, except to exempt the Water Department from this article since the Town voted on October 26, 1987 to accept Mass. General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53F½ for the purpose of establishing a separate account classified as an enterprise fund for the operation of the Water Department.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**
- Article 3:* To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2003 and ending June 30, 2004, in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and to issue a note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, section 17.  
**PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE.**
- Article 4:* To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, sums of money as may be necessary, to defray the expenses of the Town for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2003 and ending June 30, 2004. (See proposed Departmental Budgets.)  
Postponed until June 26, 2003  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE, June 26, 2003**
- Article 5:* To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash a sum of money for the Reserve Account or take any other action relative thereto.  
Postponed until June 26, 2003  
Amended to:  
To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash \$50,000 for the Reserve Account to balance the Fiscal '03 budget.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE, June 26, 2003**
- Article 6:* To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash \$10,000 for the Stabilization Account or take any other action relative thereto.  
Postponed until June 26, 2003  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE, June 26, 2003**
- Article 7:* To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Water Department Funds a sum of money (\$122,103) to operate the Water Department for the period of July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004 or take any other action relative thereto.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**
- Article 8:* To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash a sum of money (\$15,000) to pay legal and other expenses incurred by the Treasurer in the collection of past due real estate taxes for properties in tax title or take any other action relative thereto.

**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**

**Article 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money (not to exceed \$9,600) to be used by the Cemetery Commission as follows: grind stumps at the Main Street cemetery (\$5,000), repair driveway at the Blair Road cemetery (\$1,000), repair equipment building at the Hill cemetery (\$3,000), and trim maple trees at the Hill cemetery (\$600), or take any other action relative thereto.

**Postponed until June 26, 2003**

**FAILED BY MAJORITY VOTE, June 26, 2003**

**Article 10:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift and to accept the deed from David L. Vogel and Anne E. Schechter to the Town of Blandford acting by and through its Board of Selectmen for general municipal purposes of a fee simple interest in the land shown as Lot 9 on Assessor's Map 415 and containing 5.40 acres of land, more or less, and being a portion of the land described in deed dated October 13, 2000 and recorded with Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 11374, Page 585, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Amended to:**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift and to accept the deed from David L. Vogel and Anne E. Schechter to the Town of Blandford acting by and through its Board of Selectmen for general municipal purposes of a fee simple interest in the land shown as Lot 9 on Assessor's Map 415 and containing 5.40 acres of land, more or less, and being a portion of the land described in deed dated October 13, 2000 and recorded with Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 11374, Page 585. To have the Planning Board construct a strategy for town property being acquired, both current and future.

**PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE.**

**Article 11:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash a sum of money to the Town Insurance account in order to balance the FY2003 budget.

**POSTPONED INDEFINITY**

**Article 12:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash a sum of money to the Town Accountant Salary account in order to balance the FY2003 budget.

**POSTPONED INDEFINITY**

**Article 13:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash a sum of money to the Transfer Station Salary account in order to balance the FY2003 budget.

**POSTPONED INDEFINITY**

**Article 14:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash a sum of money to the Water Department Secretary Salary account in order to balance the FY2003 budget.

**POSTPONED INDEFINITY**

**Article 15:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Water Department Free Cash a sum of money to the Breaks account in order to balance the FY2003 budget.

**POSTPONED INDEFINITY**

**Article 16:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Water Department Free Cash a sum of money to the System Upgrade account in order to balance the FY2003 budget.

**POSTPONED INDEFINITY**



**Article 17:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Planning Board and Subdivision Bylaws by adding the attached 'Scenic Roads Designation' language (below) as a new Section ??: Scenic Roads Bylaw.

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## **1.0 Scenic Roads**

Under authority of M.G.L. Ch. 40, Sec. 15C-Scenic Roads, this bylaw establishes the procedure which must be followed if substantial trimming, cutting down, or removal of trees or tearing down or deconstruction of stone walls, or portions thereof, is proposed in conjunction with any repair, maintenance, reconstruction, or paving work on roads so designated. Work on roads involving the substantial trimming, cutting down, or removal of trees requires the approval of both the Planning Board and the Tree Warden.

### **1.661 Purpose**

The purpose of this Scenic Roads Bylaw is to preserve the qualities and character of certain public ways by insuring that:

- 1.11 ways will be recommended for designation as scenic roads in accordance with stated criteria;
- 1.12 scenic roads will not be altered except after compliance with stated procedures;
- 1.13 scenic roads will not be altered by the decision of any person, organization, or agency other than the Blandford Planning Board; and
- 1.14 public shade trees will not be cut, removed, or damaged except after compliance with M.G.L. Chapter 87, and this bylaw.

### **1.662 Definitions**

In the absence of contrary meaning established through legislative or judicial action pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 15C or M.G.L. Chapter 87, the following terms contained in that statute shall be defined as follows:

- 1.663 "Cutting or removal of trees" – the cutting or removal of trees shall mean the removal of one or more trees, trimming of major branches or cutting of roots.
- 1.664 "Repair, maintenance, reconstruction, or paving work" shall mean any work done within the right-of-way by any person or agency, public or private. Within this definition is any work on any portion of the right-of-way, which was not physically commenced at the time the road was designated as a scenic road. Construction of new driveways or alteration of existing ones is also included insofar as it takes place within the right-of-way unless an approved driveway permit has been obtained.
- 1.665 "Road" shall mean a right-of-way used or maintained as a public way including necessary appurtenances within the right-of-way such as bridges, drainage systems, retaining walls, traffic control devices, and sidewalks, but not intersecting streets or driveways. When the boundary of the right-of-way is an issue so that a dispute arises as to whether or not certain trees or stone walls or portions thereof are within or without the way, the trees or stone walls shall be presumed to be within the way until contrary is shown.
- 1.666 "Tearing down or destruction of stone walls" shall mean the destruction of more than fifteen linear feet of stone wall involving more than one cubic foot of wall material per linear foot above existing grade but shall not be construed to include temporary removal and replacement at the same location with the same materials.
- 1.667 "Trees" shall include a tree whose trunk has a diameter of four inches or more as measured four feet above the ground.

### **1.668 Designation of Scenic Roads**

#### **1.669 Procedures**

Scenic Roads shall be designated by majority vote of Town Meeting. Public ways may be recommended by the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, or Historical Commission for designation as a scenic road upon a finding that the way meets one of

the following criteria and has been determined by the Blandford Planning Board to be reasonably safe in its present condition for vehicular travel.

**1.670 Criteria**

In determining which way or portions of ways should be designated as scenic roads, the following criteria shall be considered:

- 1.671 Ways bordered by trees of exceptional size or quality, or unusual or distinctive variety;
- 1.672 Ways bordered by stone walls;
- 1.673 Ways bordered by any natural or man-made features of aesthetic value to the community;
- 1.674 Ways providing scenic views of water, rolling fields, woodlands, or orchards;
- 1.675 Ways bordered by historic or archeological structures or site of significance to the community;
- 1.676 Ways for which alteration is being planned or is likely to be planned;
- 1.677 Ways for which any alteration would significantly degrade the aesthetic value of the natural or man-made features bordering them;
- 1.678 Ways with special road features worthy of preservation, such as road surface material, layout, carriage width, and use restrictions.

**1.679 Notification of Designation as Scenic Roads**

The Planning Board shall, within thirty (30) days of the designation of a scenic road:

- 1.680 Notify all municipal departments
- 1.681 Notify the State department of Public Works
- 1.682 Publish in a newspaper of local circulation an informal article or notice describing the designation
- 1.683 Indicate such designation on all maps currently in use by municipal departments
- 1.684 Notify all utility companies which are likely to be working on the border of such road

**1.685 Planning Board Regulations**

The Blandford Planning Board may adopt more detailed regulations regarding implementation of scenic roads designations.

**1.686 Effect of Scenic Road Designation**

No road repair, maintenance, reconstruction, or paving pertaining to a designated Scenic Road shall involve or include the cutting or removal of trees, or the tearing down or destruction of stone walls, or portions thereof, or substantial alteration to the road surface or shoulder, except in accordance with the following:

- 1.661 Any person, organization, state or municipal agency seeking the written consent of the Planning Board, regarding the cutting or removal of trees or the tearing down or destruction of stone walls, or portions thereof, or significant alteration to the road surface or shoulder on a scenic road shall file a request with the Planning Board, together with the following:
  - 1.662 The text of a legal notice identifying the location of the proposed action in terms enabling readers to locate it with reasonable specificity on the ground without need for additional plans or references, and describing in reasonable detail the proposed changes to trees and stone walls;
  - 1.663 A statement of the purpose, or purposes, for the changes proposed;
  - 1.664 A list of the owners of property on the same road abutting the proposed action;
  - 1.665 Except in the case of town agencies, a deposit sufficient to cover the cost of advertising and notification; and
  - 1.666 Any further explanatory material useful to adequately inform the Planning Board

1.667 Notice

The Planning Board shall, as required by statute, give notice of its public hearing by advertising twice in a newspaper of general circulation in the area. This notice shall contain a statement as to the time, date, place, and purpose of the hearing with a reasonable description of the action proposed by the applicant. Copies of this notice shall also be sent to the Board of Selectmen, the Conservation Commission, the Historical Commission, the Highway Department, the Tree Warden, and the owners of property on the same road abutting the proposed action.

1.668 Timing of Notice

The first publication of the notice shall be as soon as feasible after the Planning Board receives the request from the applicant, and shall in all cases be at least fourteen (14) days before the hearing. The last publication shall occur, as required by statute, at least seven (7) days prior to the hearing.

1.669 Timing of Hearing

The Planning Board shall hold a public hearing within thirty (30) days of the planning board meeting at which a properly filed request is received. The date and time of the public hearing shall be set outside of normal weekday work hours (8:00 AM – 5:00 PM, Monday – Friday) so as to encourage maximum citizen participation.

1.670 Timing of Decision

The Planning Board shall make a decision on the request within twenty-one (21) days of the public hearing.

1.671 Basis of Decision

The Planning Board's decision of any application for proposed action affecting designated scenic roads shall be based on consideration of the following:

- 1.661 Preservation of natural resources
- 1.662 Environmental values
- 1.663 Historical values
- 1.664 Scenic and aesthetic characteristics
- 1.665 Public safety
- 1.666 Compensatory actions proposed, such as replacement of trees or stone walls
- 1.667 Other reasonable planning considerations

**1.7 Enforcement and Penalties**

Failure to file with the Planning Board for permission to cut or remove trees or for destruction of any portion of a stonewall within the layout of any scenic road will require an immediate filing as detailed above and the applicant shall be required to restore the features if required by the Planning Board. This restoration shall consist of replacing the stonewall as necessary and replacing the trees cut on a square-inch per square-inch basis (combined area of the replacement trees measured one foot above ground level to equal total area of the original tree trunk as measured at the stump) at locations specified by the Planning Board.

Failure to comply with a duly issued decision of the Planning Board shall be subject to restoration as detailed above and other remedial measures that the Planning Board deems necessary, including, but not limited to the enforcement of the restoration measures as stated above. Any decision not carried out within two years of issue shall be void and shall require a new filing.

The Planning Board, where appropriate, shall have the authority to enforce the provisions of this by-law.

Any violation of this By-law, M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 1 5C, or a Planning Board decision issued under this By-law or M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 1 5C, shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed three hundred dollars per violation. Each day or portion thereof during which a violation continues shall

constitute a separate offense. For purposes of the non-criminal disposition, any member duly authorized by a majority of the members of the Planning Board, the Building Inspector, and Police Officers shall all be enforcing persons.

**1.8 Severability**

The invalidity of any section or provision of this bylaw shall not invalidate any other section or provision thereof.

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**Postponed until June 26, 2003**

**POSTPONED INDEFINITY – 36 YES 27 NO**

**Article 18:** To see if the Town will vote to designate all town roads as scenic roads, as per the Planning Board and Subdivision Bylaws, Section ??: Scenic Roads Bylaw.  
**POSTPONED INDEFINITY**

**Article 19:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Blandford Bylaws, Part IX: Public Safety, Section A: Highways by adding, Subsection 11K with the following language: "Change the name of Second Division Road to Nye Brook Road from the intersection of Russell Road to the intersection of Huntington Road."  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**  
**APPROVED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL FEBRUARY 11, 2004**

**Article 20:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Blandford Bylaws, Part VII: Dog Control by replacing Section 1 with the following language: "The fee to license every spayed or neutered dog for one year shall be five (\$5.00) dollars. For dogs not spayed or neutered, the fee to license for one year shall be ten (\$10.00) dollars."  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**  
**APPROVED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL FEBRUARY 11, 2004**

**Article 21:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Blandford Bylaws, Part VII: Dog Control by replacing Section 1.2 with the following language: "The annual fee for a kennel license for six to ten (6 to 10) dogs shall be twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars. The annual fee for a kennel license for eleven (11) or more dogs shall be fifty (\$50.00) dollars."  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**  
**APPROVED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL FEBRUARY 11, 2004**

**Article 22:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Blandford Bylaws, Part VII: Dog Control, Section 4 by replacing the sentences "A fee for pickup and confining the animal will be charged. (1986 fee would be \$10 pickup and \$5 per day confinement fee after 24 hours.)" with the sentence "A pickup fee of \$20 and a confinement fee of \$10 per day after 24 hours will be charged."  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**  
**APPROVED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL FEBRUARY 11, 2004**

**Article 23:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Blandford Bylaws, Part VII: Dog Control, Section 6 by replacing the words "Section 3, 4, and 5 shall be enforced" with "Sections 4 and 5 shall be enforced".  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**  
**APPROVED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL FEBRUARY 11, 2004**

**Article 24:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,123,008 for the Gateway Regional School District for the period of July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004.  
**Postponed until June 26, 2003**  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE, June 26, 2003**

*Article 25:* (School Committee Quorum)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the AGREEMENT AMONG THE TOWNS OF HUNTINGTON, MIDDLEFIELD, MONTGOMERY, RUSSELL, WORTHINGTON, CHESTER AND BLANDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS WITH RESPECT TO THE FORMATION OF A REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT by adding the following language to the Agreement as a new subsection (G) under Section I: The Regional District School Committee:

(G) Quorum

In order to have a quorum for a School Committee meeting, there must be sufficient members of the School Committee to constitute 51% of the total weighted vote of the Committee, as well as, 51% of the School Committee membership.

PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

To see if the Town will vote to amend the AGREEMENT AMONG THE TOWNS OF HUNTINGTON, MIDDLEFIELD, MONTGOMERY, RUSSELL, WORTHINGTON, CHESTER AND BLANDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS WITH RESPECT TO THE FORMATION OF A REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT by adding the following language to the Agreement as a new subsection (C) under Section II: Location of Regional Schools: .

- (C) In the event that the school committee contemplates the closure or discontinuance of use of an elementary school or discontinuance of an entire grade level, the school committee shall issue four months written notice for kindergarten and six months for grades one through four of the proposed action, with supporting reasons to the selectboard of the affected town or towns, except for an emergency as defined in M.G.L., c. 39, s. 23A. The discontinuance of an entire grade level would be in effect for one year only, unless the initial notification states otherwise. School committee actions shall be primarily guided as to what is in the best educational interest of the students and what is permitted by law. The school committee shall advertise and hold a public hearing in the affected town or towns to be held no sooner than two months for kindergarten and three months for grades one through four prior to the school committee's meeting, at which it intends to formally vote to close or discontinue use as described above. At the public hearing the school committee shall present the reasons for the proposed action and take public comment both oral and written. Following the public hearing, the school committee shall take additional written comment for a thirty-day period and no vote shall be taken unless the member towns are issued fourteen days notice of the date, time and location of the school committee's meeting, at which it intends to formally vote.

PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

*Article 27:* (School Committee Powers, Duties and Composition)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the AGREEMENT AMONG THE TOWNS OF HUNTINGTON, MIDDLEFIELD, MONTGOMERY, RUSSELL, WORTHINGTON, CHESTER AND BLANDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS WITH RESPECT TO THE FORMATION OF A REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT by striking the following language which now appears in the Agreement under subsection (A) of Section I: The Regional District School Committee:

(A) Powers, Duties and Composition

The powers and duties of the regional school district shall be vested in and exercised by a regional district school committee, hereinafter sometimes referred to as the Committee. The Committee shall consist of the following: three members from the Town of Huntington, two members from the Town of Middlefield, two members from the Town of Montgomery, three members from the Town of Russell, two members from the Town of Worthington, and three members from the Town of Chester, and two members from the Town of Blandford. Members shall serve until their respective successors are elected or appointed and qualified.

As Amended.

and replacing said language with the following language:

(A) Powers, Duties and Composition

The powers and duties of the regional school district shall be vested in and exercised by a regional district school committee, hereinafter sometimes referred to as the Committee. The Committee shall consist of the following: two members from the Town of Huntington, two members from the Town of Middlefield, two members from the Town of Montgomery, two members from the Town of Russell, two members from the Town of Worthington, and two members from the Town of Chester, and two members from the Town of Blandford. The weight of the vote of committee members shall be according to the population they represent. The population of the Town shall be determined by the final adjusted year after each ten (10) year Federal Census. The first such weighted vote will be determined by the final adjusted year after the 2000 Federal Census. Each Town's weighted vote will be equally divided between the two representatives of that Town. In the event that one of the two town representatives is not present to vote on an item or a seat is vacant within a particular town, the remaining town representative does not assume the other member's weighted vote. Members shall serve until their respective successors are elected or appointed and qualified.

As Amended.

PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

To see if the Town will vote to amend the AGREEMENT AMONG THE TOWNS OF HUNTINGTON, MIDDLEFIELD, MONTGOMERY, RUSSELL, WORTHINGTON, CHESTER AND BLANDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS WITH RESPECT TO THE FORMATION OF A REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT by striking the following language which now appears in the Agreement under subsection (B) of Section I: The Regional District School Committee:

(B) Continuation of Members

Until the annual town elections next following the assumption of jurisdiction by the Committee over the pupils in all grades from kindergarten through grade twelve, the members of the Committee shall be appointed and elected and vacancies shall be filled as provided in subsections (C), (D) and (E) of Section I as in effect prior to the adoption of the sixth amendment of this agreement provided, however, that the terms of office of all such members shall terminate upon the election and qualification of successors as provided in subsection (C) of Section I.

As Amended.

and replacing said language with the following language:

(B) Continuation of Members

Until all of the town elections are held in the spring and summer of 2004 all seventeen (17) members of the current Committee, or in the case of a vacancy or vacancies, by the newly appointed member(s) pursuant to Section I(D) of the Regional Agreement, shall serve as members of the School Committee over the pupils in all grades from pre-kindergarten through grade twelve. The members of the Committee shall be appointed and elected and vacancies shall be filled as provided in subsections (C), (D), and (E) of Section I; provided, however, that the terms of office of all such members shall terminate upon the election and qualification of successors as provided in subsection (C) of Section I.

As Amended.

PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.



*Article 29:* (School Committee Membership)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the AGREEMENT AMONG THE TOWNS OF HUNTINGTON, MIDDLEFIELD, MONTGOMERY, RUSSELL, WORTHINGTON, CHESTER AND BLANDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS WITH RESPECT TO THE FORMATION OF A REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT by striking the following language which now appears in the Agreement under subsection (C) of Section I: The Regional District School Committee:

(C) Membership

At the annual town elections next following the assumption of jurisdiction by the Committee of pupils in all grades from kindergarten through grade twelve, the towns of Huntington, Russell and Chester shall elect three members to serve on the Committee, one for a term of one year, one for a term of two years and one for a term of three years; and the towns of Middlefield, Montgomery, Worthington and Blandford shall each elect two members to serve on the Committee, one for a term of two years and one for a term of three years. Thereafter, in every year in which the term of office of a member expires, each member town involved shall, at the annual town election, elect one member to serve for a term of three years.

As Amended.

and replacing said language with the following language:

(C) Membership

At the Town elections held in the spring and summer of the year 2004, there will be elections in all Towns for all School Committee positions. Committee members chosen at the elections will serve for a term of three (3) years if the member had the highest number of votes in that Town, and two (2) years if the member had the second highest number of votes in that Town. Thereafter all terms of office shall be for a term of three (3) years. If a member leaves office before the expiration of his/her term, an appointment to the position shall be made in accordance with Section I(D) of the Regional Agreement for the remaining portion of the term.

As Amended.

PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

There being no further business to come before the meeting. Meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.

Total Attendance: 88 people, May 5, 2003  
70 people, June 26, 2003

A True Copy.

ATTEST:

  
Staci E. Iglesias, Town Clerk

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
TOWN OF BLANDFORD  
MAY 15, 2003**

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by Town moderator, David Hopson, May 15, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. A quorum being declared present, the following matters were acted upon:

**Article 1:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash a sum of \$4,029.00 to the Town Insurance account in order to balance the FY2003 budget.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**

**Article 2:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash a sum of \$1,465.00 to the Town Accountant Salary account in order to balance the FY2003 budget.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**

**Article 3:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash a sum of \$2,700.00 to the Transfer Station Salary account in order to balance the FY2003 budget.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**

**Article 4:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Water Department free cash a sum of \$1,000.00 to the Water Department Secretary Salary account in order to balance the FY2003 budget.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**

**Article 5:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Water Department Free Cash a sum of \$19,000.00 to the Breaks account in order to balance the FY2003 budget.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**

**Article 6:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Water Department Free Cash a sum of \$8,000.00 to the System Upgrade account in order to balance the FY2003 budget.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned at 7:23 p.m. by unanimous vote.

A True Copy.

ATTEST:

  
Staci E. Iglesias, Town Clerk

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
TOWN OF BLANDFORD**

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by Town moderator, David Hopson, August 21, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. A quorum being declared present, the following matters were acted upon:

- Article 1:* To see if the Town will vote to transfer from FY2004 Water Commission Salary a sum of \$117.00 to FY2003 Water Department Secretary Salary account in order to balance the FY2003 budget.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMIOUS VOTE.**
- Article 2:* To see if the Town will vote to transfer from FY2004 Water Department Expenses a sum of \$600.00 to the FY2003 Water Department Supt. Salary account in order to balance the FY2003 budget.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMIOUS VOTE.**
- Article 3:* To see if the Town will vote to transfer from FY2004 Highway Expenses a sum of \$321.00 to the FY2003 Highway Expenses account in order to balance the FY2003 budget.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMIOUS VOTE.**
- Article 4:* To see if the Town will vote to transfer from FY2004 Highway Expenses a sum of \$196.60 to the FY2003 Highway Utilities account in order to balance the FY2003 budget.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMIOUS VOTE.**
- Article 5:* To see if the Town will vote to transfer from FY2004 Highway Expenses a sum of \$82.50 to the FY2003 Highway Equipment/Maintenance account in order to balance the FY2003 budget.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMIOUS VOTE.**
- Article 6:* To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 17C, which makes the eligibility requirements for this exemption less stringent:

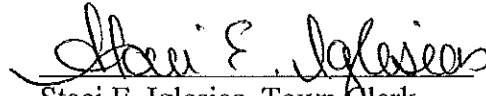
Seventeenth C, Real estate, to the taxable valuation of two thousand dollars or the sum of one hundred and seventy-five dollars, whichever would result in an abatement of the greater amount of actual taxes due, of a surviving spouse or of any minor whose parent is deceased, occupied by such spouse, or minor as her or his domicile, or a person or persons over the age of seventy who has owned and occupied it as a domicile for not less than ten years; provided, that the whole estate, real and personal, of such spouse, person or minor does not exceed in value the sum of forty thousand dollars, exclusive of property otherwise exempt under clauses Twelfth, Twentieth and Twenty-first, exclusive of the value of the mortgage interest held by persons other than the person or persons to be exempted in such

mortgaged real estate as may be included in such whole estate and exclusive of the first sixty thousand dollars in value of real estate occupied by such person as his domicile. No real estate shall be so exempt which the assessors shall adjudge has been conveyed to such spouse, person or minor to evade taxation. A spouse, person or minor aggrieved by any such judgment may appeal to the county commissioners or to the appellate tax board within the time and in such manner allowed by section sixty-four or sixty-five, as the case may be. Any exemption under this clause, to the taxable valuation of two thousand dollars or the sum of one hundred and seventy-five dollars, whichever would result in an abatement of the greater amount of actual taxes due may be apportioned among the persons whose title to the real estate was acquired under the provisions of section three of chapter one hundred and ninety and who qualify for an exemption under this clause. This clause shall take effect upon its acceptance by any city or town. In those cities and towns which accept the provisions of this clause, the provisions of clause Seventeenth shall not be applicable; provided, however, that the state treasurer shall annually reimburse the city or town an amount equal to the reimbursement granted to such city or town under said clause Seventeenth for the most recent fiscal year in which it received such reimbursement.

**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**

A True Copy:

ATTEST:

  
Staci E. Iglesias, Town Clerk

## MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING TOWN OF BLANDFORD

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by Town moderator, David Hopson, September 25, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. A quorum being declared present, the following matters were acted upon:

Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the stabilization fund the sum of \$681.25 to the Town Office Expense account.

**Passed by unanimous vote.**

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the stabilization fund the sum of \$33.33 to the Police Utilities account.

**Passed by unanimous vote.**

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the stabilization fund the sum of \$37.69 to the Highway Expense account.

**Passed by unanimous vote.**

Article 4: To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for a special act providing for recall elections in the Town of Blandford, in the following form:

### BLANDFORD, TOWN OF ----- RECALL ELECTIONS

An act providing for recall elections in the Town of Blandford. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:

SECTION 1: Any holder of an elective office may be recalled therefrom by the registered voters of the town as herein provided.

SECTION 2: One hundred or more qualified voters may make and file with the Town Clerk an affidavit containing the name of the officer sought to be recalled and a statement of the grounds for recall. The Town Clerk shall thereupon deliver to the ten persons first named on such affidavit a sufficient number of petition blanks demanding such recall, copies of which printed forms he shall keep available. Said petition blanks may be completed by printing or typewriter and they shall contain the names of the ten persons to whom they are issued, the name of the person sought to be recalled, the office from which recall is sought, and the grounds for recall as stated in the affidavit. They shall demand the election of a successor to the office and they shall be dated, signed and sealed by the Town Clerk. Said recall petition shall be returned to the office of the Town Clerk not later than three o'clock in the afternoon on or before the first work day following twenty days after the date they are issued, signed by at least twenty-five percent of the total number of qualified persons registered to vote in the town as of the date such affidavit was filed with the Town Clerk. To every signature shall be added the place of residence of the signer, giving the street and number, if any. One of the ten persons to whom the recall petition forms is issued shall make an affidavit on each page that statements therein contained are true, and that each signature appended to the petition is the genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be.

The Town Clerk shall, within seventy-two hours following the day of such filing with the office of the Town Clerk, submit the recall petition forms to the Board of Registrars of voters which shall, within five work days after the day of receipt, certify in writing thereon the number of signatures which are those of qualified persons registered to vote in the Town as of the date such affidavit was filed with the Town Clerk. The Board of Registrars of voters, upon the completion of their certification, shall return the recall petition forms to the Town Clerk.

SECTION 3: If said recall petition forms shall be certified by the Board of Registrars of voters to contain at least twenty-five percent of the qualified persons registered to vote and if the petition shall be found and certified by the Town Clerk to be sufficient, the Town Clerk shall give notice without delay, in writing, to the elected officer whose recall is sought by sending to said officer a copy of the affidavit and the recall petition form together with notice of the number of qualified voters certified by the Board of Registrars of voters who signed the recall petition forms and the total number of qualified voters in the town as of the most recent town election.

If the officer to whom notice is directed by the Town Clerk does not resign the office within five days following receipt of the aforesaid notice from the Town Clerk, the Town Clerk shall give notice in writing to the Board of Selectmen not later than one work day following the expiration of the foregoing five days. The Board of Selectmen shall order a special election to be held not less than sixty-four nor more than ninety days after the receipt of notice from the Town Clerk as aforesaid, If, however, any other town election is to be held within one hundred days of receipt by the Board of Selectmen of notice from the Town Clerk, the recall election shall be postponed and shall be held at such time and in conjunction with such other election. If a vacancy occurs in the office for any reason after a recall election has been ordered by the Board of Selectmen, the recall election shall nevertheless proceed as provided for herein.

**SECTION 4:** Any officer sought to be removed may be a candidate to succeed himself, and unless he requests otherwise in writing, the Town Clerk shall place his name on the ballot without nomination. The number of signatures of qualified voters required to place the name of a candidate on the official ballot for use at a recall election shall not be less than twenty-five. The publication of the warrant for the recall election and the conduct of the recall election shall be in accordance with the General Laws relative to elections, unless otherwise provided in this act.

**SECTION 5:** The incumbent shall continue to perform the duties of this office until the recall election. If then recalled and reelected pursuant to Section 6, he shall continue in office for the remainder of his unexpired term subject to recall as before, except as provided in this section. If recalled and not reelected in the recall election held pursuant to Section 6, he shall be deemed removed upon the qualification of his successor, who shall hold office during the unexpired term. If the successor fails to qualify within five days after receiving notification of his election, the office shall be deemed vacant.

**SECTION 6:** The ballots used at the recall election shall submit the following proposition in the order indicated:

For the recall of (name of officer)

Against the recall of (name of officer)

Immediately at the right of each proposition there shall be a square in which the voter, by making a cross mark (x) may vote for either of such propositions. Under the propositions shall appear the word "Candidates" and the directions for the voters required by law, and beneath the word "Candidates" shall be the names of candidates nominated as hereinabove provided.

If a majority of the votes cast is against the recall, the votes for the candidates need not be counted. If a majority of the votes cast is in favor of the recall, the officer shall be deemed to be recalled and the ballots for candidates shall then be counted. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected. If the officer is recalled, he shall be deemed removed upon certification of the election results by the Town Clerk. The candidate receiving the highest vote and therefore elected, shall serve for the balance of the unexpired term of the officer removed.

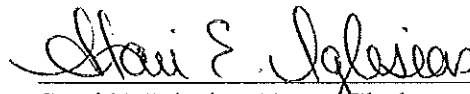
**SECTION 7:** No recall petition shall be filed against an officer within six months after he takes office nor, in the case of an officer elected in a recall election, until six months after that election. No recall shall be filed against an officer subjected to a recall election, and not recalled thereby, until at least six months after the election at which his recall was submitted to the voters.

**SECTION 8:** No person who has been recalled from an office, or who has resigned from office while recall proceedings were pending against him, shall be appointed to any town office within one year after such recall or such resignation.

**SECTION 9:** This act shall take effect upon its passage.

**Passed by unanimous vote.**

A True Copy:  
ATTEST:

  
Staci E. Iglesias, Town Clerk

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
TOWN OF BLANDFORD**

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by Town moderator, David Hopson, December 17, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. A quorum being declared present, the following matters were acted upon:

- Article 1:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the stabilization account a sum of \$132.89 to the Police Expenses account to balance the FY 2003 budget.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**
- Article 2:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the stabilization account a sum of \$2,465.00 to the Fire Training/Supplies account.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**
- Article 3:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the stabilization account a sum of \$2,039.80 to the Group Insurance account to balance the FY2003 budget.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**
- Article 4:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money, not exceed \$20,000.00 from the stabilization account to the Highway Equip/Maint account.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**
- Article 5:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the stabilization account a sum of money, not to exceed \$2,730.00 to the Tax Collector's Salary account.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**
- Article 6:** To see if the Town will vote to create a special line item called Special Tax Project and transfer from the stabilization account a sum of money, not to exceed \$4,000.00 to that account.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**
- Article 7:** To is if the Town will vote to transfer from the stabilization account a sum of money, not to exceed \$10,000.00 to pay legal and other expenses incurred by the Treasurer in the collection of past due real estate for properties in tax title.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**
- Article 8:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the stabilization account a sum of money not to exceed \$1,120.00 to the Town Insurance account to balance the FY 2004 budget.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**
- Article 9:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the stabilization account a sum of money not to exceed \$2,000.00 to the Tax Collector's Expenses account for the purpose of tax title expenses.  
**PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned at 7:23 p.m. by unanimous vote.

A True Copy.

ATTEST:

  
Staci E. Iglesias, Town Clerk

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
TOWN OF BLANDFORD  
March 22, 2004**

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by Town moderator, David Hopson, March 22, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. A quorum being declared present, the following matters were acted upon:

- Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash a sum of \$900.00 to the Treasurer expense account.  
**PASSED BY UNAMIOUS VOTE.**
- Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash a sum of \$400.00 to the Plumbing Inspectors Fee account.  
**PASSED BY UNAMIOUS VOTE.**
- Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash a sum of \$12,000.00 to the Highway Equipment/Maintenance account.  
**PASSED BY UNAMIOUS VOTE.**
- Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash a sum of \$18,721.65 to the Road Maintenance account.  
**PASSED BY UNAMIOUS VOTE.**
- Article 5: To is if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash a sum of money, not to exceed \$10,000.00 to pay legal and other expenses incurred by the Treasurer in the collection of past due real estate for properties in tax title or take any other action relative thereto.  
**PASSED BY UNAMIOUS VOTE.**

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned at 7:16 p.m. by unanimous vote.

A True Copy.

ATTEST:

  
Staci E. Iglesias, Town Clerk



**WARRANT**  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
**COUNTY OF HAMPDEN, SS.**  
**TOWN OF BLANDFORD**

**TO:** One of the Constables of the Town of Blandford, in said County and State.

**GREETINGS:** In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of Blandford qualified to vote in Elections and Town Affairs to meet at the Blandford Elementary School on May 3, 2004 next, at 7:30 P.M., then and thereto to act on the following matters:

- Article 1:** To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the Town Officials and act thereon.
- Article 2:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer and/or Tax Collector to enter into compensating balance agreements during Fiscal Year 2005 as permitted by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, section 53F, except to exempt the Water Department from this article since the Town voted on October 26, 1987 to accept Mass. General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53F½ for the purpose of establishing a separate account classified as an enterprise fund for the operation of the Water Department.
- Article 3:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2003 and ending June 30, 2005, in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and to issue a note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, section 17.
- Article 4:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, sums of money as may be necessary, to defray the expenses of the Town for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2004 and ending June 30, 2005. (See Proposed Departmental Budgets.)
- Article 5:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash a sum of money for the Reserve Account or take any other action relative thereto.
- Article 6:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash a sum of money for the Stabilization Account or take any other action relative thereto.
- Article 7:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Water Department Funds a sum of money (\$203,283) to operate the Water Department for the period of July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005 or take any other action relative thereto.
- Article 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money (\$1,267,563) for the Gateway Regional School District for the period of July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005.
- Article 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money (\$102,204) for the Vocational Education for the period of July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005.
- Article 10:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Blandford Bylaws, Part III: Committees, Section E: Recreation Committee to replacing "Elected by ballot" with "Appointed by Selectmen".

*Article 11:* To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the requirements of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 23A to empower the Selectmen to appoint a town administrator who may be appointed by them for a term of one to three years and to remove him at their discretion. A Town Administrator appointed under the provisions of this section shall be sworn to the faithful performance of his duties. During the time that he holds office he shall hold no elective town office, but he may be appointed by the Selectmen or, with their approval, by any other town officer, board, committee or commission, to any other town office or position consistent with his office...He shall act by and for the Selectmen in any matter which they may assign to him relating to the administration of the affairs of the town or of any town office or department under their supervision and control, or, with the approval of the selectmen, may perform such other duties as may be requested of him by any other town officer, board, committee or commission.

*Article 12:* To see if the Town will accept a by-law for Numbering of all houses, businesses and other structure with the following language:

- A. Numbers of each swelling, business, or other structure in the Town of Blandford shall be designated to the owners of such structures. It shall be the responsibility of each property owner to obtain and install the number or numbers assigned to their affected structure or structures. After approval of this by-law by the Office of the Attorney General each property owner shall have sixty (60) days to comply.
- B. The owner of any property seeking a building permit for a new building or structure shall apply for and receive a building number designation from the Fire Chief, unless the lot already has a designated number. Certificate of Occupancy will not be issued until a number or numbers is designated by the Fire Chief and installed by property owner.
- C. Highly visible numbers shall be placed near the main entrance to the structure; that is, on the structure or on a suitable support. The numbers shall be no less than four (4) inches high and must be visible from the street.
- D. This by-law shall be enforced by the Building Inspector of the Town of Blandford. Failure to comply with this by-law shall subject the offending property owner to a fine not exceeding ten dollars (\$10) per day.

*Article 13:* To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash a sum of \$62.04 to the Fire Department expense account in order to balance the FY2003 budget.

*Article 14:* To see if the Town will vote to rescind the amount of \$7,501.00 from Article 7 at Annual Town Meeting dated May 13, 2002 from \$82,000 to \$74,499 which was for the purchase of a new highway dump truck.

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested Copies seven (7) days at least before the time of the meeting in three (3) public places in Blandford. Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to the Clerk of Said Town at or before the time of said meeting.

Given under our hands and the seal of the Town of Blandford this \_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2004.

A True Copy,

ATTEST:

I have served this Warrant as directed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Constable

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# TOWN OF BLANDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

	2004	2005	2005	2005-2004
	REVISED	REQUESTED	RECOMM	
	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	DIFF.
<b>TOWN DEPARTMENTS</b>				
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>				
Moderator's Salary	46	46	47	1
Moderator's Expense	25	25	25	0
Selectboard Salaries	10,506	10,506	10,821	315
Selectmen's Expenses	1800	1800	1800	0
Finance Committee	245	245	245	0
Town Accountant Salary	8,640	8,640	8,899	259
Town Accountant Expenses	1,330	1,330	1,330	0
Assessor's Dept. Salaries	14,108	14,108	14,531	423
Assessor's Expenses	4,940	4,940	4,940	0
Assessor's Contract Services	7,060	21,690	21,690	14,630
Vision Re-Evaluation	15,000	0	0	-15,000
Treasurer's Dept. Salaries	7,982	7,982	8,221	239
Treasurer's Expenses	2,150	2,300	2,150	0
Tax Title Legal Fees	10,000	10,000	10,000	0
Tax Collector's Salary	12,000	12,000	12,360	360
Tax Collector's Expenses	12,000	12,240	12,000	0
Town Counsel	10,000	10,000	10,000	0
Town Clerk's Salary	3,090	3,090	3,183	93
Town Clerk's Expenses	750	1,250	1,250	500
Street & Dog List Salary	489	489	504	15
Street & Dog List Expenses	250	250	250	0
Vital Statistics Salary	26	26	27	1
Election & Registration	1,450	1,450	1,450	0
Board of Registrar's Salary	51	51	53	2
Conservation Commission	1,600	1,600	1,600	0
Conservation Maps	250	250	250	0
Planning Board	320	320	320	0
Zoning Board of Appeals	350	350	350	0
Town Office Expense	8,600	10,600	10,600	2,000
Town Insurance	21,120	21,120	21,120	0
Town Reports Salary	592	592	610	18
Town Reports Expenses	1,100	1,100	1,100	0
Town Administrator Salary	0	30,000	30,000	30,000
Audit - Town Records	14,000	14,000	14,000	0
<b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>171,870</b>	<b>204,390</b>	<b>205,726</b>	<b>33,856</b>

# TOWN OF BLANDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

	2004 REVISED BUDGET	2005 REQUESTED BUDGET	2005 RECOMM BUDGET	2005-2004 DIFF.
<b>PROTECT, PERSONS &amp; PROPERTY</b>				
Police Salaries	5,047	8,700	5,198	151
Police Expenses	6,000	7,555	6,705	97
Fire Dept. Salaries	1,545	1,545	1,591	46
Fire Department Expenses	27,465	27,465	27,465	0
Ambulance Service	8,112	8,112	8,112	0
Building Inspector Salary	1,236	1,236	1,236	0
Building Inspector Fees	1,500	1,500	1,500	0
Plumbing Inspector Salary	51	51	51	0
Plumbing Inspector Fees	750	750	925	175
Electrical Inspector Salary	51	51	51	0
Electrical Inspection Fees	1,500	1,500	1,500	0
Inspector of Animals	500	500	500	0
Emergency Management	100	100	100	0
Dog Officer Salary	772	772	795	23
Dog Officer Expenses	200	200	200	0
Tree Warden Salary	1,030	1,030	1,061	31
Tree Warden Expenses	8,400	8,400	8,400	0
<b>TOTAL PROTECT, PERSONS &amp; PROP.</b>	<b>64,259</b>	<b>69,467</b>	<b>65,391</b>	<b>524</b>
<b>PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES</b>				
Highway Salaries	95,000	98,000	97,850	2,850
Highway Overtime Salaries	4,200	4,500	4,326	126
Highway P/T Salaries	5,000	6,000	5,000	0
Snow & Ice Labor	20,000	22,000	22,000	2,000
Highway Expenses	103,300	100,500	99,800	-3,500
Sand & Salt	20,000	22,000	20,000	0
Street Lights	3,500	3,500	3,500	0
Transfer Station Salaries	10,485	11,000	10,800	315
Transfer Station Expenses	49,000	53,800	53,300	3,300
Cemetery Commission	2,500	2,500	2,500	0
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS AND FAC.</b>	<b>312,985</b>	<b>323,800</b>	<b>319,076</b>	<b>5,091</b>

# TOWN OF BLANDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

	2004 REVISED BUDGET	2005 REQUESTED BUDGET	2005 RECOMM BUDGET	2005-2004 DIFF.
<b>HUMAN SERVICES</b>				
Board of Health Salaries	4,171	4,270	4,296	125
Board of Health Expenses	3,500	3,700	3,500	0
Lee Visiting Nurses	3,700	3,700	3,700	0
Council on Aging	1,300	1,300	1,300	0
Council on Aging Expenses	300	300	300	0
Veterans' Administration	300	300	300	0
Veterans' Benefits	300	300	300	0
Memorial Day	600	600	600	0
<b>TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES</b>	<b>14,171</b>	<b>14,470</b>	<b>14,296</b>	<b>125</b>
<b>CULTURE AND RECREATION</b>				
Library Salaries	18,547	18,547	19,103	556
Library Expenses	15,141	17,013	15,442	301
Recreation Committee	3,100	3,100	3,100	0
Town Common	300	300	300	0
Historical Commission	750	750	750	0
<b>TOTAL CULTURE AND RECREATION</b>	<b>37,838</b>	<b>39,710</b>	<b>38,695</b>	<b>857</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES</b>				
Hampden County Retirement	19,178	19,178	19,178	0
Workers' Compensation	4,800	4,800	4,800	0
Unemployment Compensation	8,750	8,750	8,750	0
Group Insurance	35,400	35,400	35,400	0
FICA - Town Share	13,500	13,500	13,500	0
<b>TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES</b>	<b>81,628</b>	<b>81,628</b>	<b>81,628</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL TOWN DEPARTMENTS</b>	<b>682,751</b>	<b>703,465</b>	<b>694,812</b>	<b>10,453</b>
<b>WATER DEPARTMENT</b>				
Water Department Salaries	14,008	17,275	17,275	3,267
Water Department Expenses	108,094	76,102	76,102	-31,992
Water Department Phase One	0	109,906	109,906	109,906
<b>TOTAL WATER DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>122,102</b>	<b>203,283</b>	<b>203,283</b>	<b>81,181</b>

## TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

### Local Emergency Numbers:

To Report a Fire	911
Police - Local	848-2020
State (Russell)	862-3312
Ambulance - Huntington	667-3033
Hospital - Noble	562-2811

### TOWN SERVICES

Department	Call	Telephone
Aging, Council of	Jo Taudel	848-2235
Assessors	Don Blanchette	848-2791
Building Inspector	Eric Munson	258-4590
Dog Officer	Brenda Blood	848-2888
Conservation Commission	Rosemary Arnold	848-2240
Gateway Regional	Superintendent's Office	685-1011
Health, Board of	Les Eldridge	848-0950
Highway Department	Keith Ackley	848-2721
Pest Control	Mike Wojcik	848-2277
Porter Memorial Library	Michael Chandler	848-2853
Planning Board	Juliana Mueller	848-2802
Post Office		848-2480
Selectmen	Town Offices	848-2782
Tax Collector	LeeAnn Thompson	848-2804
Tax Abatements	Assessors	848-2791
Town Clerk	Staci Iglesias	848-0054
Town Office	General Information	848-2782
Treasurer	Anne Holliday	848-2011
Tree Warden	Mike Wojcik	848-2277
Voting Information	Town Clerk	848-0054
Water Commission	Bill Levakis	848-2108

### LIBRARY HOURS

Monday: 5-9 p.m.

Thursday: 1-9 p.m.

Tuesday: 1-9 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### Mini Town Meeting:

Held Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup> 2004, 7:30 p.m. (Town Hall)

### Town Meeting:

Held the First Monday in May Annually, 7:30 p.m. (School)

### Town Elections:

Held the Second Saturday in May Annually. 10a.m. - 4p.m. (School)

Check us out on the internet at [www.townofblandford.info](http://www.townofblandford.info)

PLEASE BRING THIS TOWN REPORT WITH YOU TO THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
BLANDFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - MAY 3, 2004

## **INFORMATION FOR BLANDFORD RESIDENTS**

### **Business Hours of Town Officers and Committees**

Aging, Council on	To be posted
Assessors, Board of	First and Third Thursday of each month 7:00 p.m. at the Town Offices
Assessors Clerk	Monday evening 7-9 p.m. Tuesday 9 - 1 p.m.
Conservation Commission	By appointment, 848-2240
Finance Committee	To be posted
Fire Department	Every Tuesday 7 p.m. at the Fire Station
Health, Board of	First and Third Wednesday of each month 7:30 p.m. at the Town Offices
Historical Commission	Second Tuesday of each month 7:30 at the Town Offices
Library Trustees	Third Thursday of each month 7:30 p.m. at the Library
Planning Board	First Thursday of each month 7:30 p.m. at the Town Offices
Police Department	Every Monday 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. at the Elementary School
Recreation Committee	To be posted
Selectmen, Board of	Every Monday - 7:00 p.m. at the Town Offices For an appointment, call 848-2782.
Tax Collector	Monday 10 – 2 p.m. and 7-10 p.m. Wednesday 10 - 2 p.m.
Town Clerk	Every Monday – 7:00 p.m. at the Town Office and/or by appointment, call 848-0054.
Transfer Station	Tuesday & Thursday, 6 - 8 p.m. Saturday, 8 - 4 p.m.
Treasurer	Every Monday 6:30 - 9:00 at the Town Offices
Water Department	Second Tuesday of each month 7:00 p.m. at the Town Offices

