

ANNUAL
TOWN
REPORT

2025

Southampton, MA



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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

United States Senators

Honorable Edward Markey (D)

255 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Telephone: (202) 224-2742
Website: markey.senate.gov

Local Office:

1550 Main Street, 4th Floor
Springfield, MA 01103
Telephone: (413) 785-4610

Honorable Elizabeth Warren (D)

311 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Telephone: (202) 224-4543
Website: warren.senate.gov

Local Office:

1550 Main Street, Suite 406
Springfield, MA 01103
Telephone: (413) 788-2690

United States Representative

Honorable Richard Neal (D)

372 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Telephone: (202) 225-5601
Website: neal.house.gov/

Local Office:

300 State Street, Suite 200
Springfield, MA 01105
Telephone: (413) 785-0325

STATE GOVERNMENT

Governor

Honorable Maura Healey (D)

Office of the Governor, Room 280
24 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02133
Telephone: (617) 725-4005
Website: www.mass.gov/governor

Local Office:

State Office Building
436 Dwight Street, Suite 300
Springfield, MA 01103
Telephone: (413) 784-1200

Attorney General

Honorable Andrea Joy Campbell (D)

One Ashburton Place, 20th floor
Boston, MA 02108-1518
Telephone: (617) 727-2200
Website: www.mass.gov/ago

Local Office:

1441 Main St., 12th Floor
Springfield, MA 01103-1629
Telephone: (413) 784-1240

Secretary of State

Honorable William Francis Galvin (D)

McCormack Building
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108
Telephone: (617) 727-7030
Website: www.sec.state.ma.us/

Local Office:

436 Dwight Street, Room 102
Springfield, MA 01103
Telephone: (413) 784-1376
Email: cis@sec.state.ma.us

State Senator

Honorable John Velis (D)

State House, Room 513
24 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02133
Telephone: (617) 722-1415
Website:
www.malegislature.gov/people/profile/JCV1

Local Office:

52 Court Street
Westfield, MA 01085
Telephone: (413) 572-3920
Email: john.velis@masenate.gov

State Representative

Honorable Kelly Pease (R)

State House, Room 237
24 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02133
Telephone: (617) 722-2305
kelly.pease@mahouse.gov
<http://www.malegislature.gov/Legislators/Profile>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: CONTACT INFORMATION

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Ambulance-Fire-Police Emergency	911
Cooley Dickinson Hospital 30 Locust St./Northampton	582-2000
Cooley Dickinson Urgent Care 12 College Hwy/Southampton	527-1005
Baystate Medical Center 759 Chestnut St./Springfield	794-0000
Holyoke Medical Center 575 Beech St./Holyoke	534-2500
Poison Control	800-222-1222
Water Main Breaks	527-3666

LOCAL SCHOOLS

Norris Elementary 34 Pomeroy Meadow Rd.	527-0811
Smith Vocational 80 Locust St./Northampton	587-1414
Hampshire Regional 19 Stage Rd./Westhampton	527-7680

TOWN OFFICES

Accountant, Town 210 College Highway	529-0106
Administrator, Town 210 College Highway	529-0106
Assessors 210 College Highway	527-4741
Boards/Committees 210 College Highway	529-0106
Building/Inspections 210 College Highway	529-1007
Clerk, Town 210 College Highway	527-8392
Council on Aging 210 College Highway	529-2105
Fire Department College Highway	527-1700
Health, Board of 210 College Highway	529-1003
Highway Department 8 Fomer Rd.	527-3666
Library 30 East St.	527-9480
Police Dispatch 8 East St.	527-1120
Select Board 210 College Highway	529-0106
Treasurer/Collector 210 College Highway	527-4920
Transfer Station Moosebrook Rd.	529-2352
Water Department 8 Fomer Rd.	527-3666

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: ELECTED OFFICIALS

As of the printing of this Annual Town Report the following are the elected officials of the Town and those serving in interim appointments until the next Town election.

<u>Board/Department</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Term Exp.</u>
Almoners	Harrison	Faith	Chair	5/2026
	Kaniecki	Pamela		5/2028
	Kuehner	Judy		5/2027
	Laprade	Christine		5/2029
Assessors, Board of	Greene	Linda		5/2028
	Griffin	Joann		5/2026
	Kuplast	Kimberly		5/2027
Health, Board of	Carrasquillo	Leah-Nero	Chair	5/2028
	Rooks	Kaitlyn		5/2026
	Savarese	Kathryn		5/2027
Cemetery Commission	Conlin	Judith	Chair	5/2026
	Floyd	Robert	Clerk	5/2027
	Wells	William	Superintendent	5/2028
Community Preservation	Brown	Janet		5/2026
	Kassis	Mark		5/2026
Constables	Hamel	Jared		5/2027
	Lumbra	Jon		5/2027
Finance Committee	Greene	Reggie		5/2027
	Hamel	Douglas		5/2026
	Morrow	Jamie		5/2028
	Plimpton	Rebecca		5/2026
Housing Authority	Belsito	Christopher		5/2027
	Bowman	Anne		5/2030
	Cain	Janet		5/2027
	Simmons	Sierra		5/2026
	Tilbe	Sharon		5/2026

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: ELECTED OFFICIALS

<u>Board/Department</u>			<u>Position</u>	<u>Term Exp. Date</u>
Library Trustees	Ahearn	Andrea		5/2027
	Bernier	Pam		5/2028
	Biancuzzo	Kristen		5/2026
	Collins	Tracy		5/2028
	Hufnagle	Jessica		5/2028
	Labrie	Jennifer		5/2027
	McConnell	Jessica		5/2028
	McKeown	Carolyn		5/2028
	Nolan	Michelle		5/2028
	Pawlus	Amy		5/2026
	Saltmarsh	Linda		5/2026
	Stahl	Convy		5/2027
Park Commission	Badecker	Alice		5/2028
	Maak	Paula		5/2028
	Maak	Greg		5/2028
	Martin	Patrick		5/2027
	Mawdsley	Dylan	Chair	5/2027
Planning Board	Darnold	Mark		5/2028
	Diemand	Paul	Chair	5/2029
	Furgal	Paul		5/2027
	Johnson	Stephen		5/2027
	Labrie	James		5/2029
School Committee - HRHS	Barcomb	Carol Jean		5/2027
	Jennings	Geri		5/2026
	Wayson	Lori		5/2028
School Committee - Norris	Johnson	Jennifer		5/2027
	Larson	Margaret		5/2026
	Lumbra	Jon		5/2026
	Mawdsley	Dylan		5/2027
	Schott	Kimberley		5/2026

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: ELECTED OFFICIALS

<u>Board/Department</u>		<u>Position</u>	<u>Term Exp. Date</u>
Select Board	DeBruyn	Ellen	5/2027
	Fowles	Christine	5/2028
	Johnson	Stephen Thor	5/2026
	Lumbra	Jon	5/2027
Town Clerk	Dalton	Luci	5/2027
Interim Treasurer/Collector	Kane	Megan	5/2026
Town Moderator	Floyd	Robert	5/2026
Tree Warden	Laurin	Ronald	5/2026
Water Commission	Gaudet	Tim	5/2027
	Johnson	Stephen Thor	5/2028
	Kaniecki	Charles	5/2026

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: SELECT BOARD APPOINTMENTS

The following are the individuals serving in the appointed positions as of the Annual Town Report.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Term Expiration Date</u>
Agricultural Commission	Bashista	Thomas	Chair	6/2028
	Cowley	Steven		6/2027
	Fletcher	Robert		6/2028
	Kaniecki	Charles J.	Clerk	6/2026
	Kemp	Randall E.	Alternate	6/2026
By-Law Review Advisory Committee	Dalton	Lucille		6/2027
	Fowles	Christine		6/2026
	Seybolt	Taylor		6/2027
	Tishman	Francine M.	Chair	6/2026
Capital Improvement Committee	Hart	Sharon		6/2026
	Larson	Margaret		6/2026
	Lumbra	Jon		6/2027
Conservation Commission	Brosseau	Paul		6/2028
	Haley	Kathleen		6/2026
	Huff	Evan	Chair	6/2026
	Marcotte	Nicole		6/2027
	Ortiz	Hazel		6/2026
	Walden	Robin		6/2027
Council on Aging	Carrere	Stephen		6/2027
	Galvan	Sylvia		6/2026
	Janet	Cain	Vice Chair	6/2028
	Litturi	Dana		6/2027
	Lynn	Donna		6/2028
	Palmer	Ted	Chair	6/2026
	Seybolt	Susan	Secretary/Clerk	6/2028
	Vogel	Dennis		6/2026
Cultural Council	Braastad	Linda		6/2026
	Dalton	Lucille A.	Co-Chair	6/2028
	MaFadzen	Deana		6/2027
	Nadeau	Marjorie	Co-Chair	6/2026

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: SELECT BOARD APPOINTMENTS

<u>Position</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Term Expiration Date</u>
	Pawlus	Amy		6/2027
	Taylor	Judy		6/2026
	Zemba	Robert		6/2027
Election Officer	Grasty	Elizabeth		4/2026
	Hamel	Eileen		4/2026
	Hamel	Marion		4/2026
	Howard	Jane		4/2026
	Huntley	Bunny		4/2026
	Ingram	Kathy		4/2026
	Perrier	Joanne		4/2026
	Robinson	Mary		4/2026
	Seybolt	Susan		4/2026
	Smeidel	Stacey		4/2026
Election Officer – Town Meetings	Canton	Kristine		4/2026
Grant Committee, Ad Hoc	Bowman	Bruce		6/2026
	Fowles	Chris	Chair	6/2026
	Swistak-Rooks	Kaitlin		6/2027
Greenway	Alton	Amy		6/2028
	Alton	David		2/2028
	Brown	Janet		6/2028
	Buehler	Michael		6/2028
	Desrosiers	David		6/2028
	Kassis	Mark	Chair	6/2027
	Senghas	Ellen		6/2027
	Tauscher	Aaron		UC
Historical Commission	Corey	Thadeus		6/2027
	Dodds	Doric		6/2026
	Fisher	Charles		6/2028
	Grasty	Elizabeth		6/2027
	Kozub	Robert	Chair	6/2028
	Searle	Barry		6/2026

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: SELECT BOARD APPOINTMENTS

<u>Position</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Term Expiration Date</u>
Master Plan Implementation	Badecker	Alice		6/2028
	Fowles	Chris	Chair	6/2026
	Furgal	Paul		6/2027
	Madsen	Kristina		6/2026
	Simmons	Sierra		6/2026
Public Safety Building Committee	Darnold	Mark		6/2027
	Fasoli	Richard		6/2027
	Fowles	Chris	Chair	6/2026
	Illingsworth	Ian		6/2027
	Kaniecki	Charles		6/2026
	Madsen	Kristina		6/2026
	O'Shea	John		6/2026
	Palmer	Cindy		6/2026
Szczebak	Scott		6/2027	
PVPC	Diemand	Paul	Commissioner	6/2026
Registrars, Board of	Galvan	Sylvia	Chair	3/2027
	Kuroczko	MaryAnne		3/2028
	Walden	William		6/2028
Technology Committee, Ad Hoc	Breen	Daniel		6/2026
	LaValley	Daniel		6/2027
	Lawrence	Art		6/2027
	Neylon	Kurt		6/2028
	Rooks	David		6/2026
FCTA	Szczebak	Scott		2/2026
Veteran's Grave Officer	Wells	William		6/2026
Veterans' Service Officer	Murdock	Michele		6/2026

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: SELECT BOARD APPOINTMENTS

<u>Position</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Term</u> <u>Expiration Date</u>
Zoning Board of Appeals	Adamski	Karen	Chair	6/2025
	Geeleher	Ryan		6/2027
	Reed	Shanna		6/2026
	Zedonis-Kemp	Amanda		6/2027

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: TOWN EMPLOYEES

<u>Department/Office</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
Accounting	Okscin	Bradley	Town Accountant
	Kennedy	Thomas	Assistant Accountant
Assessors, Board of	Zagorski	David	Principal Assessor
	McKeown	Kathleen	Admin Assistant Assessor
Building Dept.	Laurin	Ronald	Building Commissioner
	Marek	Walter	Alternate
	Fischer	James	Electrical Inspector
	Mailloux	James	Alternate
	Sears	Tom	Plumbing & Gas Inspector
	Lawrence	Art	Volunteer
Conservation	Russell	George	Conservation Agent
Council on Aging	DiSanto	Kate	COA Director
	Connett	Pamela	Program Coordinator
	DiSanto	Kate	Shine/Outreach Coordinator
	Murdock	Michelle	Outreach Worker, Shine & VSO
	Barbouxis	Andrea	Volunteer Coordinator
	Matyoka	Darlene	Administrative Assistant
	Cole	Kenneth	Van Driver
	Huber	Tim	Van Driver
Clerk, Town	Dalton	Lucille	Town Clerk
	Woodard	Cynthia	Assistant Town Clerk
	Dubour	Mary	Volunteer
Fire Dept.	Fasoli	Richard	Fire Chief – EMT Basic
	Bedecker	Julie	Paramedic
	Benson	Kevin	Paramedic
	Binnall	Brian	Firefighter – Paramedic
	Blais	Brandon	Firefighter – EMT Basic
	Blomstrom	Richard	Captain – Paramedic
	Boudreau	Nathan	Firefighter – EMT Basic
	Braastad	Ethan	Firefighter – First Responder
	Bullock	Scott	Lieutenant - Paramedic
	Chenevert	Ryan	Paramedic
	Conway	John	Firefighter – EMT Basic
	Cotnoir	Keith	Firefighter - Paramedic

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: TOWN EMPLOYEES

<u>Department/Office</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
	Doppman	Alec	Firefighter – First Responder
	Eline	Patrick	Captain – Paramedic
	Favata	Gina	Paramedic
	Felix	Lawrence	Firefighter – EMT Basic
	Fisher	Ben	Firefighter Paramedic
	Gagnon	Kyle	Firefighter – Paramedic
	Garfield	Tyler	Paramedic
	Hatch	Russell	Firefighter – EMT Basic
	Kelly	Cheryl	Administrative Assistant
	Lang	Carey	Firefighter – EMT Basic
	Lipetri	Cassandra	Firefighter – EMT Basic
	Loiko	Eric	Firefighter – First Responder
	Malo	Jonathan	Firefighter – First Responder
	Martin	Dan	Paramedic
	McColgan	Kinnon	Firefighter – First Responder
	Mielke	William	Lieutenant – First Responder
	Miller	Benjamin	Firefighter - Paramedic
	Morales	Jose	Paramedic
	Morin	Leon	Paramedic
	Morris	Brian	Lieutenant - Paramedic
	Nalewanski	David	Firefighter – Paramedic
	O’Keefe	Cynthia	Captain - Paramedic
	O’Keefe	Tim	Firefighter – Paramedic
	Plantier	Jacqueline	Firefighter – First Responder
	Pouliot	Kyle	Firefighter – Paramedic
	Putnam	Tim	Paramedic
	Riel	Dean	Firefighter - Paramedic
	Rondeau	Kyle	Firefighter - Paramedic
	Rubner	Erika	Firefighter - Paramedic
	Rubner	Steven	Captain – First Responder
	Souza	Benjamin	EMT Basic
	Struthers	Tyler	Firefighter – Paramedic
	Struthers	Brennan	Firefighter - Paramedic
Health Dept.	Sarti	Claudia	Health Director
	Fletcher	Nicole	Animal Inspector
	Kaniecki	Charles	Health Agent
Highway Dept.	Kemp	Randall	Highway Superintendent
	Richard	Robin	Assistant to Hwy Superintendent

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: TOWN EMPLOYEES

<u>Department/Office</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
	Jarosz	Todd	Senior Foreman
	Cysz	David	Foreman
	Larochelle	Jeremy	HEO/Truck Driver
	Rejniak	Stephen	HEO/Truck Driver
	Hebert	Scott	HEO/Truck Driver
	Day	Patrick	Laborer
	Labrie	Jeremy	On-call Seasonal HEO/Truck Driver
	Labrie	Kevin	On-call Seasonal HEO/Truck Driver
	Pooler	Matthew	On-call Seasonal HEO/Truck Driver
	Nadeau	Colby	On-call Seasonal HEO/Truck Driver
	Craig	Mark	On-call Seasonal HEO/Truck Driver
	Henrichon	Nicholas	On-call Seasonal HEO/Truck Driver
	Dudek	Steven	Transfer Station Attendant
	Brouillard	Matthew	On-call Transfer Station Attendant
Library	Douglass	Johanna	Library Director
	LeClair	Andrea	Youth Librarian
	Shea	Lisa	Technical Services
	Munska	Emily	Circulation Services
	Goulet	Carol	Historical Resources
	Lacasse	Carol	Substitute
	Lussier	Cynthia	Substitute
	Thompson	Barbara	Substitute
	Hurd	Doris	Substitute
	Tirrell	Gina	Substitute
Police Dept.	Illingsworth	Ian	Chief of Police
	Angers	David	Officer
	Blais	Timothy	Officer
	Cook	Martin	Sergeant
	Goyette	Michael	RES PT Officer
	Holmes	Ryan	RES PT Officer
	Groeber	Mark	Lieutenant
	Hurley	Daniel	PT Officer
	Kelly	Cheryl	Administrative Assistant
	Lamb	Joshua	Officer
	Latour	David	Officer
	Neal	David	Detective Sergeant
	Parmeggiani	Marisa	Officer
	Rachmaciej	Dominic	Officer

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: TOWN EMPLOYEES

<u>Department/Office</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
	St. Martin	Robert	PT Officer
	Yon	Anthony	Officer
Town Administration	Szczebak	Scott	Town Administrator
	Zedonis	Judy	Administrative Assistant
	Wells	David	Custodian
Treasurer/Collector	Kane	Megan	Interim Treasurer/Collector
	Bolduc	Angela	Assistant Treasurer/Collector
	Nomakeo	Anne	Treasurer/Collector Clerk
Water Dept.	Simmons	Brett	Water Superintendent
	Richard	Robin	Admin Assistant
	Shepard	Andrew	Water Technician
	Panyko	Emeric	Water Technician

WHERE DO I GO FOR

Absentee Ballots	<i>Town Clerk's Office</i>
Bags for Transfer Station	<i>Transfer Station/Treasurer's Office</i>
Birth Certificates	<i>Town Clerk's Office</i>
Building Permits	<i>Building Department</i>
Burning Permits	<i>Fire Department</i>
Business Certificate	<i>Town Clerk's Office</i>
Death Certificates	<i>Town Clerk's Office</i>
Dog Licenses	<i>Town Clerk's Office</i>
Electrical Permit	<i>Building Department</i>
Fire Arms License	<i>Police Station</i>
Gas & Plumbing Permits	<i>Building Department</i>
Marriage License/Certificate	<i>Town Clerk's Office</i>
Municipal Lien Certificates	<i>Treasurer's Office</i>
Occupancy Certificate	<i>Building Department</i>
One-Day Liquor License	<i>Select Board Office</i>
Pay Excise Tax	<i>Treasurer's Office</i>
Pay Property Taxes	<i>Treasurer's Office</i>
Pay Water Bill	<i>Treasurer's Office</i>
Permit/License Fees (General)	<i>Town Website/Specific Department</i>
Raffle/Bazaar Permits	<i>Town Clerk's Office</i>
Register to Vote	<i>Town Clerk's Office</i>
Senior Tax Incentive	<i>Council on Aging</i>
Septic System	<i>Board of Health</i>
Tax Abatement Filing	<i>Assessor's Office</i>
Transfer Station Sticker	<i>Transfer Station</i>

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Southampton Open Space and Recreation Plan Update

The Agricultural Commission reviewed the plan for renewal through 2028, including the following goals.

- Protect Southampton’s remaining agricultural lands, promote local farming, and create opportunities for residents to become involved in local agriculture.
- Develop a public outreach strategy to support agricultural activity.
- Meet with property owners to explain the importance of farmland and available preservation options. Coordinate these efforts with the community’s prioritized list of key open space parcels for acquisition.
- Work with farmers and develop marketing materials to promote agriculture in Southampton.
- Develop educational materials and hold public meetings to stimulate consciousness about agriculture and the tools available to protect it.

MDAR: Agricultural Commission Roundtable Meeting - Hampshire & Franklin Counties

Steven Cowley attended this meeting, attended by representatives of 15 other Agricultural Commissions, and gained knowledge of best practices and ideas to bring back to our commission. This included outreach to build membership, opportunities for landowners to preserve farmland, and ways the Commission can help promote agriculture in Southampton.

Respectfully submitted,
Steven Cowley

ALMONERS

In the April 1881 Southampton Town meeting, members voted to establish a committee to receive the bequest of Whiting Street and to disburse funds according to his will. These funds were to go to Southampton residents in need of financial assistance. This was the beginning of the town Almoners Board. Soon after, the wills of Harriet Chapman and Lydia Searle also gifted funds to the Almoners. These three generous people's charity formed the trust funds that is the principal of today's Almoner's aid.

The Almoner's board is made up of four elected town residents tasked with responding to requests from residents for financial assistance. After confidential discussion, a one-time support may be offered to assist with emergency needs such as rent, utilities and unexpected bills. Funds go to invoices and not directly to the applicant.

Following the rules established in the late 1800's, the principal is kept at all times and interest income is expended from these funds. Donations received by the Almoners today can be fully expensed and are greatly appreciated.

Donations may be sent directly to the Treasurer's office at the Southampton Town Hall with a note to allocate your contribution to the Almoners. Please spread the word about the Almoners.

Inquiries can be made by contacting Town officials or through almoners@townofsouthampton.org.

Respectfully submitted,
The Almoner's Board

ASSESSORS, BOARD OF

The Board of Assessors works to deliver fair and equitable assessments on all real and personal property within the Town of Southampton. Fiscal Year 2025 (July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025) was an interim adjustment year for property values as mandated by Massachusetts General Laws and in compliance with standards set forth by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR).

An assessment is the value placed upon all real and personal property for the purpose of local property taxation. An analysis of market conditions along with the assessment level and uniformity must be performed annually as of January 1 whether for the 5-year certification or for an interim year adjustment.

The Board met on November 12, 2024 with the Select Board to discuss consideration of a split tax rate. The Board of Assessors provided information and recommendations regarding the annual determination. In FY25, the Board of Assessors recommended against the split rate because its adoption could further dampen any new business coming to Southampton. Splitting the tax rate would not have increased revenue for the town, but shifted the tax burden to the commercial, industrial and personal property base which makes up only 6.54% of the total revenue for the town.

TAX RATE

The Board of Assessors signed the Tax Rate Recapitulation form for FY25 on December 16, 2024, showing a single tax rate of \$14.17, a decrease from FY24 of \$14.25. The rate was reviewed and approved by the Department of Revenue, Bureau of Accounts on December 18, 2024.

FY 2025 TAX RATE RECAPITULATION

(A) Class	(B) Levy %	(C) Levy by Class	(D) Valuation Class	(E) Tax Rate (C)-(D) x1000 (A)
Residential	93.454 %	\$14,439,310.63	\$1,019,006,312.00	\$14.17
Open Space	0.000 %	0.00	0.00	0.00
Commercial	3.2941 %	\$508,960.35	\$35,917,888.00	\$14.17
Industrial	0.734 %	\$113,531.48	\$8,011,900.00	\$14.17
Personal Prop.	2.516 %	\$388,862.33	\$27,442,503.00	\$14.17
TOTAL:	100.00%		\$1,090,378,603.00	*****

The average value for single family homes for FY25 was \$433,171.

ASSESSORS, BOARD OF

The Board of Assessors is comprised of two members, Linda Green (Chair), and Kimberly Kuplast (Clerk). There was a vacancy for much of the year. The office staff consists of David Zagorski (Principal Assessor) and Kathy McKeown (Administrative Assessor). The Assessors also used the consulting services of Roy Bishop. Roy aided the assessor's department with reviewing and reassessing commercial properties in town.

The office uses Vision Government Solutions for their CAMA (Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal) program to analyze and determine assessments. The office also utilizes VADAR, a data software shared with other Town offices such as the Tax Collector.

The Board of Assessors met for much of 2025 every other week. Board activities associated with these meetings are summarized in the following report. Details on the information in this report can be found in the minutes of the Board of Assessors meetings.

REAL & PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX

Commitments & Warrants

The Board signed FY25 property tax commitments and water/sewer, septic betterment Warrants for the following:

Real Estate Tax	\$ 15,061,806.33
CPA	\$ 343,350.22
Personal Property	\$ 388,860.30
Water Liens	\$ 10,660.84
Septic Betterments	\$ 5,562.89
Holyoke Gas & Electric Liens	\$ 506.19
Supplemental Assessments	\$ 14,377.91
Supplemental CPA Assessments	\$ 444.67
PILOT (s) Totaling	\$ 72,587.41

Abatements

The Board granted \$23,119.77 in Real Estate Tax abatements, \$687.60 in CPA abatements and \$664.79 in Personal Property Exemptions.

Personal Exemptions

The Board granted the following Personal Exemptions:

<u>Clause</u>	<u>Total # Granted</u>	<u>Amount Exempted</u>
Clause 17D-Senior/Surv. Spouse	12	\$ 2,100.00
Clause 18-Hardship	1	\$ 1,000.00
Clause 22-Veteran 10% or more Disabled	40	\$ 16,000.00
Clause 22E-100% Disabled Veteran	24	\$ 4,000.00
Clause 41C-Senior	6	\$ 6,000.00
Clause 22C-Veteran w/ Spec Adapted Hs	2	\$ 3,000.00
Clause 22D-Veteran Widow/Widower	9	\$ 46,211.22
Clause 37A-Blind	6	\$ 3,000.00

ASSESSORS, BOARD OF

Senior Work-Off

Five residents of the Town of Southampton took part in the Senior Work-Off Program and, combined, received \$6,547.50 in Real Estate tax abatements.

MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX

Commitments/Warrants

Motor Vehicle Excise Tax commitments for the following totals for FY25 were signed by the Board.

FY25 Motor Vehicle Tax: \$1,123,214.01

Abatements

The following figures are the total amounts of motor vehicle and boat excise tax abatements for July 2024 through June 2025 that were signed by the Board.

<u>MOTOR VEHICLE ABATEMENTS</u>	
2021	\$195.63
2023	\$113.88
2024	\$11,411.53
2025	\$20,049.31

The Assessor's Office is open Monday thru Thursday 9AM to - 4PM. The phone number for the Assessor's office is 413-527-4741, and email is boardofassessors@townofsouthampton.org. The Board of Assessors would like to remind the public that most of the information in our office is public and available on our Town's website at www.townofsouthampton.org under "Government" and "Departments" or "Finance."

The Board of Assessors is pleased to represent the Town of Southampton as an elected board and self-governing body, and we strive to treat all taxpayers fairly and equitably during our tenure.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Green, Chair

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Building Department Activity Summary – Calendar Year 2025

Permit Activity:

- Building Permits: 320
- Sign Permits: 9
- Sheet Metal Permits: 7
- Electrical Permits: 201

Total Permits Issued: 537

A building permit is required under the State Building Code for the construction, alteration, repair, removal, or demolition of any building or structure, as well as for any change in occupancy. If there is any uncertainty as to whether a project requires a permit, applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the Building Department prior to commencing work.

Permit applications are available at Town Hall during regular office hours or may also be obtained online at:

<https://permitlinkusa-online.com/csp/southampton/DocumentLink.PublicWelcome.cls>

The Building Commissioner's Office is open Monday through Thursday from 6:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Assistance with completing permit applications is available by calling 413-529-1007.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Laurin
Building Commissioner
Town of Southampton

BYLAW REVIEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Bylaw Review Advisory Committee continued its work to draft new bylaws or update existing General Bylaws by recommending language amendments in response to requests from town departments or committees.

During the year, the Attorney General's office approved the amendments to bylaws presented at the March 2025 Special Town Meeting. These were: Town Meeting and Election Dates, Swimming Pool Safety and Naming of Public Buildings, Structures and Lands. Additional amendments to the Finance Committee and the Personnel, Policy and Procedures Board bylaws were approved at a December Special Town Meeting. Finally, voters at the May 2025 Annual Town meeting approved some language changes to the Wetlands bylaw.

The committee researched other town's bylaws and began drafting a new Scenic Roads bylaw for Southampton that will be proposed to voters in 2026.

All of the General Bylaws (and Zoning Bylaws) are now easily findable and word-searchable on the Town's website having been codified and posted to the ECode 360 system.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Fowles

CEMETERY COMMISSION

The 2025 fiscal year was a busy one for the Cemetery Commission. A near disaster was miraculously avoided in the West Part Cemetery when a very large tree fell and landed between about ten ancient stones. What could have been a dangerous and destructive situation was averted by fate, and only a small corner of one of the aging, brittle markers was damaged. With help from an anonymous friend of the cemetery, the large branches were trimmed off and the trunk removed, saving hundreds of years of history carved into the gravestones.

More work needs to be done in the West Part Cemetery to prevent another such calamity. We have requested funds from the Capital Improvement Committee to remove half a dozen dangerous trees that are rotting, leaning, or both. Issues addressed in the project are: a standing dead tree, a fallen dead tree, a leaning tree in the corner, a tree half snapped off, and a triple-trunked tree, which had caused the dangerous fall mentioned above.

The Commission participated in the town's 250th Celebration with a talk about the West Part Cemetery titled "The Wild, Wild West," presented to a full house at the Council on Aging in September. A group effort, it was researched and presented by Judith Miller Conlin, and supported with a slideshow created and edited by Robert Floyd and Patricia Crutchfield depicting many of the gravestones, as well as overviews of the area and photos of research materials. The West Part Cemetery is the resting place of many of the town's earliest settlers, including the Searle, Burt, Clark, and Parsons clans. The talk explored many spirited stories of their lives, and questions were welcomed at the end.

In the Center Cemetery, we are dealing with a wooden fence at the rear of sections 8 and 9, which has rotted out after many years of service. With new funding, we can remove the old pine fencing and replace it with sturdy Black Locust split rails, which will last much longer. In addition, some of the new wooden fences will replace sections of the historic cast iron fencing from the north side, which was used to repair/replace fencing damaged by a tree that fell in a storm and crushed an area along the College Highway frontage.

We have worked closely with the Town Administrator to secure funding through the Capital Improvement Committee for a project to transfer all of our handwritten and mapping records to a digital format. When complete, the records will be in a far more functional and streamlined arrangement and will be made available through the website to the public for research and information. We have chosen CIMS Cemetery Software as our provider and digital support group, and we will be entering the information ourselves, at a substantial savings to the town.

Center Cemetery is at near maximum usage of space. The Commission has requested consideration for a sorely needed two-acre section at 0 College Highway to accommodate the anticipated growth of the town and the need to provide for the state-mandated availability of burial space for the town's inhabitants.

We have been asked to provide a 5-year Capital Plan. This is a new undertaking for us, made more challenging by the necessity for us to anticipate future needs while responding to the inevitable unforeseen events and emergencies in a timely and efficient manner.

CEMETERY COMMISSION

We have determined our priorities to be: Cemetery expansion, tree maintenance, gravestone repair and restoration, and the above mentioned digitizing of historic records. In addition, we face the issue of erosion from a blowout near the northwest corner of Section 11, where water from the town's water runoff pipe from Pomeroy Meadow Road (which runs under sections 9 and 10) has created a deep ravine in an area abutting the cemetery property. The rains in 2023 sped damage to the fractured pipe and destabilized the bank, worsening the problem. The town will need to hire heavy equipment to address the situation and to prevent irreparable damage. As a cautionary measure, we have blocked off some 20 gravesites from being sold in Section 11, further exacerbating the problem of providing adequate burial space to residents.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Miller Conlin, Chair

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

In 2025, the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) recommended the following projects for Community Preservation Act funds, which were then approved by town meeting vote.

CPA Projects Approved at March 22, 2025 Special Town Meeting

- Project Title: Historic Preservation of First Congregational Church of Southampton
Amount Funded: \$15,000
Description: to preserve this historic building by installing three heat pumps in the portion of the church used by the public for community activities
- Funded From: Historic Preservation
Project Status as of 2025 year-end: Project completed.

CPA Projects Approved at May 6, 2025 Annual Town Meeting

- Project Title: Grant Match for Greenway Design
Amount Funded: \$66,000
Description: to the Greenway Committee for the purpose of matching funds from the 2025 Mass Trails Grant program for Phase 4 of the Southampton Greenway bicycle and pedestrian path design and engineering.
Funded From: Open Space/Recreation
Project Status as of 2025 year-end: The MassTrails grant was secured, project is still in progress.
- Project Title: 68 Pomeroy Meadow Road bond payment for water protection
Amount Funded: \$49,750
Description: To pay down the bond taken by Southampton to Protect Water resources in the town.
Funded From: Open Space Reserve
Project Status: The original bond was taken on in 2019 and bond payments will be completed in 2030.

CPA Projects Approved at December 6, 2025 Special Town Meeting

- Project Title: Fee Acquisition of Property at Rattle Hill Road Rear (Reimbursement)
Amount Funded: \$50,000
Description: to acquire in fee and protect with a conservation restriction 40 acres of land (Tax Map 12, Lot 10) under the custody of the Southampton Conservation Commission. These funds will be reimbursed in full from Kestrel Land Trust or other sources. This lot is adjacent to previously designated conservation land. Recommended by Open Space Committee and Conservation Commission.
Funded From: Undesignated
Project Status as of 2025 year-end: In Progress
- Project Title: Fee Acquisition of Property at Fomer Road (Partial Reimbursement)
Amount Funded: \$426,900
Description: to acquire in fee and protect with a conservation restriction 27 acres of land (all or part of Tax Map 27, Lots 3 and 23) under the custody of the Southampton Conservation Commission. These funds will be reimbursed in the amount of \$281,754 by a Local Acquisition for Natural Diversity (LAND) Grant, making the total CPA funding amount \$145,146. This will preserve Southampton's iconic landscapes, wildlife habitat, and public recreation, adjacent to previously designated conservation land. Permanent protection of this land will formally open a large area to recreational activities.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Funded From: Open Space, Undesignated

Project Status as of 2025 year-end: In Progress

- Project Title: Fee Acquisition of Property at Glendale Road

Amount Funded: \$50,000

Description: to acquire in fee and protect with a conservation restriction 2.39 acres of land (Tax Map 19, Lot 11A) under the custody of the Southampton Conservation Commission. This lot is adjacent to previously designated conservation land; permanent protection of this land will formally open the property to recreational activities.

Funded From: Undesignated

Project Status as of 2025 year-end: In Progress

- Project Title: PARC Grant Match for Conant Park Improvements (Partial Reimbursement)

Amount Funded: \$150,000

Description: to install a walking path and spray pad within Conant Park. These funds will be reimbursed in the amount of \$99,000 by a PARC Grant, making the total CPA funding amount \$51,000

Funded From: Undesignated

Project Status as of 2025 year-end: In Progress

Additional CPC Activities in 2025

The CPC updated its written Community Preservation Annual Plan, which was published in draft form, discussed at CPC annual public hearing in March, and finalized by committee vote. The Annual Plan is available on the CPC webpage. The CPC undertook a review of previously funded CPA projects with remaining account balances to determine which funds should be returned to CPA reserves.

Respectfully submitted,
Community Preservation Committee

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Wetland Protection

The Conservation Commission’s authority for protecting wetlands and waterways comes from the Wetlands Protection Act (MGL Chapter 131 section 40) and the Town’s Wetlands Protection Bylaw. In 2025, the Conservation Commission scheduled 21 meetings, and one was cancelled due to a lack of a quorum. All meetings were held via Zoom. In addition to the meetings, site visits were arranged with property owners and/or their representatives to view the properties. Building permit applications were reviewed to determine if the locations were jurisdictional or not and accordingly signed by the Conservation Commission. Queries from residents were addressed.

As part of its responsibilities, the Commission worked closely with many other boards and Town departments. Commission members and Associates held seats on the Community Preservation Committee, Master Plan Implementation Committee, and Open Space Committee.

Brad Brouseau joined the Commission as a full member in 2025. The Commission needs two new members, and anyone interested should contact the Commission Chair, the Commission’s Agent or the Town Administrator.

The Commission had submitted a request for modifications to the existing wetlands by-law to bring the by-law into greater compliance with the state statute and regulations and to clear up some legal inconsistencies. These changes were approved at town meeting and were recently approved by the State Attorney General’s office.

The Commission has gone on record requesting the “Mass Ready Act” be approved and implemented. This Act will update outdated information in the Wetlands Protection Act and the DEP regulations to administer the act.

The Commission’s and agent’s activity for 2025 is shown in the table below. This table does not include the field inspections conducted on a regular basis for pending, approved, under construction or finished projects.

COMMISSION ACTIVITY	2025
Order of Conditions	4
Order of Conditions amendment	1
Order of Conditions Extension	1
Certificate of Completion	3
Request for Determination of Eligibility	11
Emergency Order	3
Enforcement Order	2
Investigations	43
Stop Work Order/Notice of Violation	3
Tree Permits	3
Chapter 61 Reviews/Recommendations	1
Forest Cutting Plans reviewed	2

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Conservation Lands – Stewardship Program

The Conservation Commission is specifically charged with the protection of the community's natural resources in the Conservation Commission Act (MGL Chapter 40 section 8C).

Volunteer work: Commission members and associates, Friends of Southampton Open Space, and other members of the community, most notably the Southampton Trailblazers, helped to maintain trails by clearing fallen trees and branches and rebuilding stream crossings. Old fencing was removed from the Clark Family Homestead and Clearwater Woodland Conservation Area and a storm damaged bridge removed from the Nancy Whittemore Area off of Meadow Rd.

Manhan Meadows Sanctuary, 48 East Street: The Hazel Young Trail was rerouted and improved using funding from a MassTrails Grant and Community Preservation Act funds. The Chapter 91 license was received from the state for the bridge over the Manhan River. Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) funds were used on an ecological enhancement project to create and implement invasive species controls and an ecological restoration plan for the area.

Clark Family Homestead: Permits have been submitted for a bridge over a stream in the area and when completed the bridge will allow completion of the walking trail.

Conservation Restrictions: CR monitoring reports were received for the Wolf Hill Sanctuary, Riggs, and Red Brook Estates CRs. Issues raised in these reports have been investigated and are in the process of being resolved.

Respectfully submitted,
Evan Huff, Chair

COUNCIL ON AGING

The Southamptton Council on Aging and Senior Center provides information, referrals, Medicare/SHINE counseling, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Low Income Heat and Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and housing application assistance, transportation, activities, and socialization opportunities to the 60+ population in Southamptton, Massachusetts. There is no financial cost to become a member of the Southamptton Senior Center and individuals of the surrounding communities are welcome to attend all Southamptton Senior Center activities, events, and resource options. The Senior Center is open to the public Monday - Thursday from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Franklin Regional Transit Authority (FRTA) van rides are wheelchair accessible and available Monday - Friday from 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

In 2025, the Senior Center saw a 20% increase in attendance in comparison to 2024, which is attributed to our more than 65 different program offerings, 865 Highland Valley Elder Services meal distributions, 1264 trips on the FRTA van, and more than 3220 documented volunteer hours at the Senior Center and off-site COA activities. New programs in 2025 were our Stroke Education Class with Baystate Noble Hospital, a six-week Falls Prevention Series with Cooley Dickinson Hospital, an ice cream social, a “Paint and Sip,” an Elder Law Education presentation in conjunction with the Massachusetts Bar Association, and a Scams and Fraud Education presentation by the Northwestern District Attorney’s Office, among others. Participants of the TRIAD initiatives once again increased in 2025. These programs and services include Sand for Seniors, house numbering program, lock boxes, the Resident Reassurance Program, durable medical equipment lending program, and Winter Wellness Checks. Thanks to the organization and participation of volunteers and members of our community, we were proud to host a Back-to-School Supply Drive for Norris Elementary School teachers and students, as well as a Winter Clothes and Coat Drive for Norris Elementary and Hampshire Regional High School students.

The Council on Aging experienced three main staffing updates in 2025. Michelle Murdock was hired as the Outreach Worker in March and became a certified SHINE/Medicare counselor by the fall Medicare open enrollment period. Due to the growth in attendance, program offerings, and needs of the COA, we were approved to increase the hours of Pamela Connett, Program Coordinator, from 14 to 18 hours per week, and Andrea Barouxis, Volunteer Coordinator, from 10 to 14 hours per week. In my role as Director, I continued to provide individual public benefits and Medicare counseling, SNAP, LIHEAP, and housing application assistance. One-on-one counseling services, new programming opportunities, and enhanced volunteer engagement are some of our most appreciated resources by our local community, and these highlights were enhanced and supported by the increase in staffing hours and vacancy filled by the outreach worker position.

In FY25, the Southamptton Council on Aging applied for and secured a “Senior Center Modernization” Service Incentive Grant (SIG) totaling \$19,464, funded by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs through the Massachusetts Councils on Aging. This grant award approved the purchase of an outdoor storage shed in the fall of 2024. Additional purchases were made in the spring of 2025. These purchases included permanent outdoor signage for the Senior Center, accessible outdoor garden beds, accessible outdoor furniture, a portable digital display, a looping system for hearing aids, and moveable partitions for overlapping programming. In FY26, we secured a second “Senior Center Modernization” Service Incentive Grant totaling \$5,900, also

COUNCIL ON AGING

funded by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs through the Massachusetts Councils on Aging. In the first half of FY26, July 1 – December 31, 2025, the Senior Center was able to purchase an ADA accessible water bubbler, furniture for a converted conference room including a table, chairs, two storage cabinets and printer, as well as new kitchen trash receptacle and storage solutions for programming materials. In the second half of FY26, the COA plans to purchase Dementia-friendly signage for installation throughout the Senior Center, additional organizational materials for programming, and sound-absorbing panels to assist with acoustic issues within the Senior Center.

The Southampton COA continued to receive its primary programming and supplemental salary funding from the Massachusetts State Formula Grant. State Formula Grant awards are calculated using a payment rate established for the fiscal year by the General Appropriations Act. For half of FY25, January 1 – June 30, 2025, Massachusetts Councils on Aging were awarded \$15 per person for residents aged 60 and over, for a partial Southampton distribution of \$14,362.50. For the first half of FY26, July 1 – December 31, 2025, Massachusetts Councils on Aging were awarded \$16 per person, for a total of \$15,320. The State Formula Grant distribution in 2025 totaled \$29,682.50 and provided partial funding for the Volunteer Coordinator and Program Coordinator salaries, programming and performance costs, class instructor fees, programming and office supplies, food, and event support for the annual Volunteer Luncheon and Awards Ceremony, monthly Memory Cafés, and the Town of Southampton Veteran's Day Appreciation Brunch. Our programming in 2025 also benefited from Cultural Council grants awarded in 2024 for the 2025 calendar year. The Friends of the Southampton Council on Aging assisted with more than \$4,400 in funding throughout 2025, and included membership dues, technology fees, kitchen, and event supplies, along with food and water for Senior Center. Thanks to a fall budget amendment by Senator John Velis, the Southampton COA was notified of an FY26 Earmark totaling \$25,000 for “Programming and Improvements” through the Executive Office of Aging and Independence.

Our Boards and Committees worked diligently to support the current and future needs of Southampton residents and the Senior Center. These groups include the Southampton Council on Aging Board, the Friends of the Southampton Council on Aging (FOSCOA), and the Senior Center Building Committee. Through monthly meetings, special events including the monthly Friends of the Southampton Council on Aging luncheons, and time dedicated to volunteering at the Senior Center, our board members and Senior Center volunteers contributed immeasurably to the positive environment and community that has made the Senior Center a special and welcoming place to be.

Our 2026 goals are to continue growing our impact and services for the Southampton population, expanding outreach efforts, and continuing to research and apply for additional grants and funding sources to better support our efforts. We will continue to work on increasing membership, visibility, and diverse programming opportunities, and are grateful for the support of our members, the Town of Southampton, and the surrounding community.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate DiSanto, Director & SHINE Counselor

YEAR IN REVIEW

OUR MISSION: The Southampton Senior Center and Council on Aging (COA) provides information, referrals, Medicare/SHINE counseling, SNAP, LIHEAP and housing application assistance, transportation, activities, and socialization opportunities to the 60+ population in Southampton, Massachusetts. There is no cost to become a member of the Senior Center and individuals of the surrounding communities are welcome to attend all Southampton Senior Center activities, events, and resource options.

Senior Center Activities & Participation

70	20%	65
New members joined the Southampton Senior Center	Percentage increase in attendance since 2024	Different program offerings available throughout 2025

865	1264	3220
# of Highland Valley Elder Services meals distributed	Number of rides/trips by the Franklin Regional Transit Authority van	Documented volunteer hours

External Funding & Grants Awarded: \$84,446.50

The Southampton Senior Center/COA is grateful for the grant opportunities and financial support of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA), the Massachusetts Councils on Aging (MCOA), and the Town of Southampton. These grant funds reflect FY25 and FY26 dedicated awards.

Fund/Grant Name:	Total Funds:	Funded/Awarded By:
2025 Friends of the Southampton COA	\$4,400	Friends of the Southampton COA
FY26 Earmark for Senior Center	\$25,000	EOEA/Senator John Velis
FY25 Senior Center Modernization Grant	\$19,464	EOEA/MCOA
FY26 Senior Center Modernization Grant	\$5,900	EOEA/MCOA
2025 State Formula Grant Funds	\$29,682.50	EOEA

EDUCATION: CENTRAL OFFICE ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

Dear Families, Stakeholders and Community Members:

After one year as the superintendent of the Five Districts (Chesterfield-Goshen, Hampshire, Southampton, Westhampton, and Williamsburg), I learned that the students, teachers, principals and schools share a united vision:

- Empower students to be capable and confident and prepared to meet the challenges of life;
- Create a supportive and respectful environment that fosters cooperation, critical thinking, and creativity;
- Encourage our students to explore opportunities that develop the knowledge and skills needed to be life-long learners and responsible participants in society.

We focus on Communication, Collaboration, Community, and Compassion:

- With effective **communication**, we will ensure transparency and provide platforms for discourse with all;
- Through **collaboration** we will learn, grow, and move forward positively;
- In a cohesive **community** we will support our learners and educators and make the Five Districts the place to be;
- Finally, with **compassion** we will put in place excellent instruction, effective programs and amazing schools that adhere to MA General Law, follow District Policies and implement best practices.

Over the course of the past School Year the Central Office developed a strong and capable team in order to support and provide resources for our stakeholders. The task at times was challenging, but it was hugely important because of the turnover of former administrative leaders. We reframed the challenge into an opportunity to build and develop a team that shares a “student-centered” philosophy, adheres to a positive attitude, and models a Growth-mindset. We accomplished the task, and the Central office Team (COT) is in place and operating optimally to move the Five Districts forward towards our short and long term goals. The COT includes:

- Vito Perrone, Superintendent of Schools
- Michael Fredette, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment
- Amy Drake, Director of Pupil Services
- Dawn Scaparotti, Business Administrator

As we worked to establish transparency, recover trust, and re-build shared understanding, we communicated goals that were cohesively aligned with two of the four Strategic Objectives from the 2022-2027 Strategic Plan: 1) Build Positive School Culture and 2) Grow Intra-District Partnerships and Regional Efficiency. The former because the input received from stakeholders, principals, and educators indicated a need for significant improvement and performance at the Central Office; the latter because Chair people of the various school committees informed us that ineffective partnerships and rampant inefficiencies had to be redressed. The outcomes intended, simply stated, are the creation of positive school cultures and enhanced intra-district partnerships and regional decision-making processes across the Five Districts. The framework for the outcomes

EDUCATION: CENTRAL OFFICE ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

rested on our student learning goal (SLG), professional practice goal (PPG) and two district improvement goals (DIG 1 and DIG 2):

- **Student Learning Goal- Create a culture of support for stakeholders by establishing communication systems to regularly provide information, resources, and platforms for feedback and input;**
- **Professional Practice Goal- Establish the use of a consistent evaluation system to monitor educator practice, provide relevant feedback, and encourage substantive reflection and adjustment to practice;**
- **District Improvement Goal 1- Central Office and Site-based Leadership Teams organized and Implemented an Instructional Leadership Team Goal focused on Instructional Core Learning Visits at our five schools;**
- **District Improvement Goal 2- Build an efficient and effective Fiscal System in order to generate a budget that meets the needs of the Districts’ students, teachers, principals, programs, and schools while concurrently assessing and redressing mistakes, issues, and problems in prior fiscal years.**

As we look ahead, the Five Districts remain steadfast in our shared commitment to strong schools, supported educators, engaged families, and—above all—confident, capable students. This year demanded focus, collaboration, and a willingness to rebuild systems and relationships with honesty and care. Thanks to the dedication of our Central Office Team, our principals, our educators, and our community, we have made meaningful progress toward restoring trust, strengthening culture, and aligning our work with the long-term vision set forth in the Strategic Plan.

We will continue to refine communication, deepen partnerships, and advance instructional excellence across all five districts. Our goals remain clear: to ensure transparent operations, foster positive school environments, and deliver high-quality learning experiences that prepare every student for their future.

I am grateful for the support and engagement of our families, School Committees, town officials, and community members. Together, we have laid a strong foundation for the years ahead. I look forward with optimism and resolve as we continue this important work —united in purpose, and centered on what matters most: the success and well-being of our students.

Respectfully submitted,
Vito Perrone
Superintendent of Schools

EDUCATION – HAMPSHIRE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Enrollment

As of October 1, 2025, Hampshire Regional High School enrolled 728 students, continuing the steady post-pandemic increases seen over the last several years. This year's enrollment represents one of the highest totals since 2020. In a region where many districts continue to experience declining enrollment, Hampshire Regional's sustained post-pandemic growth reflects family confidence in our academic program, school culture, and regional collaboration.

Enrollment by Town

- Chesterfield: 29
- Goshen: 31
- Southampton: 304
- Westhampton: 74
- Williamsburg: 96
- Worthington (tuition agreement): 30
- School Choice/Other Tuition Agreement: 194

Enrollment by Grade

- Grade 7: 129
- Grade 8: 138
- Grade 9: 132
- Grade 10: 120
- Grade 11: 109
- Grade 12+: 100

Academics

Our academic program remained strong throughout 2025, with continued emphasis on rigorous instruction, student engagement, and curriculum alignment.

Curriculum Enhancements

Several significant curricular additions went into effect this year. These curricular enhancements were implemented through thoughtful planning, professional development, and the leadership of our existing staff, allowing the school to expand opportunities for students while remaining fiscally responsible.

- The *CommonLit 360* curriculum was launched in our middle school English Language Arts classrooms, supported by professional development and planning throughout the year.
- *English Foundations*, a new high school ELA course, began its first full year.
- New science electives, including *Engineering Design* and *Environmental Chemistry*, expanded opportunities in STEM.
- A new artificial intelligence policy was adopted in conjunction with updated academic integrity procedures.

Advanced Coursework, Recognitions, and Achievement

HRHS continued to maintain a high level of participation in Advanced Placement courses with strong performance across test subjects. 98 students took a total of 155 AP exams and 87% of

EDUCATION – HAMPSHIRE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

students scored a 3 or higher (out of 5) on at least one exam. 17 students earned the highest possible score of 5 on a total of 23 exams, including senior Augustus Niswonger who scored a 5 on all of his exams.

26 seniors received the John & Abigail Adams Scholarship for outstanding MCAS achievement. The following students from Southampton earned this scholarship which provides four years of tuition at UMass, Massachusetts state universities, or Massachusetts community colleges: Joe Breguet, Parker Christy, Gabe Couture, Joe Moro, Caitlyn Packey, Evie Palmer, Owen Roch, Avery Tudryn, and Lila Watkins.

Two seniors, Eamonn Hillenbrand and Lucy McVey were named National Merit Commended Students from College Board based on their outstanding performance on the PSAT and/or AP exams. One senior from Southampton, Parker Christy, earned both the School Recognition Award and the Rural and Small-Town Recognition Award from College Board.

In November, 38 juniors and seniors were inducted into the HRHS Academic Society, recognizing academic excellence, leadership, and community service. The induction ceremony featured a keynote from Dr. Thomas Cleary, Jr. and was led by the student leaders of Academic Society, including Ella Cleary, Alexandra Henrichon, Jayden Hamel, and Lila Watkins (Southampton). The following students from Southampton were inducted: Alyssa Barcomb, Parker Christy, Ryanne Dubay, Rachael Hickox, Holly Kowalczyk, Maggie Lashway, Madelyn Layman, Addison Miklasiewicz, Shayne Moynahan, Catalina Ocampo, Caitlyn Packey, Vanessa Reese, Brielle Stine, and Sophia Tremblay.

Athletics and Co-curriculars

Involvement in athletics and co-curricular activities remained a cornerstone of our school community.

Athletics

251 students participated in fall sports in 2025. This includes cross country, field hockey, soccer, golf, gymnastics, football and cheer (both cooperative sports with Easthampton). Numerous fall sports teams qualified for postseason play, with the most notable performance coming from our cross country team. Both girls and boys cross country won the state sectional races in Devens, and both teams then placed fourth overall in the state at the state championship!

In the spring, 220 students participated in athletics, including baseball, softball, track and field, girls lacrosse, unified track, and boys lacrosse (cooperative sport with Northampton). The girls softball team continued their tradition with another extremely successful season, eventually winning the Western Mass Championship.

The 2024-2025 winter season saw 176 students participating in sports, including basketball, indoor track, wrestling, cheerleading, alpine skiing, cross country skiing (cooperative sport with Mohawk), girls ice hockey (cooperative sport with Longmeadow), and boys ice hockey and swimming (both cooperative sports with Easthampton).

EDUCATION – HAMPSHIRE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

In May of 2025, several seniors from the class of 2025 committed to collegiate athletics across multiple sports: Elijah Picard (soccer), Mary Thibault (field hockey), Chloe Moynihan (field hockey), and CC Thayer (softball).

Performing & Visual Arts

The spring musical, *Something Rotten*, was a tremendous success. In total, 52 students participated in the cast and crew. Co-directors Myka Plunkett and Nicole Tripp did a wonderful job preparing our talented and dedicated students for the three performances in March.

The spring play, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, involved 42 cast and crew members and showcased exceptional talent. The show was directed by seniors Benji Marconi and Georgia Frazier and was supported by advisors Mike Braidman and Nicole Tripp. The fall play was a creative take on *Macbeth* with 33 students participating in this blackbox production. *Macbeth* was a wonderful production and was engaging and polished!

2025 also brought back the HRHS Variety Show which featured student and staff performances. The audience was treated to an evening of songs, dance, comedy, and even jump-roping. Music and Arts Night was held in May and featured an art gallery and concert with performances from the chorus, chamber singers, and Insingeraiders.

Student Council & School Spirit

In April, Student Council and Academic Society ran our second annual dodgeball tournament in honor of Mia Sgueglia, Hampshire's occupational therapist who passed away in 2024. December Spirit Week and spirit rallies brought joyful energy to the building.

In December, Student Council continued the tradition of spirit days, culminating in spirit rallies on the half day before winter vacation! Instead of the traditional spirit week, Student Council planned the 12 Days of Hampshire Spirit which featured some unique spirit days including Adam Sandler Day, Twin Day, America Day, and Tropical Day.

Field Trips & Travel Experiences

2025 featured an exceptional array of curriculum-connected travel opportunities across grades 7–12:

- 7th graders attended a trip to the Connecticut Science Center and hiked Mt. Tom.
- Nearly 100 10th graders went on the annual sophomore trip to Washington, D.C. in April.
- The 11th grade class took a trip to Boston and visited many historical landmarks.
- High school students participated in the French exchange again in 2025. In the spring, they traveled to Paris and other cities in France, visiting major cultural landmarks and spending time with their French host families.
- The seniors visited Toronto for their senior trip during April vacation.
- 9th and 10th grade students taking French went to Quebec and practiced their French as they visited many landmarks throughout the city.
- 8th graders went to Providence to see *Hamilton* as part of their 8th grade civics course.
- 8th graders taking Spanish went to New York City, visiting Spanish Harlem (“El Barrio”) and practicing their Spanish for the day.

EDUCATION – HAMPSHIRE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

These experiences enrich learning, build community, and expose students to new perspectives. Thank you to the many, many chaperones for the time and energy put into planning these memorable learning experiences!

Class of 2025

The Class of 2025 enjoyed a year of celebration, tradition, and meaningful milestones, culminating in our commencement ceremony on June 6. This year's commencement ceremony brought together faculty, families, and community members who all celebrated the many accomplishments of the Class of 2025. Commencement was planned as an outdoor ceremony and was supposed to be held on our very own campus on Dorunda Field, but the weather had different plans and moved us into our school auditorium. Despite the weather and last minute change of venue, it was a wonderful, joyous ceremony! This year's commencement speakers are all Southampton residents and included Valedictorian Olivia Manganelli, Salutatorian Julia Sicard, Class President Hope Brodeur, Class Vice President Jack Laliberte, and Class Secretary Cassidy Clark.

The week leading up to commencement was Senior Week, which is highlighted by many traditional events and celebrations:

- Awards Night, where over 80 monetary awards were distributed to deserving seniors.
- Senior Banquet at Look Park Garden House.
- The Senior Parking Lot Party, featuring food trucks, music, and the beloved horn-honking tradition.
- Elementary School Walkthroughs, a deeply cherished district tradition, where our seniors visit their elementary schools and are cheered on by their former teachers and by future Hampshire students.
- Future Teacher Signing Day: We hosted our first Future Teacher Signing Day for our seniors who are attending college to become teachers. We were thrilled to have four graduating seniors planning to become teachers in the future: Alyssa Colon-Garcia, Grace Brouillard (Southampton), Delaney Cantwell, and Julianne Moro (Southampton).

Staffing

2025 marked a significant year of transition and recognition in our staffing. In March, Warren Smith was honored with the Grinspoon Excellence in Teaching Award. Mr. Smith, a beloved visual arts teacher, is our most veteran educator with 38 years of teaching at HRHS. Amy Adamski was named a semifinalist for Massachusetts Teacher of the Year. Ms. Adamski is a dynamic and forward-thinking math teacher and very deserving of this honor.

Retirements

We honored eight retirees whose service and dedication profoundly shaped our school:

- Paula Czarniecki (Middle School English Language Arts Teacher, 30 years)
- Bozena Jaworowski (Art Teacher, 29 years)
- Andrea Belanger (Librarian, 23 years)
- Tracey Pinkham (Middle School Social Studies Teacher, 23 years)
- Scott Green (Middle School Social Studies Teacher, 22 years)
- Tom Smith (High School Science Teacher, 21 years)

EDUCATION – HAMPSHIRE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

- William Sullivan (Custodian, 20 years)
- Laurel Christoferson (Middle School Science Teacher, 19 years)

New Staff

Many faculty and staff members joined HRHS in 2025! Staffing changes reflected natural turnover while maintaining overall staffing levels consistent with our enrollment. We were pleased to welcome the following staff members to Hampshire Regional as teachers, para educators, and custodial staff: Joshua Copen, Nicole deJong, Melinda Dowland, Sarah Garelick, Joseph Golossi, Jaime Hopkins, Jeremy Jetzon, Kyle Landrio, Justin Oakes, Stephanie Olson, John Plourd, Talia Pott, Chris Streeter, Mike Walker, Abigail Willis, Angelae Wunderle, and Samantha Zuzula.

School Improvement Plan (2025–2027)

The fall of 2025 marked the start of our new two-year School Improvement Plan (SIP). The development of this plan emphasized coherence, sustainability, and the effective use of existing resources, ensuring that improvement efforts strengthened practice without placing unnecessary financial strain on the district. Across all four goals, significant progress has already been made:

Goal 1: Positive School Culture

- The Principal’s Advisory Council, a group of 12 students in grades 7-12, will be leading our Shared Spaces Campaign to encourage their peers to take ownership and pride in our school and to be respectful in shared spaces such as bathrooms, the cafeteria, and the gym. Beginning with a celebration of National Custodian Day, students wrote gratitude cards and staff helped clean shared spaces.
- We have continued to implement phone-free procedures successfully with staff reporting improved classroom engagement and social interaction. This summer, the HRHS administrative team was selected to lead a workshop about the process of becoming a cell phone-free school and presented this workshop to 35 administrators from across Massachusetts.
- Peer mentoring between our high school and 7th grade students has been strengthened, thanks to the work of our counseling department.
- Our school’s advisory program is now run by two advisory coordinators who have developed a clearer mission, improved planning, and increased student and staff voice in advisory.
- According to the school climate survey that students take each fall and spring, HRHS continues to be a school where students feel connected, respected, and supported. Students reported high levels of belonging, safety, and academic expectations.

Goal 2: Intradistrict & Community Partnerships

- A representative from Children’s Advocacy Center of Hampshire County provided a parent presentation on internet safety during Open House. District Attorney David Sullivan and other community agencies attended and supported this event.
- Drug Story Theater engaged students in a powerful assembly on substance use and recovery.
- The district’s elementary schools partnered with HRHS for a variety of activities, a preview of the HRHS spring musical, and curriculum alignment.

EDUCATION – HAMPSHIRE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

- Youth sports night during the fall soccer season expanded connections between our school and our five towns through athletics.
- Community preview events, such as a sneak-peek of *MacBeth*, strengthened ties with local Councils on Aging.

Goal 3: Curriculum & Assessment

- Implementation of the new middle school English Language Arts curriculum, and continued alignment with our math curriculum improved cohesion between middle and high school coursework.
- Staff engaged in professional learning, facilitated by fellow teachers in our school and district.
- A significantly streamlined and updated academic integrity framework ensured consistency and clarity for students and staff.

Goal 4: Instruction

- In the fall of 2025, instructional rounds were added into our master schedule, allowing teachers to observe and learn from each other. Teachers can opt in if they would like to participate in instructional rounds in lieu of a traditional study hall or lunch duty period.
- Our executive functioning professional development series, led by school psychologist Mya Holmes, has received overwhelmingly positive feedback. Ms. Holmes is leading multiple half day professional development sessions in addition to monthly faculty meetings after school. By leveraging the expertise of our own staff, we have been able to deepen instructional practice while minimizing reliance on external consultants or providers.
- In October, all of our district schools came together for a day of professional learning on our school campus. Teachers from across the district ran workshops and were able to attend workshops that best applied to their role and interests.

Reflecting on 2025, Hampshire Regional High School stands out not simply for what was accomplished, but for how deliberately and collaboratively that work was carried out. Academic growth, active student leadership, competitive athletics, and curriculum-embedded learning experiences did not happen by chance; they are the direct result of intentional instructional practice, committed educators, engaged families, and students who are consistently held to high expectations.

Our success is deeply tied to the partnership among the five towns we serve. That shared investment of trust, resources, and community pride continues to be the foundation that allows Hampshire Regional to thrive in a time when many districts face increasing challenges.

As we look ahead to 2026, our priorities are clear: sustaining academic rigor, strengthening student belonging, and using our resources responsibly to support continuous improvement. With a strong culture, a dedicated staff, and a supportive regional community, Hampshire Regional High School is well positioned to continue delivering the high-quality educational experience our students deserve and that our towns can be proud to support.

Respectfully submitted,
Lauren Hotz, Principal

EDUCATION – NORRIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

William E. Norris School continues to be a vibrant learning community serving students in preschool through Grade 6. As of December 2025, Norris enrolled 475 students (including 40 school choice students) representing families from Southampton and surrounding communities. Our staff remains committed to providing high-quality instruction, meaningful learning opportunities, and a safe, supportive environment where every student can thrive.

Academic Programs and Instruction

Norris School continues to focus on strengthening core instruction while ensuring that students receive targeted support when needed.

Results from the fall FastBridge screening assessment indicate that 82% of Norris kindergarten students are on track to make typical progress in reading this school year. Students who require additional support receive targeted small-group instruction with our reading specialists to strengthen foundational literacy skills.

At the district level, educators also worked collaboratively to review middle school English Language Arts curriculum. After extensive work led by Assistant Superintendent Michael Fredette, the middle school ELA team selected CommonLit 360 as the new curriculum for Grades 6–8. Norris teacher, Kevin Hodgson served on the review team and helped evaluate instructional materials during the selection process. Professional development and implementation will take place during the 2025–2026 school year.

In mathematics, teachers in Kindergarten through Grade 5 transitioned from Bridges Second Edition to Bridges Third Edition, providing updated materials and instructional resources designed to deepen students’ mathematical understanding and problem-solving abilities.

Summer Improvements and Facility Maintenance

During the summer months, several building improvements were completed to prepare the school for the start of the academic year. These upgrades were made possible through the support of the Town of Southampton and the Capital Planning Committee, and we are grateful for the town’s continued investment in maintaining our school facilities.

New exterior doors were installed in the gymnasium, improving access and safety during physical education classes and school events. New doors were also installed in the custodial office to enhance building security and functionality. In addition, new flooring was installed in both preschool classrooms and two kindergarten classrooms, providing an improved learning environment for our youngest students.

Our custodial team completed extensive maintenance throughout the building, including waxing and polishing floors, shampooing classroom rugs, and preparing classrooms for the new school year. Exterior work has also been underway, including painting portions of the building façade, power washing the front of the school, and repairing sections of sidewalk where concrete had deteriorated.

EDUCATION – NORRIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Additional safety improvements were made inside the building, including the installation of hardwired carbon monoxide alarms near the boiler room and gas range in the school kitchen.

Norris School welcomed several new staff members this year. Gabrielle Cook joined the school as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), supporting staff and students with behavioral and social-emotional needs. Emily Donoghue joined the preschool program part time as a Speech-Language Pathologist. The school also welcomed Lindsay Adams-Rivera as part time Administrative Assistant in the Norris School office.

This year we also recognize the retirement of several dedicated staff members who have served Norris students and families for many years. Paraprofessionals Sandy Klich and Kathy Costello, Grade 1 teacher Johanna Keefe, and Special Education Secretary/Administrative Assistant Brenda Thibault, as well as Special Education Teacher Linda Braastad who collectively contributed nearly 65 years of service to the Norris School community. Their commitment to students has left a lasting impact on our school, and we wish them all the best in their retirement.

The district faced significant budget challenges this year following the unsuccessful override vote, which initially required several staffing reductions at Norris. Through careful budget planning and the continued support of the School Committee, we were able to bring back 1.3 positions in order to maintain important services for students. As part of this effort, we were able to restore .3 of a reading specialist and a special education teaching position. We were pleased to welcome Special Education Teacher, Katherine Lawton to our staff.

Looking Ahead

Norris School remains committed to providing high-quality instruction, strengthening student supports, and maintaining a safe and welcoming environment for all learners. We are grateful to the Town of Southampton, the School Committee, families, and community partners for their continued support of our students and school.

Respectfully submitted,
Aliza Pluta, Principal

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The role of the Finance Committee is mostly advisory, making recommendations to the Selectboard on Warrant Articles and weighing in on budgeting and financial reporting. Current members are Becky Plimpton – Chair, Doug Hamel, Jamie Morrow and Reggie Greene – Secretary, with one open position. At the December 6, 2025 Special Town Meeting, the Town changed the Committee’s bylaws to have the committee members appointed by the Town Moderator going forward rather than being elected. The Committee will take a more active role in capital planning and budgeting.

The FY 2026 base budget of \$23.5 million was approved at Town Meeting in May 2025. An override of \$897,000 to fund a 15.9% increase in expenses at Norris School was approved at Town Meeting but defeated at the ballot box 926-998. The Finance Committee recommended the override on a 2-1 vote. Also approved at Town Meeting but defeated at the ballot box (518 to 1,390) was \$3.1 million to hire an architect and owner’s representative for a new \$28 million public safety building. The Finance Committee recommended the warrant 3-0.

Budgeting for fiscal 2026 and 2027 has been complicated by large increases in health insurance costs. We had two unexpected 20% increases in fiscal 2026. (Employee benefits are not allocated to Town departments or the school but grouped as one line item.) In an effort to reduce future increases, the Town moved from the Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust to the Group Insurance Commission, which is supported by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

There was discussion at the Selectboard and Finance Committee about putting forward a request for \$11,970,000 in borrowing for a new Senior Center building at a Special Town Meeting in September 2025. The Finance Committee did not recommend moving forward on a vote of 2 to 2, and the Selectboard decided not to present the request at the meeting, which was postponed to December.

The 2027 budgeting has been comprehensive, and the warrants will include a request for an override. At the time of this writing, the Finance Committee had not voted on its recommendations.

The timing of monthly financial reporting has improved, and we will be going to quarterly reconciliations as per State recommendations. Annual audits continue to lag but efforts are being made to catch up.

Respectfully submitted,
Finance Committee

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Southampton Fire Department currently consists of 40 non-benefited part-time members (24 Paramedics, 8 EMTs & 8 First Responders), 1 full-time Paramedic, 1 Administrative Assistant, and 1 full-time Chief. We provide Advanced Life Support (ALS-Paramedic) ambulances and a complete fire rescue squad to the town 24/7, 365 days a year. Our full-time Paramedic graduated from the Massachusetts Fire Academy in December, completing the twelve-week Full-time Firefighter Recruit Class. Also, in December, we took delivery of our new pickup.

The Southampton Fire Department had its busiest year again in 2025. We responded to 1,172 calls. In 2024, the call volume was 1,048. In 2015, we responded to 529 calls, more than doubling our call volume in just ten years.

976 EMS Calls

- 712 Transports
- 229 Refusals/Cancelled in Route/Well Being Checks
- 24 MVA's
- 11 Fire Scene Standby

196 Fire Calls

- 100 Fire/Smoke Alarms
- 22 Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms
- 18 Smoke/Odor Investigations
- 13 Illegal Burning
- 2 Structure Fires
- 16 Storm Damage/Wires Down/Transformer Fires
- 6 Brush Fires
- 1 Vehicle Fire
- 2 Chimney Fires
- 2 Elevator Rescues
- 2 Grille/Stove Fires
- 12 Other

Simultaneous Calls

- 84 Two Calls at the same time
- 5 Three Calls at the same time

Mutual aid is a crucial part of all fire departments' operations, allowing us to share resources and personnel across jurisdictional boundaries to respond to incidents that exceed a single department's capabilities.

263 Mutual Aid Calls

- 201 Mutual Aid responses from Easthampton, Westfield, Northampton, Westhampton, Montgomery, Huntington & Russell. Also, from Barnes & Westover Air Force Fire Departments.
- 62 Mutual Aid assistance given to Easthampton, Westfield, Westhampton, & Montgomery.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

402 Permits & Inspections

- 69 Smoke/CO Detector Inspections
- 22 Oil Burner/Oil Tank Inspection
- 22 Propane Tank Permit
- 6 Plan Reviews
- 6 Liquor License Inspections
- 19 Solar Permits
- 3 Solar Permits w/ESS
- 3 Fire Alarm Permits
- 3 Facility Inspections
- 7 Mobile Food Truck Inspections
- 1 Flammable Permit
- 241 Burning Permits

I would like to personally thank all the members of the Fire Department for all their professionalism, hard work & dedication to the community. I would also like to acknowledge and appreciate the continued support from the citizens of Southampton, the Town Administrator, Select Board, Town Offices, Departments & Committees. We are always here to serve the community.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Fasoli
Fire Chief

GRANT SEARCH COMMITTEE, AD HOC

The three-person grant search committee has continued to devote significant time researching grant opportunities, attending various webinars, and determining the Town's eligibility for grant programs. This resulted in applications submitted to the following programs with notification of award decision in calendar 2025. We are pleased to note that six of nine applications were successful with nearly \$890,000 in grant funds available for Southampton initiatives.

Bruhn Historic Revitalization Program: The Old Town Hall, currently housing the Police Department, was built in 1904 and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. An exterior building study conducted in 2021 by a local architect/engineering firm identified significant deficiencies. A grant application was submitted mid-2024 with assistance of the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) to remove the deteriorated concrete ramp at the East St. entrance of the Old Town Hall, and to clean, repair and repoint exterior masonry walls to match the original appearance. This grant program is federally funded through the National Park Service and must follow standards for historic properties preservation. Southampton was one of seven towns with a successful award-ours in the amount of \$96,000.

Assistance to Firefighters (AFG): Working with the Fire Chief, we submitted two applications to the Assistance to Firefighters grant program. One application in the amount of \$752,803 was submitted for a Tanker/Tender to replace our 1988 tanker. The proposed vehicle would have a tank with a minimum of 2,000 gallons of water, doubling our current capacity, and be equipped with a drop tank and foam capabilities to aid in extinguishing capabilities.

The second request was for \$169,000 to acquire SCBA (Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus) units, replacing our outdated inventory. This FEMA grant is nationwide and highly competitive and for a second year, Southampton was not successful. It is not clear if this federal grant program will continue, but if so, we will try again.

Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity: (LAND) Working with the Open Space Committee, Funds were requested to purchase twenty-seven acres on Fomer Road for the conservation of environmentally important land on the west side of Alder Pond. This parcel will expand and protect an important wildlife corridor and is adjacent to the two-hundred-acre Wolf Hill Conservation Area, the 99-acre Searle APR and the land owned by Holyoke Water Works protecting the Tighe Carmody Reservoir watershed. This acquisition will expand public access to Alder Pond and new trails will connect to the established hiking trails in the Wolf Hill Conservation area. Southampton was awarded a grant in the amount of \$281,764.

Mass Trails - Greenway: The committee successfully worked with the Greenway Committee again to draft and apply to Mass Trails. The goal was to further work towards completion of the Design, Planning and Engineering phase of the Southampton Greenway, focusing on achieving the 25% design submission per Mass DOT standards. This project is designated as a Mass Trails Priority Network because it addresses a critical gap in the bicycle route connecting Northampton to New Haven, CT, and links with East-West trails that span the state. The grant was approved for \$324,000.

GRANT SEARCH COMMITTEE, AD HOC

Mass Trails - Bridge: A second application in the amount of \$100,000 was submitted to Mass Trails on behalf of the Conservation Commission to replace the bridge at the Manhan Sanctuary conservation area off East St. This was to procure a prefabricated fiberglass bridge and undertake site reparation for its anchoring on each bank of the Manhan River that traverses the conservation area. The aim was to make the entire Sanctuary accessible and enjoyable to the public. This project was not awarded.

Mass Council on Aging (MCOA)-FDP: Through the Mass Council on Aging's Field Demonstration Project Grant program, the committee worked with the COA staff to apply for a grant under the Senior Center Modernization Program. An amount of \$5,900 was awarded for the purchase of office furniture, shelving, and storage cabinets as well as a printer/scanner. ADA accessible and Dementia-friendly facility enhancements such as sound absorbing panels, signage, exterior motion-sensor lighting, and an ADA-accessible water bubbler round out the process of upgrading the Center and making it a more useable and welcoming environment.

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Action: During the 2020/2021 MVP planning process, extreme temperatures, wind, extreme precipitation, and drought were identified as the top climate change hazards in Southampton. To address a high-priority goal identified at that time, the committee applied for its first action grant against climate change. Funds would be used to conduct a feasibility study for HVAC upgrades to create an emergency cooling and air quality center at the William E. Norris School. The study would also examine nature-based solutions in the rear playground/playing field area of the school to mitigate the heat effect on students, teachers, and parents, especially during recess, sports, and other after-school activities. Populations most vulnerable to heat-related illness including youth athletes, seniors and others with health conditions, would be engaged in identifying causes and strategies to adapt behaviors for heat resilience. Project Stay Cool-Empowering Southampton Against Extreme Heat was awarded \$82,770.

Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC): The design work for a low flow splash pad and accessible walking path at Conant Park was completed with funding from an earlier PARC grant and the equipment for this project has already been purchased. Unfortunately, installation of the purchased equipment could not be completed prior to the previous PARC grant expiration deadline and remaining funds were forfeited. This year's application was a re-submission of a funding request to construct the 'spray deck', (a slip-resistant/concrete circular surface roughly 25' in diameter), and install both above-ground water spray elements and in-ground jet features that will provide both a misting and cooling effect. The project also includes development of an ADA-accessible walking trail connecting the pavilion to the spray deck and a toddler playscape and continuing along the back of the sports courts, ending at Rte. 10. The project was awarded \$99,000 for this work to be done.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Fowles, Chair

GREENWAY COMMITTEE

2025 was another productive year for Southampton’s Greenway Committee. We’ve continued to advance the project and saw great progress on the project’s plan from our engineering team. Each year brings us one step closer to seeing the construction of a 3.5-mile paved recreational path through our town.

Throughout 2025, Tighe & Bond continued their engineering and planning work on the dormant railbed between Coleman Road and the College Highway/Brickyard Road intersection. Significant consideration was given to the intersection of College Highway, Brickyard Rd., and Moosebrook Rd., ultimately to create a safe and acceptable terminus. Extensive research and design work ultimately resulted in a proposal that would discourage pedestrian activity near College Highway while fitting in a small parking area for path users. This feature helped advance the project closer to the “25% Plan” submission, a significant milestone in the planning process. We expect to hit that milestone in early 2026 with a submission to MA Department of Transportation.

The committee is also happy to report that additional funding was earned after applying to another MassTrails grant application. MassTrails has awarded more than \$1 million in funding to this project to date, and we’re extremely grateful for the generous support of the MassTrails team as well as the Community Preservation Committee, as their support has allowed us to fund the engineering costs without requesting out-of-pocket support from our residents.

Looking ahead, the committee plans to host a public hearing in 2026 to provide a detailed update on the project. Our engineer at Tighe & Bond will present key features of the path, what abutters can expect, and what should happen throughout the coming years. As always, our committee’s meetings are open to the public and we will continue to gather input from everyone that is interested. We intend to create a path that will be inclusive of our residents’ wishes and thoughtful of our abutters’ needs before starting construction.

As of the end of 2025, we’re estimating construction to begin in 2028-2029. While this is an estimation from the MA Department of Transportation, the committee is working hard to prevent any unnecessary delays. Please don’t hesitate to get in touch with the committee or attend one of our meetings to get involved or learn more about our next steps. We look forward to continuing our efforts into 2025.

Respectfully submitted,
Southampton’s Greenway Committee

HEALTH, BOARD OF

Southampton Board of Health – Overview

The Southampton Board of Health is charged under Massachusetts statutes and regulations with protecting public health, preventing and controlling disease, and safeguarding the environment. Core responsibilities include oversight of food establishment inspections, enforcement of minimum standards for human habitation, monitoring septic systems, regulating tobacco sales, and ensuring access to safe drinking water for residents.

The Board is comprised of Kaitlin Rooks, Chair; Leah Carrasquillo, FNP, Vice Chair; and Kate Savarese, PA, Clerk. The Town hired Claudia Sarti, Health Agent in May, 2025. Nicole Schaub, Animal Inspector. Charlie Kaniecki, Special Health Agent, serves as a contracted employee who carries out required inspectional duties and helps address complex issues, many of which remain in court. Charlie is also assisting with training Claudia and helping her to become more familiar with properties in town.

Southampton participates in the Hampshire Public Health Shared Services Collaborative (HPHSSC), a regional initiative designed to strengthen and standardize public health services. An Intermunicipal Agreement was executed in January 2024. In FY2025, HPHSSC began conducting restaurant and food truck inspections. Through this partnership, the Board receives monthly infectious disease surveillance reports and has access to a regional epidemiologist. While there is hope that they may be able to expand inspectional services at some point, their staff remains in training and doubts that the collaborative would be able to fully absorb the needs of the 14 member communities. Southampton has benefitted from regular visits to the Senior Center, vaccine clinics, Public Health presence at Celebrate Southampton, and regular communication about regional & state preparedness efforts, among others. While regionalization has enhanced local capacity, long-term state funding for the Public Health Excellence program remains uncertain, which complicates planning efforts and reliance on these services.

The Board also contributes to regional emergency preparedness through the Health and Medical Coordinating Coalition (HMCC – Region 1), which serves 94 municipalities across Western Massachusetts and coordinates health and medical response efforts in Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire Counties. This year, Northampton removed themselves from HMCC, which will only require additional time and resources to maintain local response abilities while adhering to prescribed HMCC state deliverables.

Other Services funded through the Board of Health:

- **Mosquito Control Program:** (\$6,000 annual fee) The District conducts regional surveillance of mosquito populations and mosquito-borne diseases affecting humans and animals and is able to respond rapidly to disease outbreaks. Alerts are now sent out electronically about presence of these diseases locally. Social media posts about risk mitigation strategies were shared on the community when EEE was found in local mosquitos. As climate change increases the risk of vector-borne illness, continued participation in this program remains critical to protecting public health.
- **Sharps Disposal Program:** The sharps container distribution and disposal program for residents (\$3,500 annually) ensures the safe disposal of biohazardous waste, keeps needles

HEALTH, BOARD OF

out of the municipal waste stream, and reduces the risk of injury to sanitation workers and the public.

- **Animal Inspector:** Maintains funding for the Animal Inspector position (\$4,500 annually; no mileage reimbursement or benefits). Responsibilities include maintaining barn book records, tracking livestock, and managing animal bite quarantines. This role is increasingly important due to the rise in vector-borne diseases and the ongoing risk of zoonotic disease outbreaks that affect both human and animal health. Increased wildfires also highlight the need to maintain logs of livestock in town in the event of an emergency.
- **Landfill Monitoring:** This line item was transferred to the Board of Health's budget this year and is required by the DEP. This year's budgeted cost was \$8,700. PFAS monitoring will likely be required next year, which is estimated to add another \$6,000-\$8,000 in costs annually.

Goals and Initiatives

The goals of the Board of Health are largely driven by the needs of the public, by state-established required deliverables, and by the immediate needs of the community.

- **Strengthen Regional Partnerships**
Continue active participation in regional Board of Health meetings, leverage supplemental regional services when available, and engage in regional health initiatives and emergency preparedness planning. Develop an emergency response framework tailored to the needs of the Southampton community.
- **Participate in Regional Disaster Preparedness Initiatives**
Contribute to the development of HMCC's five-year emergency preparedness plan addressing sheltering, natural disasters, and infectious disease outbreaks. Participate in the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) framework process to clarify public health roles, responsibilities, and response capacity across the region. Acknowledge the importance of familiarity of available human resources across numerous resources and prioritize engagement as a way to demonstrate commitment to ongoing process improvement.
- **Advance Community Public Health**
Adhere to Public Health Excellence and newly established SAPHE 2.0 performance standards, with special awareness to changes that have been codified into law. Advocate for improved access and funding for important (and often required) trainings for Board members and Board of Health staff alike. Identify opportunities for collaboration between Southampton and the HPHSSC. Respond to community public health education needs, with particular attention to the Town's aging population. Respond to requests and needs of residents. Identify and mitigate public health risks through inspections and enforcement as required under Massachusetts law. Evaluate local and regional gaps and share solutions to problems, even if they seem intangible. Progress, not perfection, even when it seems painfully slow.
- **Maintain Inspectional Services**
Ensure continued delivery of required inspectional services and coordinate with HPHSSC to supplement local capacity when possible. Help the town understand the statutory requirements of inspections. Support responsible growth and development in

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Southampton by facilitating timely inspections in coordination with other Town departments. While HPHSSC provides regional food inspections at no cost, the Town remains responsible for enforcement actions when violations occur. Try to collect information about secondary benefits to the town and residents with addressing “problem properties.”

- **Ensure Fiscal Responsibility**

Promote timely and regular sharing of financial data from the town to Board members. Advocate for the essential role of a well-resourced and fully functioning Board of Health. Continue to evaluate the services being rendered and recalibrate based upon community need and availability of regionalized services. Adjust budgets, fees, and service scope based on statutory obligations, inspectional demand, and available regional support. Leverage no-cost-to-Southampton regional resources whenever possible. Lobby for the ongoing need and expansion of regional public health services, especially related to current events. Lobby for funding for training that is becoming required through updated legislation.

Ongoing Budget Changes and Impacts:

Since 2020, the budget has looked a little different each year. In addition to funding support from the town, ARPA funds, unused employee insurance funds, permit revenue, septic betterment funds, and a revolving fund have all been used to fund different aspects of the Board of Health’s budget. The demand and need for inspectional services and Board of Health human resources varies throughout the course of the year, the real estate market, and the court system.

In 2024, a revolving fund that would essentially pay for inspectional services was created at the direction of the Select Board. In 2025, the Select Board decided to eliminate the revolving fund, subsequently trapping about \$20,000 of funds that were expected to pay for inspectional services. The state informed the Town that these funds could not be transferred without a town meeting, which is expected to take place in May of 2025.

The uncertainty within the Federal government, especially pertaining to public health, creates hesitancy across public health partners to rely heavily on regionalized systems that essentially could have the carpet ripped out from underneath them at any point. This is compounded by evolving complicated regulation changes and standardized requirements that put strain on departments whose funding is not changed to reflect the revised regulations. This is a narrative that has remained unchanged for many years and was revitalized by the Trump administrations drastic and widespread slashing of funds and employees that support public health.

Back to Southampton - The administrative demands of the department are challenged by a one-FTE office that otherwise relies on contracted labor. The former Health Director retired in April of 2025, and a highly qualified replacement was hired in May of 2025. Her salary was adjusted to reflect current market value and was partially funded through a transfer of unused funds. She and the Special Agent, Charlie Kaniecki have been completing all inspections for the town. While Claudia continues to take over the inspectional duties of some properties, the demand for Title V inspections (which do collect fees) keep Charlie busy. One goal of this year is to try to reduce some of the reliance on contract labor, but this will only be possible with other administrative

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support. Of note, Charlie is non-benefitted, can tackle any problem thrown his way, and he doesn't charge for mileage. He currently is working with the anticipation that he will be paid (from work completed between December and June) after town meeting takes place in May. (This is not ideal and was not expected by the Board).

Looking forward, The Town Administrator, at the direction of the Building Commissioner and the Board of Health, is proposing a part-time administrator for both the Building Department and the Board of Health. This assistance would allow for both parties to work in the field for more time, while still allowing for residents to reach both departments. This position is dependent on an override to pass in May of 2025. The looming threat of a failed override hangs over several departments in Southamptton – budgets simply cannot afford to continue being repeatedly cut. If an override doesn't pass, then the department faces having to close the office several days a week to allow for inspectional services in order to reduce the reliance on contracted labor. A proposed alternative would be an employee hired through the Senior Work-off program, which would also require a substantial amount of onboarding and training. The variable of funding for Charlie's position will shape the operations of the department and availability of services in the upcoming year.

Revenue:

The Board of Health collects permit fees for various services, with an annual anticipated revenue of \$40,000 to \$42,000. The fee schedule for these services was adjusted to ensure that costs were covering the cost of inspection. Southamptton's Board of Health has advocated for regular, regionalized approach to establishing fees to ensure fairness, improve communication between partners and create consistency between PHE partners. These fees include:

- Food establishments (restaurants, mobile food vendors, ice cream stands, etc., even when the inspection is performed by HPHSSC at no cost)
- Tobacco establishments
- Septic system-related services
- Well construction and closure permits
- Temporary and emergency housing permits
- Beaver trapping and chemical toilet permits
- Title V and percolation tests

Other fiscal benefits to the town are taxes tobacco enforcement finds and unpaid taxes being collected after properties go under receivership. Last year, Board of Health fees were put into a revolving fund. This year, these funds are going into the general fund.

Alternative Funding Sources

Since July 2021, Southamptton has participated in the Commonwealth's Public Health Excellence (PHE) Shared Services Grant Program, which continues to provide critical funding and regional support to municipalities across Massachusetts. Representatives from the Southamptton Board attend bi-monthly meetings. The Board of Health also engages in bi-monthly collaborative and HMCC meetings to advocate for local needs and to ensure Southamptton benefits from shared public health resources to both the region and the state. More recently, a new opioid settlement fund subcommittee was established, and Southamptton joined this as well. We also are participating

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in regular public health emergency drills, which ensure that information can be communicated to municipalities very quickly in the event of an acute emergency.

Through this ongoing partnership, Southampton has received sustained regional support, including:

- COVID-19 and seasonal influenza vaccination clinics
- Expanded monthly educational programming offered through the Northampton Council on Aging, with topics now including blood pressure monitoring, fall prevention, home safety, and other emerging public health priorities
- Regular epidemiology reports and access to a regional epidemiologist and timely communication about emerging public health issues
- Assistance with food establishment and food truck inspections

Other Pressing Health Concerns/Considerations

The public health landscape remains tumultuous, at best, due to many different colliding challenges. A few examples include:

- The new federal administration and their influence on public health – which includes increased vaccine hesitancy, and snowballing risks that are associated with reducing funding that supports contagious disease risk mitigation strategies (like for HIV, Hepatitis A/B, measles, meningitis, TB and rotovirus, to name a few)
- There are now discrepancies between CDC and ACIP about recommended vaccine schedules, which Massachusetts condemned, resulting in MA following ACIP funding.
- In January 2026, RFK attempted to evaporate the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) – which was quickly determined to be a horrible idea and ultimately reversed. (However, the fact that this was even attempted reflects the impulsive and unpredictable nature of today’s federal government.
- Uncertainty about anticipated public health funding enables the Public Health Excellence Program to exist.
- This list can go on-and-on, but many of the ripple effects from global health funding cuts (like HIV programs, TB control interventions, Hep B and polio vaccine distribution, among many others) will certainly have long-lasting and wide-spread consequences that will likely affect many communities in the US.
- Evolving climate change concerns which impact air quality and wildfire risk while exacerbating chronic health conditions.

These uncertainties reaffirm the critical need for grass roots political advocacy, local public health infrastructure, and strong communication to community members to maintain the public’s confidence in public health. As an example, Northampton plans on hosting a measles tabletop exercise for the region around May, and several member communities are prioritizing participation in regional emergency preparedness meetings, including Southampton.

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Conclusion:

The Southampton Board of Health remains steadfast in its mission to protect the health, safety, and well-being of our community. Over the past several years, the Board has navigated significant operational, regulatory, and funding challenges while delivering essential public health services. Regional partnerships, particularly through the Hampshire Public Health Shared Services Collaborative and the Health and Medical Coordinating Coalition, have strengthened local capacity and provided critical support, though ongoing uncertainties in funding and evolving regulations highlight the need for vigilance and adaptability. Ongoing process improvement is a constant goal of the Southampton Board of Health.

Looking forward, the Board is committed to advancing public health through proactive planning, community engagement, and responsible stewardship of resources. By maintaining inspectional services, enhancing regional collaboration, advocating for sustainable funding, and addressing emerging public health threats, Southampton will continue to meet the needs of its residents while promoting a safe and healthy community. The Board remains grateful for the support of town leadership, regional partners, and residents, and will continue to pursue progress, resilience, and preparedness in the face of an ever-changing public health landscape.

Respectfully submitted,
Kaitlin Rooks
Chair, Southampton Board of Health

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The Southampton Highway Department (SHD) respectfully submits its annual report for calendar year 2025.

When fully staffed, the SHD employs a single shift of eight full-time hourly staff, a part-time Assistant and a full-time salaried Superintendent. All full-time SHD employees are on call to handle SHD and Southampton Water Department emergencies 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. We made incremental progress in filling two of our open positions – two Truck Driver/Equipment Operators were hired in the summer and fall; with one leaving for another opportunity by late fall. We also lost our Mechanic position due to reduction of our budget. This position was replaced by a Laborer position.



Article 16 of the 2025 Annual Town Meeting (ATM) approved additional funds (first approved 2022 ATM) for replacement of the Highway heating system. Bids opened in October, with bid award & project kickoff meeting early November. Piping, demolition and asbestos abatement of the old oil-fired steam boiler occurred mid-January 2026 which left

our facility without our main source of heat while the new boiler was installed. As of the drafting of this report in March 2026, the new propane boiler is running <100% and there is more work yet to be completed.



HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

A total of 1,421 Tons of sand (707 more than the previous year) and 1,752 Tons of salt (837 more than the previous year) were used to control snow and ice in 2025. This total represents all of this material is procured through the Highway Department including the salt/sand bin for resident use as well as Triad's *Sand For Seniors* program.

Approximately a dozen street or traffic signs were replaced or repaired as needed due to vandalism, theft or as a result of automobile collisions.

Pavement Preservation projects completed in 2025 included:

- Crack seal was performed on Pomeroy Meadow Road, Pleasant Street, Nicholas Lane, Woodmar Lane, Old Harvest Road, Cheryl Lane, Geryk Court and Russellville Road.
- Rejuvenating asphaltic emulsion treatment was applied to Pomeroy Meadow Road, Pleasant Street, Nicholas Lane and Woodmar Lane.
- Traffic lines were repainted on Pleasant Street, Pomeroy Meadow Road, Pequot Road, Whiteloaf Road, and Gunn Road Extension.
- Approximately 116 Tons of hot and cold-patch asphalt were used to shim, patch and repair potholes and resurface roads throughout Town; including degraded sections of Crooked Ledge Road and Katelyn Way.

Gravel sections of Fomer, Crooked Ledge, Maple, Mountain, Moosebrook and Wolcott Roads were graded employing approximately 141 tons of crushed rock and gravel (CRG).

Annual street sweeping of all paved Town roads was completed, and stormwater management structures were cleaned in accordance with the *Stormwater Management Plan for Southampton*. Said plan was updated in 2025 and available for review on the Highway Department page of the Town website. Catch basin cleaning and maintenance of drainage swales and other structures was performed throughout the year. Highway Foremen planned, implemented and completed two ambitious stormwater outfall repair projects to repair failed drainage pipe, build plunge pools and address associated erosion on Glendale and Brickyard roads.

Grant-funded design work continues on the *Safe Routes To School* infrastructure project funded through the 2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) under project #613397. 25% Design was submitted to Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) in August. \$1.5M updated project cost for design and construction of a sidewalk, shared-use path, crosswalks and other measures aimed at improving pedestrian safety in the vicinity of William E. Norris school along Pomeroy Meadow Road from the intersection of Rt 10 to the Gunn Road Extension intersection. As of the drafting of this report in March 2026, tentative implementation/construction target of spring of 2028.

MassTrails grant-funded design work continues on the Greenway (project #613484) The Greenway will be 3.12 mile section of trail that will follow the existing railroad bed southerly

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

from Coleman Rd. to Brickyard Rd./Rt. 10 and will include the rehabilitation of two bridges, culvert repairs, a new hot mix asphalt shared use path surface, at grade road crossings, pavement markings, and signage. 25% design package was submitted to MassDOT 1/26/26. Projected project construction cost \$15.5M. Project construction funded on the 2028 TIP with tentative construction target of Spring 2029.

Chapter 90-funded design work continues on the reconstruction of 1.4 miles of East Street from Rt. 10 to Whispering Meadow Lane (project #612780). The reconstructed segment of East Street will include two 11-foot wide travel lanes with 2-foot wide shoulders and engineered drainage improvements. A shared use path and wetlands buffer is proposed for the entire South East Street along with a 5 foot wide sidewalk. A variable buffer is also proposed on the north side to 570 feet east of Clark Street to preserved trees. 25% design package was submitted to MassDOT 1/27/25. Projected project construction cost \$11M. Project construction funded on the 2028 TIP with tentative construction target of Summer 2028.

The SHD issued 16 Curb Cut Permits, 15 Permits to Open A Public Right Of Way (ROW), 5 Trench Permits and two enforcement orders were issued in 2025.

The workplan for the remainder of FY 26 and FY27 is tentative at this point due to uncertainty of ROW acquisition costs associated with the TIP projects detailed above, and pending the ramifications of a rehabilitation evaluation of Pomeroy Meadow Bridge, but plans are to perform as many of the following road repairs as funding and schedule will allow:

- Paved level overlay of Strong Rd., portion of Valley Rd., Moosebrook Rd. Miller Ave., Edward Ave., Jeannie Cir., Karen Ln., Lynn Dr., Helen Dr., Pomeroy Meadow Ext., Mountain View Cir.
- Mill and fill with paved level overlay of portions of Pomeroy Meadow Rd./Glendale Rd. intersection, a portion of Cold Spring Rd. near Leadmine Rd., and sections of East St.

Respectfully Submitted,



Randall Kemp,
Highway Superintendent



HOUSING AUTHORITY

354 College Highway:

354 College Highway is a 1.34 acre property that the Town acquired, on behalf of the Housing Authority, in November 2022 with Community Preservation Act funds for affordable housing development. In 2025, the Housing Authority continued to prepare the property by commissioning a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment and a septic design. In September, the Housing Authority worked with the town's Procurement officer and Town Administrator to release a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the development of 1-2 affordable housing units on this site for homeownership. In response to the RFP, we received one complete proposal that met all requirements, from Pioneer Valley Habitat for Humanity (PVHH). Based on this proposal, PVHH will build 1 home on this property, to be completed by 2030, and manage the home's sale via lottery and adherence to affordable housing restrictions in accordance with MGL Chapter 184 and Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities standards.

117-125 College Highway:

The Town of Southampton recently purchased a 56.3 acre undeveloped, buildable property at 117-125 College Highway, after several Boards and Committees expressed interest in utilizing parts of the property and residents voted in favor of the purchase at the May 2024 Town Meeting vote and on a ballot in June 2024. The Housing Authority considers the location of this property ideal for affordable housing development, as it is close to existing development, Norris school, and several amenities. Having expressed interest in using part of the property for affordable housing, the Housing Authority was represented on the planning committee for the site which included town officials and residents. This committee worked with Pioneer Valley Planning Commission and Dodson & Flinker to develop a site plan that incorporated several uses and identified next steps. The Housing Authority has continued to cultivate relationships with local community development corporations who could potentially act as our developer for affordable housing on this site, including a site visit to affordable housing recently built in Ludlow that could be a model for a development in Southampton. Housing Authority members also participated in community education sessions about property's proposed uses, and created an informational flyer about potential housing development, available on our webpage.

Advocacy and Collaborations:

The Housing Authority collaborated with other municipal boards to support their initiatives that would advance affordable housing production. The Housing Authority continued to support the Select Board's recruitment efforts for the Municipal Affordable Housing Trust that will enhance Southampton's ability to purchase, develop, and renovate property for affordable housing. In 2025, the Housing Trust gained the 5 trustees necessary to begin its work, and held its first 2 official meetings, which the Housing Authority Chair attended to provide history and context around Southampton's housing goals and efforts. With approval from the Planning Board and Select Board Chairs, the Housing Authority also applied for DLTA support from Pioneer Valley Planning Commission to review the town's zoning bylaws and advise us around amendments that could support housing production.

Respectfully submitted,
Southampton Housing Authority

LEGAL

KP|LAW, PC is pleased to have served the Town of Southampton as Town Counsel for another year, and we welcome the continued opportunity to serve the Town in the year to come. In addition to the litigation matters summarized below, we continue to advise the Town major real estate transactions, including closing on and accepting the Wolcott Road property. Our attorneys also assisted in health code enforcement matters, advising on election related questions, advising on the Host Community Agreement with Volcann, and reviewing Town Meeting warrants, including proposed bylaw amendments.

In Calendar Year 2025, we represented the Town in three litigation matters:

Town of Southampton, by and through its Board of Health v. Gary Malo, et al.

Western Housing Court, Case No. 24H79CV000983

This is a health and sanitation issue, where the Town pursued enforcement action with respect to property at 4 Gunn Road. We were successful in obtaining the necessary court orders to allow the Town to board and secure the Property, as well as recovering our costs for such activities.

Cyr Realty, LLC, et al. v. Town of Southampton, et al.

Land Court, Case No. 25 MISC 000709

Plaintiffs' property, located at 77 Pequot Road, has been the subject of multiple cease and desist orders issued by the Town's Zoning Enforcement Officer (ZEO) since 2017. These orders resulted from prohibited uses of the Property in the I-P Zoning District. In February 2024, the ZEO sent a request to the Plaintiffs to allow inspection of the Property for compliance with these orders, and the Board of Health also sought to inspect the Property. The Town was denied access for inspection, and the Plaintiffs filed this action ostensibly to clarify how the Zoning Bylaw applies to their Property at the end of 2025. This case is currently pending.

Rafael Roca v. Ian Illingsworth, Chief of Police Southampton Police Department

Northampton District Court, Case No. 2545CV000214

This is an appeal of a License to Carry suspension, which has been pending in court since October 2025.

As always, we appreciate our ongoing relationship with Town officials and staff and look forward to working with the Town to achieve its policy goals in the upcoming year.

Respectfully submitted,
Michele E. Randazzo, Esq.
KP|LAW, PC

LIBRARY

The Edwards Public Library provides resources that encourage lifelong learning in a welcoming environment. The library serves as a community meeting place for all ages and backgrounds and offers free access to our services and resources.

The Edwards Public Library is open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10am-4pm; Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am-7pm; Fridays from 11:30am-4pm; and Saturdays from 9:00am-12:30pm. We offer Home Delivery service for patrons who are homebound and curbside pickup for sick patrons.

In 2025, the library collection totaled 39,847 items available, and we loaned 48,237. We maintain over a thousand historical town records. The library is accredited by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and is a member of the Massachusetts Library System and CWMARS, which provides access to 150 libraries in Center and Western Massachusetts, inter-library loan throughout the state, and access to over 65,000 e-books, e-audiobooks, and e-magazines. The library loaned 6,731 items to other libraries in the network over the course of the year.

Among many digital resources available at the library is the video streaming service Kanopy, new materials discovery services Wowbrary and NoveList, online local newspapers, and Gale research databases. Through Overdrive Advantage, our patrons have first access to digital books and audio that we purchase. The Historical Resources of Southampton Online Collection contains digitized census records; church and cemetery records; and historical house photographs.

Over the course of the year, the library hosted 335 in-person events with a total of 3,991 attendees. Programs included local authors Dan McNichol, Jodie Pine, and Corinne Demas; Western MA genealogy; memoir writing; and retirement planning. Ongoing programs for Adults include Yoga, Writing Group, Fiber Crafts, and Book Club and an adult summer reading program that encourages reading outside of familiar genres.

Youth programming included our weekly Storytime and Playgroup, funded through the Collaborative for Educational Services Coordinated Family and Community Engagement; monthly Lego and Chess clubs; a Halloween costume party; Computer Science Week; National Poetry Month, and monthly themed take-home art projects. The Youth Summer Reading Program, Level Up at Your Library, had 217 participants this year who read over 2,600 hours over the six weeks of the program. The library received a grant from the Southampton Cultural Council for the Summer Reading kick-off event. The 2026 Youth Summer Reading program, Plant a Seed, Read, begins in June.

Adult and Youth Programs are supported by donations from the Friends of the Edwards Public Library, the Southampton Cultural Council, the Southampton Women's Club, and donations from local business and individuals.

In May 2025, the library was awarded a grant from the Manton Foundation in partnership with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries to support sustainable community connection. This project will begin with weekly Community Coffee Hour at the library beginning in March. In the summer of 2025, the construction of the Sensory Garden, funded through the American Library

LIBRARY

Association Libraries Transforming Communities grant, was completed. The Sensory Garden features an accessible walking path, plants to engage all five senses, and a welcoming outdoor space open to everyone.

The Make and Mend Collection, funded through the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Reduce, Reuse, Repair Micro-Grant, introduces to the library a collection of tools and household items most likely to be used once or on an irregular basis. This grant-funded project added items such as the label maker, the metal detector, the power drill set, the sewing machine, the birding kit, and the laminator have been checked out 219 times. Our Library of Things also offers items such as a Wi-Fi Hot Spot, a projector, a portable power bank, a Bluetooth speaker, a writeable DVD and floppy disc drive.

In December of 2025, the Library was awarded updates in technology through Massachusetts Broadband Institute's Connected & Online Program. This grant supplies libraries with devices that strengthen participation of individuals to complete virtual coursework, homework help, adult education and digital literacy training for the public. These devices should be available to patrons in the spring. Also in December of 2025, the library's application for funding from the Alliance for Digital Equity was approved through the Community Space Public Wi-Fi Program. This grant will allow us to upgrade the Library's Wi-Fi to increase speed, capacity, and coverage.

Andrea LeClair joined the staff as the Youth Librarian/Assistant to the Director in April 2023 and is currently the Interim Director. Lisa Shea is the Senior Cataloger/Technical Services Manager and Emily Munska is the Circulation Managers, with a combined 24 years of experience. Johanna Rodriguez Douglass retired at the end of the year after 12 years at the library. We have four Substitute Librarians.

Our volunteers served 1,008 hours, and their assistance is vital to our day-to-day work. The library has twelve elected Trustees. The Trustees meet on the 1st Thursday of the month. The Friends of the Edwards Public Library raise funds through annual memberships and events like the Spring Book Sale and the Sip and Paint. The Friends meet the 3rd Thursday of the month.

The library would like to thank the community of Southampton for its ongoing support.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea LeClair

MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

The MPIC Committee met infrequently during 2025 but members reviewed the status of the Plan's goals and objectives when they had updated information. Highlights of actions taken this year per each Chapter of the Master Plan include the following:

Chapter 1 - Housing:

The Housing Authority remains interested in the 0 College Highway property for future affordable housing. There can be a maximum of 44 housing units on that property using septic systems. Bringing sewer to that location is cost prohibitive. The town hopes to someday achieve the State standard of 10% affordable housing--currently we are under 2%. Separately, the Affordable Housing Trust finally was able to recruit members and began their preparatory work to take on the responsibility of managing housing funds designated to the Community Preservation account.

The Housing Authority secured CPA funds in June 2022 to purchase undeveloped property at 354 College Highway for the purpose of developing affordable housing. The lot is 1.34 acres and abuts the Lyman Conservation Area. Various property preparation tasks such as surveying and wetlands delineation took place, and a request for proposals to construct affordable housing was issued. Habitat for Humanity was the successful bidder and is under agreement to build a home.

Discussions continued with the Planning Board regarding the creation of a 40R Smart Growth District. This would mean a more densely mixed use for commercial and housing. The lack of sewer is the biggest obstacle to establishing the 40R District.

Chapter 2 - Economic Development:

Dodson and Flinker a local Landscape, Architecture and Planning consulting firm was engaged to undertake a land use planning and visioning process for the future development/Master Plan of the newly-acquired 54 acres at 125 College Highway. While presumed to be the site for a public safety complex, there were additional potential municipal uses such as the senior center and affordable housing. The consultants worked with PVPC met with representatives of both the public safety and senior center building committees, the housing authority, and the open space and greenway committees as key stakeholders over a several month period to confirm spatial needs, and best use of the property. The community at large was invited to participate in an interactive workshop and a survey to provide input on needs and priorities from their perspective. This led to a final presentation and recommended design strategies presented to the Town in early 2026.

Of note, funds requested to engage an Owners Project Manager and architect for pre-construction design, engineering and permitting of the public safety complex were not approved at the Annual Town Meeting and thus the project is on hold. Possible design alternatives may need to be explored Grant funding will continue to be actively pursued to fund any next steps. Subsequently, with serious fiscal issues emanating from an unexpected and unusually high increase in insurance costs for town employees, the Senior Center Building Committee decided it was not fiscally responsible to advance their project to town voters in 2025. They have temporarily postponed their plans but are still working towards a new stand-alone Senior Center.

MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

Chapter 3 – Historic and Cultural Resources:

The Historical Commission has met infrequently but noted that funds received through the town budget, \$1,000, would be used to repair the steeple clock on the First Congregational Church. A grant of \$96,000 was awarded from the Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grant Program to repoint bricks, remove ramp/steps, and expose/restore the granite steps at the original historic town hall building on East Street. The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) assisted in developing a scope of work and other required documentation so that the work could be bid and contracted. Work will be carried out in the spring of 2026.

Chapter 4 – Open Space:

The Open Space Committee completed the acquisition of the parcels as voted at the December 2025 STM. They also have established a list of properties of high conservation interest to the town based on: connection to existing conservation land, extending wildlife corridors, protection of endangered species, recreation potential, awareness of cost to benefit ratio, lands at risk for development that may conflict with town conservation goals, and availability of specific parcels.

Working with other town committees and volunteers, additional hiking trails and recreation opportunities on existing conservation land and especially on recently acquired conservation property, have been created. The Town is continuing to build upon a successful relationship with Kestrel Land Trust. Looking forward, there are plans to contact landowners whose properties are of high conservation interest to the town and establish potential working relationships. An update of the Open Space and Recreation Plan goals and objectives was approved by the State and is valid through 2031.

Chapter 5 – Mobility:

The MaDOT engineering team is continuing its design work for the shared use path from Rte. 10 to Gunn Rd. Ext. under the Safe Schools to Schools program. We are hoping for construction to begin sometime in 2027.

The Greenway Committee and the Grant Committee were again successful with their application to the Mass Trails grant program for continued funding for the design of the Southampton Greenway. The intent is that the design process will be completed and approved by mid-2027 so that in the latter half of 2028 residents will see shovel in the ground.

Chapter 6 – Public Services and Facilities:

Ensuring broadband access and affordability of services to the town was identified by residents as a high priority in 2022. Since then, the Ad Hoc Technology Committee took on the additional duty to explore the creation of an MLP (Municipal Light Plant). This was approved by voters in 2023. An MLP would mean a town-owned company that can provide telecommunications services to residents. After exploring what strategies neighboring communities have taken, companies used and associated costs, the next step was to hire a consultant to develop business model. This has not progressed given the town's financial realities this year.

MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

The Planning Board has been reviewing and revising zoning bylaws such as site plan review, solar generating facilities and affordable dwelling units (ADUs). Amendments to the bylaws were presented and approved at the annual town meeting.

Permits for the Building Department, Fire Department and Town Clerk's offices are now able to be accessed via Permit Link, an online platform that will improve service delivery to residents. The Highway Department and others will be connected and operational in the coming months.

The Center for Living & Working, Inc. in partnership with AICP- Consulting Services undertook an assessment of the town's public buildings and facilities including Conant Park, to determine the Town's level of compliance under the Americans with Disability Act (ADA). Their review provided detailed information about each location and resulted in a Self-evaluation and Transition Plan. This includes model policies/procedures for adoption by the Town as well as barrier removal solutions. The first action will be to form a Commission on Disability to recommend an implementation schedule for the various facilities.

Chapter 7 – Energy:

The Towns of Southampton, Westhampton and Williamsburg entered into a three-year MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with National Grid and Eversource to engage an Energy Manager. The goal is to improve energy efficiency, and sustainability of all National Grid and Eversource-served municipal and school buildings within the Towns. Further, through participation in the Mass Save School Decarbonization offer, the Towns aim to improve the environmental sustainability of their K-12 schools by implementing activities that will reduce school energy loads, work to decarbonize its building portfolio, improve indoor air quality and provide clean energy educational opportunities and more productive learning environments.

Chapter 8 – Land Use:

This year the Planning Board has continued with a consultant who focuses on zoning issues in particular. Zoning bylaws for Site Plan and Solar Generating Facilities were , put before the voters and approved at the Annual Town meeting in May.

The need for an actual land planner position continues to be important as the town faces more complex planning and zoning reviews. Although a position was created, budget limitations due to increasing health care costs have prevented this full-time position from being recruited.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Fowles, Chair

MODERATOR

Thank you for the continued opportunity to serve as your Southampton Town Moderator. It is my pleasure to facilitate our Town Meetings and everything else that comes with being your Town Moderator. This year's Annual Town Meeting and the Special Town Meetings were all conducted in an open, fair, and respectful forum where candid discussions were allowed for ALL our Townspeople. Discretion was exercised to invite courteous comments on every article, so all sides of each article have a chance to be heard. Anyone who wishes to speak and present a different point of view is heard.

Town Meetings are not just our Legislative Branch of Southampton's Government, We the People. They are a testament to our shared values and the power of our collective voice. I'm proud of our legislature, and I'm even prouder of every one of you who makes it possible.

Our Annual Town meeting was held on Tuesday, May 6. Its 30 articles, including our annual town budget of nearly \$24 million, were presented, discussed, and voted on in one evening. Articles included replacing and upgrading water mains on College Highway and zoning and swimming pool bylaws. It was a most active evening, and there was no hurry to finish in one evening. That night was a proud night in Southampton's long history, with 27 individuals at the mic.

Our Spring STM was held on March 22 with 9 articles. They ranged from approving money for engineering/architectural services to build a public safety building to a bylaw entitled The Naming of Public Buildings, Structures, and Lands. Our Autumn Special Town Meeting, which included 12 articles, was held on Tuesday, December 6. Voters approved funds to acquire several conservation lands.

Your attendance and exercise of your right to vote make these meetings truly meaningful. Thank you for being an integral part of our community!

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Floyd
Southampton Town Moderator

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

The Open Space Committee (OSC) has continued to improve open space and recreation opportunities for the residents of Southampton. We have updated and extended the town's required Open Space and Recreation Plan to 2031, acquired new properties, and expanded the town's capacity for future open space opportunities. We have met monthly and collaborated with the Conservation Commission, the Trailblazers, the Community Preservation Committee (CPC/CPA) and the Select Board to accomplish these goals. We have had significant accomplishments during the last year.

Open Space and Recreation Plan Update 2025–2031

The OSC developed a detailed update of the Southampton 2021-2028 OSRP. Goals and objectives were revised with input from several groups, including the Conservation Commission, the Water Department and the Parks Commission. The Select Board approved the submitted plan, followed by state approval. By extending the OSRP through 2031, we can continue to apply for state grants and saved the town the substantial expense, time and energy needed to complete an entirely new OSRP for 2028.

OSC Land Protection and Acquisition:

- Helped to protect more than 433 acres in town under the completed Mountain Waters Project, a leading example of our increased cooperation with Kestrel Land Trust (KLT). This multiparcel project includes an Agricultural Protection Restriction on 77 acres for Glendale Ridge Winery.
- Worked to preserve 40 acres at the end of Wolcott Road on lower Pomeroy Mountain. Kestrel Land Trust has agreed to provide funds for the town to acquire this property, to be protected under Chapter 97. The parcel is adjacent to 50 acres already conserved by the town. The acquisition was approved at the December Special Town Meeting (STM). The final purchase will take place in 2026 when the survey is complete.
- Worked on an agreement for the town to buy and conserve 27 acres abutting Alder Pond and adjacent to Wolf Hill Conservation Area. We received 66% of the funding from a state LAND grant, with the remainder coming from CPA. The town approved the purchase at the December STM. KLT will hold the conservation restriction (CR) on the property. The final purchase will take place after the survey is complete and the state approves the CR language.
- Worked with the Conservation Commission and CPC to provide funding for the possible purchase of a 2.3-acre lot abutting Szczypta Conservation Area on Glendale Road.
- Created a list of priority lands to consider for protection, based on ecology, wildlife corridors and proximity to already conserved lands.
- Working to create an inventory of town-owned properties.
- Worked with other committees to plan new trails at the recently purchased Breakneck Brook Conservation Area off Fomer Road.
- Worked with the Trailblazers in their important efforts to maintain and improve the trails in our conservation areas.
- Worked with Kestrel Land Trust on recent property acquisitions and long-term planning for future open space protection.

Respectfully submitted,
Open Space Committee

PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES BOARD

Personnel Policies and Procedures Board (PPPB) Final Report

As of December 6, 2025, pursuant to the vote of Town Meeting under Article 4, the responsibilities of the Personnel Policies and Procedures Board (PPPB) have been formally transferred to the Select Board. This action amended Chapter 61 of the Town's General Bylaws and centralized all personnel policy, procedure, and compensation authority under the Select Board.

The PPPB had long served as the Town's central body for overseeing personnel-related matters, including the development and maintenance of policies and procedures, administration of the classification and compensation system, and review of staffing-related requests. The Board worked to ensure consistency, transparency, and compliance across all Town departments, while supporting department heads and Town administration in the execution of their responsibilities.

Over the course of the past year, the PPPB continued to carry out its duties in accordance with its charge. This included the review and approval of personnel actions, updates to policies, and ongoing oversight of the Town's personnel systems. The Board also worked to maintain continuity and operational stability during a period of transition, ensuring that all processes and documentation remained in good standing prior to the transfer of authority.

With the adoption of Article 4, the Town has moved to a more centralized governance structure for personnel matters. All authority previously vested in the PPPB is now exercised by the Select Board, including the adoption and amendment of personnel policies and procedures for all Town departments, excluding the School Department.

On behalf of the PPPB, I would like to thank the Board's members, past and present, for their time, professionalism, and commitment to the Town of Southampton. I would also like to recognize the Town Administrator, department heads, and staff who worked collaboratively with the Board to support effective personnel management.

It has been a privilege to serve as Chairperson of the PPPB. I am confident that the Select Board, in coordination with Town administration, will continue to uphold the standards and practices that support the Town's workforce and its ability to serve the community effectively.

Respectfully submitted,
Jon Lumbra
Chairperson (Former)
Personnel Policies and Procedures Board

PLANNING BOARD

ANR:

152 County Road, 155 Glendale Road, 28 Cook Road, 13-15 Cold Spring Road, 98 Moosebrook Road, 70 Crooked Ledge Road.

BUILDING PERMITS:

35 Rattle Hill Road, 389 College Highway, 220 County Road, 4 Gill Farm Way, 15 College Highway and 139 Middle Road.

RESIDENTIAL SOLAR INSTALLATIONS:

138 Brickyard Road, 15 Pleasant Street, 4 Coleman Road and 1 Cook Road.

STORMWATER PERMITS:

Red Barn Storage, College Highway and Valley Road: this permit was originally approved on December 8, 2022. Since the timeframe for construction had lapsed, the applicant had to reapply and with no changes from the original plan, the permit was approved.

GRANTS:

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) awarded a grant to study the WSP OVERLAY Bylaw and make revisions including GPS Mapping of water Zones.
(the study has not been completed to date due to PVPC staffing issues).

ZONING REVISIONS:

The Board had four (4) Zoning amendments approved at the May 2025 ATM.

- Sec. 275.7.5, Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU)
- Sec. 275 7.6 Solar Installations
- Article IX, Site Plan Review
- Table I, Use Regulations

Respectfully submitted,
Planning Board

POLICE DEPARTMENT

A significant increase in activity was recorded in 2025. Log entries increased by approximately 14% from 14,409 entries in 2024 to 16,435 entries in 2025. Log entries are recorded for a variety of reasons, but all include some form of recorded action involving the police department and the community. These actions range from, but are not limited to, investigations, patrol operations, quality of life issues, administrative functions, community interactions, notifications, etc. The Department saw an approximate 21% increase in crimes reported, in particular an 86% increase in reported felonies. Motor vehicle crashes declined by nearly 40%.

Here is a window into the Police Department’s activity in 2025:

Investigations	149 Misdemeanors 78 Felonies 55 Arrests/ Criminal Summons 32 Domestic Violence Related Calls	9 Search Warrants 55 Fraud Cases 12 Death Investigations
Patrol	46 Disturbances 398 Calls Involving Citizen Assists 65 Wellbeing Checks 117 Animal Complaints	110 Accidental 911 Calls 64 Disabled Motor Vehicles 262 Alarm Calls 9385 Property Checks
Traffic	48 Car Crashes 1171 Motor vehicle Stops	2018 Speed Radar Assignments 524 Citations Issued
Medical Assists	921 Medical Call Assists	
Administrative	313 Firearms Licenses 167 Public Records Requests	19 solicitation Permits

The Police Department secured approximately \$36,600 in grant funding. This funding supported video camera and recording upgrades within the department, election security, traffic safety campaigns, and drug addiction recovery efforts.

The Southampton Police Department continued to expand its community outreach by adding a comfort dog to the Department. Simba, a Labrador Retriever mix patrols with his owner and handler Officer Daniel Hurley. Simba is deployed to calls-for-service where he can act as a calming mechanism for people in crisis or children being involved in activities where there is a police presence. Additionally, two officers received lifesaving awards.

On behalf of the membership of the Police Department, I would like to express our sincere gratitude for the support we have received and continue to receive from the citizens of Southampton, the various Town offices, boards, departments, and committees. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the staff of the police department for their hard work, dedication to the community, and commitment to professionalism.

Respectfully submitted,
Ian Illingsworth
Chief of Police

REGISTRARS, BOARD OF

The Southampton Board of Registrars is a four-member board that includes the Town Clerk. Board members are appointed by the Select Board after soliciting qualified individuals from the town's two leading political parties. Registrars have overlapping terms. A board member is appointed each March for a 3-year term beginning on April 1st of that year.

The Board of Registrars overseeing responsibilities include: registering voters, maintaining the local listing of residents, the registration records, sending pertinent records to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, certification of nomination papers, certifying absentee voter applications, and the administration of election recounts.

Registrars must meet the following qualifications:

- Be a registered voter in Southampton.
- Pledge to faithfully perform the duties of a registrar.
- Cannot hold another elected office in Southampton, nor hold any other office under the government of the US or the Commonwealth at the same time.
- Should not serve as an election poll worker.
- Cannot serve as chair, treasurer, or other principal position on a political committee.

2025 Elections in Southampton

- Names of applicants to be election workers were submitted to the select board for the year's elections.
- The number of election day wardens has increased to 4 due to Southampton now having two precincts. Wardens monitored voting machines to ensure that they are operating properly. Having 4 wardens allows for half-day shifts.
- The annual census mailing included applications to vote by mail.
- Overseas members of the armed forces continue to vote online.
- The Board signed candidate and ballot question petitions.
- New voting machines were tested prior to election days.
- The new set-up separating Precinct 1 from Precinct 2 went well but needs improvement.

March Special Town Meeting

- 151 residents were in attendance
- Participants voted 123 to 25 to move forward to a ballot the issue of the public safety complex building

Town Caucus

- 30 residents attended the town caucus

Number of voters

Annual Town Meeting: 224
Town election in person: 300
Town election mail-in: 100
Elected officials: write-ins:

REGISTRARS, BOARD OF

- Board of Assessors 2 years: 14 between both precincts
- Finance Committee 1 year: 28 between both precincts
- Finance Committee 3 years: 29 between both precincts
- Housing Authority 2 years: 11 between both precincts
- Personnel Policies & Procedures 1 year: 8 between both precincts
- Planning Board 5 years: 10 between both precincts
- Tree Warden 1 year

Number of voters

December Town Meeting: 115. The vote on Article 2: appointment of Finance Committee members was 53-50.

Further Updates

- Sylvia and Luci renewed visits to junior and senior high school student Civics Classes at HRHS to talk about voting, state and municipal governments.
- New street listing was completed and published.

Respectfully submitted,
Board of Registrars
Sylvia Galván, Chair
Lucille Dalton, Town Clerk
Mary Anne Kuroczko
Bill Walden

SELECT BOARD

This year has been another busy year for our Select Board. Early in the spring we had two vacancies on the Board due to members moving out of town. Given the timing of those notifications, one position was successfully filled at the annual town election but the second remained vacant for the remainder of the year. Personnel-wise at the Department level, a new health agent replaced a retiring long-time employee. The treasurer/collector resigned mid-year and the Select Board appointed an individual with municipal experience in Westfield to fill the position part-time.

Financially, this year has presented some very difficult challenges. First, approval of a Proposition 2 ½ override for some \$897,000 was presented to voters at the annual Town Meeting. This was recommended by the school committee as the level needed to fund the Norris Elementary School and provide current services. The question was defeated at the ballot, leading to significant cuts in school personnel and increased class size.

Second, we were faced with significant increases in health insurance costs for the town employees and retirees. Although we were able to budget for about an 18% increase we learned of an additional 30% increase in August. This led to an examination of our membership in the Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust. Ultimately, after negotiations with the Unions representing our teachers, police and highway employees, the Select Board voted to leave the Trust and join the State-managed insurance fund. The town anticipates savings in our insurance costs as employees find plan options to meet their insurance needs. Decreases in both our new growth numbers and State aid set the stage for a dire financial forecast as budget FY27 work began.

Last year's updating to the town's personnel classification and compensation plan provided for a more competitive pay scale for town employees. A further step of updating job descriptions to better reflect actual duties and responsibilities that may have changed over time remains to be done. Administratively, the new online payroll and financial system seem to be working well but for its full functionality other modules are needed. PermitLink is online and available for the public to obtain permits from various town departments. This is intended to reduce paperwork, improve processing timeliness for the public and efficiency for town staff.

Various general and zoning bylaws were amended and presented to residents at Annual and Special Town Meetings this year. General bylaws included: Swimming Pool Safety, Wetlands Protection, Personnel Policy and Procedures Board, Naming of Public Buildings, Structures and Lands, Finance Committee, and Town Meeting. Zoning bylaws included: Site Plan Review, Accessory Dwelling Units and Solar Generating Facility.

Aside from significant administrative changes, it was a busy project year as well starting with planning around the newly-acquired property known as 0 (or 125) College Highway. The town engaged Dodson and Flinker, a landscape architecture and planning firm, in conjunction with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC), to produce a Master Plan for the site. This would identify desired municipal uses and show their ideal layout on the property. Both the Public Safety Building Committee and the Senior Center Building Committee determined it would be a suitable location for their anticipated facility. Members of those committees joined others from the Housing Authority, the Greenway Committee and the Open Space Committee to discuss a wide variety of additional options for the acquired property that borders the future rail trail. Public engagement in

SELECT BOARD

the form of a community survey and two public workshops took place. Information gathered led to the development of a final visioning plan and design strategies by end-year.

Both building committees for Public Safety and the Senior Center had finalized their specific feasibility and design study. Focusing first on the combined police and fire station, the next step was to undertake a variety of pre-construction engineering and permitting tasks, essentially taking the conceptual design to construction-ready documents. This process, following municipal requirements, was projected to take about 18 months and needed voter approval to appropriate a percentage of overall funding to get that preparatory work started. A debt exclusion proposal to borrow for the amount of \$3.1 million was defeated at the March 2025 Special Town Meeting and at the Town Election. Without that funding, outside sourcing such as grant opportunities are needed to move forward, even for a possible re-design. With other financial challenges for the town coming to light mid-year, the Senior Center Building Committee decided to postpone pre-construction engineering plans for their proposed stand-alone facility for the time being.

Every few years the town needs to update some of its key planning documents. This year we completed the review and revision of our Hazard Mitigation Plan with the assistance of PVPC. Last updated in 2016, this plan identifies the risks and vulnerabilities Southampton faces with regard to flooding, winter storms, high winds, hurricanes, wildfires, and climate change. Once approved by state and federal emergency management agencies, Southampton is eligible for grant funding to undertake mitigation strategies/action plans. Similarly, an update of the Open Space and Recreation Plan's goals and objectives was approved by the State and is valid through 2031.

The Town engaged a consulting firm to undertake an assessment of the town's public buildings and facilities including Conant Park, to determine the Town's level of compliance under the Americans with Disability Act (ADA). Their review provided detailed information about each location and resulted in a Self-evaluation and Transition Plan. Recommendations should be prioritized and implemented over the coming two to three years, funds permitting.

Finally, a dedicated volunteer committee organized and managed a variety of monthly events to celebrate Southampton's own 250th anniversary.

We want to thank all the individuals who manage the daily affairs of our local government, especially our committed staff in the various town departments. It has been a stressful year, with financial issues and unfilled positions in some areas making it difficult to provide all the services the residents expect. Nonetheless, they have done their best. Southampton is also fortunate to have dozens of qualified residents who serve on Committees, Commissions and Boards without compensation. These individuals dedicate their energy, substantial time and expertise to carry out a variety of responsibilities and projects that would not otherwise be available to the community.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Fowles, Chair

TOWN ACCOUNTANT - GENERAL

The following is a listing of the general-purpose financial statements of the Town of Southampton on June 30, 2025, and for the year then ended:

Combined Balance Sheet – All Funds and Account Groups

Statement of Special Revenue Fund Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances

Statement of Capital Funds Fund Reserves, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances

Budget vs. Actual Revenue and Expenditure FY2025

Detailed Expense Report for FY2025

Respectfully submitted,
Bradley Okscin
Town Accountant

TOWN ACCOUNTANT – COMBINED BALANCE SHEET FY2025

Southampton

Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Account Groups as of June 30, 2025 (Unaudited)

	Governmental Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Types		Fiduciary	Account	Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Internal Services	Fund Types Trust and Agency	Groups Long-term Debt	
ASSETS								
Cash and cash equivalents	2,163,619.23	6,460,276.50	(554,569.02)	1,718,019.59		2,724,498.70		12,511,845.00
Investments								0.00
Receivables:								
Personal property taxes	7,830.09							7,830.09
Real estate taxes	214,899.12	752.68						215,651.80
Allowance for abatements and exemptions	39,524.74							39,524.74
Tax liens	130,021.70	3,496.28						133,517.98
Deferred taxes								0.00
Motor vehicle excise	98,291.92							98,291.92
Other excises	926.00							926.00
User fees								
Utility liens added to taxes				131,832.37				131,832.37
Departmental		414,515.26		5,206.32				414,515.26
Special assessments		37,693.14						37,693.14
Due from other governments								0.00
Other receivables	1,945.84							1,945.84
Foreclosures/Possessions	44,209.10							44,209.10
Prepays								0.00
Due to/from other funds								0.00
Working deposit								0.00
Inventory								0.00
Fixed assets, net of accumulated depreciation								0.00
Amounts to be provided - payment of bonds			1,825,379.00					1,825,379.00
Amounts to be provided - vacation/sick leave							3,512,321.00	3,512,321.00
Total Assets	2,701,267.74	6,916,733.86	1,270,809.98	1,858,675.17	0.00	2,724,498.70	3,512,321.00	18,984,306.45

TOWN ACCOUNTANT – COMBINED BALANCE SHEET FY2025

LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY							
Liabilities:							
Warrants payable	241,117.56						241,117.56
Accounts payable	589,636.97						589,636.97
Accrued payroll							0.00
Withholdings							0.00
Accrued claims payable							0.00
Due to/from other funds							0.00
Due to other governments							0.00
Other liabilities							0.00
Deferred revenue:							
Real and personal property taxes	241,195.08	752.68					241,947.76
Tax liens	130,021.70	3,496.28					133,517.98
Deferred taxes							0.00
Foreclosures/Possessions	44,209.10						44,209.10
Motor vehicle excise	98,291.92						98,291.92
Other excises	926.00						926.00
User fees			131,832.37				131,832.37
Utility liens added to taxes			5,206.32				5,206.32
Departmental		414,515.26					414,515.26
Special assessments		37,693.14					37,693.14
Due from other governments							0.00
Other receivables	1,945.84		3,616.89				5,562.73
Deposits receivable							0.00
Prepaid taxes/fees							0.00
Tailings	19,875.00						19,875.00
IBNR							0.00
Agency Funds					8,934.47		8,934.47
Notes payable							0.00
Bonds payable				1,825,379.00			5,337,700.00
Vacation and sick leave liability						3,512,321.00	0.00
Total Liabilities	1,367,219.17	456,457.36	140,655.58	1,825,379.00	0.00	8,934.47	7,310,966.58

TOWN ACCOUNTANT – COMBINED BALANCE SHEET FY2025

Fund Equity:										
Reserved for encumbrances						4,389.64				4,389.64
Reserved for expenditures	413,492.00					65,344.63				478,836.63
Reserved for continuing appropriations										0.00
Reserved for petty cash	100.00					100.00				200.00
Reserved for appropriation deficit										0.00
Reserved for snow and ice deficit										0.00
Reserved for COVID-19 deficit										0.00
Reserved for debt service										0.00
Reserved for premiums										0.00
Reserved for WATER METERS						279,074.10				279,074.10
Undesignated fund balance	920,456.57					1,369,111.22			2,715,564.23	10,910,839.50
Unreserved retained earnings										0.00
Investment in capital assets										0.00
Total Fund Equity	1,334,048.57					1,718,019.59			0.00	11,673,339.87
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	2,701,267.74					1,858,675.17			3,512,321.00	18,984,306.45

PROOF BALANCE SHEET IS IN BALANCE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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PROOF FUND BALANCE DETAIL										
AGREES TO THE BALANCE SHEET	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROOF RECEIVABLES DETAIL										
AGREES TO THE BALANCE SHEET	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

TOWN ACCOUNTANT – SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS FY2025

**Town of Southampton
Special Revenue Funds
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

	Fund Balance <u>Beginning</u>	Revenues and <u>Transfers</u>	Total <u>Available</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	Fund Balance <u>Ending</u>
<u>School Funds</u>					
School Lunch	116,951	243,215	360,166	219,928	140,238
Pre-School Program	41,158	45,665	86,822	92,467	(5,644)
94-142 IDEA Grant	(95,604)	69,021	(26,583)	13,676	(40,259)
Title I	2,227		2,227	70,128	(67,902)
SPED Circuit Breaker	98,841	145,544	244,385	238,939	5,446
School REAP Grant	(10,296)	81,807	71,511	84,045	(12,534)
School Choice	225,350	377,686	603,036	434,822	168,214
Student Activities Fund	11,212	18,898	30,110	18,939	11,171
Norris Tech Expenses	6,294	4,562	10,856	5,205	5,651
Norris Revolving Fund	223	1,577	1,800	3,121	(1,321)
Norris Gift Fund	4,231	3,432	7,663	3,105	4,558
School Building Use	555	4,630	5,185	3,705	1,480
Foundation Reserve Grant	120,763		120,763	-	120,763
After School	-		-	-	-
Student Opp	-		-	-	-
Title IVA	1,218		1,218	1,218	-
Project Bread Grant	(42)		(42)		(42)
Title II	676		676		676
FY24 Rural School Aid	111,217	86,134	197,351		197,351
School Mask Reimbursement	-		-		-
SCA Funds	11,148		11,148		11,148
Teacher Quality	-		-		-
Early Ed SPED FY23	(14,743)	14,743	-		-
FY24 Safety Grant	-	18,492	18,492	18,492	-
Investigating History Grant	-	2,909	2,909	2,553	356
Other	1,373	40	1,413		1,413
Total School Funds	632,751	1,118,356	1,751,106	1,210,343	540,763
<u>Revolving Funds</u>					
Fire Burning Permits	10,546	5,350	15,896	6,694	9,202
Police Outside Detail	(15,344)	203,246	187,901	19,950	167,951
Inspections	7,478	28,000	35,478	218,775	(183,297)
Dog Control	18,726	7,162	25,888	6,039	19,849
Council on Aging Van	(525)	22,344	21,819	26,548	(4,729)
Board of Health	-	65,026	65,026	47,377	17,649
Planning Board	(532)	2,432	1,900	4,697	(2,798)
Conant Park Pavilion	(4,250)	7,550	3,300	7,345	(4,044)
Park Commission Usage	10,259	11,192	21,451	4,443	17,008
Conservation Commission	5,617	4,387	10,004	2,330	7,675
Zoning Board of Appeals	6,351		6,351	-	6,351
Weights and Measures	1,049	4,910	5,959	4,462	1,497
Tax Title	679	11,701	12,380	150	12,230
Sale fo Compost Bins	-	25	25	-	25
ConCom Forestry	30,125		30,125	2,727	27,398
Total Revolving Funds	70,178	373,325	443,502	351,536	91,966

TOWN ACCOUNTANT – SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS FY2025

**Town of Southampton
Special Revenue Funds
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

	Fund Balance Beginning	Revenues and Transfers	Total Available	Expenditures	Fund Balance Ending
<u>Other Special Revenues</u>					
Ambulance Fees	393,036	415,464	808,500	296,775	511,725
Library - State Grant	21,476	19,287	40,764	11,971	28,793
Council on Aging - Local	2,845	9,032	11,877	3,767	8,110
Council on Aging - State	13,017	28,725	41,742	33,088	8,654
Project D.A.R.E.	1,765		1,765		1,765
911 Incentive Grant	3,736		3,736		3,736
Celebrate Southampton	30		30		30
Cultural Council - State	9,384	6,900	16,284	5,960	10,324
Cultural Council - Local	338		338		338
PEG Programming Grant	18,624		18,624		18,624
Wetlands Protection	12,399		12,399		12,399
Fire SAFE Grant	5,857		5,857	5,857	-
OCDTF Investigation	875		875		875
Sale of Cemetery Lots	66,236	2,700	68,936		68,936
Sale of Real Estate	6,526		6,526		6,526
Scholarship Fund	454		454		454
Septic Betterment Program	24,591		24,591		24,591
WPAT Loan Repayment	100,332	11,711	112,043	17,500	94,543
WPAT Loan Interest	39,384	85	39,469	4,621	34,848
WPAT Loan Repayment FY22	651		651		651
WPAT Loan Interest FY22	222		222		222
WPAT Loan Repayment FY23	3,846		3,846		3,846
WPAT Loan Interest FY23	696		696		696
Highway Emerg. Preparedness Grant	4,700		4,700		4,700
Police Patrol Stimulus Grant	1,120		1,120		1,120
Law Enforcement Drug Fund	3,350		3,350		3,350
Extended Polling Hours	2,852	836	3,687		3,687
Insurance Recoveries	5,480		5,480		5,480
SAMHSA-CARA Grant	1,662	1,000	2,662	737	1,925
Council on Aging- Walking Club	491		491		491
Generator- State Grant	5,187		5,187		5,187
TNC Ride Assessment	791		791		791
Angel Heart Memorial	1,970	200	2,170		2,170
Covid-19 Wages	(23,890)		(23,890)		(23,890)
Covid-19 Expenses	(107,707)		(107,707)		(107,707)
Public Health-Covid-19	209		209		209
Community Compact- It Grant	365	39,590	39,955	3,334	36,621
Cannabis Comm Benefit Sub Abuse Exp	10,000		10,000		10,000

TOWN ACCOUNTANT – SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS FY2025

Town of Southampton
Special Revenue Funds
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Fund Balance <u>Beginning</u>	Revenues and <u>Transfers</u>	Total <u>Available</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	Fund Balance <u>Ending</u>
<u>Other Special Revenues</u>					
Election- Covid Grant	63		63		63
PLANNING GRANT LAND	(4,898)		(4,898)		(4,898)
Mass Works Grant	0		0		0
ARPA Funds Expense	340,196		340,196	277,188	63,009
FY22 TEACHER QUALITY	-		-		-
ConCom Mitigation Funds MassDEP Exp	45,934		45,934		45,934
Loss of Taxes	2,479	47,858	50,337		50,337
Mount Grace Land Outreach	1,554		1,554		1,554
HAZ MIT GRANT WM ROUTE 10	(60,279)		(60,279)	8,710	(68,989)
MA Rehabilitation Commis	30		30		30
FY22 School EBT Reimb	614		614		614
Covid-19 Employee Extended Sick Exp	(1,636)		(1,636)		(1,636)
FY22 911 Department Training	4,494		4,494		4,494
HIGHLAND VALLEY MEMORY CAFE GRANT	4,517		4,517		4,517
ESSER II Grant Payroll	11,718		11,718	11,718	-
Mass Trails Greenway	(1,000)		(1,000)	157,000	(158,000)
FY23 Neighborhood Outreach	(1,554)		(1,554)		(1,554)
ESSER III Payroll	6,587		6,587	23,650	(17,063)
FY22 COA Earmark	29,827		29,827	6,679	23,148
MA OGR/Munic Safety	-	830	830		830
Opioid Settlement	-	18,786	18,786		18,786
DWSP 235 Pomeroy Meadow	-		-		-
Mass Trails Grant Phase I	-		-		-
FY23 Rural School Aid	1,918		1,918		1,918
ATM 6722 Art 17 Mtrails Des Match	15,000		15,000		15,000
FY23 Firefighter Safety Equipment	-		-		-
PARC Splash Deck	10,196		10,196		10,196
Com Compact Classification	-		-	19,800	(19,800)
EMPG	(5,394)	5,394	-	2,700	(2,700)
Municipal Regionalization Incentive	39,000		39,000		39,000
LTC Accessible Grant	10,000		10,000	10,000	-
State Earmark - FY24 Police Cruiser	(24,811)	25,000	189		189
PSB FY23 State Earmark	(50,000)	50,000	-		-
PSB FY24 State Earmark	-		-		-
Bridge Academy FY24	3,000		3,000		3,000
Manhan Meadows Trail Restoration	-	2,600	2,600	2,600	-

TOWN ACCOUNTANT – SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS FY2025

Town of Southampton
Special Revenue Funds
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Fund Balance <u>Beginning</u>	Revenues and <u>Transfers</u>	Total <u>Available</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	Fund Balance <u>Ending</u>
<u>Other Special Revenues</u>					
FY24 SIG Memory Café	(4,859)	4,859	-		-
FY24 SIG Outreach	(8,929)	9,667	738		738
Mass Trails Greeway Design 3	(196,250)	244,000	47,750	78,500	(30,750)
STM 12.13.22 Art 6 Building Secure	9,119	1,100	10,219	7,500	2,719
LTC Grant 2	10,000		10,000	4,000	6,000
Fair Share Funds Supplement 2024	-	192,237	192,237	192,237	-
FY24 Firefighter Equipment Grant	(15,500)	15,500	-		-
FY25 SIG Modernization	-	6,755	6,755	17,459	(10,704)
FY25 Green Communities Grant	-	132,485	132,485	132,485	-
Cybersecurity Improvement Grant	-	-	-	20,652	(20,652)
FY25 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant	-	-	-	15,469	(15,469)
SMRP/RDP Grant	-	-	-	5,600	(5,600)
FY25 Municipal Road Safety Grant	-	8,065	8,065	10,700	(2,635)
FY25 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant 2	-	-	-	7,719	(7,719)
PFAS Settlement	-	5,728	5,728		5,728
Library Conference Room	-	8,000	8,000		8,000
Total Other Special Revenue	804,034	1,314,396	2,118,430	1,395,973	722,457
Total Special Revenue Funds	\$ 1,506,963	\$ 2,806,076	\$ 4,313,038	\$ 2,957,853	\$ 1,355,186

TOWN ACCOUNTANT - CAPITAL FUNDS FY2025

Town of Southampton Capital

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Fund Balance <u>Beginning</u>	Transfers from <u>Other Funds</u>	Total <u>Available</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	Transfers to <u>Other Funds</u>	Fund Balance <u>Ending</u>
Capital						
College Highway Property ATM5724	-	1,010,019	1,010,019	2,200,000	-	(1,189,981)
Town Clerk ECode 360 Bylaws Softw	671	-	671	-	-	671
Computer Network Server	7,500	-	7,500	-	7,500	-
Town Hall PC and Software	1,870	-	1,870	1,870	-	-
Town Hall Sidewalk	16,750	-	16,750	12,775	-	3,975
Town Hall ADA Doors ATM24 Art 6	-	11,628	11,628	2,742	-	8,886
HVAC Mini-Split ATM24 Art 6	-	8,448	8,448	-	-	8,448
Police Cruiser	3,539	-	3,539	-	-	3,539
Police Portable Radios	18,000	-	18,000	18,000	-	-
Police Pickup Truck	8,425	-	8,425	-	-	8,425
Fire Dept Brush Truck	392	-	392	392	-	(0)
Fire Dept Thermal Imaging Cameras	(90)	-	(90)	-	-	(90)
Fire Vehicle Exhaust	38,000	-	38,000	38,000	-	-
Norris School Teacher Laptops	329	-	329	-	329	-
Norris School Sidewalk Repairs	600	-	600	-	600	-
Norris PA System	1,907	-	1,907	-	1,907	-
Norris Gutter Repair	3,287	-	3,287	-	-	3,287
Norris Masonry Repairs Art. 34	3,280	-	3,280	-	-	3,280
Norris Int Doors Replace II Art. 35	53	-	53	-	-	53
Norris Masonry Costs ATM 6.7.22	4,700	-	4,700	-	-	4,700
Norris Ceiling Repair	114	-	114	-	-	114
Norris Gym Resurfacing ATM24 Art 6	-	20,405	20,405	20,400	-	5
Norris Structural ATM24 Art6	-	18,875	18,875	-	-	18,875
Highway Plow	35,103	-	35,103	-	35,103	-
Highway One-Ton Truck Article 30	1,477	-	1,477	1,477	-	-
F550 Wing & Sander Truck	6,608	-	6,608	-	6,608	-
Wheel Loader ATM 6.7.22	-	132,879	132,879	132,879	-	-
Highway New Heating System	49,880	-	49,880	11,475	-	38,405
Highway Dump Truck STM12.14.21	2,266	220,500	222,766	222,766	-	-
Highway Roof ATM24 Artt 6	-	24,895	24,895	24,895	-	-
Edwards Library Boiler Replacement	2,640	-	2,640	-	2,640	-

TOWN ACCOUNTANT - CAPITAL FUNDS FY2025

Town of Southampton Capital

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Fund Balance Beginning	Transfers from Other Funds	Total Available	Expenditures	Transfers to Other Funds	Fund Balance Ending
Capital						
Library Lighting ATM24 Art 6	-	7,000	7,000	-		7,000
Library Septic Pump ATM24 Art 6	-	5,500	5,500	2,508		2,992
Library Flooring ATM24 Art 6	-	12,492	12,492	12,492		-
Tire Dump Cleanup - Local	16,073		16,073			16,073
Library Security System	34		34			34
Pomeroy Meadow Project	43,265		43,265			43,265
East Street Bridge Replacement	272,039	1,472,000	1,744,039	1,472,000		272,039
Total Capital	538,711	2,944,641	3,483,352	4,156,671	72,687	(746,006)
Water Capital						
Water Source Development	91,630		91,630			91,630
Water System Master Plan	27,000		27,000			27,000
Water Safe Routes to School Project	2,011		2,011			2,011
Water Projects	147,945		147,945	77,149		70,796
Total Water Capital	268,586	-	268,586	77,149	-	191,437

TOWN ACCOUNTANT – BUDGET vs ACTUAL FY2025

Town of Southampton
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
General Fund - Budget and Actual
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	Variance Favorable <u>(Unfavorable)</u>
<u>Revenues</u>			
Taxes:			
Real estate	\$ 15,061,805	\$ 14,942,200	\$ (119,604)
Personal property	388,860	387,150	(1,710)
Sale of tax possessions			-
Motor vehicle and other excise	1,141,500	1,236,023	94,523
Penalties and interest	96,000	88,864	(7,136)
Payments in lieu of taxes	70,000	72,587	2,587
Meals tax	61,642	68,815	7,173
Miscellaneous Tax		42,383	42,383
Cannabis Tax	150,000	173,238	23,238
Cannabis Impact Fee	-		-
State aid	3,615,365	3,634,094	18,729
Federal aid	-		-
Departmental revenues	301,910	264,117	(37,793)
Earnings on invested funds	250,000	193,814	(56,186)
Court fines	4,000	9,673	5,673
School Bus Fees	2,500	3,535	1,035
Indirect Costs	157,599	112,827	(44,772)
Transfers	267,500	267,500	-
Miscellaneous	209,141	45,394	(163,747)
Note Proceeds	3,025,379	1,825,379	(1,200,000)
Total Revenues	21,777,822	21,542,215	(235,607)
 <u>Expenditures</u>			
General government	955,473	896,765	58,708
Protection of persons and property	2,581,194	2,243,414	337,781
Education	13,295,799	13,081,105	214,694
Public works and facilities	1,152,055	963,938	188,117
Human services	181,125	174,079	7,046
Culture and recreation	212,679	212,591	88
Debt service	421,967	421,967	-
Intergovernmental expenses	11,283	11,283	-
Miscellaneous	3,738,969	3,719,408	19,561
Total Expenditures	22,550,544	21,724,550	825,994
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	(772,722)	(182,335)	590,387

TOWN ACCOUNTANT – EXPENSE REPORT FY2025

AccountNumber	AccountName	Allocated	Expended	EndBalance	PercentVariance
01-100-5000-00000	Wage Adjustments	20,000.00	-20,000.00	0.00	100.00
01-122-5700-00000	Select Board Expenses	3,442.00	-2,500.06	941.94	72.63
01-122-5701-00000	Select Board Expenses-Minutes	2,040.00	-1,740.00	300.00	85.29
01-122-5703-00000	Internet Service	2,639.76	-2,639.80	-0.04	100.00
01-122-5704-00000	Webpage Maintenance	5,750.00	-5,750.00	0.00	100.00
01-122-5706-00000	Employment Advertising	1,000.00	-1,000.00	900.00	10.00
01-125-5113-00000	Town n Administrator Salary	117,500.00	-117,500.00	0.00	100.00
01-129-5113-00000	Administrative Assistant Wages	18,025.53	-18,025.53	0.00	100.00
01-129-5700-00000	Administration Expenses	1,500.00	-1,500.00	0.00	100.00
01-129-5701-00000	Photocopier Lease and Supplies	3,425.00	-3,243.76	181.24	94.71
01-129-5702-00000	Postage	18,400.00	-18,155.57	244.43	98.67
01-131-5700-00000	Finance Committee Expenses	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.00
01-132-5780-00000	Reserve Fund	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	0.00
01-135-5113-00000	Town n Accountant Salary	60,731.68	-60,731.68	0.00	100.00
01-135-5114-00000	Assistant Accountant Wages	7,280.58	-6,894.09	386.49	94.69
01-135-5200-00000	Independent Audit	47,000.00	-47,000.00	0.00	100.00
01-135-5700-00000	Town n Accountant Expenses	800.00	-323.19	476.81	40.40
01-135-5701-00000	Accounting Softw are Support	4,654.17	-4,654.17	0.00	100.00
01-141-5114-00000	Principal Assessor	42,457.45	-42,457.45	0.00	100.00
01-141-5116-00000	Assessor Admin Assistant	24,884.23	-24,884.23	0.00	100.00
01-141-5700-00000	Assessors Expenses	5,425.00	-3,783.56	1,641.44	69.74
01-141-5701-00000	Assessors Softw are Support	15,152.00	-15,152.00	0.00	100.00
01-141-5702-00000	Assessors - Town Maps	4,500.00	-2,800.00	1,700.00	62.22
01-141-5703-00000	Assessors - Consultants	12,445.32	-2,000.00	10,445.32	16.07
01-141-5704-00000	Senior Work-Off Program Wages	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01-141-5711-00000	Assessors- Cyclical Inspections	3,600.00	0.00	3,600.00	0.00
01-145-5113-00000	Treasurer/Collector Salary	70,361.20	-70,361.20	0.00	100.00
01-145-5114-00000	Treasurer/Collector Certification S	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.00	100.00
01-145-5115-00000	Assistant Treasurer/Collector Wages	73,082.83	-73,082.83	0.00	100.00
01-145-5700-00000	Treasurer/Collector Expenses	8,975.00	-7,692.88	1,282.12	85.71
01-145-5701-00000	Treasurer - Softw are Support	12,330.00	-7,301.55	5,028.45	59.22
01-151-5300-00000	Legal Expenses	61,250.00	-53,453.00	7,797.00	87.27
01-158-5700-00000	Tax Title Expenses	5,000.00	-1,187.00	3,813.00	23.74
01-161-5113-00000	Town n Clerk Salary	49,196.47	-49,196.47	0.00	100.00
01-161-5114-00000	Town n Clerk Assistant Wages	18,460.00	-15,363.96	3,096.04	83.23
01-161-5700-00000	Town n Clerk Expenses	7,021.60	-4,421.01	2,600.59	62.96
01-163-5115-00000	Election/Registration Wages	6,793.69	-6,793.69	0.00	100.00
01-163-5700-00000	Election/Registration Expenses	7,937.65	-7,937.65	0.00	100.00
01-171-5115-00000	Conservation Agent Wages	9,500.00	-9,717.14	-217.14	102.29

TOWN ACCOUNTANT – EXPENSE REPORT FY2025

AccountNumber	AccountName	Allocated	Expended	EndBalance	PercentVariance
01-171-5700-00000	Conservation Commission Expenses	6,000.00	-1,396.10	4,603.90	23.27
01-172-5700-00000	Open Space Committee Expenses	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00
01-175-5701-00000	Pioneer Valley Planning Commission	1,164.70	-1,164.70	0.00	100.00
01-175-5703-00000	Peg Programming	69,000.00	-57,721.94	11,278.06	83.65
01-192-5117-00000	Town n Hall Custodial Wages	12,120.10	-10,249.74	1,870.36	84.57
01-192-5405-00000	Communications	9,500.00	-9,500.00	0.00	100.00
01-192-5411-00000	Gas and Electric - Town n Hall	35,389.86	-32,433.95	2,955.91	91.65
01-192-5701-00000	Town n Hall Bldg Expenses	31,215.41	-25,461.28	5,754.13	81.57
01-195-5700-00000	Town n Report	500.00	-500.00	0.00	100.00
01-196-5700-00000	Technology - Equipment	14,761.16	-14,104.79	656.37	95.55
01-196-5701-00000	Technology - Services	30,797.40	-30,793.60	3.80	99.99
01-197-5701-00000	Emergency Management Expenses	250.00	0.00	250.00	0.00
01-197-5702-00000	Reverse 911 System (Code Red)	4,192.50	-4,095.00	97.50	97.67
01-210-5113-00000	Police Chief Salary	143,628.33	-143,628.33	0.00	100.00
01-210-5115-00000	Police Department Wages	843,484.23	-843,053.80	430.43	99.95
01-210-5116-00000	Police Educational Incentive	49,769.26	-47,343.38	2,425.88	95.13
01-210-5117-00000	Police OT Wages	135,759.19	-128,609.42	7,149.77	94.73
01-210-5118-00000	Police Additional Wages	4,924.16	-3,917.79	1,006.37	79.56
01-210-5120-00000	Police Admin Aid	26,842.40	-26,823.52	18.88	99.93
01-210-5700-00000	Police Dept Expenses	99,621.00	-97,715.07	1,905.93	98.09
01-210-5701-00000	Police Equipment Maintenance	29,806.00	-22,646.24	7,159.76	75.98
01-210-5703-00000	Police Building Expenses	25,113.04	-20,482.70	4,630.34	81.56
01-215-5700-00000	Communications Expenses	175,000.00	-609.54	174,390.46	0.35
01-220-5113-00000	Fire Chief Salary	102,500.00	-102,500.00	0.00	100.00
01-220-5115-00000	Fire Department Wages	164,000.00	-137,297.62	26,702.38	83.72
01-220-5116-00000	Fire/EMS Admin Aide	27,030.00	-27,030.00	0.00	100.00
01-220-5700-00000	Fire Department Expenses	34,570.00	-30,179.86	4,390.14	87.30
01-220-5703-00000	Fire Truck Maintenance	13,500.00	-10,377.03	3,122.97	76.87
01-220-5705-00000	Fire/EMS Building Expenses	18,500.00	-17,299.98	1,200.02	93.51
01-220-5710-00000	Fire Expenses- Structural turnout g	15,000.00	-15,000.00	0.00	100.00
01-232-5114-00000	EMT Wages	465,000.00	-436,480.74	28,519.26	93.87
01-236-5698-00000	Ambulance Billing	18,000.00	-16,243.03	1,756.97	90.24
01-236-5699-00000	EMT Licensing and Certification	2,500.00	-2,218.00	282.00	88.72
01-236-5700-00000	Ambulance/EMS Expenses	110,000.00	-107,194.25	2,805.75	97.45
01-236-5703-00000	Ambulance Maintenance	10,000.00	-6,763.36	3,236.64	67.63
01-241-5113-00000	Building Inspector Salary	61,026.14	-61,026.14	0.00	100.00
01-241-5700-00000	Building Inspection Expenses	4,890.00	-3,221.89	1,668.11	65.89
01-241-5701-00000	Building Inspector Alternate	800.00	-80.00	720.00	10.00
01-241-5705-00000	Gas/Plumbing Expenses	1,000.00	-771.37	228.63	77.14
01-300-5700-00000	E-Permitting Software	4,000.00	-4,000.00	0.00	100.00
01-300-5701-00000	Elementary School	5,534,994.57	-5,534,994.57	0.00	100.00
01-300-5702-00000	School Choice Tuition	0.00	-94,135.00	-94,135.00	0.00
01-300-5702-00000	Local School Transportation	382,559.10	-311,131.31	71,427.79	81.33

TOWN ACCOUNTANT – EXPENSE REPORT FY2025

AccountNumber	AccountName	Allocated	Expended	EndBalance	PercentVariance
01-300-5705-00000	Charter School Tuition	0.00	-235,491.00	-235,491.00	0.00
01-320-5690-00000	Vocational Tuition	1,141,653.00	-1,094,968.11	46,684.89	95.91
01-320-5691-00000	Vocational Transportation	82,984.90	-82,914.50	70.40	99.92
01-330-5690-00000	Hampshire Regional Operating	5,727,471.00	-5,727,471.00	0.00	100.00
01-422-5113-00000	Highway Superintendent Salary	103,990.86	-103,990.86	0.00	100.00
01-422-5114-00000	Admin Assistant Highway	26,569.80	-26,859.26	-289.46	101.09
01-422-5115-00000	General Highway Wages	170,566.48	-166,945.84	3,620.64	97.88
01-422-5700-00000	General Highway Expenses	316,535.10	-259,809.28	56,725.82	82.08
01-422-5702-00000	Road Machinery Expenses	104,238.00	-76,923.58	27,314.42	73.80
01-422-5705-00000	MS-4 Storm Water Management	67,001.25	-37,676.32	29,324.93	56.23
01-422-5705-00000	Highway Building Expenses	36,848.93	-36,154.80	694.13	98.12
01-423-5115-00000	Winter Roads Wages	125,640.91	-122,128.72	3,512.19	97.20
01-423-5700-00000	Winter Roads Expenses	16,426.70	-16,426.70	0.00	100.00
01-424-5200-00000	Street Lighting	35,464.00	-28,343.63	7,120.37	79.92
01-491-5700-00000	Cemetery Commission Expenses	13,680.00	-13,680.00	0.00	100.00
01-493-5700-00000	Tree Warden Expenses	6,556.36	-5,900.00	656.36	89.99
01-510-5113-00000	Health Director Salary	54,191.17	-51,302.26	2,888.91	94.67
01-511-5700-00000	Board of Health Expenses	3,000.00	-946.62	2,053.38	31.55
01-511-5703-00000	Sharps Program	3,000.00	-2,353.83	646.17	78.46
01-511-5704-00000	Mosquito Control	5,000.00	-5,000.00	0.00	100.00
01-511-5706-00000	BOH Special Consultants	10,000.00	-10,000.00	0.00	100.00
01-519-5115-00000	Animal Inspector Salary	4,500.00	-4,500.00	0.00	100.00
01-541-5113-00000	Council on Aging Director	53,437.26	-53,437.26	0.00	100.00
01-541-5121-00000	Council on Aging Wages	13,215.10	-16,588.82	-3,373.72	125.53
01-541-5700-00000	Council on Aging Expenses	1,829.62	-1,829.62	0.00	100.00
01-543-5115-00000	Veterans Agent Salary	12,468.68	-14,253.27	-1,784.59	114.31
01-543-5700-00000	Veterans Agent Expenses	1,786.24	-1,341.56	444.68	75.11
01-543-5771-00000	Veterans Benefits	19,834.76	-12,525.43	7,309.33	63.15
01-610-5114-00000	Veterans Director Wages	57,055.78	-57,055.78	0.00	100.00
01-610-5115-00000	Library Wages	89,929.27	-91,738.87	-1,809.60	102.01
01-610-5700-00000	Library Expenses	3,947.10	-3,053.80	893.30	77.37
01-610-5701-00000	Library Books Expense	38,400.00	-38,308.11	91.89	99.76
01-610-5702-00000	Library- Utilities	14,250.00	-13,183.16	1,066.84	92.51
01-610-5703-00000	Library- Maintenance	6,672.34	-6,563.91	108.43	98.37
01-650-5700-00000	Park Commission Expenses	2,075.00	-2,067.24	7.76	99.63
01-660-5700-00000	Historical Commission	1,000.00	-455.31	544.69	45.53
01-693-5700-00000	Memorial Day	250.00	-165.00	85.00	66.00
01-710-5910-00000	Debt Larrabee Renovation	110,000.00	-110,000.00	0.00	100.00
01-710-5911-00000	Debt Highway Truck	30,000.00	-30,000.00	0.00	100.00
01-710-5919-00000	Debt WPAT Bonds	17,500.00	-17,500.00	0.00	100.00
01-710-5929-00000	Debt John V. Garstka Bridge DE	64,000.00	-64,000.00	0.00	100.00
01-710-5931-00000	Debt FY24 Dump Truck	36,750.00	-36,750.00	0.00	100.00
01-710-5932-00000	Debt FY24 Loader	44,293.00	-44,293.00	0.00	100.00
01-710-5933-00000	Debt College Highway Property	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

TOWN ACCOUNTANT – EXPENSE REPORT FY2025

AccountNumber	AccountName	Allocated	Expended	EndBalance	PercentVariance	
01-751-5915-00000	Int Larrabee Renovation	26,468.76	-26,468.76	0.00	100.00	
01-751-5916-00000	Int Highway Truck	3,000.00	-3,000.00	0.00	100.00	
01-751-5933-00000	Int John V. Garstka Bridge DE	68,928.00	-68,928.00	0.00	100.00	
01-751-5934-00000	Int FY24 Dump Truck	12,373.68	-12,373.68	0.00	100.00	
01-751-5935-00000	Int FY24 Loader	8,103.48	-8,103.48	0.00	100.00	
01-752-5925-00000	Int Short-Term Debt	550.00	-550.00	0.00	100.00	
01-820-5640-00000	State - Air Pollution	0.00	-1,977.00	-1,977.00	0.00	
01-820-5641-00000	State - RMV Surcharge	0.00	-3,900.00	-3,900.00	0.00	
01-840-5663-00000	Regional Transit Charge	0.00	-5,406.00	-5,406.00	0.00	
01-911-5170-00000	Retirement Contributory	996,966.00	-996,966.00	0.00	100.00	
01-912-5170-00000	Workers Compensation	59,205.00	-48,358.05	10,846.95	81.68	
01-913-5170-00000	Unemployment Compensation	15,000.00	-14,902.87	97.13	99.35	
01-914-5169-00000	Group Health- Retiree	264,182.92	-264,182.92	0.00	100.00	
01-914-5170-00000	Group Health Insurance	999,561.36	-999,561.36	0.00	100.00	
01-914-5171-00000	Medicare	130,382.55	-125,956.33	4,426.22	96.61	
01-914-5172-00000	Group Life Insurance	3,160.92	-2,790.30	370.62	88.27	
01-914-5173-00000	Group Life Insurance- Retiree	1,457.40	-1,332.19	125.21	91.41	
01-945-5740-00000	Insurance - General	138,846.11	-127,157.76	11,688.35	91.58	
01-950-5900-00000	Prior Year Expenses	16,100.84	-16,003.78	97.06	99.40	
01-950-5905-00000	Prior Year Encumbered Expenses	156,832.78	-133,003.39	23,829.39	84.81	
01-950-5910-00000	OPEB Actuarial Study	3,665.00	-3,665.00	0.00	100.00	
01-994-5964-00000	Trans to Enterprise Fund	31,920.00	-31,920.00	0.00	100.00	
01-995-5965-00000	Trans to Stabilization	0.00	-953,608.00	-953,608.00	0.00	
	Sum Allocated:	21,087,687.12	Sum Expended:	-21,724,549.83	Sum EndBalance:	-636,862.71

TOWN CLERK

2025, New year, new changes.

This was a non-election year, so there was not a lot of political activity.

The Town Clerk and Chair for the Board of Registrars took part in visiting Hampshire Regional High School and Ms. Moriarty's civics class. The class was made up of juniors and seniors, it was a positive session, the students engaged in discussion, and we are planning on holding a voter registration day at the high school in 2026 and another session visiting the upperclassman.

Lots of marriages and new residents this year, we had 30 couples come in and fill out marriage intentions. 41 births happened and we have lost some of our residents as well.

Our population continues to grow; we are up to 6,424 residents at this time.

The town clerk's office was the central hub for buying Southampton 250th merchandise, we have quite a few options of merchandise. The Town Clerk's office will continue into the new year selling merchandise until it is gone. We hope you will visit to buy something to recognize the town.

We licensed 720 dogs as well; we love all the names of our pups out there. Please remember that MGL Ch 140 Sect 130 requires all dogs over the age of 6 months to be licensed in Massachusetts by April 1, 2026.

Our office looks forward to 2026 and serving our residents and visitors efficiently and effectively.

Thank you for all your support over the years.

Respectfully submitted,
Lucille A Dalton-Town Clerk
Cynthia Woodard-Assistant Town Clerk

TOWN CLERK – SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MARCH 22, 2025



Special Town Meeting March 22, 2025 Saturday 10:00am Norris School 34 Pomeroy Rd, Southampton, MA

The Special Town Meeting was held on March 22nd, 2025, Town Moderator, Robert Floyd, opened the meeting at 10:02 with a quorum of fifty registered voters in attendance. The workers were Eileen Hamel, Jane Howard, Stacey Schmiedel and Kathy Ingram and assistant town clerk Cynthia Woodard.

After the pledge of allegiance, which was led by Karl Kuehner, a brief moment of silence, welcome message, and reading a disclosure statement, Mr. Moderator proceeded to read the warrant and return the warrant. He announced that the meeting was being livestreamed and recorded. Mr. Moderator read an introduction to town meeting guidelines and motioned for Sierra Simmons be sworn in as deputy moderator. It was motioned and seconded to move forward, and all voted unanimously. The moderator then asked for a motion on Article 1.

Article 1-Public Safety Building Planning Bonds (Debt Exclusion)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for engineering/architectural services to build a public safety building, and all costs incidental and related thereto including an owner's project manager; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Summary: This Article would allow the Select Board to move forward with the next phase of designing and building a new public safety building for the Police and Fire Departments.

Motion: Christine Fowles motioned and Dan LaValley second that \$3,200,000 is appropriated for engineering/architectural services to build a public safety building, and all costs incidental and related thereto including an owners project manager; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Select Board is authorized to borrow \$3,100,000 under G.L. c.44, §7(7) or any other enabling authority; and that the Treasurer and Board of Selectmen are authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project; provided, however, that this vote shall not take effect until the Town votes to exempt from the limitation on total taxes imposed by G.L. c.59, §21C (Proposition 2½) amounts required to pay the principal of and interest on the borrowing authorized by this vote.

TOWN CLERK – SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MARCH 22, 2025

Article 1-needed to be counted there were 123 yes to 25 no- this article passes unanimously meeting 2/3 vote.

Article 2-To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c.44, §54(b) to allow Town trust funds to be invested in accordance with G.L. c.203C, the so-called "Prudent Investment Rule", or take any other action relative thereto.

Summary: This article allows the Treasurer Collector the ability to invest Town funds as outlined by this rule. Legislation has passed to amend M.G.L. c.44, §54; the Investment of Trust Funds. Cities, towns, and districts now have the local option to allow the Custodian of the community to invest Trust Funds under the Prudent Investor Act. "Prudent" investing can be flexible and diverse in terms of its actual application. The key is that investment decisions are based on the specific intentions of the funds being invested. Essentially, Prudent investing means that the investment fiduciary understands the unique goals and objectives of the funds under management and chooses an investment strategy based on available relevant information. Essentially, prudent investing opens the doors to all different investment products, methods, and risk profiles – as long as those decisions were made with as much applicable information as possible. Benefit to communities is that prudent investing allows for much greater diversification opportunities than currently allowed under the MA Legal List of Investments. Where appropriate, investment managers can use US and international mutual funds, ETFs, stocks, bonds, alternative investments, etc. where they previously had to adhere to a very short list of investments.

Motion: Jennifer Day motioned and Christine Fowles second that the Town hereby accept the article as written to authorize the Town Treasurer to invest Town of Southampton funds in accordance with the Prudent Investor Rule.

Article 2- passes by majority

Article 3-To see if the Town will vote to adopt/ re-adopt and accept the provisions of Section 20 of Chapter 32B of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended by Section 15 of Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2016, establishing an Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund; to authorize the Select Board and Treasurer to execute a declaration of trust creating an expendable trust for the purpose of holding monies appropriated to such fund; to designate the Treasurer as the trustee of such trust; to authorize the transfer of any and all monies currently held for the purpose of paying retiree health and life benefits to such trust; and to authorize the trustee to invest and reinvest the monies in such fund accordance with the Prudent Investor Rule established under Chapter 203C of the Massachusetts General Laws; or take any other action relative thereto.

Summary: An OPEB Fund is a trust fund established by a governmental unit for the deposit of appropriations, gifts, grants and other funds for the benefit of retired employees and their dependents; payment of required contributions by the governmental unit for the group health insurance benefits provided to employees and their dependents after retirement; and reduction and elimination of the unfunded liability of the governmental unit for those benefits. The OPEB Fund is an expendable trust fund, subject to appropriation, that is managed by a trustee or board of trustees. The assets of the trust are held solely to meet the current and future liabilities of the

TOWN CLERK – SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MARCH 22, 2025

governmental unit for group health insurance benefits for retirees and their dependents. All monies in the OPEB Fund must be accounted for separately from other funds of the governmental unit and are not subject to the claims of any general creditor of the governmental unit.

Motion: Cindy Palmer motioned and Jon Lumbra second that the Town vote to adopt and accept the provisions of Section 20 of Chapter 32B of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended by Section 15 of Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2016, establishing an Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund; to authorize the Select Board and Treasurer to execute a declaration of trust creating an expendable trust for the purpose of holding monies appropriated to such fund; to designate the Treasurer as the trustee of such trust; to authorize the transfer of any and all monies currently held for the purpose of paying retiree health and life benefits to such trust; and to authorize the trustee to invest and reinvest the monies in such fund accordance with the Prudent Investor Rule established under Chapter 203C of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Article 3-passes by majority

Article 4 To see if the Town will vote to change the Town By-Laws, Chapter 93, Section 1 by amending the existing language as noted below, deleting existing language with a strikethrough and adding new language shown in boldface text which reads as follows:

“The Annual Meeting of the Town shall be held on the first Tuesday Saturday in May, commencing at 7:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. in the evening morning, and if not completed in a reasonable time, prescribed by the Moderator, shall continue on successive evenings beginning at 7:00 p.m. until its conclusion, excluding Sundays and holidays. The Annual Election of Town officers shall be held on the third Tuesday in May of each year.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Summary: This revision to the by-laws would reschedule the date of the Town’s Annual Town Meeting from the first Tuesday in May to the first Saturday in May.

Motion: Stephen Thor Johnson motioned and Jon Lumbra seconded that the Town amend Chapter 93, Section 1 of the Town’s General Bylaws, entitled “Annual Town Meeting and Election Dates” by amending the existing language as noted, deleting existing language where noted and replacing it with the new language as shown, as set forth in Article 4 of the Warrant for the March 22, 2025 Special Town Meeting.

Town Moderator recused himself from this Article- Sierra Simmons as Deputy Moderator asked for the motion on this article. The moderator ran the rest of the town meeting. Robert Floyd spoke on this.

Article 4- passes by majority-must be approved by Attorney General’s Office.

TOWN CLERK – SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MARCH 22, 2025

Article-5- To see if the Town will vote to change the town bylaw entitled Swimming Pools, Chapter 234, by amending the existing language as noted below, deleting existing language with a strike through and replacing it with new language shown in boldface text which reads as follows:

“Chapter 234. Swimming Pools

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Town Meeting of the Town of Southampton as Art. X of the General Bylaws. Amendments noted where applicable.]

§ 234-1. Swimming pool defined.

A swimming pool, within the meaning of this bylaw, shall be any permanent depression in the ground, or a permanent container of water, either above or below the ground, in which water of more than 12 inches in depth is contained and which is primarily for the purpose of bathing and swimming.

§ 234-2. Barrier required.

All outdoor pools to be constructed or which are already constructed shall be enclosed by a barrier not less than four feet in height, which shall be constructed in such a manner and of a type not readily climbed by children. All gates and doors opening through such enclosures shall be of the self-latching hook type and shall be kept locked when the pool is not in actual use or left unattended.

§ 234-3. Setback from lot lines.

A pool shall not be nearer than 10 feet to any lot line.

§ 234-4. Violations and penalties.

[Amended 5-9-2023 ATM by Art. 31]

A person who violates this bylaw shall be liable to a penalty as provided in Chapter 203, Noncriminal Disposition.”

“Chapter 234. Swimming Pools

Definitions:

Definitions for the purposes of this bylaw:

Swimming Pools et al: Any body of water more than twenty-four (24) or more inches in depth above or below ground in an artificial or semi-artificial receptacle or container, permanent or temporary, whether located indoors or outdoors, used or intended to be used for swimming by adults and/or children, and

TOWN CLERK – SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MARCH 22, 2025

includes all structures, equipment, appliances, and all other facilities appurtenant to or intended for the operation and maintenance of a swimming pool. (780 CMR, §R105.2)

Restrictions:

1. All swimming pools when installed in the rear yard shall be placed no less than fifteen (15) feet from the rear and/or side lot line.
2. No swimming pool shall be placed less than forty feet (40 ft.) from the front lot line.
3. Pools, inground or above ground, will be enclosed in a barrier at least 4 feet in height. Above ground pools may include the height of the pool and may require an addition on the pool to attain the required height. In addition to any other protective measures, a fence is still required by Southampton. Chain link fencing mesh size shall not exceed 2¼ inches.
4. Pools located on fenced property also require an adequate barrier immediately surrounding the pool.
5. Pool fencing must have a self-latching gate and swing outward. All gates and doors opening through such enclosures shall be kept locked when the pool is not in actual use or left unattended.
6. In compliance with MA Building Code 780 CMR, above-ground pools must be removed when the pool is not in use, if not secured by fencing.
7. Permits for swimming pools can be obtained from the Building Department.

Exemptions:

Small plastic or inflatable children's pools are exempt as are hot tubs with approved safety covers.

Enforcement:

The Building Commissioner/Inspector is the enforcing authority and will issue notices of violation to property owners for failure to comply with this bylaw. Penalties/fines will be levied per bylaw Ch. 203, Non-Criminal Disposition.”

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Summary: This revision to the by-laws would strengthen the regulations for securing a swimming pool.

Motion: Jon Lumbra motioned and Stephen Thor Johnson second that the Town amend Chapter 234 of the Town's General Bylaws, entitled "Swimming Pools" by amending the existing language

TOWN CLERK – SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MARCH 22, 2025

as noted, deleting existing language where noted and replacing it with the new language as shown, as set forth in Article 5 of the Warrant for the March 22, 2025 Special Town Meeting.

It was motioned by Jon Lumbra to table this article and come back to it. Moderator then took vote to table until end of last article. After the last article was read and voted on, Jon Lumbra motioned to remove this article from the warrant.

Article 5-Motion to kill article passes by simple majority

Article 6 To see if the Town will vote to change the town bylaw entitled The Naming of Public Buildings, Structures and Lands, Chapter 66, Article III, Sections 66-5 and 66-6, by amending the existing language as noted below, deleting existing language with a strikethrough and replacing it with new language shown in boldface text which reads as follows:

“§ 66-3. Purpose.

This bylaw is enacted to establish the process by which, in naming, renaming or otherwise designating public buildings, structures, bridges, and public lands, the Town seeks to recognize individuals, locations and/or events of significance in local history and local affairs.

§ 66-4. Definitions.

DESIGNATE

The act of calling by a distinctive title, term, or expression any public buildings, structures or public lands as defined in this bylaw.

FEATURES

Benches, bricks, flagpoles, plaques, parking spaces, trees, scoreboards, and signs or other markers located on public lands or within public buildings or structures.

NAME

A word or phrase that constitutes the distinctive designation of any public building, structure, bridges, or public lands as defined in this bylaw.

NOMINEE

The individual or entity whose name is proposed.

PUBLIC BUILDING/STRUCTURE

Any structure, edifice, bridge or other facility owned or maintained by the Town of Southampton or any department or agency thereof.

PUBLIC LANDS

Any real property owned or maintained by the Town of Southampton, or any department or agency thereof, including, but not limited to, playgrounds, parks, courts, athletic fields, intersections and medians, and private ways on public lands, but not including public ways regulated by § 82-9 of the General Bylaws.

RENAME

The act of redesignating any public buildings, structures, bridges, or public lands as defined in this bylaw.

TOWN CLERK – SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MARCH 22, 2025

§ 66-5. Procedure.

The naming, renaming or other designation of any public building, structure, bridge, or public lands shall be by majority vote ~~at an Annual or Special Town Meeting of the Select Board~~. Once public buildings, structures, bridges, or public lands have been named, they shall not be renamed unless changes are recommended by the Select Board and approved by Town Meeting.

§ 66-6. Criteria.

Any proposed name or designation of any public building, structure, bridge, or public lands shall be submitted to the Select Board, in writing, **accompanied by a recommendation from any department or agency having jurisdiction**, for its review and recommendation as to the appropriateness thereof, **and a letter of support from the Southampton Historical Commission, where applicable**.

If named after a person, the Select Board shall take into account the nominee's past residence in Southampton, extraordinary service and/or contributions to the Town.

Public lands may be named according to natural descriptors of the land or after a specific individual as part of a bequest, or some kind of special circumstance.

~~A. Applicable criteria for naming/renaming consideration shall include, but is not limited to:~~

- ~~—(1) Nominee's past residence in Southampton.~~
- ~~—(2) Nominee's extraordinary service to the Town.~~
- ~~—(3) Nominee's significant contribution to the Town.~~
- ~~—(4) The designated item to be named relates to the individual's service or contribution to the Town.~~
- ~~—(5) No public building, structure, bridge, or public lands shall be named for any living person, or commercial enterprise.~~
- ~~—(6) Letter of support from the Southampton Historical Commission, where applicable.~~

~~B. The Select Board may consider additional standards and criteria for consideration of proposed names or designations. Following~~ **following** a duly advertised **scheduled** public hearing **meeting**, the Select Board shall forward its recommendation(s) to Special or Annual Town Meeting for approval.

~~C. The naming, renaming or other designation of individual rooms, areas or subareas within a public building or structure or areas or subareas associated with any public lands shall be by the department or agency having jurisdiction over the same. The Select Board shall be notified in writing in advance of the intent to name/rename or designate any subarea within public buildings, structures, and public lands. The Select Board shall be notified within seven days of the installation and naming or renaming permitted under this section. The requirements of Subsection B shall not apply to the naming, renaming or other designation authorized by this~~

TOWN CLERK – SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MARCH 22, 2025

Subsection C, provided that the naming, renaming, or other designation is consistent with the following criteria:

- ~~(1) Such rooms, areas, or subareas constitute less than 25% of the public building, structure or public lands at or in which the same may be located;~~
- ~~—(2) No such room, area or subarea shall be named for any living person;~~
- ~~—(3) No such room, area or subarea shall bear the name of a commercial enterprise; and~~
- ~~(4) A duly advertised public hearing is held at which such naming, renaming or designation is considered and acted upon by said department or agency. Any person objecting to such naming, renaming or designation by the department or agency may, within 10 days thereafter, appeal the action in writing to the Select Board, which shall, after a duly advertised public hearing, approve or reject the action.~~

~~Ð:~~ The installation and naming, renaming or other designation of features shall be by the department or agency having jurisdiction over the same. The Select Board may, after a ~~duly advertised~~ **scheduled public hearing meeting**, establish standards and specifications for signs, plaques, markers or other features to be erected on public property within the Town.”

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Summary: This revision to the by-law would streamline the process for the naming of a Town building, structure or land and update the criteria for naming it after a person, organization or entity.

Motion: John Lumbra motioned and Stephen Thor Johnson second that the Town amend Chapter 66, Article III, Sections 66-5 and 66-6 of the Town’s General Bylaws, entitled “Naming of Public Buildings, Structures and Lands” by amending the existing language as noted, deleting existing language where noted and replacing it with the new language as shown, as set forth in Article 6 of the Warrant for the March 22, 2025 Special Town Meeting.

Article 6-passes by simple majority

Article-7- To see if the Town will vote to transfer an amount totaling \$5,000 from the Group Health Insurance account to Town Hall accounts as listed below.

Amount To Reason

\$5,000 Group Health Insurance Legal Expenses Additional legal expenses
Or take any other action relative thereto.

Summary: This transfer would fund ongoing legal expenses related to land use planning, by-law changes, land acquisition, cannabis host agreement and other situations.

Motion: Stephen Thor Johnson motioned and Jon Lumbra second that the Town transfer \$5,000 from the Group Health Insurance account to the Legal Expenses account.

Article 7-passes by simple majority

TOWN CLERK – SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MARCH 22, 2025

Article 8- To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum of money for the payment of unpaid bills of previous years, incurred by the departments, boards and officers of the Town of Southampton, or take any other action relative thereto.

Account Title	Vendor	Amount
01-163-5700-00000	Election/Registration Expenses Paradise Copies	\$97.06
01-196-5701-00000	Technology Services Northeast IT	\$202.60
01-422-5701-00000	Machinery Maintenance Skyline Services	\$112.00
01-422-5702-00000	MS4 Storm Water Management Tighe & Bond	\$1,748.75
25-200-5008-00000	Dog Control LL Data Designs	\$495.00
01-220-5700-00000	FY 22 Fire Safe Grant Dept. of Fire Services	\$7,430.00
25-200-5024-00000	Weights and Measures COMA Div. of Standards	\$4,462.00
01-300-5700-00000	Elementary School Pearson	\$141.40
01-300-5700-00000	Elementary School Jeas	\$1,122.00
01-300-5700-00000	Elementary School Supreme Systems	\$3,217.24
01-300-5700-00000	Elementary School CH Neurology Foundation	\$1,128.97
01-300-5700-00000	Elementary School CH Neurology Foundation	\$397.94
01-300-5700-00000	Elementary School CH Neurology Foundation	\$374.70
01-300-5700-00000	Elementary School CH Neurology Foundation	\$128.18
22-300-5700-00000	Elementary School HPC Foodservice Dist.	\$394.44

Summary: These invoices are for the work/services which were made in the preceding fiscal year.

Motion: Cindy Palmer motioned and Stephen Thos Johnson second that the Town vote to transfer for the previous fiscal year bills totaling \$21,452.28 as listed in Article 8 of March 22, 2025, Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Article 8- passes meeting 9/10th majority

Article 9- To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$15,000 from Community Preservation Act Funds to the First Congregational Church of Southampton for installation of three heat pumps, in the portion of the Church used by the public for community activities, to preserve this historic building. Said funds to be transferred from Community Preservation Surcharges–Historic Preservation Account; or take any other action relative thereto.

Summary: This funding transfer would appropriate \$15,000 to preserve the historic First Congregational Church and provide the necessary heating, cooling and ventilation to hold public events.

Motion: Sierra Simmons motioned and Jon Lumbra second that the Town vote to transfer the sum of fifteen thousand dollars from Community Preservation Surcharges to the First Congregational Church of Southampton for installation of three heat pumps in the portion of the Church used by the public for community activities and to preserve the historic building.

Article 9 –passes by simple majority

TOWN CLERK – SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MARCH 22, 2025

A motion was made by Jon Lumbra and seconded by Stephen Thor Johnson to dissolve the Special Town Meeting at 11.39 am

A true copy Attest,

Lucille A Dalton-Town Clerk

The Annual Town Meeting can be found on the Southampton Town website under the Southampton TV link.

Speakers on articles:

Article 1-Christine Fowles, Kristina Madsen (Public Safety Building Committee Chair), Scott Szczebak (Town Administrator), Chief Fasoli (Fire), Chief Illingsworth (Police), Maureen Groden (resident), Nathan Boutilier (resident), Jennifer Johnson (resident and School committee member) Charles Kaniecki

Article 2-Jennifer Day (Treasurer/ Collector), Maureen Groden, James Seney (resident), Article 3-Jennifer Day (Treasurer/Collector)

Article 4-Sierra Simmons (deputy moderator, community preservation), Karl Kuehner (resident).

Article 5-Mark Kassis (resident), Kurt McCarthy (resident), Reggie Greene (resident, finance committee), Jon Lumbra, Christine Fowles.

Article 6-Dan LaValley, Maureen Groden, Kristina Madsen.

Article 7-Scott Szczebak

Article 8-Scott Szczebak

Article 9- Sierra Simmons, Diana Federman (resident), Liz Grasty (resident), Maureen Groden (resident).

**Handouts: Public Safety Building Committee Proposal, Facts.
Copy of Town Warrant**



**Annual Town Meeting
May 6, 2025
William E. Norris School
34 Pomeroy Meadow Rd., Southhampton, MA**

Town Moderator, Robert Floyd, opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m. with a quorum present, 220 registered voters were present. The workers were Susan Seybolt, Kathy Ingram, Eileen Hamel, Stacey Schmiedel, Kathy Ingram, Jane Howard and Cynthia Woodard. The Town Clerks office introduced new voting paddles to voters to make the paper ballot counting easier. We also went with a unique way of presenting the budget.

Selectboard Vice Chair Jon Lumbr led the pledge of allegiance. The moderator announced a brief moment of silence, welcome message, and reading a disclosure statement, Mr. Moderator proceeded to read the warrant and the return. He announced that the town meeting was being televised live.

Mr. Moderator read an introduction on town meeting guidelines.

Mr. Moderator then called for a motion for Article 1.

Article 1: Christine Fowles moved and Jon Lumbr seconded that the Town appropriate \$23,527,778.57 to fund all municipal departments and the public schools during Fiscal Year 2026, all as shown in the Town’s Annual Operating Budget and identified in the Column Labeled “FY 26 Recommended Budget A Non-Contingent Appropriations”, and to fund this appropriation, \$16,166,532.63 be raised from taxation, \$17,500.00 transferred from WPAT loan, \$269,090.40 transferred from Ambulance Fees, and \$97,184.60 transferred from Ambulance Stabilization. Move further to raise and appropriate from taxation the additional sum of \$897,069 for Norris Elementary School, the amounts shown in the column captioned “FY 26 Budget B With Contingent Appropriations”, said supplemental appropriation contingent upon passage of a Proposition 2½ ballot question under General Laws Chapter 59, § 21C.

There was much discussion because voters were confused by the new layout of the budget handout. Mr. Moderator split the Article into two separate budget motions,

so voters had to vote on FY 26 Recommended Budget A Non-Contingent Appropriations and FY Budget B which is Budget A plus the \$897,069.00 for the Norris School. The handout will be attached with these minutes. After minutes of discussion, Budget A failed with 83 yea and 113 nays. Legal Counsel Brian Kelly suggested rereading the motion with Budget B included and then that was voted on. The Moderator stated we are going to have one vote on the budget then we vote on the override.

**Article 1- Budget A Failed by vote of 113 Nay to 83 yea
Budget B Passes by majority vote.**

Budget B will be taken into effect on July 1, 2025, if it passes at the Town Election held on May 20, 2025. If it fails at the election only Budget A will have passed without the override.

Article 2: Dan LaValley moved, and Jon Lumbra seconded on Motion 1: That the Town fix the annual (52 weeks) salary of the Town Clerk at the amount of \$62,873.86 (sixty-two thousand eight hundred seventy-three dollars and eighty-five cents) effective July 1, 2025.

Dan Lavalley moved, and Stephen Johnson seconded motion 2: That the Town fix the annual (52 weeks) salary of the Treasurer/Collector at the amount of \$72,203.04 (seventy-two thousand two-hundred three dollars and four cents) effective July 1, 2025.

Article 2- Both motions passed unanimously.

Article 3 Stephen Johnson moved, and Jon Lumbra seconded that the Town vote to approve the budget of the Water Department Enterprise Fund as presented in Article 3 of the Warrant for the May 6, 2025, Annual Town Meeting.

Article 3 passed unanimously.

Article 4 Jon Lumbra moved, and Stephen Johnson seconded that the Town vote the budget of the Transfer Station Enterprise Fund as presented in Article 4 of the Warrant for the May 6, 2025, Annual Town Meeting. Randall Kemp brought an amendment of the amount to the floor-written amendment is attached.

Jon Lumbra made the motion to amend the article amount Stephen Johnson second to \$211, 239.44-this amendment passes unanimously.

Article 4 Amended motion passes unanimously.

Article 5 Stephen Johnson moved, and Dan Lavalley seconded that the Town vote to transfer \$118,271.39 from Free Cash to the accounts designated for snow removal within the Highway Department.

Article 5 passed unanimously.

Article 6 Dan LaValley moved, and Jon Lumbra seconded that the Town vote to transfer \$276,019.39 from Free Cash to the Capital Stabilization Fund.

Jon Lumbra made a motion to reconsider Article 6 as it had the same name as Article 5. Christine re read the motion with the corrected motion stating the funds be transferred to Operational Stabilization Fund not Capital Stabilization fund. And the amount was amended on the floor from \$276, 019.39 to \$43, 566.18 as the 276K that was written on the warrant.

Article 6 Reconsideration passed unanimously.

Jon Lumbra let the voters know what percentages of the free cash were being used.

Article 6 passed unanimously.

Article 7 Christine Fowles moved, and Dan LaValley seconded that the Town vote to transfer \$308,492.26 from Free Cash to the Capital Stabilization Fund. Chrstine made a motion to amend the amount on the floor to \$87, 132.36.

Article 7 passed unanimously.

Article 8 Dan LaValley moved, and Jon Lumbra seconded that the Town vote to transfer \$64,945.74 from Free Cash to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Account.

There was an amendment in the motion to the amount on the floor to correct the amount from \$64,945.74 to \$14,522.06. The vote on the amended article passed unanimously.

Article 8 passed unanimously.

Article 9 Stephen Johnson moved, and Dan LaValley seconded that the Town vote to transfer \$200,000 from Free Cash to the Norris Elementary School Account for Central Office expenses.

The motion was read to be on the record as \$150,000.00 which was incorrectly written in the warrant. Dawn Scarpoletti (sp) spoke on this article.

Article 9 passed by majority.

Article 10 Jon Lumbra moved, and Stephen Johnson seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$367,584.50 from the Capital Stabilization Fund to the Norris School, Library, Cemetery Commission, Fire and Police Accounts to fund the approved projects by the Capital Improvement Committee as listed in Article 10 of May 6, 2025, Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

The amount of the transfer was revised with an amendment on the floor from \$367,584.50 to \$367,644.50. Bradley Okscin Town Accountant amended this article on the floor. Jon Lumbra seconded. Amendment passed by majority

Article 10 The vote on the amended article passed unanimously.

Article 11 Stephen Johnson moved, and Jon Lumbra seconded that the Town rescind previously approved capital projects, as listed in Article 18 of May 6, 2025, Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
30-196-5700-00000 Computer Network Server	\$7,500.00	FY 19	
30-210-5801-00000 Portable Radios	\$18,000.00	FY 21	
30-196-5705-00000 Software	\$1,869.79	FY 20	PC and
30-300-5808-00000 Laptops	\$329.00	FY 17	

30-300-5815-00000	\$600.00	FY 20	
Sidewalk Repairs			
30-610-5703-00000	\$7,627.00	FY 25	Library
Flooring			
30-610-5700-00000	\$2,640.00	FY 22	
Library Boiler			
30-220-5815-00000	\$600.00	FY 21	
Sidewalk Repairs			
30-422-5804-00000	\$35,103.00	FY 20	
Highway Plow			
30-422-5811-00000	\$6,608.10	FY 21	F550 Wing
Sander Truck			
30-422-5815-00000	\$2,266.07	FY 23	Highway Dump
Truck			
30-300-5817-00000	\$1,906.73	FY 21	PA System

Jon Lumbra made a point of order on this article to strike through in the motion the referenced Article is 18 on the warrant and should be Article 11. Stephen seconded. Amendment passes majority

Article 11 passed unanimously.

Article 12 Dan LaValley moved, and Jon Lumbr

a seconded that the Town rescind Article 13 of December 5, 2023, Special Town Meeting authorizing the borrowing of \$89,000 for a new school van.

Jon Lumbra made the motion Stephen Johnson seconded to come back to this article because the incorrect amounts were written on the warrant. Jon then motioned to correct the amount written in the motion from \$89,000.00 to the correct amount of \$98,000.00 which was approved on December 5th, 2023, Special Town Meeting.

Article 12 passed unanimously.

Article 13 Christine Fowles moved, and Dan LaValley seconded that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 41, Sections 45 and 47, and establish a Board of Commissioners of Trust Funds to manage all trust funds held by the Town, unless otherwise provided by the donor or by law.

Article 13 passed unanimously.

Article 14 Dan LaValley moved, and Jon Lumbra seconded that the Town vote, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 41, Section 1B, that the members of the Board of Commissioners of Trust Funds shall be appointed by the Selectboard.

Article 14 passed unanimously.

Article 15 Stephen Johnson moved, and Jon Lumbra seconded that the Town vote to transfer \$65,000 from the Retained Earnings line to the Water Enterprise Fund Line to FY2026 61-Water Enterprise Fund Line.

Article 15 passed unanimously.

Article 16 Jon Lumbra moved, and Stephen Johnson seconded that the Town appropriates the sum of \$190,000 to purchase and install a new heating system for the Highway Department facility, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow the sum of \$98,000.00 under G.L. c. 44, §7(1) or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds and notes therefor; provided; and, in accordance with G.L. c. 44, §20, any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes thereunder, less any premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bond or notes, may be applied to pay project costs and the amount authorized to be borrowed for such project shall be reduced by the amount of any such premium so applied that may be necessary for that purpose.

This Article is written with the amount of 98,000.00 to be borrowed, when Jon read the motion, he said 190,000.00 twice which is the correct amount. Since this is a borrowing article, it has to be voted on with paper ballots. The counters collected them and counted with Chief Illingsworth present.

Article 16 passed 105 yays to 2 nays. This Article passes meeting 2/3 majority vote.

Article 17 Stephen Johnson moved and Jon Lumbra seconded that the Town appropriates the sum of \$2,069,842.00 for the purpose of replacing and upgrading water mains on College Highway, and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow the sum of \$2,069,842.00 under G.L. c. 44, §7(1) or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds and notes therefor; provided; and, in accordance with G.L. c. 44, §20, any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes thereunder, less any premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bond or notes, may be applied to pay project costs and the amount authorized to be borrowed for such project shall be reduced by the amount of any such premium so applied that may be necessary for that purpose.

This Article is also a borrowing article The counters once again counted with Chief Illingsworth in their presence.

Article 17 passed by the majority 102 yays 2 nays. This article passes meeting 2/3 majority vote.

Article 18 Dan LaValley moved, and Jon Lumbra seconded that the Town vote to transfer for the previous fiscal year bills totaling \$18.81 as listed in Article 18 of the May 6, 2025, Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

It was brought to the attention of the moderator that this is a Fy 24 Bill not Fy25. Mr. Moderator stated that it does not affect the motion.

Article 18 passed unanimously.

Article 19 Christine Fowles moved, and Jon Lumbra seconded that the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into an agreement for Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT agreement pursuant to G.L. c. 59, §5, or any other enabling authority, on account of a solar photovoltaic facility or facilities to be installed on the property located at and known at 160 East Street and shown on the Assessor's Map; #36; Parcel #1, on such terms and conditions as the Select Board deems in the best interest of the Town, and to authorize the Select Board to take any other action necessary for the implementation and administration of such agreement.

Article 19 passed unanimously.

Article 20 Dan LaValley moved, and Jon Lumbra seconded that the Town amend Chapter 234 of the Town's General Bylaws, entitled "Swimming Pools" by amending the existing language as noted, deleting existing language where noted

and replacing it with the new language as shown, as set forth in Article 20 of the Warrant for the May 6, 2025, Annual Town Meeting.

In part 7 of restrictions it was noted to correct where it says above ground pools and insert the word **“ladders” must be removed when the pool is not in use, if not secured by fencing,**

Article 20 passes with 63 yays and 22 nays due to voice vote being uncertain by the moderator.

Article 21 Stephen Johnson moved, and Jon Lumbra seconded that the Town vote to adopt the changes to Chapter 264 General Bylaws: Wetlands Protection as presented in Article 21 of the Warrant for May 6, 2025, Annual Town Meeting. Dan LaValley read the amendments to this Article that were highlighted in bold on the Town Warrant.

Article 21 passed by majority.

Article 22 : Jon Lumbra moved, and Stephen Johnson seconded that the Town vote to adjust the eligibility factors for the property tax exemption for senior citizens under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41C, by 100% of the percentage increase in the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the previous year as determined by the Commissioner of Revenue, and to fix that annual increase at 100% of CPI to be effective for exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2025.

It was brought to our attention by the Board of Assessors that the Clause should be written as 17D not 41C as written in the warrant, this was amended on the floor.

Article 22 passed unanimously.

Article 23 Stephen Johnson moved and Jon Lumbra seconded that the Town vote to adjust the eligibility factors for the property tax exemption for senior citizens under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 17D, by the percentage increase in the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for the previous year as determined by the Commissioner of Revenue, to be effective for exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2025.

Article 23 passed unanimously.

Article 24 Dan LaValley moved, and Jon Lumbr seconded that the Town vote to amend the Southampton Zoning Bylaw Chapter 275 of the Code of Southampton, by amending § 275-2.3 “Definitions”, § 275-7.5 “Accessory dwelling units”, § 275-7.5 “Accessory Dwelling Units”; and revising Attachment 1 – Table 1 Use Regulations and insert in its place the amendments listed in Article 25 of the May 6, 2025 Annual Town Meeting Warrant. **The motion reads as Article 25 of the May 6th 2025 Annual Town Meeting, due to a typo; the article it should be referencing is Article 24.**

Article 24 passed unanimously, meeting 2/3rds majority.

Article 25 Christine Fowles moved, and Dan LaValley seconded that the Town vote to adopt the changes to the Southampton Zoning Bylaw Chapter 275 replacing Article IX entitled “Site Plan Review and Approval” with new language title “Site Plan Review” listed in Article 26 of the May 6, 2025, Annual Town Meeting Warrant. **The warrant states it is listed under Article 26. Due to a typo, the article it should reference is Article 25 of the May 6, 2025 Annual Town Meeting.**

Article 25 passed unanimously, meeting 2/3rds majority

Article 26: Dan LaValley moved, and Jon Lumbr seconded that the Town vote to adopt the changes to the Southampton Zoning Bylaw Chapter 275 amending § 275-3.2.B, § 275-3.9, § 275-7.4.B(1), § 275-7.5. E (1), and § 275-7.15. E (1) as listed in Article 26 of May 6, 2025 Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

Article 26 passed unanimously, meeting 2/3rds majority

Article 27 Stephen Johnson moved, and Jon Lumbr seconded that the Town vote to amend the Southampton Zoning Bylaw Chapter 275 of the Code of Southampton, Solar electric generating facilities, by amending § 275-2.3 “Definitions” to insert new definitions regarding solar electric generating installations; § 275-7.6 “Solar electric generating facilities”, amend Attachment 1 – Table 1 Use Regulations in the “Wholesale, Transportation and Industrial” uses category, and repeal the existing § 275-7.6 “Solar electric generating facilities” in its entirety and replace with it with new language as shown, as set forth in Article 27 of the Warrant for the May 6, 2025 Annual Town Meeting.

Article 27 passed unanimously meeting 2/3rds majority

Article 28 Sierra Simmons moved the Town vote to hear and act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee for fiscal year 2026 and to allocate sums of money from the Community Preservation Fund as presented in Article 28 of May 6, 2025, Annual Town Meeting.

Article 28 passed unanimously.

Article 29 Sierra Simmons moved, that the Town vote to transfer the sum of sixty-six thousand (\$66,000) dollars from Community Preservation Surcharges to the Southampton Greenway Committee for the Town's local matching share of a Mass Trails Grant for the design process of the Greenway bicycle & pedestrian path, said funds to be taken from Community Preservation Surcharges – Open Space/Recreation Account.

Article 29 passed unanimously.

Article 30 Jon Lumbra moved, and Stephen Johnson seconded that the Town vote to set the limitation on expenditures for each Revolving Fund be established according to Article 30 of May 6, 2025, Annual Town Meeting.

Article 30 passed unanimously.

A motion and second to dissolve the Annual Town Meeting at 9:48pm

The move to dissolve passes unanimously, Mr. Moderator declared the meeting dissolved.

Video of Meeting can be found on Southampton Town Website under Southampton TV link.

A true copy of the minutes of the meeting

Attest:

**Lucille A Dalton,
Town Clerk
Town of Southampton**

****The Annual Town meeting is the responsibility of the Town Moderator and the Town's Selectboard. The Town Clerk is only responsible for setting up the workers for checking in and counting, for the swearing in of necessary individuals (i., Deputy Moderator) at the Town Meeting, and the recording in written manner of the minutes of the Town meeting. The Town clerk will refer to the video if necessary to confirm anything questionable.**

Speakers at the Town meeting on May 6, 2025

**Dylan Mawdsley
Jennifer Johnson
Mark Kassis
Jonathan Jay
Martha Issod
Tim Gaudet
Randall Kemp-Highway Superintendent
Kathleen McKeown-Admin Assistant for Assessors
Maureen Groden
Tammy Walunas
Scott Szczebak
Brian Kelly-KP Law- Legal Counsel
Margaret Larson- Norris School Committee
Michael Fredette
Aaron Simms
Vito Perrone
Aliza Pluta
Sierra Simmons
Michael Buehler
Erin Dufresne
Ian Illingsworth
Bradley Okscin
Susan Sussman
Brett Simmons
Paul Diemand
Ron Laurin
Kate Savarese**

TOWN CLERK – SPECIAL TOWN MEETING DECEMBER 6, 2025



Special Town Meeting December 6, 2025 Saturday 10:00am Norris School 34 Pomeroy Rd, Southampton, MA

The Special Town Meeting was held on December 6, 2025, Town Moderator, Robert Floyd, opened the meeting at 10:01 with 115 registered voters in attendance. The workers were Eileen Hamel, Elizabeth Grasty, Stacey Schmiedel and Susan Seybolt.

After the pledge of allegiance, which was led by Karl Kuehner, a brief moment of silence, welcome message, and reading a disclosure statement, Mr. Moderator proceeded to read the warrant and return the warrant. He announced that the meeting was being livestreamed and recorded. Mr. Moderator read an introduction to town meeting guidelines. It was motioned and seconded, and all voted unanimously to move forward with all articles.

Moderator than asked for a motion on Article 1.

Article 1: Christine Fowles moved, and Ellen Debruyn seconded that the Town vote to transfer an amount totaling \$327,85.00 from the accounts listed in Article 1 of the December 6, 2025 Special Town Meeting Warrant to the Group Health Active Employees (01-914-5170) account, said sums to come from the FY 2026 listed accounts.

Article 1: passes by majority meeting 2/3 vote

Article 2: Ellen Debruyn moved Christine Fowles seconded that the Town vote to amend Sections 35-1, 35-2, 35-4 and add Section 35-5 and 35-+ of the Towns General By-laws as listed in Article 2 of the December 6, 2025 Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Article 2: Sierra Simmons was sworn in as Deputy Moderator for this article, Moderator Robert Floyd stepped out for this vote. After lengthy discussion and a motion to call the vote, Deputy Moderator Sierra Simmons called on the counters to do a count to either close the discussion and continue so others could speak for or opposition. It was unanimous to continue the discussion and vote. The counters took count.

Article 2: passed by simple majority.
53 yay 50 nays.

TOWN CLERK – SPECIAL TOWN MEETING DECEMBER 6, 2025

A voter did get up to say there should have been a recount because it was too close. Moderator told the voter the results are as stands.

Article 3: Stephen Johnson moved and Ellen seconded that the town vote to repeal the Town's personnel bylaw, as said by-law was amended by Town Meeting on May 16, 1988, as set forth in Article 3 of the warrant for the December 6, 2025, Special Town Meeting.

Article 3 passed by majority

Article 4: Christine Fowles moved and Ellen Debruyne seconded that the town move to amend Chapter 61 of the towns General by laws, entitled "Personnel Policy and Procedure Board Update" by amending the existing language as noted, deleting existing language where noted and replacing it with new language as shown, as set forth in Article 4 of the Warrant for the December 6, 2025 Special Town Meeting.

Article 4 passes unanimously

Article 5: Christine Fowles moved and Ellen seconded that the Town vote to transfer the sums of monies, from the accounts listed, as shown in Article 5 of the December 6, 2025 Special Town Meeting Warrant, for the previous year fiscal year bills totaling \$ 12,338.17.

Article 5 passes unanimously meeting 9/10's majority

Article 6: Ellen Debruyne moved and Stephen Johnson seconded that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$60, 279.00 from retained earnings to the water enterprise fund line within the Water Department.

Article 6 passes unanimously

Article 7: Stephen Johnson moved and Ellen Debruyne seconded that the Town vote to transfer \$19,466.68 from the Land Use Coordinator account to the Conservation Agent salary account.

Article 7 passes unanimously

Article 8: Christine Fowles moved and Ellen Debruyne seconded that the Town vote to transfer \$5,907.70 from the Land Use Coordinator account to the Health Agent salary account.

Article 8 passes unanimously

Article 9: Christine Fowles moved and Ellen Debruyne seconded that the town vote to transfer \$12,000.00 from prior year encumbrances account to the Street Lighting Account.

Article 9 passes unanimously

Article 10: Ellen Debruyne moved and Stephen Johnson seconded that the town vote to authorize the select Board: (a) to acquire, by purchase, gift or eminent domain, a fee simple interest in 40

TOWN CLERK – SPECIAL TOWN MEETING DECEMBER 6, 2025

acres of land, more or less, located at Rattle Hill Road Rear, Southampton, Tax Map 12, Lot 10, and being the premises described in a deed recorded with the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 1509, Page 614, to be under the care, custody and control of the Conservation Commission pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 8C, as it may hereafter be amended, for conservation and passive recreation purposes, subject to the protections of Article 97 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution; (B) to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds, including the Community Preservation Fund, the amount of \$50,000.00 for the purpose of funding said acquisition and costs incidental or related thereto, provided, however, that said monies shall not be expended unless the Town receives the amount of \$50,000.00 from Kestrel Land Trust or other sources for reimbursement of said purchase price; (c) to authorize the Selectboard to grant a conservation restriction on said parcel in compliance with G L Chapter 44B, section 12 (a); and, (d) to authorize the Selectboard to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments on behalf of the Town as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this article.

Article 10 passes unanimously.

Article 11: Stephen Johnson moved and Ellen Seconded that the Town to vote a) appropriate \$426,900 for the purpose of acquiring, by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise, for the purposes below, the following: in fee, 27 acres of land, more or less, located at Fomer Road, Southampton, being Tax Map 27, Lot 23 (3 acres) and a 24-acre portion of Lot 3.

(b) that, to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$426,900 shall be transferred from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space Account (remainder of available balance) and Undesignated Account, provided however, that such funds shall not be expended unless the Town is approved for a Local Acquisition for Natural Diversity Grant as described below, from the Massachusetts Division of Conservation Services, and/or any other such sources, for reimbursement of all or a percentage of the project cost;

(c) that the Select Board is authorized to acquire said property by gift, negotiated purchase, eminent domain or otherwise, including pursuant to the Town's statutory right of first refusal pursuant to Chapter 61, Section 8, for conservation and passive recreation purposes subject to the protections of Article 97 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution; and that said property shall be under the care, custody and control of the Conservation Commission pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 8C, as it may hereafter be amended, and other Massachusetts statutes relating to conservation;

(d) that the Select Board and/or the Conservation Commission is authorized to apply for, accept and expend any funds that may be provided by the Commonwealth or other public or private sources to defray all or a portion of the costs of said acquisition, including, but not limited to, grants and/or reimbursement from the Commonwealth under the Local Acquisition for Natural Diversity Grant and/or any grants or reimbursement programs in any way connected with the scope of this Article, which grants and/or funds so received shall be used to repay all or a portion of the sums transferred from the Community Preservation Act Fund hereunder; and that the Select Board

TOWN CLERK – SPECIAL TOWN MEETING DECEMBER 6, 2025

and/or the Conservation Commission is authorized to grant a perpetual conservation restriction(s) to Kestrel Land Trust, or such other non-profit corporation or trust pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 184, Sections 31 through 33, in compliance with Chapter 44B, Section 12(a), protecting the properties for the purposes for which they were acquired, and, further to authorize the Select Board and/or the Conservation Commission to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary or convenient to effectuate the foregoing purposes; or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 11 passes unanimously

Article 12:Christine Fowles moved and Ellen Debruyn seconded that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$150,000.00 from the Community Preservation Act undesignated fund account for the cost of installing a walking path and spray pad within Conant Park, and any costs incidental or related thereto, provided, however, that no funds shall not be expended until the Town has received a grant commitment in the amount of \$99,000.00 under the PARC Grant Program (301 CMR 5.00), or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 12 passes by majority

Article 13:Christine Fowles moved and Ellen Debruyn seconded that the town vote to authorize the Selectboard: (a) to acquire, by purchase gift or eminent domain, a fee simple interest in 2.39 acres of land, more or less, located at Glendale Road, Southampton, Tax Map 19, Lot 11A, and being the premises described in a deed recorded with the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 13211, Page 336, to be under care, custody and control of the Conservation Commission pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 8C, as it may hereafter be amended, for conservation and passive recreation purposes, subject to the protections of Article 97 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution

TOWN TREASURER/COLLECTOR – GENERAL REPORT

The Treasurer/Collector's office is a part of the Finance Department. It is staffed by two full-time employees in addition to the Treasurer/Collector. In June 2025, the elected Treasurer/Collector resigned. In July 2025, an interim Treasurer/Collector was appointed.

The office is responsible for the billing and collection of all real estate tax, personal property tax, motor vehicle excise, and water usage fees. The office issues transfer station decals and collects police detail payments. Other tax responsibilities include the processing of Municipal Lien Certificates, processing tax refunds and the collection of delinquent taxes through tax takings and a deputy collection service.

More than 21,000 tax bills were mailed out, resulting in over \$16.2 million in revenue. More than 6,800 water bills were mailed out, resulting in over \$930,000 in water usage fees. The Community Preservation Fund generated over \$335,000 in revenue from local taxes. The Town received a state matching grant in the amount of \$164,735 for fiscal year 2025.

In addition to its tax related duties and responsibilities, the office is also responsible for receiving moneys from the Town's departments, processing of vendor checks for Town expenditures, maintaining and reconciling a number of bank and investment accounts, investing Town funds, borrowing short and long-term funds, and processing payroll and benefits administration for more than 185 Town and School employees. The office issued 271 W2's for calendar year 2025.

Respectfully submitted,
Meghan C. Kane
Interim Treasurer/Collector

TOWN TREASURER/COLLECTOR – COLLECTOR REPORT

	Outstanding 7/1/2024	Committed	Collected	Abatements	Exempt	Refunds	Outstanding 6/30/2025
Real Estate Taxes							
Fiscal Year 2025	\$ -	\$ 15,061,806.33	\$ 14,816,644.27	\$ 23,173.54	\$ 101,802.20	\$ 25,672.26	\$ 145,858.58
Fiscal Year 2024	178,280.76	-	139,966.74	-	-	8,490.45	46,804.47
Fiscal Year 2023	16,555.86	-	7,228.48	-	-	-	9,327.38
Supplemental Real Estate Taxes							
Fiscal Year 2025	-	14,377.91	5,976.96	-	-	-	8,400.95
Fiscal Year 2024	-	11,025.64	8,247.08	-	-	-	2,778.56
Fiscal Year 2023	2,121.87	-	2,121.87	-	-	-	-
Septic Betterments							
Fiscal Year 2025	-	11,125.79	10,854.85	-	-	-	270.94
Fiscal Year 2024	281.77	-	216.75	-	-	-	65.02
Fiscal Year 2023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Water Liens							
Fiscal Year 2025	-	8,206.67	6,900.94	-	-	-	1,305.73
Fiscal Year 2024	2,011.88	-	155.41	-	-	-	1,856.47
Fiscal Year 2023	373.48	-	-	-	-	-	373.48
CPA							
Fiscal Year 2025	-	343,350.22	338,265.06	752.85	2,041.26	116.62	2,407.67
Fiscal Year 2024	3,778.07	-	2,746.73	-	-	-	1,031.34
Fiscal Year 2023	352.98	-	163.57	-	-	-	189.41
Supplemental CPA							
Fiscal Year 2025	-	444.67	183.61	-	-	-	261.06
Fiscal Year 2024	-	319.53	236.17	-	-	-	83.36
Fiscal Year 2023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Personal Property							
Fiscal Year 2025	-	388,860.30	386,803.95	664.79	-	1,073.89	2,465.45
Fiscal Year 2024	4,601.40	-	1,034.56	-	-	-	3,566.84
Fiscal Year 2023	1,844.57	-	385.66	-	-	-	1,458.91
Motor Vehicle Excise							
2025	-	1,123,214.01	1,062,265.45	20,049.31	-	16,210.34	57,109.59
2024	98,990.85	107,499.36	192,043.79	11,411.53	-	12,266.28	15,301.17
2023	8,397.97	-	6,015.45	532.66	-	1,049.31	2,899.17
2022	2,959.48	-	383.58	-	-	-	2,575.90
2021	1,535.04	-	120.03	195.63	-	467.50	1,686.88

TOWN TREASURER/COLLECTOR – TREASURER REPORT

Beginning Balance 7/1/2023	\$ 14,588,145.94				Beginning Balance 7/1/2024	\$ 13,210,290.11
Receipts	31,681,581.40				Receipts	33,257,597.63
Warrants, Transfers & Assessments	33,059,437.23				Warrants, Transfers & Assessments	(33,956,271.74)
Balance as of June 30, 2024	\$ 13,210,290.11				Balance as of June 30, 2025	\$ 12,511,616.00
General Fund Balance	\$ 8,428,310.30				General Fund Balance	\$ 7,565,395.04
Stabilization - Capital	373,022.53				Stabilization - Capital	383,127.79
Stabilization - Operating	929,051.17				Stabilization - Operating	954,219.22
Stabilization - Ambulance	96,748.76				Stabilization - Ambulance	99,369.67
CPA	2,279,188.67	649,895.16			CPA	2,345,003.45
OPEB	517,988.06				OPEB	558,991.50
Trust Funds	556,813.96				Trust Funds	571,898.06
Wetland Protection	0.13				Wetland Protection	0.13
Conservation - Red Brook	29,166.53				Conservation - Red Brook	33,611.14
Balance as of June 30, 2024	\$ 13,210,290.11				Balance as of June 30, 2025	\$ 12,511,616.00
Trust Fund Balance Detail June 30, 2024					Trust Fund Balance Detail June 30, 2025	
Cemetery Trust Funds	\$ 130,785.01				Cemetery Trust Funds	\$ 134,327.99
Conservation Trust Funds	95,269.84				Conservation Trust Funds	97,850.71
Library Trust Funds	200,524.55				Library Trust Funds	205,956.80
Misc. Trust Funds	117,211.94				Misc. Trust Funds	120,387.15
School/Scholarship Trust Funds	13,022.62				School/Scholarship Trust Funds	13,375.41
Total Trust Funds	\$ 556,813.96				Total Trust Funds	\$ 571,898.06

TOWN TREASURER/COLLECTOR – PAYROLL REPORT

Department	Last Name	First Name	2025 Gross Pay
Accountant	Kennedy	Thomas	13,371.20
Accountant	Okscin	Bradley	<u>65,903.78</u>
		Assistant Town Accountant	79,274.98
Assessors	McKeown	Kathleen	28,107.22
Assessors	Zagorski	David	<u>52,328.03</u>
		Admin. Assistant	80,435.25
		Principal Assessor	
Board of Health	Schwab	Nicole	4,500.00
Board of Health	Swanson	Geraldine	25,786.25
Board of Health	Sarti	Claudia	<u>35,280.00</u>
		Animal Inspector	65,566.25
		Health Director	
		Health Director	
Town Clerk	Woodard	Cynthia	21,315.99
Town Clerk	Dalton	Lucille	<u>58,176.26</u>
		Asst. Town Clerk	79,492.25
		Town Clerk	
Building	Mailloux	James	100.00
Building	Rida	Glenn	3,850.00
Building	Laurin	Ronald	64,187.47
Building	Fischer	James	12,250.00
Building	Sears	Thomas	<u>7,320.00</u>
		Building Inspector	87,707.47
		Building Inspector	
		Building Inspector	
		Electrical Inspector	
		Plumbing Inspector	

TOWN TREASURER/COLLECTOR – PAYROLL REPORT

Council on Aging	Matyoka	Darlene	COA Asst. Director	4,019.80
Council on Aging	Barouxis	Andrea	COA Volunteer Coordinator	15,817.93
Council on Aging	Connett	Pamela	COA Program Coordinator	19,155.75
Council on Aging	Disanto	Kathryn	COA Director	57,859.96
Council on Aging	Huber	Timothy	COA Van Drivers	10,300.18
Council on Aging	Kaleta	William	COA Van Drivers	<u>16,699.40</u>
				123,853.02
Conservation	Russell	George	Conservation Agent	<u>26,226.98</u>
Elections	Hamel	Marion	Election Worker	67.50
Elections	Seybolt	Susan	Election Worker	105.00
Elections	Perrier	Joanne	Election Worker	135.00
Elections	Hamel	Eileen	Election Worker	150.00
Elections	Ingram	Katherine	Election Worker	165.00
Elections	Grasty	Elizabeth	Election Worker	176.25
Elections	Howard	Jane	Election Worker	195.00
Elections	Schmeidel	Stacey	Election Worker	228.75
Elections	Dubour	Mary	Election Worker	1,500.00
Elections	Robinson	Mary	Election Worker	<u>1,560.00</u>
				4,282.50
Fire	Aldrich	Richard	Firefighter/Paramedic	7,002.33
Fire	Badecker	Julie	Firefighter/EMT	765.82
Fire	Benson	Kevin	Paramedic	76,618.10
Fire	Binnall	Brian	Firefighter/Paramedic	9,137.26
Fire	Blais	Brandon	Firefighter/EMT-B	1,073.28
Fire	Blomstrom	Richard	Captain/Paramedic	9,810.00

TOWN TREASURER/COLLECTOR – PAYROLL REPORT

Fire	Boudreau	Nathan	Firefighter/EMT-B	38,531.70
Fire	Braastad	Ethen	Firefighter	4,435.82
Fire	Bullock	Scott	Lieutenant/Firefighter/Paramedic	32,628.69
Fire	Chenevert	Ryan	Paramedic	30,138.34
Fire	Conway	John	Firefighter/EMT	26,814.01
Fire	Cothoir	Keith	Paramedic	27,788.01
Fire	Dansereau	Kevin	Firefighter/EMT-B	2,304.06
Fire	Doppman	Alec	Firefighter	5,907.82
Fire	Dragon	Robert	Firefighter/Paramedic	1,279.33
Fire	Eline	Patrick	Captain/Paramedic	22,757.26
Fire	Fasoli	Richard	Fire Chief	107,379.53
Fire	Favata	Gina	Paramedic	13,570.17
Fire	Felix	Lawrence	Firefighter/EMT-B	9,986.18
Fire	Fisher	Benjamin	Firefighter/EMT	772.24
Fire	Gagnon	Kyle	Firefighter/Paramedic	562.33
Fire	Garfield	Tyler	Paramedic	4,193.20
Fire	Hatch II	Russell	Firefighter/EMT-B	36,474.48
Fire	Kelly	Cheryl	Administrative Assistant	28,325.52
Fire	Lang	Carey	Firefighter/EMT	4,531.48
Fire	Lipetri	Cassandra	Firefighter/EMT-B	43,778.33
Fire	Loiko	Erik	Firefighter	318.44
Fire	Malo	Jonathan	Firefighter	2,755.12
Fire	Martin	Daniel	Firefighter/EMT	11,647.80
Fire	McColgan	Kinnon	Firefighter/EMT	62.00
Fire	Mielke	William	Lieutenant Firefighter	2,986.60
Fire	Miller	Benjamin	Firefighter/Paramedic	7,177.03
Fire	Morin	Leon	Paramedic	5,886.91
Fire	Morris	Brian	Lieutenant/Paramedic	4,172.19

TOWN TREASURER/COLLECTOR – PAYROLL REPORT

Fire	Morton-O'Keefe	Cynthia	Captain/Paramedic	16,865.46
Fire	Nalewanski	David	Firefighter/Paramedic	4,985.35
Fire	O'Keefe	Timothy	Firefighter/Paramedic	7,856.40
Fire	Peretti	Jeanette	Firefighter/EMT-B	187.41
Fire	Plantier	Jacqueline	Firefighter	290.16
Fire	Pouliot	Kyle	Firefighter/Paramedic	2,880.80
Fire	Putnam	Timothy	Paramedic	15,643.76
Fire	Riel	Dean	Firefighter/Paramedic	7,028.75
Fire	Rondeau	Kyle	Firefighter/Paramedic	77,101.76
Fire	Rowan	Timothy	Firefighter/EMT Paramedic	1,146.35
Fire	Rubner	Steven	Captain/Firefighter	12,421.91
Fire	Rubner	Erika	Firefighter/EMT Paramedic	12,537.54
Fire	Souza	Benjamin	EMT-B	6,846.94
Fire	Struthers	Brennan	Firefighter/Paramedic	5,392.47
Fire	Struthers	Tyler	Firefighter/Paramedic	22,704.68
Fire	Svonkin	Trevor	Paramedic	977.40
Fire	Williamson	Mackinzie	Firefighter/Paramedic	<u>3,844.65</u>
				780,283.17
Highway	Cysz	David	Highway Worker Foreman	88,717.68
Highway	Day	Patrick	Highway Laborer	50,908.22
Highway	Hebert	Scott	Heavy Equipment Operator	21,756.92
Highway	Jarosz	Todd	Highway Worker Senior Foreman	110,379.94
Highway	Kemp	Randall	Highway Superintendent	111,212.60
Highway	Larochelle	Jeremy	Heavy Equipment Operator	71,890.39
Highway	Rejniak	Steven	Heavy Equipment Operator	25,044.27
Highway	Richard	Robin	Asst. to Highway Superintendent	<u>49,664.65</u>
				529,574.67

TOWN TREASURER/COLLECTOR – PAYROLL REPORT

Library	Douglass	Johanna	Library Director	66,031.68
Library	Hurd	Doris	Library Substitute	4,050.15
Library	Lacasse	Carol	Library Substitute	665.79
Library	Leclair	Andrea	Children's Librarian/Interim Library Dir.	37,955.71
Library	Lussier	Cynthia	Library Substitute	1,822.87
Library	Munska	Emily	Circulation Desk Librarian	18,040.49
Library	Shea	Lisa	Senior Technician	33,764.64
Library	Tirrell	Gina	Library Substitute	1,221.74
				163,553.07
Police	Angers	David	Police Officer	119,740.11
Police	Blais	Timothy	Police Officer	88,990.08
Police	Charette	Nathan	Police Officer - PT	2,367.08
Police	Cook	Martin	Sergeant	163,652.19
Police	Goyette	Michael	Police Officer - Outside Detail	70,469.00
Police	Groeber	Mark	Lieutenant	119,891.80
Police	Holmes	Ryan	Police Officer - Outside Detail	69,401.50
Police	Hurley	Daniel	Police Officer	79,573.58
Police	Illingsworth	Ian	Police Chief	148,742.77
Police	Kelly	Cheryl	Administrative Assistant	28,325.52
Police	Kupeyan	Joel	Police Officer	49,826.90
Police	Lamb	Joshua	Police Officer - PT	15,705.64
Police	Latour	David	Sergeant	133,822.53
Police	Neal	David	Sergeant	139,417.91
Police	Parmeggiani	Marisa	Police Officer	124,228.49
Police	Rachmaciej	Dominic	Police Officer	50,753.15
Police	Spratt	Jeffrey	Police Officer - PT	367.66

TOWN TREASURER/COLLECTOR – PAYROLL REPORT

Police	St Martin	Robert	Police Officer - PT	25,907.07
Police	Yon	Anthony	Police Officer	<u>103,721.37</u>
				1,534,904.35
School	Adams	Susan	Paraprofessional	30,933.80
School	Adams-Rivera	Lindsey	Admin Assistant	16,103.94
School	Ames	Lauren	Teacher	43,609.17
School	Anthony	Maia	Summer School	2,160.00
School	Ashley	Stacy	Teacher	97,326.09
School	Baillargeon	Ronah	Food Service	2,518.26
School	Bell	Erica	Teacher	61,052.80
School	Bennett	Cheryl	Food Service	19,756.99
School	Braastad	Linda	Teacher	61,377.04
School	Brown	Donna	Substitute	2,625.00
School	Buell	Marie	Long Term Substitute	32,667.05
School	Burke	Sunday	Teacher	88,218.25
School	Bzdel	Amy	Paraprofessional	29,215.29
School	Callini	Joan	Substitute	2,835.00
School	Cardona	Noel	Custodian	58,568.16
School	Carmichael	Michele	Admin Assistant	68,920.80
School	Cauley	Elizabeth	Teacher	86,109.23
School	Cennamo	Raena	Teacher	47,427.06
School	Chaput-Merriam	Rachel	Paraprofessional	25,549.27
School	Chenevert	Alexandria	Speech Language Pathologist Assistant	2,598.69
School	Cook	Gabrielle	BCBA	24,005.44
School	Cortis	Ashley	Summer School	105.00
School	Costello	Kathleen	Teacher	25,750.09
School	Craven	Lisa	Teacher	38,698.47

TOWN TREASURER/COLLECTOR – PAYROLL REPORT

School	Dafonte	Gavin	Substitute	367.50
School	Dale	Tracy	Nurse	75,735.34
School	Daniel	Brigitte	Head Cook	24,733.32
School	Daniels	Brian	Custodian	55,692.84
School	DiCarlo	Mary	Substitute	3,507.50
School	Diemand	Cynthia	Substitute	3,795.00
School	Donoghue	Emily	Speech Language Pathologist	4,164.66
School	Drisdelle	Joelle	Teacher	86,585.26
School	Duggan	Lauren	Substitute	52.50
School	Duggan	Joann	Nurse	48,246.20
School	Dulude	Erica	Paraprofessional	20,493.02
School	Dunne	Meagan	Lunch Monitor	4,304.16
School	Felty	Makenze	Paraprofessional	4,050.17
School	Fine	Anne	Substitute	2,056.25
School	Fini	Janelle	Substitute	12,515.00
School	Finnie	Ryder	Substitute	780.00
School	Finnie	Jenny	Teacher	89,725.82
School	Fitzgibbon	Jane	Substitute	1,207.50
School	Flynn	Korri	Teacher	79,531.21
School	Freniere	Renee	Food Service Director	41,393.07
School	Frogameni	Amanda	Substitute	18,439.36
School	Frye	Karlyn	Occupational Therapist	9,199.65
School	Frye	Laurie	Teacher	95,527.18
School	Gallo	Loretta	Substitute	15,797.93
School	Gengler	Kristin	Psychologist	91,741.23
School	Gentile	Joseph	Paraprofessional	3,668.12
School	Giannetti	Melissa	Substitute/Paraprofessional	17,520.56
School	Gold	Jacob	Teacher	82,744.23

TOWN TREASURER/COLLECTOR – PAYROLL REPORT

School	Goodridge	Jennifer	Teacher	78,496.48
School	Goyette	Tricia	Paraprofessional	28,300.22
School	Griffin	Mallory	Paraprofessional	33,312.75
School	Haas	Deborah	Substitute	980.00
School	Hale	Susan	Teacher	88,571.39
School	Hallett	James	Teacher	80,555.98
School	Haskins	Melissa	Teacher	74,466.99
School	Hodgson	Kevin	Teacher	88,578.25
School	Johnson	Megan	Teacher	88,218.25
School	Kalentek	Susan	Substitute	525.00
School	Keady	Kathleen	Food Service Director	5,402.07
School	Keefe	Johanna	Teacher/Substitute	58,788.09
School	Kent	Sarah	PT Nurse	12,015.96
School	King	Bridget	Teacher	87,218.25
School	Klich	Sandra	Teacher/Substitute	28,580.42
School	Kraus	Jacqueline	Paraprofessional	33,495.75
School	Labrie	Lori	Paraprofessional	30,952.55
School	Labrie	Jennifer	Paraprofessional	34,414.03
School	Lafond	Kathryn	Teacher	86,087.05
School	Lafosse	Maggie	Cafeteria Substitute	360.00
School	Lapointe	Amanda	Teacher	78,496.48
School	Latour	Stephanie	Paraprofessional	30,288.12
School	Lawton	Katherine	Teacher	22,843.37
School	Lennen	Tori	Paraprofessional	2,389.09
School	Leveille	Jessica	Paraprofessional	15,525.53
School	Leveille	Thomas	Head Custodian	66,797.36
School	Lukasiewicz	Michelle	Administrator School Choice	93,356.80
School	Lunney	Brigid	Teacher	87,218.25

TOWN TREASURER/COLLECTOR – PAYROLL REPORT

School	Marek	Delaney	Substitute	5,437.50
School	Marsh	Kevin	Substitute	1,260.00
School	Mawdsley	Teresa	Occupational Therapist	60,029.92
School	McMahon	Kathleen	Substitute	3,335.00
School	Meunier	Matthew	Teacher	95,413.59
School	Michaud	Erika	Teacher	91,182.80
School	Noel	Diane	Teacher	79,531.21
School	Nowak	Kaitlyn	Substitute	1,785.00
School	Nulph	Katelyn	Substitute	105.00
School	O'Connell	Shelly	Substitute	8,137.50
School	O'Connor	Teresa	Van Driver	18,166.05
School	O'Riordan	Brigid	Teacher	25,602.54
School	Ostecki	Angelena	Summer School	1,547.50
School	Parmenter	Marilyn	Food Service Monitor	7,252.13
School	Pease	Samantha	Summer School Nurse	825.00
School	Pellegrini	Heather	Substitute	1,207.50
School	Pereira	Maria	Teacher	93,913.59
School	Perkins	Denise	Teacher	91,500.32
School	Piper	Pamela	Paraprofessional	35,909.53
School	Pluta	Aliza	Principal	132,975.07
School	Polatol	Ann	Substitute	980.00
School	Pyzocha	Kelly	Food Service Worker	10,583.70
School	Quinn	Shannon	Paraprofessional	33,377.82
School	Rapoza	Susan	Teacher	86,087.05
School	Redenz	Andrea	Teacher	69,061.87
School	Reiss	Julie	Teacher	89,187.00
School	Rejniak	Susan	Food Service Monitor	7,509.83
School	Richter	Sarah	Teacher	87,218.25

TOWN TREASURER/COLLECTOR – PAYROLL REPORT

School	Roca	Chontae	Adjustment Counselor	70,435.08
School	Rodriguez	Destiny	Teacher	21,057.20
School	Rogers	Melissa	Paraprofessional	36,494.53
School	Rowell	Kelsey	Teacher	51,205.16
School	Sawyer	Elizabeth	Substitute	2,730.00
School	Sawyer	Stephanie	Paraprofessional	27,065.62
School	Schoen	Samantha	Teacher	56,180.29
School	Silva	Steven	Custodian	62,723.58
School	Smith	Rita	Substitute	9,545.00
School	Smith	Robert	Teacher	87,558.25
School	Sorcinelli	Jennifer	Teacher	86,167.05
School	Sullivan	Kathleen	Teacher/Substitute	16,773.26
School	Sullivan	Christine	Teacher	95,147.27
School	Tanguay	Connie	Paraprofessional	37,757.15
School	Teece	Susan	Substitute	287.50
School	Thibault	Brenda	School Secretary	26,710.22
School	Trzcienski	Shannon	Teacher	88,718.25
School	Webster	Pauline	Teacher	80,055.98
School	Westcott	Patricia	Teacher	43,609.17
School	White	Sarah	Teacher	92,695.86
School	White	Susan	Teacher	95,527.18
School	Williams	Kristen	Paraprofessional	30,584.40
School	Williams	Keith	Paraprofessional	34,370.90
School	Winter	Lisa	Teacher	50,200.64
School	Zweir	Kathryn	Teacher	77,972.24
				5,518,634.00

TOWN TREASURER/COLLECTOR – PAYROLL REPORT

Town Administrator	Zedonis	Judith	Administrative Assistant	20,461.21
Town Administrator	Wells	William	Custodian	18,471.02
Town Administrator	Szezebak	Scott	Town Administrator	<u>122,913.68</u>
				161,845.91
Transfer Station	Brouillard	Matthew	Transfer Station Attendant	9,540.10
Transfer Station	Dudek	Steven	Transfer Station Attendant	<u>22,002.12</u>
				31,542.22
Treasurer/Collector	Bolduc	Angela	Assistant Treasurer/Collector	46,548.10
Treasurer/Collector	Day	Jennifer	Treasurer/Collector	38,757.00
Treasurer/Collector	Kane	Meghan	Interim Treasurer/Collector	18,240.00
Treasurer/Collector	Nomakeo	Anne	Treasurer/Collector Clerk	<u>33,506.93</u>
				137,052.03
Veterans Agent	Murdock	Michelle		<u>30,596.18</u>
Water	Panyko	Emeric	Water Technician	3,623.04
Water	Shepard	Andrew	Water Technician	84,160.44
Water	Simmons	Brett	Water Superintendent	<u>98,072.58</u>
				185,856.06
Winter Roads	Craig	Mark	On Call Plow Driver	800.00
Winter Roads	Henrichon	Nicholas	On Call Plow Driver	300.00
Winter Roads	Labrie	Kevin	On Call Plow Driver	2,100.00
Winter Roads	Nadeau	Colby	On Call Plow Driver	4,880.00
Winter Roads	Pooler	Matthew	On Call Plow Driver	<u>5,340.00</u>
				13,420.00

TRANSFER STATION

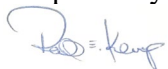
The Transfer Station is located on Moosebrook Road, on the site of the former Town landfill (colloquially referred to as “the Dump”) which closed in 1997. The closed landfill compliance is handled by the Southamptton Board of Health. The Transfer Station is monitored and remains in compliance with Massachusetts Department of Conservation regulations. The Transfer Station accepts trash, recyclable materials and bulky items from Southamptton residents provided the following: Residents must purchase a yearly permit in order to utilize the Transfer Station. They must also purchase and use Town-approved trash bags for residential trash, and additional tipping fees are required for disposal of bulky items such as televisions, mattresses and construction debris. **All recyclable items must be recycled under current Town bylaw and Massachusetts law.** This means that whether trash and recycling are picked up by a private hauler or resident utilize the Transfer Station, residents must comply with these regulations as certified by the *Waste Ban Plan for Southamptton* and the materials listed below are prohibited from disposal with rubbish. More information is provided on the Transfer Station page of the Town website.

The Transfer Station also segregates several other materials so as to keep them out of the waste stream, landfills and the environment. These include: Lithium and button batteries, Electronic waste (computers, televisions, printers, etc.), and Mercury-containing devices (such as fluorescent and compact fluorescent bulbs, thermometers and thermostats). Some items require a tipping fee for disposal. Please see the Attendant if you have any question about whether a particular item is accepted or the proper place to dispose of it. The Transfer Station continues to modify operating policies and procedures to comply with changing regulatory requirements, public safety and best management practices.

In 2025, approximately 149 Tons of paper (5 more than 2024), 106 Tons of mixed container stream (6 fewer than 2024), 21 Tons of white goods/metal (16 fewer than 2023), 400 Gallons of waste oil (*1,100 fewer than 2024), 26,960 pounds of clothing (1,080 fewer than 2024), 103 mattresses (75 fewer than 2024), 15 refrigerators (8 fewer than 2024), as well as 2.67 Tons of electronic waste and mercury-containing materials (0.075 fewer than 2024) were recycled through the Transfer Station. 585 Tons of rubbish (83 more than 2024) were trucked out for disposal at other facilities. Approximately 955 Transfer Station permits were sold in 2025 (down from 966 in 2024). Due to exorbitant disposal costs, we will no longer be able to accept used motor oil in the upcoming year.

Southamptton was awarded \$8,400 in Recycling Dividends Program Grant funds from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Sustainable Materials Recovery Program which we utilize to subsidize DEP-approved Transfer Station expenses/programs at the Transfer Station.

Respectfully submitted,



Randall Kemp
Highway Superintendent, Transfer Station Manager

VETERAN'S GRAVE OFFICER

General Responsibilities and Duties

The Veterans Graves officer ensures that all veterans' graves are suitably kept and cared for; ensures sunken gravestones are repaired and replaced or other similar services that may be necessary to restore and maintain such graves and their surroundings in an orderly condition.

2025 Activities

- January: No inspections this month – cemeteries closed due to weather conditions.
- February: No inspections this month – cemeteries closed due to weather conditions. Flags for Memorial Day parade ordered by our Veteran's Service Officer (VSO). Received 2-15-2025 placed at Town Clerk's Office.
- March: No inspections this month – cemeteries closed due to weather conditions.
- April: Inspection this month – Inspection on 4-15-2025 Center Cemetery some flags damaged by wind and snow will be replaced in May. Fomer Cemetery not inspected due to weather conditions.
- May: American Legion, Scouts and volunteers installed new flags at Center Cemetery and Fomer Cemetery on 5-27-2025.
- June: Inspection this month – No deficiencies. Reappointed for another 1-year term as Veteran's Grave Officer on 6-08-2025
- July: Inspection this month – No deficiencies.
- August: Inspection this month – No deficiencies.
- September: Inspection this month – Some flags needed attention.
- October: Inspection this month – No deficiencies.
- November: Inspection this month – No deficiencies.
- December: Inspection this month – No inspections due to weather conditions

Will be looking forward to continuing serving our Town as Cemetery Superintendent and Veteran's Grave Officer.

Respectfully submitted,
W. A. Dave Wells

VETERANS' SERVICE DEPARTMENT

The Southampton Veterans' Service Department is honored to serve the Veterans, service members, and military families of our community. Throughout 2025, the department continued its mission to ensure that local Veterans receive the benefits, support, and recognition they have earned through their service to our nation.

Massachusetts State Benefits Programs

Throughout the year of 2025, the Veterans' Service Officer (VSO) assisted Veterans and their dependents with a wide range of state and federal benefits, including Chapter 115 financial assistance, VA disability compensation, survivor benefits, healthcare enrollment, education programs, and military records request.

Dozens of claims, updates, and case reviews were completed, resulting in increased benefits and improved access to essential services for many of Southampton's Veterans, surviving spouses and family.

Federal Benefits Program Requirements

Veterans and families may be entitled to Federal programs. Offered to veterans and their families who meet the eligibility criteria. There are options if veterans and their families do not have access to documents required to file for benefits.

- ★ National Archives Website
- ★ MRO (Military Records) provides assist locating records.

Benefits Claims (example)

- ★ Aid and attendances
- ★ Veterans' Pension
- ★ Dependent indemnity Compensation
- ★ Mental Health Services
- ★ Compensation
- ★ Health Care
- ★ Burial
- ★ Education

Responsibilities

- ★ Ordering American Flags
- ★ Annual Town Report
- ★ Annual Budget Report
- ★ Staying connected to local Non-profits
 - New information
 - Updates on pre-existing information
- ★ Monthly meetings with State Executive Officer
- ★ Emergencies
 - Housing
 - Medical
 - Death
 - Homelessness

VETERANS' SERVICE DEPARTMENT

★ Outreach

- Coffee Hour
- Non-profit organization outreach events

Outreach & Community Engagement

Veterans Events

○ **Coffee Hour**

3rd Thursday of each month of the year starting at 11:30 AM-12:30 PM. Location held at the Town of Southampton Senior Center. Provides information to veterans and their families benefits if one qualifies. An opportunity for veterans, active-duty military and their family members to connect, and enjoy hot coffee, and donuts. This event is a casual time for sharing helpful resources with everyone.

- Veterans' Inc. Worcester, Massachusetts
 - Donated 100 Winter Jackets and Toys to Veterans' and their Families.

Veterans' and Family Holiday Coat & Toy giveaway was a huge success. This mission could not have happened if Veterans Department had not been assisted by all our volunteers.

- a. Luci Dalton Town Clerk- She drove up with her truck and picked up all and put in her vehicle as many as she could.
- b. Karen Decker/Alice Brin- Helped wrapping presents.
- c. Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus thank you for coming and providing the holiday spirit.
- d. Muriel Boulinger thank you for all the gift wrapping.
- e. Mr. and Mrs. Karl Kuehner thank you for helping to set up.

Thank you to everyone who came and made this possible. Looking forward to 2026 Holiday Coffee Hour. If you are interested in volunteering, please call the Veterans' Department.

○ **Memorial Day Parade**

Proudly participated in the Memorial Day Parade and served as a guest speaker, honoring those who made the ultimate sacrifice and representing the Veterans' Service Department during this important community event. Thank you, Mark Nicholas, Commander of the American Legion, for this honor.

○ **Veterans' Department Town Website**

The Veterans' Service Department has been working on keeping benefits information current, adding new resources, and ensuring the page remains accessible and user-friendly for the Veterans and their families.

○ **Facebook**

Expanding outreach to all our community through social media, gaining new members, sharing timely updates, community events, and benefit information.

VETERANS' SERVICE DEPARTMENT

- **Hometown Heros' Banners Program**

2025 marked the start of the Hometown Heroes Banner Program, created to honor our Nations Heros'. We proudly honor 31 banners mounted on the poles across town, proudly showcasing the service and dedication of our local heroes. Thank you to all volunteers for making this happen!

- **Volunteers:**

1. Police Chief Ian Illingsworth
2. K & J Landscaping
3. Brett Simmons Water Superintendent
4. Mark Nicholas American Legion Commander
5. Patricik and Luci Dalton



- **Veterans Banners Program**

Hometown Heros Banners Program. Mounted outdoor high-quality durable vinyl mounted on aluminum brackets and fiberglass arms with reinforced sleeves. Imagine a loved one or yourself on a banner honoring our men and women's service in the United States Military. Applications are available at the Veterans Service Department. Call Veterans' Service Officer (413) 527-1715



- **Shine Counselor**

Michelle Murdock Veterans' Service Officer is now on the days she is not working in her VSO position she has completed the Shine Training and has been certified as a Shine Counselor through the State of Massachusetts as a Shine Counselor for the Town of Southampton Senior Center.

VETERANS' SERVICE DEPARTMENT

Do you need help with Medicare enrollment, changing Medicare options, questions about the process call (413) 527-1715.

SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone)

Closing

The Veterans' Service Department remains dedicated to serving every Veteran, service member, and family who calls Southampton home. Throughout the year, our mission has been guided by respect, compassion, and a commitment to ensuring that no Veteran navigates their benefits or challenges alone. From community outreach and emergency support to benefit assistance, advocacy, and honoring our local heroes, we continue to strengthen the connection between our Veterans and the resources they deserve.

As we look ahead, we remain focused on expanding access to information, deepening partnerships with local organizations, and fostering a welcoming environment built on trust and integrity. It is our privilege to support those who have served, and we will continue to uphold that responsibility with pride and gratitude.

Thank you, our Veterans, their families, our volunteers, and the entire Southampton community for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Murdock
Veterans Service Officer
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Southampton, MA 01073

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WATER DEPARTMENT

Our public water is pumped from the nationally acclaimed Barnes Aquifer groundwater at the Glendale Well. We must be very careful to preserve it for future generations. We are the stewards of this unique resource. The purity of the groundwater is so fragile that contamination from a small quantity of waste motor oil or antifreeze dumped into catch basins or into the soil will pollute the groundwater and degrade our public water supply. Soil has marvelous cleansing ability, but there are limits that cannot be exceeded.

The Southampton Water Department (SWD) maintains over 1,668 services which serve roughly 4,933 residents through approximately 45 miles of water mains.

The SWD connected 9 new customers to the distribution system in 2025. 117,911,598 gallons of water were pumped from the Barnes Aquifer, and 15,103,239 gallons of water were purchased from the town of Easthampton. This combined for a total water consumption of 133,014,239 gallons, with an average daily usage of 346,374 gallons. This is an increase of 5,313,568 gallons from 2024.

In the fall of 2024, the pump/motor located in Glendale 02 well was exhibiting mechanical system failure. Also, around the same time period Glendale well O2 was beginning to show signs of diminished specific capacity. The motor subsequently failed on August 27, 2025 and warranted emergency repairs. The equipment was pulled from the well and inspected and the well was re-developed. Due to a holiday, weekends, delays and breakdowns, the well was off-line for 25 days, resulting in the increased water purchased from Easthampton. Well development activities were completed and a new pump motor was installed on 9/19/2026. Bacteria samples were collected on 9/19/2026 and the well was restarted on 9/21/2025.

In 2023, Phase I of the College Highway Water Main Upgrade Project from Fomer Road to Clark Street was completed. In 2025 this project was re-evaluated and Phases II and III were combined into one single phase. SWD spent 2025 planning for Phase II including permitting, and funding application paperwork through the USDA as the potential loan source. It was determined that private loans will fund this project due to a more favorable interest rate. This project involves replacing roughly 4,700 feet of old 6” cast iron pipe installed in 1932 with 12” PVC pipe and will run from Clark Street to Pomeroy Meadow Road. The project is expected to break ground in late April of 2026 and run into late fall. The final task for this project will be completed in the spring of 2027 when the final mill and overlay of the entire affected northbound travel lane will be completed in accordance with the MassDOT permit specifications. Total cost for this project including engineering and construction activities is estimated to be \$1,986,100 to \$2,075,000.

In June of 2024, new billing software was put online (Vadar Systems). The water department took over the billing from the tax collector’s office. This includes new account setup, account maintenance, quarterly billing and final bill request. The water department continues to manage the billing for all department billing activities.

The SWD was awarded a \$30,000 cyber security grant in July 2024. Cyber security upgrades were performed during 2025 and included new hardware and software. This security and hardening project upgrade provided greater resiliency and safety for our public water system, protecting it from very real and ever-increasing direct threats on American utility infrastructure. This grant was

WATER DEPARTMENT

awarded through the Department of Environmental Protection and the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust.

In November of 2024, the SWD began working on the Lead Service Line Inventory Project. This daunting project is mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Environmental Protection. The purpose of this project is to get an accurate inventory of the water service lines and to identify and replace lead and galvanized water lines. Due to the lack of individual service records this mandated SWD to notify 690 of our customers that their water “MAY” contain lead. In this letter the customers were informed about lead safety and the potential dangers of lead. SWD personnel continued this project in 2025, scheduling inspections to identify customer service lines. In 2025 SWD performed approximately 240 inspections resulting in 450 letters having to be mailed November 10, 2025. Two galvanized service lines were identified on the private side as a result of the inspections. Based on interviews with past employees, SWD believes that there are no lead service lines in our distribution system.

In June of 2025 the SWD was notified by MassDEP Water Management Program that SWD’s water withdrawal permit was up for renewal (permits greater than 100,000 Gallons per day were issued for 20 years). SWD is currently permitted under (PWS ID: 1276000) WMA Permit (#: 9P2-1-06-276.01). SWD was issued a 90 Renewal Order to Complete. At that time SWD submitted the required response paperwork, including an extensive Water Conservation Questionnaire. As of 3/2026 we are in receipt of the Draft Permit as the Permittee for a courtesy review period for comments or questions until 3/19/2026. Subsequently, pursuant to 310 CMR 36.27(6)(7), and barring any significant changes to the Draft Permit, the Department will publish a notice of availability of the Draft Permit in the Environmental Monitor for a 30-day public comment period.

For the majority of 2025 the SWD remained at minimum staffing levels of just two full-time staff as mandated by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. SWD hired an additional third employee on December 2, 2025. SWD personnel are mandated to check our treatment plant 365 days per year. SWD personnel responded to 22 after-hour emergencies which required immediate action.

Respectfully submitted,
Brett Simmons, Superintendent and the
Southampton Board of Water Commission