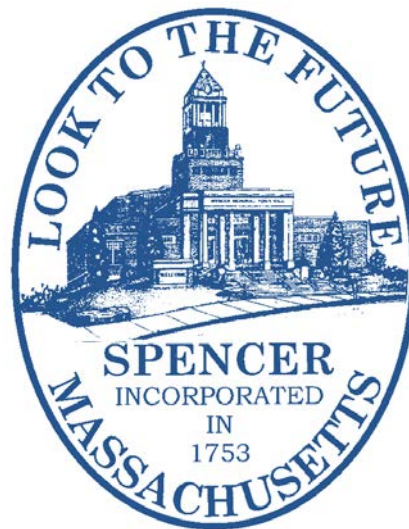


ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
**TOWN OFFICERS**  
OF THE  
**TOWN OF SPENCER**



**MASSACHUSETTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
DECEMBER 31, 2017

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IN MEMORIAM

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*David O'Coin*

*September 27, 1950 - December 18, 2017*



*In Grateful Appreciation  
For 39 Years of Service  
As Water Commissioner  
To the Town of Spencer*



View of Spencer's Drinking Water Aquifer Area Bordering on Meadow Road (photo by Steven Tyler)

### **A BRIEF SKETCH OF SPENCER**

Rich in history, Spencer is located in central Worcester County, twenty minutes west of Worcester via Route 9, and about forty-five minutes from Springfield via Routes 49, 20, and the Massachusetts Turnpike.

Largely residential, Spencer has been a supplier of workers for nearly every industry in the greater Worcester area. Ease of travel to all sections of the county makes Spencer a desirable area in which to live. Route 31 gives access in the north to Holden, Fitchburg, and Leominster; in the south to Charlton, Oxford, and Southbridge. Route 49 connects Route 9 with Route 20 which gives easy access to Sturbridge, Brimfield, Southbridge, the Mass. Turnpike, and Interstate 84 to Connecticut. Route 9 leads westerly through the Brookfields and Ware to the Amherst Campus of the University of Massachusetts, and easterly to Worcester, Shrewsbury, Northborough, and Westborough.

### **BACKGROUND**

Settled in 1717 by Nathaniel Wood, Spencer was incorporated as a town in 1753, having been established as a district from a part of Leicester. Its name was assigned by Lieutenant Governor Spencer Phipps who signed the order establishing the district.

In 1784 Spencer was a major stopping place on the Old Boston Post Road's stage route between Boston and Hartford, and on to New York. Passengers changed stages in Spencer, as one coach would come from Boston and connect with one coming north from Hartford. Each stagecoach would turn around and return whence it came. Travelers often stopped off for the night at Jenk's Tavern in Spencer, as did George Washington in 1789.

The Howe family of Spencer did much to make the town famous in the annals of ingenious Americans. William Howe of Spencer developed a wooden truss bridge named for him, and his brother, Tyler Howe, patented a spring bed. Their nephew, Elias Howe, Jr., may well have eclipsed them when he invented the lockstitch sewing machine.





*Town of Spencer*  
Office of the Board of Selectmen  
&  
Town Administrator

Board of Selectmen:  
*Ralph E. Hicks*  
*Warren A. Monette*  
*Anthony D. Pepe*  
*John F. Stevens*  
*Gary E. Woodbury*

Interim Town Administrator:  
*William R. Ross*

December, 2017

Dear Citizens of Spencer:

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, I offer my thanks to you for being involved and informed citizens and wish to commend the many dedicated people who are active in our community and strive to improve the quality of life for all residents of Spencer.

This Annual Town Report represents major activities of Town Government during the 2017 calendar year.

The Board of Selectmen is a five-member board of elected officials who serve as the Chief Policy Maker and Licensing Authority of the Town. Board members are elected for three- year staggered terms. Meetings are typically held three Mondays each month at 6:00 P.M in the McCourt Social Hall at Town Hall. I encourage you to visit the Town website at [www.spencerma.gov](http://www.spencerma.gov) for the most current information as the meeting location and date may vary based on holidays or other events.

Looking back at 2017, I am reminded of many accomplishments as well as a significant change that took place in our Town. After seven years as the Town Administrator in Spencer, Adam Gaudette accepted a position as Town Manger in Northbridge. His level of professionalism and dedication were unsurpassed and we were sorry to see him leave. We thank him for placing Spencer in a strong positon for future growth. His knowledge and experience will be greatly missed.

We were fortunate to have Interim Administrator William Ross take over in September, whose background and experience in municipal government allowed him to hit the ground running and assist us until the Town Administrator Search Committee (TASC) were able to identify candidates for the position. Thomas Gregory was brought forth as one of four finalists for the positon. Mr. Gregory proved to be an exceptional candidate and by a unanimous vote of the Board, was selected in January, 2018 to serve as Spencer's next Town Administrator. He has the specific skill set needed to continue moving Spencer forward and we are pleased to work with him. We are grateful for the efforts of the TASC in helping us to fill this important positon.

This past year saw the retirement of Health Agent Lee Jarvis, after twenty six years of service to the Town. His hard work and dedication to Spencer is a testament to his work ethic. Mr. Jarvis was well respected by his colleagues and the businesses and residents he served. We will miss him and his expertise, and congratulate him on his retirement.

Many important developments are in currently in process, including the Main Street construction project which began in early spring of 2017. This project will reconstruct and revitalize downtown Spencer and will include many improvements in addition to roadway resurfacing, such as improved traffic flow, bicycle accommodations, pedestrian sidewalk reconstruction with handicap accessibility upgrades, streetscape enhancements, and water and sewer infrastructure upgrades. The total cost for this project is \$3.6 million dollars and is being paid by State and Federal transportation funds. A special thanks to Utilities & Facilities

Superintendent Steven Tyler for his outstanding work on this project and on obtaining the funding. The Main Street reconstruction will assist with our ongoing mission to revitalize downtown Spencer and work towards a solution to improve blighted areas.

The Board worked on a variety of other matters in 2017. After a detailed review of numerous proposals from firms looking to locate a solar facility at the capped Landfill, the Landfill Solar Committee selected Citizens Energy who brought forth the proposal that best fit the needs of the Town. The Board voted to authorize the Administrator to enter into a lease agreement with Citizens Energy and a Warrant Article will be placed before voters at the May 3, 2018 Annual Town Meeting. If approved, this will result in \$6 million in additional revenue over a twenty year period. We appreciate the efforts of Landfill Solar Committee in bringing this project forward.

The Town was awarded the State SAFER Grant, which will provide daytime staffing at the Fire Department and allow the Town to hire four fulltime firefighters beginning in 2018. The grant is for a total of \$469,271 over a three year period. Thanks to Chief Parsons who applied for and was awarded this grant.

We are working to make restorations to services that were reduced during the FY2015 budget crisis. Were able to increase Town Hall hours to add a half-day on Thursdays, and add part-time positions at the Library and the Senior Center.

Looking forward to 2018, a \$6 million dollar Bond Borrowing has been issued for Phase I of the \$19 million Comprehensive Roads Project approved by voters at the May 5, 2016 Annual Town Meeting. The road work for this project is expected to commence during the summer of 2018. We have also begun the process for the reuse of the Sugden building and the former Lake Street School building. Requests for Proposals are expected to be issued in the spring.

On behalf of the Board, I want to thank our generous volunteers for consistently giving of their time and talents to help make Spencer a great place to live and to express my appreciation for the efforts and dedication of our Town employees who continue to work to move the Town forward.

The Board remains committed to providing high quality services while keeping in mind the financial impact to the community. We look forward to continued success in the coming year.

Respectfully,

*Anthony D. Pepe*

Anthony D. Pepe, Chairman

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## FEDERAL, STATE & COUNTY OFFICIALS

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### **UNITED STATES SENATORS**

Edward J. Markey of Malden

Elizabeth A. Warren of Cambridge

### **REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS**

Second District

James P. McGovern of Worcester

### **COUNCILLOR**

Seventh District

Jennie L. Caissie of Oxford

### **SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT**

Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire & Middlesex District

Anne M. Gobi of Spencer

### **REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT**

Fifth Worcester District – Spencer - Pcts. 2, 3 & 4

Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr. of Spencer

Sixth Worcester District – Spencer - Pct. 1

Peter J. Durant of Spencer

### **DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

Middle District

Joseph D. Early, Jr. of Worcester

### **CLERK OF COURTS**

Dennis P. McManus of Worcester

### **REGISTER OF DEEDS**

Anthony J. Vigliotti of Worcester

### **REGISTER OF PROBATE**

Stephanie K. Fattman of Webster

### **SHERIFF**

Lewis G. Evangelidis of Holden

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## ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS & COMMISSIONERS

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	Term Expires
<b>MODERATOR</b>	
William R. Shemeth III	2019
<b>SELECTMEN</b>	
Christopher L. Woodbury	2017
John F. Stevens	2018
Anthony D. Pepe	2019
Gary E. Woodbury	2019
Ralph E. Hicks	2020
Warren A. Monette	2020
<b>TOWN CLERK</b>	
Laura J. Torti	2018
<b>TREASURER/COLLECTOR</b>	
Susan L. Lacaire	2020
<b>ASSESSORS</b>	
Jeremey L. Snow	2019
David R. Derosier	2018
Cynthia Cosgrove	2017
Pamela L. Woodbury	2020
<b>SPENCER-EAST BROOKFIELD REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE</b>	
<b>Spencer Representatives:</b>	
Jason P. Monette	2019
Martha Berthiaume	2019
James R. St. Peter, Jr. ( <i>Resigned March 14, 2017</i> )	2018
Wendy, Pelchat	2018
Robert Ortiz	2020
Patricia Bergeron ( <i>appointed April 26, 2017</i> )	2018
<b>East Brookfield Representatives:</b>	
Michael Ethier	2020
Heather Messier	2018
<b>SOUTHERN WORCESTER COUNTY REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE</b>	
Robert L. Zukowski	2020
Jesselyn Gaucher	2019
<b>WATER COMMISSIONERS</b>	
Eben J. Butler	2018
Norman C. Letendre, Jr.	2020
David R. O'Coin ( <i>deceased December 18, 2017</i> )	2019

**PARK COMMISSIONERS**

Martin A. German, Jr. 2019  
William R. Shemeth, III 2020  
Anthony F. Toscano 2018

**LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

Lynn Dobson 2018  
Mary Anne Slack 2019  
Maryanne Gleason 2017  
Amy Paul 2020

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

Rodney L. Foisy 2019  
Daniel C. Shields 2020  
Robert James Bradshaw Jr. 2018

**TREE WARDEN**

Raymond I. Holmes, Jr. 2020

**HOUSING AUTHORITY**

Donna M Flannery 2021  
Richard J. Leveillee 2019  
Jarrett A. Morin 2017  
Roger L. Gaudette 2018

**SEWER COMMISSIONERS**

Francis X. White 2018  
Michael J. Mercadante 2019  
Lawrence H. Dufault 2020

**CONSTABLES**

Arthur C. Tatro 2019  
James F. Cervi 2019  
Lee D. Jarvis 2019

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**APPOINTED TOWN OFFICES  
COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES**

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**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

Adam D. Gaudette (*Resigned August 26, 2017*)  
William R. Ross, Interim (*September 11, 2017- March 12, 2018*)  
Thomas M. Gregory (*March 12, 2018 to Present*)

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Brenda Savoie

**ACCOUNTANT**

Alaine Boucher (*Retired March 1, 2017*) 2017  
Sandra J. Buxton 2018

**ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT**

Lynne Porretti

**PRINCIPAL ASSESSOR**

Linda L. Leblanc

**TOWN COUNSEL**

Stanley L. Weinberg

**AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION (5 Members/alternates)**

Kristin Lapierre (Altern.) 2018  
Douglas Paul (Altern.) 2018  
Anthony Moschini 2019  
Ed Bemis 2017  
Bonnie Booth (Altern.) 2018  
Warren Monette 2018  
Richard Lapierre Jr. 2019  
Evan Bercume 2018

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES COORDINATOR**

William A. Klansek – Physical Plant

**ANIMAL CONTROL  
AND INSPECTION OFFICERS**

Joelyn Durgin  
Lynne Porretti (Alternate) 2018  
Douglas Blood (Alternate) 2018  
Kim Foley (Alternate) 2018  
Katrina Klein (Alternate) 2018

**ASSISTANT COLLECTOR/TREASURER**

Rebecca M. Pedone

**ASSISTANT CONSTABLE (3yr term)**

Richard A. Lapierre 2018

**ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK**

Brynn L. Johnson

**BUILDING COMMISSIONER/Zoning Enforcement Officer (1yr term)**

William A. Klansek 2018

Robert W. Lanciani, Alt. Bldg. Insp. 2018

William Cassanelli, Alt. Bldg. Insp. 2017

**BUILDING AND PROPERTY REUSE COMMITTEE**

**(2 Selectmen, 1 finance Committee Rep. One Planning Board Rep., Utilities & Facilities Supt., Fire Chief, Five Citizens at Large—no expiration date)**

Corey Lacaire

Steven Tyler

Carl Kwiatkowski

Robert Parsons

Christopher Bowen

Jason Ferreira

Robert Ferreira

Jonathan Thibault

Gary Woodbury

Anthony Pepe

Jonathan Viner

**BURNCOAT POND WATERSHED DISTRICT MANAGEMENT**

**SPENCER REPRESENTATIVE (1yr term)**

John T. Gagnon

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING (1yr term regular, citizens at large 3yr term)**

Finance Committee – Nancy E. Herholz 2018

Citizens at Large – Richard Hebson (*Resigned July 17, 2017*) 2019

Select Board - Anthony D. Pepe 2018

Citizen at large -Vacant

Planning Board-Jonathan Viner 2018

**CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE (1yr term)**

Donald R Berthiaume, Jr. 2018

David Darrin 2018

Dale Davies 2017

Donna Cutler 2017

Richard Lapierre, Jr. 2017

**CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (1yr term)**

Ralph E. Hicks (Alternate) 2017

Steven Tyler (Selectboard Rep.) 2017

# CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Gary E. Woodbury

September 30, 2018

## **CHARITABLE NEEDS (3yr term 5 members)**

Barbara E. Grusell	2018
Paul Lamontagne	2018
Paulette LeBlanc	2019
David L. Ingalls	2020
Karen Burke	2018

## **CHIEF OF POLICE**

David B. Darrin	1/31/2019
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## **COMMISSIONERS OF OLD CEMETERY (3yr term 3 members)**

Edward P. Foresteire	Permanent
Anne M. Snow ( <i>Resigned July 2017</i> )	2018
Danielle Gebo	2018

## **CONSERVATION COMMISSION (3yr term 7 members)**

Margaret Emerson	2018
Mary E. McLaughlin	2019
Warren B. Snow	2020
James Bouley Jr.	2020
John Haverty	2017
Brian Graeff ( <i>Resigned November 15, 2017</i> )	2018
Kaitlin Desmarais ( <i>Resigned August 24, 2017</i> )	2020
Heidi Olivo	2020

## **CONTRACT COMPLIANCE OFFICER**

Adam D. Gaudette ( <i>Resigned August 26, 2017</i> )	2018
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## **COUNCIL ON AGING (3yr term 7-11 members)**

Rose Hale	2020
Christine E. Alessandro	2018
James W. Letendre	2018
Janet Goff ( <i>Resigned May 3, 2017</i> )	2019
Christine Mancini	2019
Susan Arsenault	2018
Joan Houston, Alternate	2019
Sheila Phoenix	2020
Martha Brunelle	2018
Mary Williams	2019
Rachel Sugalski (Alternate)	2020
Lucinda Puchalski (Alternate)	2019

## **CULTURAL COUNCIL (3yr term 9 members)**

Joan Eccleston*	2018
Deborah Bailey	2017
Nicole Boucher	2017
Cheryl Tutlis	2018
Elizabeth Small*	2018

Rachel Faugno	2018
Diane Johnson	2018
Denise Farmosa	2020
Janice Peters	2020
John Green Jr.	2020
* 2 <sup>nd</sup> consecutive term	

**DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT AND INSPECTIONAL SERVICES**

Lee D. Jarvis (Acting)

**DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF FINANCE**

Alaine M. Boucher (*retired March 1, 2017*)

Susan L. Lacaire	2018
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**DISABILITY COMMISSION (3yr term 5 members)**

Jeanne M. Desmarais	2018
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Anne M. Snow	2017
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**DISASTER ANIMALS RESPONSE TEAM**

VACANT

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**(9 Residents, 2 Selectmen, 1 Planning Board Member, 6 Representatives from the Business Community-5 year Terms)**

Joseph M. Smith	2021
-----------------	------

C. Michael Toomey	2020
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Shirley Shiver	2021
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Christopher L. Woodbury	2022
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**EEO OFFICER**

Adam D. Gaudette ( <i>Resigned August 26, 2017</i> )	2018
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**SPENCER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (SEMA)**

Robert Parsons (Fire Chief), Director	9/30/2020
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Sandra J. Fritze, Deputy	2018
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**FAIR HOUSING (1yr term 3 members 2 alternates)**

3 Vacancies

2 Alt. Vacancies

**FENCE VIEWER (1yr term)**

Robert H. Dewan	2018
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**FINANCE COMMITTEE (3yr term 11 members)**

Christopher P. Bowen	2018
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Mary E. Braney	2018
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Nancy Herholz	2018
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Thomas F. Parker	2018
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Paul E. McLaughlin	2019
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Christopher T. Kandel( <i>Resigned 8/31/2017</i> )	2019
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William J. Wall, Jr.	2020
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Robbin M.C. Joyce ( <i>Resigned 6/19/2017</i> )	2017
Paul G. Bouvier	2019
Christopher L. Woodbury	2020
B. Kerry Keefe	2020

**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE (1yr term 5 members)**

Richard Hebson (Capital Committee)	2017
John Stevens (Selectmen)	2018
Anthony D. Pepe (Selectmen)	2018
Paul McLaughlin (Finance Committee)	2017
Thomas Parker (Finance Committee)	2018

**FIRE CHIEF**

Robert P. Parsons, Fire Chief	9/30/2020
Robert P. Parsons, Forest Fire Warden	2018
William C. Locke, Deputy Forest Fire Warden	2018

**HARBORMASTER (1yr term)**

Douglas Blood	2018
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**HAZARDOUS WASTE COORDINATOR (1yr term)**

Robert P. Parsons	2018
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**HEALTH AGENT**

Lee D. Jarvis (*Resigned August 21, 2017-effective January 18, 2018*)

**HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE (1yr term)**

Russell B. Snow	2018
Steven J. Tyler	2018

**HISTORICAL COMMISSION (3yr term 7 members)**

Anna Marie Hughes (honorary member, moved from town)	
Jean M. Desmarais	2020
Francis T. Lochner	2020
Kimberly A. Kates	2020
Anne M. Snow	2019
Mary Baker-Wood	2019

**HUMAN RESOURCES AND BENEFITS COORDINATOR**

Sarah Gruhin

**INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCING AUTHORITY (5yr term 5 members)**

John J. Jackson	2017
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**INSECT AND PEST CONTROL INSPECTOR (1yr term)**

Raymond I. Holmes, Jr.	2018
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**INSPECTOR OF GAS PIPING & APPLIANCES (1yr term)**

James R. Bergeron	2018
Robert F. Wall, Alten.	2018



**INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE** (*1yr term, representatives from each collective bargaining unit, retiree, personnel bylaw, contract and elected positions*)

Mary Barrell (retiree)	2017
Mary Baker-Wood (retiree)	2018
Vacant (highway)	
Steven J. Tyler (contract)	2018
Lisa Daoust (clerical)	2018
Laura Torti (elected)	2018
Holly M. Collette (dispatchers)	2018
Michael Befford (police)	2018
Lee Jarvis (personnel bylaw)	2018

**LANDFILL SOLAR DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

*(2 Selectmen, One Finance Committee Rep., One Planning Board Rep., Utilities & Facilities Supt., Town Planner, Three Citizens at Large no term expiration)*

Steven Tyler  
Keith Crockett, Jr.  
Robbin Joyce (*moved from town May 2017*)  
Brian Graeff  
Gary Woodbury  
John Stevens  
Robert Ceppi  
Kurt Nordquist

**LOCAL COMMUNITY ADDICTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE** (*7 Members: Chief of Police/Designee, Fire Chief/Designee, EMS Medical Director/Designee, Board of Health Agent/Designee, Superintendent of Schools/Designee, One Member of the Board of Selectmen, One Citizen at Large no term expiration*)

Therese Grogan (Citizen at Large)  
Dr. N. Tracey Crowe (Superintendent of Schools) *until July 29, 2017*  
Robert Parsons (Fire Chief)  
Gary Woodbury (Board of Selectmen)  
David Darrin (Chief of Police)  
Lee Jarvis (Board of Health)

**LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (1yr term 10 members)**

David B. Darrin (Police)	2018
Sandra Fritze, SEMA	2018
Lee D. Jarvis (Board of Health)	2018
Robert P. Parsons (Fire)	2018
James Laplante (Sewer)	2018
Edward Flanagan (Ambulance)	2017
Paul Dell'Aquilla (Planning Board)	2018
Steven J. Tyler (U&F)	2018
Margaret Emerson (Conservation)	2018
Nadine Tracy Crowe (Supt. of Schools)	2017
Adam D. Gaudette, Ex. Officio ( <i>Resigned August 26, 2017</i> )	2017
Darwin Irish (FlexCon)	2018

<b>MUNICIPAL HEARINGS OFFICER PARKING CLERK (1yr term)</b>	
Kurt A. Nordquist	2018
<b>MUNICIPAL LIAISON TO STATE ETHICS COMMISSION</b>	
Adam D. Gaudette ( <i>Resigned August 26, 2017</i> )	2018
<b>PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION (Appointed) (3yr term 4 members)</b>	
Lynne D. Porretti ( <i>Resigned August 1, 2017</i> )	2019
Mark Lammi	2019
Robert Churchey	2017
Corinne Kennedy	2018
Dennis Brunnett	2019
<b>PLANNING BOARD (3yr term, 5 members 1 alternate)</b>	
Shirley A. Shiver	2020
Maria H. C. Reed	2019
Robert J. Ceppi	2019
Jonathan Viner	2020
Jeffrey Butensky	2020
<b>PUBLIC WEIGHER (1yr term)</b>	
Karen Hubacz-Kiley	2018
<b>PLUMBING INSPECTOR (1yr term)</b>	
Robert Wall	2018
James Bergeron, Alternate	2018
<b>QUABOAG VALLEY BUS. ASST. COORD (1yr term)</b>	
John F. Stevens	2018
<b>REGISTRARS OF VOTERS (3yr term, 3 Registrars 1 Clerk)</b>	
Eleanor F. O'Connor	3/31/2020
Elizabeth T. McPherson	3/31/2018
Patricia Woods	3/31/2019
Laura J. Torti, Town Clerk	
<b>SAFETY OFFICER (1yr term)</b>	
David B. Darrin, Police Chief	2018
<b>SCM ELDERBUS REPRESENTATIVE (1yr term)</b>	
Pamela Woodbury	2018
<b>SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES (1yr term)</b>	
John A. Biancheria	2018
<b>SENIOR CENTER PROGRAM DIRECTOR/COORDINATOR</b>	
Pamela Woodbury	

<b>SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINT OFFICER (1yr term)</b> Adam D. Gaudette <i>(Resigned August 26, 2017)</i>	2018
<b>SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS</b> Dr. N. Tracy Crowe <i>until July 29, 2017</i> Acting Supt. Jodi Bourassa <i>until June 30, 2018</i>	
<b>TAX TITLE CUSTODIAN (1yr term)</b> Susan L. Lacaire	2018
<b>TOWN ADMINISTRATOR SEARCH COMMITTEE</b> Christine Alessandro (Council on Aging Designee) Donald Berthiaume (Citizens-at-Large) Nancy Herholz (Capital Planning Designee) Ralph Hicks (Board of Selectmen) Mary E. Braney (Finance Committee) Maria Reed (Planning Board Designee) Frank White (Citizens-at-Large) Christopher Woodbury (Alternate)	
<b>TOWN PLANNER</b> Paul Dell' Aquilla	2019
<b>TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ADVISORY GROUP (1yr term)</b> William J. Lehtola	2018
<b>TRANSPORTATION REPRESENTATIVE (1yr term)</b> William J. Lehtola	2018
<b>CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER (1yr term)</b> Adam D. Gaudette <i>(Resigned August 26, 2017)</i>	2018
<b>UTILITIES &amp; HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT</b> Steven J. Tyler	7/17/2020
<b>VETERANS SERVICES DIRECTOR/AGENT &amp; VETERANS GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICER (1yr term)</b> Timothy Gagnon	2018
<b>VETERANS MEMORIAL ISAAC PROUTY PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE</b> (1 Selectman, 1 Parks & Rec Commissioner, 1 American Legion Member, U&F Supt., 3 Exchange Club Members) Gary Herl Robert Churchey Steven Tyler Arnold Arsenault Patrick George Scott Conner	2018 2017 2018 2018 2018 2018
<b>WIRING INSPECTOR (1yr term)</b> Norman D. Bassett Michael H. Sweet, Alternate	2018 2018

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (3yr term 3 members 2 alternates)**

Allan P. Collette

2018

Mary Stolarczyk

2020

Alan Stolarczyk

2020

Alternates Vacant

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## REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

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The Office of the Town Clerk serves as a direct link between the residents of Spencer and our local government. Not sure who to call? Contact the Town Clerk and you will be directed to the appropriate municipal office.

The Town Clerk is responsible for preparing for and presiding over all local and state elections serving as the Chief Elections Official. Voter registration records are maintained by the Town Clerk's Office. Voter registration can be done at the Town Hall anytime during regular business hours, with special additional hours for registration held prior to elections and town meetings.

As the Official Certifier of Records, the Town Clerk records and certifies all official acts of the Town including Town Meeting actions and appropriations, as well as Planning and Zoning Board decisions. As Town Archivist, the maintenance, disposition and preservation of municipal archival records (some of which are close to 300 years old) are in the custody of the Town Clerk. The Office also provides certified copies of vital records (births, marriages, deaths) and assists with genealogical research.

As part of the Town's public health and safety requirements the Town Clerk's Office issues Dog Licenses, Underground Storage Licenses, Business Certificates, and Burial Permits.

Each year the Town Clerk's Office conducts the Annual Census which not only provides important statistical and demographic information but also is used to maintain active voter and street lists, and provides information to the State for the compilation of the Prospective Juror File Status Report which lists all potential jury candidates and is available at the Town Hall.

Laura J. Torti, Town Clerk

<b>2017 Revenue Report</b>			
Marriage Intentions	\$901.00	Copies	\$3.50
Births	\$2413.00	Misc.	\$0.00
Deaths	\$2710.00	Business List	\$0.00
Marriage Certificates	\$1120.00	Certifications	\$0.00
Street Listings	\$0.00	Physician Signature	\$0.00
Bylaw Booklets	\$0.00	Research	\$150.00
Auction/Raffle Permits	\$140.00	Pole Locations	\$0.00
WRTA Bus Passes	\$52.00	Postage	\$0.00
Notary	\$952.00	Dog Tag Replacement	\$4.00
Business Certificates	\$2920.00	Online Dog License	\$5243.00
Dog License & Late Fees	\$25,777.00	Online Vital Records	\$873.00
Gas Storage	\$660.00	Credit Card Dog License	\$1000.00
Extracts	\$0.00	Credit Card Vital Records	\$1288.00
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$46,206.50</b>		

**Board of Registrars Report  
Voter Total Sheet as of 12/31/2017**

Ward	Precinct	A	AA	CC	D	G	H	J	K	L	O	Q	R	S	T	U	V	Z	Grand Totals
<b>0</b>	1	1	1	14	407	0	0	4	0	10	0	0	222	0	2	1238	0	1	1900
	2	2	0	22	389	1	1	2	0	4	0	1	245	1	1	1193	0	0	1862
	3	2	0	12	426	0	0	5	0	3	2	1	268	2	1	1269	1	0	1992
	4	8	0	11	417	0	0	3	1	6	2	0	274	0	0	1248	0	0	1962
<b>Grand Totals</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>1639</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1009</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4948</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7726</b>

All Voters

- |                     |                        |                               |                             |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| A Conservative      | H We The People        | P Prohibition                 | W Veteran Party America     |
| B Natural Law Party | J Green Rainbow        | Q American Independent        | X Pirate                    |
| C New World Council | K Constitution Party   | R Republican                  | Y World Citizens Party      |
| D Democrat          | L Libertarian          | S Socialist                   | Z Working Families          |
| E Reform            | M Timesizing Not Down  | T Inter 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party | AA Pizza Party              |
| F Rainbow Coalition | N New Alliance         | U Unenrolled                  | BB American Term Limits     |
| G Green Party USA   | O MA Independent Party | V America First Party         | CC United Independent Party |
|                     |                        |                               | DD Twelve Visions Party     |

**VITAL STATISTICS**

	Births	Marriages	Deaths
2007	132	93	83
2008	102	73	97
2009	120	88	88
2010	114	77	77
2011	139	71	88
2012	114	77	120
2013	121	76	108
2014	114	59	106
2015	117	60	117
2016	123	46	132
2017	94	56	113

\*As of printing deadline.

**Town of Spencer  
Annual Town Meeting  
May 4, 2017  
Memorial Town Hall**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Moderator, William R. Shemeth, III following the announcement of a quorum by Registrar Elizabeth McPherson.

The Reading of the Return of the Warrant was waived. The meeting was posted in accordance with the law. A moment of silence was observed in honor of those residents who had passed away in the past year and for those who have served the Town, including Peter Reno, Jeremy Hayes, Mary Lou Patriarca, Vincent Puchalski, Maureen O’Leary Minor and Joseph (Ski) Magierowski, Sr.

The Moderator led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem was sung by Sandra Fritze. He then thanked Aaron Keyes, Kyle Sullivan and Gabe Coolbaugh for providing the sound set up for the meeting.

The Moderator informed those present that the Meritorious Service Award and the Leadership Hall Awards would be postponed to the fall town meeting. He also gave several announcements regarding upcoming events and projects which were noted on handouts available for voters to pick up. One handout included a list of web links to current highway construction projects and a public hearing notice for proposed Main Street Pedestrian Safety and Transit Improvements Project. Another handout discussed the status of the Route 31 and Route 9 construction projects. The moderator urged Spencer residents to continue to support local businesses in the downtown area during the construction project duration. Another handout described an upcoming library program on the life of the Trappist monks from St. Joseph's Abbey. The moderator recognized the efforts of the Spencer Exchange Club, American Legion, Parks and Recreation Commission, legislative delegation, and support of local businesses and volunteers in revitalizing Isaac Prouty Park. The moderator urged all Spencer residents to attend the Memorial Day ceremonies to see the results of the hard work firsthand. The moderator noted that this park truly honors the sacrifices of those who put their lives on the line to secure and preserve the liberties we now enjoy. The moderator also mentioned that the Spencer Town newsletter and the warrant book containing the articles, budgetary information, capital project ranking, and revenue figures were available at the tables where voters checked in. All finance committee recommendations, budgetary information, revenue charts, and capital project rankings are hereby incorporated by reference as printed in the warrant book into the official minutes and record of this meeting.

Fire Chief Robert Parsons presented service awards to Lt. Jason Ferreira, Lt. Brian Mathon, and Firefighter Corey Phoenix for their work on the Forestry 3 vehicle during the past year which saved the town more than \$70,000.00

Moderator Shemeth then introduced the Selectmen present; Chairman John Stevens; the Town Administrator, Adam Gaudette; Town Counsel, Stanley Weinberg; Town Clerk Laura Torti; and Chair of the Finance Committee, Mary Braney. Mrs. Braney then introduced those members of the Finance Committee who were present.

Moderator Shemeth shared the following comments: *“Every day we make history in the conduct of our normal affairs. Tonight we will make history as we exercise our right of self-determination to settle the affairs of our town government by consensus as a free and equal people in this the 294th year of our existence as a body politic. If you have any doubt as to if every vote counts, we would not be able to conduct the town business if each of you had not attended this evening. Thank you for your commitment to our*

*democratic process. Our decisions will be chronicled and preserved. In future days, others will reflect on our actions through the lenses of time and judgment to discern the jewels worthy of inclusion into the lore of our combined experiences as a town, state, or nation. And yet, though we are the creators of this history, we often fail to recognize the historical significance of what we do. On this date Rhode Island declared its independence from Great Britain a full two months before the Declaration of Independence was adopted. This action was a key event in helping create the liberties which we now cherish. On this date the Dutch bought Manhattan Island from the Native Americans starting the process from which an enduring symbol of Lady Liberty welcomed those seeking freedom and a new beginning came to America. On this date, Horace Mann, the father of American public education was born. His efforts to create the first public education system in America helped make the constitutional right to an education enshrined in the Massachusetts constitution a reality for all young people in the Commonwealth. A well educated populace is the key to a successful democracy and republic. Tonight and in the nights of future years, may we honor the spirit of these patriots and educational pioneers by governing wisely in behalf of all people as we continue this grand experiment of governance of, by, and, for the people.*

The moderator then reviewed the procedure for being recognized, amending articles, and how articles would be presented and voted upon, noting that the Town Meeting is governed with guidance from “Town Meeting Time: A Handbook of Parliamentary Procedure,” and that a copy is available at the podium for reference.

**The following articles were voted upon:**

**ARTICLE 1**

**Article 1:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to* amend its Fiscal Year 2017 Operating Budget by appropriating the sum of Two Hundred Seventy-Four Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$274,000.00) to the following various accounts to cover additional expenses and further to transfer said sum from previously certified and available Free Cash to meet said appropriation:

<b><u>Department</u></b>	<b><u>Account</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
Town Administrator Asst Salaries	12300-51000	\$ 2,000.00
Fire Department Expenses	11220-57000	\$ 12,000.00
Snow & Ice Expenses	11423-57000	\$260,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$274,000.00</b>

*(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*

**ARTICLE 2**

**Article 2:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to* transfer the sum of One Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$1,700.00) from the FY2017 Tree Warden Salaries & Wages Account (11494-51000) to the FY2017 Tree Warden Expenses Account (11494-57000); *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*



### **ARTICLE 3**

**Article 3:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to* appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$10,000.00) for the Sick Leave Buy Back Fund (Account #083000-39800) and to meet said appropriation by transferring from previously certified and available Free Cash (*Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen*)

### **ARTICLE 4**

**Article 4:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to* appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$50,000.00) for the OPEB Trust Fund (Account #83000-39825) and to meet said appropriation by transferring from previously certified and available Free Cash (*Sponsored by the Town Administrator*)

### **ARTICLE 5**

**Article 5:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to* amend the Article 7 from the May 7, 2009 Annual Town Meeting which established the Elder Community Services (Tax Work Off) Program by changing the required age of “sixty-two years” (62) to “sixty years” (60); (*Sponsored by the Town Administrator*)

### **ARTICLE 6**

**Article 6:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to* approve a consent agenda consisting of the following actions, or take any action relating thereto. Such items may be voted as a block, or singly, or in any combination but however voted, will be treated for accounting and legislative purposes as if each item voted were voted as a separate article.

- A. Receive, in writing, the reports of the Town Officers and Committees.
- B. Authorize the Planning Board to establish a revolving fund in conformity with Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 of the Massachusetts General Laws for the following purposes and subject to the following conditions:
  - 1. to be the depository for monies received from ANR Fees and Subdivision Fees;
  - 2. to fund the administrative costs of the Planning Board;
  - 3. to limit the total amount to be expended from the fund in Fiscal Year 2018 at Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$50,000.00); and
  - 4. to have the Planning Board be the only authority empowered to expend monies from this fund.
- C. Authorize the establishment of a revolving fund for the Sugden Block in conformity with Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 of the Massachusetts General Laws, for the following purposes and subject to the following conditions:
  - 1. to be the depository for receipts of rentals and charges from the Sugden Block;
  - 2. to pay expenses associated with the operation of the Sugden Block;
  - 3. to limit the total amount to be expended from the fund in Fiscal Year 2018 at One Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$100,000.00); and
  - 4. to have the Town Administrator be the only authority empowered to expend monies from this fund.

- D. Authorize the Office of Development and Inspectional Services (ODIS) to establish a revolving fund in conformity with Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 of the Massachusetts General Laws, for the following purposes and subject to the following conditions:
1. to be the depository for 80% of the fees collected for electrical permits;
  2. to compensate the Wiring Inspector;
  3. to limit the total amount to be expended from the fund in Fiscal Year 2018 at Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$50,000.00); and
  4. to have the Director of the Office, subject to the approval of the Town Administrator, be the only authority empowered to expend monies from this fund.
- E. Authorize the Parks and Recreation Commission to establish a revolving fund in conformity with Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 of the Massachusetts General Laws, for the following purposes and subject to the following conditions:
1. to be the depository for monies received for park rentals, sticker fees, and fees charged for program offerings;
  2. to be used to fund the costs of part-time personnel, utilities, supplies, and expenses related to program offerings;
  3. to limit the total amount to be expended from the fund in Fiscal Year 2018 at One Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$100,000.00); and
  4. to have the Parks and Recreation Commission be the only authority empowered to expend monies from this fund.
- F. Authorize the Board of Selectmen to establish a Celebrations Revolving Fund in conformity with Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 of the Massachusetts General Laws, for the following purposes and subject to the following conditions:
1. to be the depository for donations, gifts and fees collected for community celebrations, including, but not limited to, the Fourth of July (Independence Day), Halloween, and Christmas;
  2. to limit the total amount to be expended from the fund in Fiscal Year 2018 at Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$50,000.00); and
  3. to have the Town Administrator, subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen, be the only authority empowered to expend monies from this fund.
- G. Authorize the Board of Selectmen to establish a Council on Aging Revolving Fund in conformity with Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 of the Massachusetts General Laws, for the following purposes and subject to the following conditions:
1. to be the depository for donations, gifts and fees collected for Council on Aging programs;
  2. to limit the total amount to be expended from the fund in Fiscal Year 2018 at Twenty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$20,000.00); and
  3. to have the Council on Aging be the only authority empowered to expend monies from this fund.
- H. Authorize the Board of Selectmen to establish a Stormwater Management Revolving Fund in conformity with Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 of the Massachusetts General Laws, for the following purposes and subject to the following conditions:

1. to be the depository for stormwater fees and fines collected to be used for Stormwater Management (MS4) related programs;
  2. to limit the total amount to be expended from the fund in Fiscal Year 2018 at One Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$100,000.00); and
  3. to have the Town Administrator be the only authority empowered to expend monies from this fund.
- I. Appropriate the sum of money received or to be received from the Chapter 90 State Aid to Highways Program to be expended for construction and/or maintenance upon any state approved road, or for any other authorized purpose, for Fiscal Year 2018, with such funds to be reimbursed 100% from such Program.
- J. Authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, accept, and expend the following funds:
- Community Development Block Grant funds;  
 Community Innovation Challenge Grant funds;  
 District Local Technical Assistance Grant funds; and  
 Other State and Federal grant-in-aid assistance, as appropriate and necessary.
- K. Appropriate the sum of 100% of all fines, penalties, and assessments received in Fiscal Year 2018 as payment under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 148A, as amended by Chapter 304 of the Acts of 2004, to an account entitled “Building and Fire Code Enforcement Fines.”
- L. Appropriate the sum of 50% of all monies received in Fiscal Year 2018 as payment for the so-called “products,” “conveyance,” “roll-back” or other such tax or payment, other than real estate taxes and related payments-in-lieu-of-taxes, under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter(s) 61, 61A, and 61B to the Land Acquisition Stabilization Fund and the sum of 100% of all monies received from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as payments from the Forest Products Trust Fund to the Land Acquisition Stabilization Fund.
- M. Authorize the Town Treasurer/Collector to enter into a compensating balance agreement(s) for Fiscal Year 2018 pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53F, and further vote to authorize the Town Treasurer/Collector to borrow such sums of money as he/she may deem necessary, with the consent of the Finance Committee, in anticipation of revenue and/or reimbursements and to issue notes of the Town payable thereof in accordance with applicable law.
- N. Authorize the Board of Selectmen, in conformance with Section 11(m) of the Spencer Governmental Act and MGL c. 40, Section 4, to enter into and negotiate the terms thereof, all contracts for the exercise of its corporate powers.

## ARTICLE 7

**Article 7: *The Moderator declared the motion carried to*** amend the General Bylaws by adding a new section (Article 2, Section 15), provided below, which shall establish and authorize revolving funds for use by certain town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, §53E½;

## Section 15. DEPARTMENTAL REVOLVING FUNDS

1. Purpose. This bylaw establishes and authorizes revolving funds for use by town departments, boards, committees, agencies and officers in connection with the operation of programs or activities that generate fees, charges or other receipts to support all or some of the expenses of those programs or activities. These revolving funds are established under and governed by General Laws Chapter 44, §53E½.
2. Expenditure Limitations. A department or agency head, board, committee or officer may incur liabilities against and spend monies from a revolving fund established and authorized by this bylaw without appropriation subject to the following limitations:
  - A. Fringe benefits of full-time employees whose salaries are paid from the fund shall also be paid from the fund.
  - B. No liability shall be incurred in excess of the available balance of the fund.
  - C. The Total amount spent during a fiscal year shall not exceed the amount authorized by Annual Town Meeting on or before July 1 of that fiscal year, or any increased amount of that authorization that is later approved during that fiscal year by the SelectBoard and Finance Committee.
3. Interest. Interest earned on monies credited to a revolving fund established by this bylaw shall be credited to the General Fund.
4. Procedures and Reports. Except as provided in General Laws Chapter 44, §53E½ and this bylaw, the laws, charter provisions, bylaws, rules, regulations, policies or procedures that govern the receipt and custody of town monies and the expenditure and payment of town funds shall apply to the use of a revolving fund established and authorized by this bylaw. The Town Accountant shall include a statement on the collections credited to the fund, the encumbrances and expenditures charged to each fund and the balance available for expenditure in the regular report the Town Accountant provides the department, board, committee, agency or officer on appropriations made for its use.
5. Authorized Revolving Funds. The Table establishes:
  - A. Each revolving fund authorized for use by a town department, board, committee, agency or officer;
  - B. The department or agency head, board, committee or officer authorized to spend from each fund;
  - C. The fees, charges and other monies charged and received by the department, board, committee, agency or officer in connection with the program or activity for which the fund is established that shall be credited to each fund by the Town Accountant;
  - D. The expense of the program or activity for which each fund may be used,
  - E. Any restrictions or conditions on expenditures from each fund;
  - F. Any reporting or other requirements that apply to each fund, and;
  - G. The fiscal years each fund shall operate under this bylaw.

Revolving Fund	Department, Board, Committee, Agency or Officer Authorized to spend from Fund	Fees, Charges or Other Receipts Credited to the Fund	Program or Activity Expenses Payable from Fund	Cap of Fund	Fiscal Years
Planning Board	Planning Board	ANR, Subdivision, Other Permit Fees	Administrative Costs, other Expense	\$50,000	FY 2018 and subsequent years
Sugden Block	Town Administrator	Receipts of rentals and charges	Operation Expenses	\$100,000	FY 2018 and subsequent years
ODIS – Wiring Inspections	ODIS Director	Depository of 80% of electrical permit fees collected	Compensate the Wiring Inspector	\$50,000	FY 2018 and subsequent years
Parks & Recreation	Parks & Recreation Commission	Park rentals, sticker fees, program fees	Program costs such as personnel, utilities, supplies, and other expenses	\$100,000	FY 2018 and subsequent years
Celebrations Committee	Town Administrator	Donations, gifts and fees collected	Program Expenses	\$50,000	FY 2018 and subsequent years
Council on Aging	Council on Aging	Donations, gifts, and fees collected	Program Expenses	\$20,000	FY 2018 and subsequent years
Stormwater Management	Town Administrator	Stormwater Fees and fines collected	Stormwater Management Activities such as programs or projects	\$100,000	FY 2018 and subsequent years

## ARTICLE 8

**Article 8:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to* to fix or maintain the salaries of the elected officials for Fiscal Year 2018 as follows:

Board of Selectmen	\$ 0.00	Yearly
Moderator	\$ 200.00	Yearly
Board of Assessors	\$ 950.00	Yearly
Town Treasurer/Collector	\$ 68,340.00	Yearly
Town Clerk	\$ 65,984.00	Yearly
Water Commissioners	\$ 725.00	Yearly
Sewer Commissioners	\$ 725.00	Yearly
Board of Health	\$ 725.00	Yearly

## ARTICLE 9

**Article 9: *The Moderator declared the motion carried to*** amend the Personnel Bylaws by substituting the following new compensation schedule, Section 2-Schedules B, C, and D:

(Informational Note: These rates all generally go up 2%)

### Schedule B

	I	II	III	IV	V
Compensation Grade S-2	\$408.11	\$422.99	\$455.44	\$488.05	\$520.55
Compensation Grade S-3	\$455.44	\$488.05	\$520.55	\$553.09	\$587.21
Compensation Grade S-4	\$520.55	\$553.09	\$587.21	\$618.20	\$650.67
Compensation Grade S-5	\$587.21	\$618.20	\$650.67	\$683.33	\$715.70
Compensation Grade S-6	\$650.67	\$683.33	\$715.70	\$747.39	\$797.14
Compensation Grade S-7	\$715.70	\$747.39	\$797.14	\$845.89	\$894.76
Compensation Grade S-8	\$797.14	\$845.89	\$894.76	\$943.57	\$992.40
Compensation Grade S-9	\$894.76	\$943.57	\$992.40	\$1,036.63	\$1,098.44
Compensation Grade S-9A	\$943.57	\$993.70	\$1,040.51	\$1,098.44	\$1,160.96
Compensation Grade S-10	\$992.40	\$1,036.63	\$1,098.44	\$1,158.75	\$1,222.48
Compensation Grade S-10A	\$1,049.11	\$1,095.95	\$1,161.07	\$1,224.86	\$1,292.21
Compensation Grade S-11	\$1,098.44	\$1,158.75	\$1,222.48	\$1,289.73	\$1,361.48
Compensation Grade S-12	\$1,222.48	\$1,289.73	\$1,361.48	\$1,407.93	\$1,514.40
Compensation Grade S-13	\$1,361.48	\$1,407.93	\$1,514.40	\$1,597.68	\$1,686.35
Compensation Grade S-14	\$1,514.40	\$1,597.68	\$1,686.35	\$1,779.10	\$1,877.85

### Schedule C

Administrative Intern / Co-op Student	\$11.00	hourly
Animal Control & Inspection Officer	\$26,520.00	yearly
Animal Control & Inspection Officer-Alternate	\$5,100.00	yearly
Animal Control & Inspection Officer-Alternate (on-call)	\$50.00	daily
COA Director	\$19.15	hourly
Election Inspectors	\$11.00	hourly
Election Wardens / Clerks	\$12.05	hourly
Engineering Aide	\$12.05	hourly
Facilities Maintenance Worker	\$13.00	hourly
Finance Committee Clerk	\$418.25	yearly
Fluoride Coordinator	\$12.90	hourly
Gas Inspector	\$5,470.00	yearly
Harbormaster	\$1,000.00	yearly
Laborer (Seasonal/Intermittent)	\$12.05	hourly
Library Childhood Literacy Coordinator	\$114.85	weekly
Library Page	\$11.00	hourly
Light Equipment Operator (LEO) - Seasonal	\$18.65	hourly

Parks & Rec Adven. Prog. Director	\$18.40	hourly
Parks & Rec Adven. Prog. Head Counselor	\$13.20	hourly
Parks & Rec Adven. Prog. Counselor	\$11.00	hourly
Parks & Rec Waterfront Director	\$16.75	hourly
Parks & Rec Water Safety Instructor	\$15.00	hourly
Parks & Rec Lifeguard	\$13.20	hourly
Parks & Rec Parking Attendant	\$11.00	hourly
Parks & Rec Chair	\$430.00	yearly
Parks & Rec Clerk	\$430.00	yearly
Planning Board	\$1,101.00	yearly
Planning Board - Alternate	\$518.00	yearly
Plumbing Inspector	\$5,470.00	yearly
Police Dispatcher	\$16.50	hourly
Registrars	\$1,318.85	yearly
Sealer of Weights & Measures	\$4,547.00	yearly
SEMA, Director of Operations	\$2,373.50	yearly
SFD Deputy Chief	\$9,222.00	yearly
SFD Captain	\$19.40	hourly
SFD Lieutenant	\$18.00	hourly
SFD Fire Science Instructor	\$21.10	hourly
SFD Firefighter	\$16.45	hourly
SFD Truck Engineer Back Line	\$464.50	yearly
SFD Truck Engineer Front Line	\$617.75	yearly
Tree Climber	\$20.10	hourly
Tree Groundman	\$17.30	hourly
Tree Warden	\$23.70	hourly
Veteran Agent	\$20.20	hourly
Zoning Board of Appeals	\$1,103.00	yearly
Zoning Board of Appeals - Alternate	\$518.00	yearly

**Schedule D**

	<b>I</b>	<b>II</b>	<b>III</b>	<b>IV</b>	<b>V</b>
Compensation Grade H-1	\$11.00	\$11.00	\$11.14	\$11.83	\$12.67
Compensation Grade H-2	\$11.14	\$11.83	\$12.67	\$13.74	\$14.54
Compensation Grade H-3	\$12.67	\$13.74	\$14.54	\$15.56	\$16.29
Compensation Grade H-4	\$14.54	\$15.56	\$16.29	\$17.40	\$18.17
Compensation Grade H-5	\$16.29	\$17.40	\$18.17	\$19.20	\$20.04
Compensation Grade H-6	\$18.17	\$19.20	\$20.04	\$21.05	\$22.44
Compensation Grade H-7	\$20.04	\$21.05	\$22.44	\$23.67	\$24.99
Compensation Grade H-8	\$22.44	\$23.56	\$24.74	\$25.98	\$27.27
Compensation Grade H-9	\$24.74	\$25.98	\$27.27	\$28.62	\$30.05
Compensation Grade H-10	\$27.27	\$28.62	\$30.05	\$31.56	\$33.12
Compensation Grade H-11	\$30.05	\$31.55	\$33.12	\$34.79	\$36.54
Compensation Grade H-12	\$33.12	\$34.79	\$36.54	\$38.34	\$40.27

(Sponsored by the Town Administrator) The Finance Committee noted that their recommendation was changed to a vote of five in favor of recommending this article and two abstaining as they were recipients of monies under the personnel bylaw.

## ARTICLE 10

**Article 10:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to*, as a block, provided that any amount stated herein shall be for the use of the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District for Fiscal Year 2018 in accordance with any conditions stated herein and further provided that any stated amount shall be reduced to any lesser amount which shall subsequently be certified by the school committee and certified to the Town, to:

1. raise and appropriate the sum of Six Million, Three Hundred Thirty Thousand, Six Hundred Ninety-Seven Dollars and No Cents (\$6,330,697.00) for the Operating Assessment Account #11300-56000 which represents the amount required for Minimum Local Contribution;
2. raise and appropriate the sum of One Million, Two Hundred Ninety Thousand, Nine Hundred Forty-Three Dollars and No Cents (\$1,290,943.00) for the Operating Assessment Account #11300-56000 which represents the amount required for Transportation;
3. raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thirty Thousand, Seven Hundred Thirty-Eight Dollars and No Cents (\$230,738.00) for the purposes of paying the costs of Debt Service and Capital Assessments Account #11300-56010 for previously approved building and design projects;
4. raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Seventy-Eight Thousand, One Hundred Nine Dollars and No Cents (\$578,109.00) for the Operating Assessment Account #11300-56000 which represents the amount required for Additional Local Assessment.

## ARTICLE 11

**Article 11:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to* raise and appropriate the sum of One Million, Three Hundred Eleven Thousand, Five Hundred Fifty-Eight Dollars and No Cents (\$1,311,558.00) for Fiscal Year 2018 for the following purposes:

Bay Path Vocational Regional Technical High School Minimum Contribution Account #11300-52000	\$1,078,463.00
Bay Path Vocational Regional Technical High School Additional Assessment Account #11300-52000	\$27,240.00
Bay Path Vocational Regional Technical High School Transportation Assessment Account #11300-52000	\$65,874.00
Bay Path Vocation Regional Technical High School Capital Debt Assessment Account #11300-52500	\$137,337.00
Bay Path Vocation Regional Technical High School Capital Debt Assessment Account #11300-52500	\$2,644.00



**ARTICLE 12**

**Article 12:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to* raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Six Thousand, Seven Hundred Sixty-Four Dollars and No Cents (\$46,764.00) for Fiscal Year 2018 for the following purposes:

Smith Regional Agricultural High School Non-resident Vocational Assessment Account #11300-52000	\$20,664.00
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Smith Regional Agricultural High School Non-resident Vocational Transportation Account #11300-52100	\$26,100.00
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**ARTICLE 13**

**Article 13:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to* raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Seven Thousand, Five Hundred Twelve Dollars and No Cents (\$27,512.00) for Fiscal Year 2018 for the following purposes:

Tantasqua Regional High School Non-resident Vocational Tuition Assessment Account #11300-52000	\$9,512.00
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Tantasqua Regional High School Non-resident Vocational Transportation Account #11300-52100	\$18,000.00
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**ARTICLE 14**

**Article 14:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to* raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-One Thousand, Nine Hundred Forty-Nine Dollars and No Cents (\$41,949.00) for Fiscal Year 2018 for the following purposes:

Norfolk County Regional Agricultural High School Non-resident Vocational Tuition Assessment Account #11300-52000	\$22,149.00
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Norfolk County Regional Agricultural High School Non-resident Vocational Transportation Account #11300-52100	\$19,800.00
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**ARTICLE 15**

**Article 15:** *The Moderator declared a the motion carried to* raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Million, Six Hundred Seventy-Nine Thousand, Eight Hundred Twenty-Nine Dollars and No Cents (\$8,679,829.00) to pay for the operations of the General Government expenses for Fiscal Year 2018, and to meet said appropriation from a transfer of Ten Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$10,000.00) from the Wetlands Protection Fund, from taxation, from available funds in the Treasury, and anticipated receipts as may be needed or decided necessary;

*Finance Committee Chair, Mary Braney made the following comments:*

*The members of the finance committee voted unanimously to approve the FY 2018 budget request, however, we also have concerns about the overall approach to funding town and school services. This year we and Board of Selectmen debated over the best use of some \$80,000.00, which is all that was available in a budget of some \$21 million after providing the most basic required funding for town and school departments and after the school department made drastic cuts to their request for funding.*

*The department heads came before us this year, as they do every year, and identified their most pressing needs. Although some were making requests that would restore services cut three and four years ago, most requests have been presented repeatedly over many budget seasons for personnel and equipment required to maintain and improve services and to meet long-term public safety needs. There were over \$1.75 million in capital requests of which approximately \$354,000.00 or 20% will be granted.*

*On the school side, there are major infrastructure issues at the high school and even the “new” schools, Knox Trail and Wire Village are now 20 years old and have compelling physical needs. Funding is also required for new programs to bring students back to the District.*

*These very reasonable requests totaled approximately \$1 million on the town side for operations, \$1.4 million for capital and \$1 million for the schools. We had \$80,000.00 to distribute. After thoughtful debate and discussion, the Board of Selectmen made the decision to reopen Town Hall on Thursdays; to provide a part-time outreach worker for the Senior Center which will assist police as well in cutting down the need for them to perform wellness checks; and to provide a library page for 15 hours a week.*

*Members of the Finance Committee agree that it is not beneficial to the town to be sitting at a meeting the day the warrant closes knowing the myriad issues we face and not being able to apply more than a band aid. The more positive among us see the expenditure of the \$80,000.00 as “making progress”, and in fact it is progress, albeit the expenditure is meager. We would like to see another zero or two each year added to that amount...then THAT would be great progress. It would go a long way to putting Spencer back among places in which to live and go to school because of what we offer.*

*However, the pragmatic realize that at the rate of \$80,000.00 per year, it will take the town until FY 2031 just to meet today’s needs on the town side. It does not include capital items or the school department, and it assumes everything else remains stable – that there are no future emergencies to divert funds.*

*We on the Finance Committee do not want to be sitting in the same seats next year when the warrant is about to close facing the same circumstances we have in the past. We have chosen to take action now, in May, 2017 to plan for FY19. We have scheduled a meeting for May 23 and invited the members of the Board of Selectmen to join us in beginning the process of developing a vision for the town, identifying what the citizens want and need and creating a long-range plan to achieve identified goals.*

*But this is not a top-down process. It is essential that the school department and all of you the citizens participate in first fleshing out the vision and then figuring out how to achieve it. It will take time and work and cooperation from all of us.*

*Should you interpret this to automatically mean we will be seeking an override? Absolutely not. Perhaps we will find that the majority of us are happy with the status quo. Perhaps we will identify additional financial resources or perhaps we will recognize that needs are not being met, but if it takes an override to achieve the goals, we will have consensus and it will be supported. Whatever the results of our efforts show, however, we need to start now to prepare for the future. We look forward eagerly to the participation of all of the citizens of Spencer. Look for more information after the May 23 meeting and please set aside some time to help.*

## **ARTICLE 16**

**Article 16:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to:*

1. appropriate the sum of One Million, Three Hundred Fifty-Two Thousand, One Hundred Fifty-One Dollars and No Cents (\$1,352,151.00) for the use of the Water Department for Fiscal Year 2018, and to fund said appropriation with a transfer from the receipts and revenue of the Water Enterprise Fund collected by the Water Department for said Fiscal Year;
2. authorize Indirect Costs for Fiscal Year 2018 at One Hundred Thirty-Nine Thousand, Four Hundred Ninety-Four Dollars and No Cents (\$140,365.00); and,
3. have the Board of Water Commissioners set the Fiscal Year 2018 rates and fees to meet said appropriation and level of Indirect Costs;

*Matthew J. Graff of 60 Mechanic Street spoke on this article.*

## **ARTICLE 17**

**Article 17:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to:*

1. appropriate the sum of One Million, One Hundred Thousand, Three Hundred Fifty-Three Dollars and No Cents (\$1,100,353.00) for the use of the Sewer Department for Fiscal Year 2018, and to fund said appropriation with the receipts and revenue of the Sewer Enterprise Fund collected by the Sewer Department for said Fiscal Year;
2. authorize Indirect Costs for Fiscal Year 2018 at One Hundred Sixty Thousand, Two Hundred Ninety-Nine Dollars and No Cents (\$160,299.00); and,
3. have the Board of Sewer Commissioners set the Fiscal Year 2018 rates and fees to meet said appropriation and level of Indirect Costs;

## **ARTICLE 18**

*The Moderator announced that per Town Bylaw, the Capital Improvements Planning Committee had met and recommended in favor of this article.*

**Article 18:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to* appropriate the sum of Seven Thousand, Eighty-One Dollars and Three Cents (\$7,081.03) towards the Sewer Department's portion of the Main Street TIP Project as approved by the Capital Improvements Planning Committee (CIPC), and to meet said appropriation by transferring said sum from the Sewer Clarifiers Upgrade Account (#20000-58875) to the Sewer Main Street TIP Account (#20000-58895);

## **ARTICLE 19**

*The Moderator announced that per Town Bylaw, the Capital Improvements Planning Committee had met and recommended in favor of this article.*

**Article 19:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to* appropriate the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$75,000.00) for Sewer Department capital improvements as approved by the Capital Improvements Planning Committee (CIPC), by transferring said sum to the existing Sewer Capital Improvement Account (#20000-58870), from previously certified and available Retained Earnings of the Sewer Enterprise Fund;

**ARTICLE 20**

**Article 20:** *The Moderator declared a vote of Ninety-nine in favor of and One opposed to* appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$425,000.00) for the Sewer Department’s Collection System and Waste Water Treatment Plant evaluation studies, including the payment of costs incidental or related, thereto, and to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow said sum under Chapter 44 of the General Laws or any other enabling authority; that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to contract for and expend any federal or state aid available for the project; and that the Board of Selectmen are authorized to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out this project. Any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount;

**ARTICLE 21**

*The Moderator announced that per Town Bylaw, the Capital Improvements Planning Committee had met and recommended in favor of this article.*

**Article 21:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to* appropriate the sum of Thirteen Thousand, Nine Hundred Ninety-Nine Dollars and Forty-Five Cents (\$13,999.45) for Water Department capital projects, as approved by the Capital Improvements Planning Committee (CIPC), by transferring said sum from the Water Department One-Ton Truck Account (15000-58900) to the Water Department Capital Efficiency Plan Program Account (15000-58860);

**ARTICLE 22**

*The Moderator announced that per Town Bylaw, the Capital Improvements Planning Committee had met and recommended in favor of this article.*

**Article 22:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to* appropriate the sum of Seventy-Nine Thousand, Six Hundred Thirty-Six Dollars and Thirty-Three Cents (\$79,636.33) for the Highway Salt Storage Project (\$74,636.33) and the Browning Pond Boat Ramp Property Line Survey (\$5,000.00) and to meet said appropriation by transferring said sum from the following capital accounts:

60000-59184	Fire Dept Annex Building	\$1,040.62
60000-59232	Landfill Cap Repairs	\$2,338.95
60000-59233	Maple Street Boiler Project	\$3,259.71
60000-59234	Fire Dept Turnout Gear	\$1,559.03
60000-59237	Town Hall Heating Project	\$3,969.78
60000-59243	Highway Garage Roof Project	\$34,056.39

60000-59254	Fire Department Pagers Purchase	\$1,850.20
60000-59269	Fire Department Cruiser	\$3,795.00
60000-59270	Fire Dept Exhaust System	\$27,335.65
60000-59271	Highway 6-Wheel Dump Truck	\$431.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$79,636.33</b>

### ARTICLE 23

*The Moderator announced that per Town Bylaw, the Capital Improvements Planning Committee had met and recommended in favor of this article.*

**Article 23:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Fifty-Three Thousand, Eight Hundred Seventy-Six Dollars and No Cents (\$353,876.00) for a capital program of equipment purchases and improvements, as generally illustrated below, and to meet said appropriation by transferring said sum from previously certified and available Free Cash;*

<u>Dept.</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Assessors	Triannual Evaluation	\$30,000.00
Fire Department	Electric Panels Replacement	\$25,000.00
Fire Department	Gas Furnace Replacement	\$50,000.00
Fire Department	Security System Upgrade	\$17,000.00
Fire Department	Parking Lot Pavement Repair	\$10,000.00
Highway Department	1-Ton Dump Truck	\$60,000.00
Library	Slate Roof Repairs	\$1,876.00
Police Department	Security System Upgrade	\$15,000.00
Police Department	Replacement Cruiser	\$40,000.00
Parks & Recreation	O’Gara Grandstand/Dugout Repairs	\$35,000.00
Parks & Recreation	O’Gara Security System Upgrade	\$18,000.00
Town Hall	Pleasant Street Demolition Specs	\$5,000.00
Town Hall	Phone System Replacement	\$17,000.00
Town Hall	Wire Village Building Study	\$20,000.00
Town Hall	Regional School District Study	\$10,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$353,876.00</b>

*Kurt Nordquist, 8 Gale Drive spoke on this article.*

### ARTICLE 24

*The Moderator announced that the Planning Board held a public hearing on this article and their report which had been received had recommended in favor of this article.*

**Article 24:** *The Moderator declared a vote of Ninety-two in favor and Eight opposed to amend the Zoning Bylaws by inserting a new Zoning Bylaw, contingent upon a **defeated** vote of a ballot question on May 9, 2017 banning Commercial Recreational Marijuana within the Town of Spencer, as follows:*

## **4.8.9 Temporary Moratorium on Recreational Marijuana Establishments**

### **A. Purpose**

On November 08, 2016, the voters of the Commonwealth approved a law regulating the cultivation, processing, distribution, possession and use of marijuana for recreational purposes (new G.L. c. 94G, Regulations of the Use and Distribution of Marijuana Not Medically Prescribed). The law, which allows certain personal use and possession of marijuana, took effect on December 15, 2016 and (as amended on December 30, 2016; Chapter 351 of the Acts of 2016) requires a Cannabis Control Commission to issue regulations regarding the licensing of commercial activities by March 15, 2018, and to begin accepting applications for licenses on April 1, 2018. Currently, a non-medical Marijuana Establishment (hereinafter, a "Recreational Marijuana Establishment"), as defined in G.L. c. 94G; §1, is not specifically addressed in the Zoning Bylaw. Regulations to be promulgated by the Cannabis Control Commission may provide guidance on certain aspects of local regulation of Recreational Marijuana Establishments. The regulation of recreational marijuana raises novel legal, planning, and public safety issues, and the Town needs time to study and consider the regulation of Recreational Marijuana Establishments and address such issues, as well as to address the potential impact of the State regulations on local zoning and to undertake a planning process to consider amending the Zoning Bylaw regarding regulation of Recreational Marijuana Establishments. The Town intends to adopt a temporary moratorium on the use of land and structures in the Town for Recreational Marijuana Establishments so as to allow sufficient time to address the effects of such structures and uses in the Town and to enact bylaws in a consistent manner.

### **B. Definitions**

"Manufacture", shall mean "to compound, blend, extract, infuse or otherwise make or prepare a marijuana product."

"Marijuana accessories" shall mean "equipment, products, devices or materials of any kind that are intended or designed for use in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting, manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing, preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, containing, ingesting, inhaling or otherwise introducing marijuana into the human body."

"Marijuana cultivator" shall mean "an entity licensed to cultivate, process and package marijuana, to deliver marijuana to marijuana establishments and to transfer marijuana to other marijuana establishments, but not to consumers."

"Marijuana product manufacturer" shall mean "an entity licensed to obtain, manufacture, process and package marijuana and marijuana products, to deliver marijuana and marijuana products to marijuana establishments and to transfer marijuana and marijuana products to other marijuana establishments, but not to consumers."

"Marijuana products" shall mean "products that have been manufactured and contain marijuana or an extract from marijuana, including concentrated forms of marijuana and products composed of marijuana and other ingredients that are intended for use or consumption, including edible products, beverages, topical products, ointments, oils and tinctures."

"Marijuana testing facility" shall mean "an entity licensed to test marijuana and marijuana products, including certification for potency and the presence of contaminants."

"Marijuana retailer" shall mean "an entity licensed to purchase and deliver marijuana and marijuana products from marijuana establishments and to deliver, sell or otherwise transfer marijuana and marijuana products to marijuana establishments and to consumers."

"Recreational Marijuana Establishment" shall mean a "marijuana cultivator, marijuana testing facility, marijuana product manufacturer, marijuana retailer or any other type of licensed marijuana-related business."

### **C. Temporary Moratorium**

For the reasons set forth above and notwithstanding any other provision of the Zoning Bylaw to the contrary, the Town hereby adopts a temporary moratorium on the use of land or structures for a Recreational Marijuana Establishment and other uses related to recreational marijuana. The moratorium shall be in effect through November 30, 2018 or until such time as the Town adopts Zoning Bylaw amendments that regulate Recreational Marijuana Establishments, whichever occurs earlier. During moratorium period, the Town shall undertake a planning process to address the potential impacts of recreational marijuana in the Town, and to consider the Cannabis Control Commission regulations regarding Recreational Marijuana Establishments, and shall consider adopting new Zoning Bylaws in response to these new issues.

### **D. Severability**

The provisions of this by-law are severable. If any provision, paragraph, sentence, or clause of this Bylaw or the application thereof to any person, establishment, or circumstances shall be held invalid.

*Town Administrator's Note: This Article would amend the Town's Zoning Bylaws to allow the Town time to undertake a planning process to consider amending the Zoning Bylaw to establish regulations for Recreational Marijuana Establishments so as to allow sufficient time to address the effects of such structures and uses in the Town and to enact bylaws in a consistent manner. The motion for this article requires a 2/3 majority vote and would only be incorporated into the Zoning Bylaw if the ballot question is defeated on May 9, 2017.*

## **ARTICLE 25**

*The Moderator announced that the Planning board had held a public hearing on this article and their report which had been received took no position either in favor or opposed to this article.*

**Article 25: The Moderator declared a vote of Ninety-six in favor and Four opposed to** amend the Zoning Bylaws by inserting a new Zoning Bylaw, contingent upon the **affirmative** approval of a ballot question on May 9, 2017 banning Commercial Recreational Marijuana within the Town of Spencer, as follows:

### **Article 4.7.1, Section C. - Marijuana Not Medically Prescribed**

Consistent with MGL Ch. 94G, Section 3(a)(2), all types of marijuana establishments as defined in MGL Ch. 94G, Section 1(j), to include all marijuana cultivators, marijuana testing facilities, marijuana product manufacturers, marijuana retailers or any other types of license marijuana-related businesses, shall be prohibited within the Town of Spencer.

or take any action relating thereto. *(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)*

*Town Administrator's Note: This Article would amend the Town's Zoning Bylaws to prohibit the use of all types of commercial marijuana establishments as allowed by the petitioned state ballot question approved in November 2016. Due to the manner in which the petition ballot question was worded, this question also appears on the Annual Election Ballot as well and is being voted as both a General and a Zoning Bylaw. The motion for this article requires a 2/3 majority vote and would only be incorporated into the Zoning Bylaw if the ballot question passes on May 9, 2017.*

## **ARTICLE 26**

*The Moderator announced that the Planning Board had held a public hearing on this article and their report which had been received took no position either in favor or opposed to this article.*

**Article 26: The Moderator declared a vote of Ninety-six in favor and Four opposed to** amend the General Bylaws by inserting a new General Bylaw, contingent upon the **affirmative** approval of a ballot question on May, 9, 2017 banning Commercial Recreational Marijuana within the Town of Spencer, as follows:

### **Article 10, Section 7. - Marijuana Not Medically Prescribed**

Consistent with MGL Ch. 94G, Section 3(a)(2), all types of marijuana establishments as defined in MGL Ch. 94G, Section 1(j), to include all marijuana cultivators, marijuana testing facilities, marijuana product manufacturers, marijuana retailers or any other types of license marijuana-related businesses, shall be prohibited within the Town of Spencer.

*Town Administrator's Note: This Article would amend the Town's General Bylaws to prohibit the use of all types of commercial marijuana establishments as allowed by the petitioned state ballot question approved in November 2016. Due to the manner in which the petition ballot question was worded, this question also appears on the Annual Election Ballot as well and is being voted as both a General and a Zoning Bylaw. The motion for this article requires a majority vote and would only be incorporated into the General Bylaw if the ballot question passes on May 9, 2017.*

## **ARTICLE 27**

**Article 27: The Moderator declared the motion carried to** supplement each prior vote of the Town that authorizes the borrowing of money to pay costs of capital projects to provide that, in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, the premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes thereunder, less any such 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 each such project shall be reduced by the amount of any such premium so applied;

## **ARTICLE 28**

**Article 28: The Moderator declared the motion carried to** authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into an agreement for Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 59, §38H(b), or any other enabling legislation, for taxes attributable to a solar photovoltaic facility installed or to be installed on property located at the following address, 28 and 30 Holmes Street, and shown on Assessors Map R28 as Parcels 35 and 25 respectively, on such terms and conditions and for a term of years as the Board of Selectmen deems in the best interest of the Town, and to take any other action necessary or convenient for the implementation and administration of such agreement.

## **ARTICLE 29**



**Article 29:** *The Moderator declared a majority vote the motion carried to* authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into an agreement for Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 59,§38H(b), or any other enabling legislation, for taxes attributable to a solar photovoltaic facility installed or to be installed on property located at the following address, 367 East Main Street, and shown on Assessors Map U17 as Parcel 2, on such terms and conditions and for a term of years as the Board of Selectmen deems in the best interest of the Town, and to take any other action necessary or convenient for the implementation and administration of such agreement.

### **ARTICLE 30**

**Article 30:** *The Moderator declared the motion carried to* authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into an agreement for Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 59,§38H(b), or any other enabling legislation, for taxes attributable to a solar photovoltaic facility installed or to be installed on property located at the following address, 363 East Main Street, and shown on Assessors Map U16 as Parcel 54-1, on such terms and conditions and for a term of years as the Board of Selectmen deems in the best interest of the Town, and to take any other action necessary or convenient for the implementation and administration of such agreement.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded with the majority voting at 8:35 p.m. to dissolve the meeting. One hundred and thirteen registered voters attended.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura J. Torti  
Town Clerk

**Annual Town Election  
May 9, 2017**

In accordance with the warrant, the polls opened at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 8:00 p.m.

The following were appointed election officers for Precinct #1

Warden: Dianne Scanlon  
Clerk: Diane Ledoux  
Assistant Clerk: Cassie Gallagher  
Inspectors: Karen Gaucher, Gail McInnes, Louise Small, Winifred Bouley,  
Bruce Herholz, Robert Gadbois, Diane Johnson

Deputy Inspectors: Donald Clough, Louise Ethier

Ten absentee ballots were cast in this precinct. Two hundred fifty-one ballots were handed out by the inspectors. Of these, three were spoiled, making a total of two hundred fifty-eight ballots cast. The ballot box registered two hundred fifty-eight ballots cast at the closing of the polls.

The following were appointed election officers for Precinct #2

Warden: Peter McGinn  
Clerk: Barbara Braney  
Inspectors: Patricia Ensom, Ronald Fortin, Irene Gadbois, A. Marie McDevitt,  
Danielle Gebo  
Deputy Inspectors: Joyce Sweet, Rose Hale

Five absentee ballots were cast in this precinct. Two hundred fifty ballots were handed out by the inspectors. Of these, three were spoiled, making a total of two hundred fifty-two ballots cast. The ballot box registered two hundred fifty-two ballots cast at the closing of the polls.

The following were appointed election officers for Precinct #3

Warden: William Lehtola  
Clerk: Judith Fortin  
Inspectors: Mercie Vinton, Ann Austin, Barbara White, Nancy Herholz,  
Kathleen Beford, Eileen Prizio  
Deputy Inspectors: Anne Snow, Sylvia Berthiaume

Ten absentee ballots were cast in this precinct. Two hundred eight-two ballots were handed out by the inspectors. Of these, three were spoiled, making a total of two hundred eighty-nine ballots cast. The ballot box registered two hundred eighty-nine ballots cast at the closing of the polls. On specially qualified ballot was hand counted in the Town Clerk's Office as required by statute.

The following were appointed elections officers for Precinct #4

Warden: Virginia Fanning  
Clerk: Nancy Gouin  
Inspectors: Mary Braney, John Wilson, Linda Wozniak, Richard Braney,

Gerri Mandel, Nancy Richardson

Deputy Inspectors: Betsy Arakelian, Stephanie Wachewski

Seven absentee ballots were cast in this precinct. Two hundred seventy-four ballots were handed out by the inspectors. Of these, three were spoiled, making a total of two hundred seventy-eight ballots cast. The ballot box registered two hundred seventy-eight at the closing of the polls.

Tabulators: Brynn Johnson and Stephanie Wachewski

The counting and tabulation was completed by 9:30 p.m.

Laura J. Torti  
Town Clerk

<b>Town of Spencer</b>	<b>Annual Town Election</b>				<b>5/9/17</b>
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Board of Selectmen</b>					
Blanks	82	85	84	83	334
Ralph E. Hicks	171	173	182	164	690
Christopher L. Woodbury	99	111	115	120	445
Warren A. Monette	164	134	197	189	684
Write-ins:					0
Gerald Perron		1			1
Roger Lamontange			1		1
					0
Total	516	504	579	556	2155
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Treasurer/Collector</b>					
Blanks	12	7	7	11	37
Susan L. Lacaire	213	213	247	229	902
Gregory A. Rosum	33	32	36	38	139
Write-ins:					0
					0
					0
					0
					0
Total	258	252	290	278	1078
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Assessor</b>					
Blanks	75	67	74	75	291
Pamela A. Woodbury	183	181	216	202	782
Write-ins:					0
Pamela Keyes		1			1
Rebecca Forand		1			1
Robert Churchey		1			1
William Ferrera		1			1
David Jepson				1	1
Total	258	252	290	278	1078
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School Committee - Spencer Rep - 3 Year</b>					
Blanks	13	10	11	11	45
Kurt A. Nordquist	103	110	116	79	408
Robert Ortiz	142	132	163	188	625
Write-ins:					0

					0
					0
					0
Total	258	252	290	278	1078
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School Committee - E Brookfield Rep - 3 Year</b>					
Blanks	59	71	66	65	261
Michael Ethier	199	181	224	212	816
Write Ins:					0
James Shea				1	1
					0
					0
Total	258	252	290	278	1078
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Southern Worc. County Regional School Dist. 3 Year Term</b>					
Blanks	63	63	59	64	249
Robert L. Zukowski	195	189	231	214	829
Write-ins:					0
					0
					0
					0
Total	258	252	290	278	1078
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Southern Worc. County Regional School Dist. 2 Year Term</b>					
Blanks	75	65	79	68	287
Jesselyn J. Gaucher	183	187	211	210	791
Write-ins:					0
					0
					0
Total	258	252	290	278	1078
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Water Commissioner</b>					
Blanks	58	54	47	53	212
Norman C. Letendre, Jr.	200	198	243	223	864
Write-ins:					0
Keithlyn Desmaris				1	1
Ralph Hicks				1	1
					0
					0
Total	258	252	290	278	1078

	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Park Commissioner</b>					
Blanks	54	63	62	66	245
William R. Shemeth, III	203	188	227	211	829
Write-ins:					0
Norman Letendre, Jr	1				1
Marty German		1			1
Bill McComas			1		1
Lynne Porretti				1	1
					0
Total	258	252	290	278	1078
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Library Trustee</b>					
Blanks	54	58	62	57	231
Amy L. Paul	204	194	227	221	846
Write-ins:					0
Alanna Berthiaume			1		1
					0
					0
					0
Total	258	252	290	278	1078
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Board of Health</b>					
Blanks	62	60	64	62	248
Daniel C. Shields	196	192	226	216	830
Write-ins:					0
					0
					0
					0
Total	258	252	290	278	1078
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Tree Warden</b>					
Blanks	51	49	53	59	212
Raymond I. Holmes, Jr.	206	203	236	219	864
Write-ins:					0
Albert Forand	1				1
Russ Snow			1		1
					0
					0
Total	258	252	290	278	1078
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Sewer Commissioner</b>					

Blanks	58	65	63	61	247
Lawrence H. Dufault	200	187	227	214	828
Write-ins:					0
Francis X White				2	2
Ralph Hicks				1	1
					0
					0
Total	258	252	290	278	1078
	Pct. 1	Pct. 2	Pct. 3	Pct. 4	Total
<b>Question 1</b>					
Blanks	23	28	24	17	92
Yes	156	133	168	146	603
No	79	91	98	115	383
Total	258	252	290	278	1078

**Total Ballots Cast: 1,078**  
**Total Registered Voters: 7,604**  
**Total Voter Turnout: 14%**

**Special Town Meeting  
November 16, 2017  
Memorial Town Hall**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Moderator William R. Shemeth, III after determining a quorum was present.

Reading of the Return of the Warrant was waived and the moderator noted that the meeting was posted in accordance with the law. Selectman Warren Monette led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence in honor of those residents who had passed away including Effie Tolis. The Moderator also recognized the following people who had retired or recently left their positions in Town: Adam Gaudette, Town Administrator; Bruce Guyan, Water Department; and Robbin Joyce, Finance Committee. He also recognized the following persons who had recently retired from the Spencer East Brookfield Regional School District: Jennifer Bouley, Teacher; Lynn Dobson, clerk; Lisa Grenier, nurse; Mark James, Teacher; Stan Jablonski, teacher; Bob L'Heureux, teacher; Cathy LaPrad, cafeteria; Sonia O'Coin, cafeteria; Gail Roach, teacher; and Cynthia Sprow, teacher.

The Moderator introduced to attendees; himself, members of the Board of Selectmen, Interim Town Administrator William R. Ross, Town Counsel Stan Weinberg, Town Clerk Laura Torti and Finance Committee Chair Mary Braney. Ms. Braney then introduced those members of the Finance Committee who were present. Ms. Braney gave an update to those in attendance regarding the various focus groups the Finance Committee has been conducting throughout the year using the SOAR method. She noted that more detailed information including survey results was available on the Town website [www.spencerma.gov](http://www.spencerma.gov) and that there were copies of the survey available online and with the Registrars, at the Library and at the Senior Center for those who wished to take the survey. The Moderator noted that the 2017 Christmas Parade of Lights would be taking place on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. with a snow date of December 3<sup>rd</sup> and he thanked the Celebrations Committee, community groups, businesses and volunteers whose efforts made this annual event possible. The Moderator noted that the Winter Parking Ban is in place the details of which are on the Town website. The Moderator also noted that handouts pertaining to the progress reports and updates on the pavement management system and the Spencer Financial Management Planning Committee Roads Project-Pavement Condition Index Summary were available.

The Moderator thanked Spencer Cable Access for broadcasting the meeting and reviewed the ground rules and parliamentary procedure for Town Meetings. He noted that on this date in 1907 Oklahoma was the 49<sup>th</sup> state to join the Union and that in this month in history the Mayflower Compact was written becoming the first governing document of the United States.

The following articles were acted upon:

**Article 1:** (Finance Committee recommended approval as written)

**AUTHORIZATION TO PAY PRIOR FISCAL YEAR EXPENSES**

*The Moderator declared a unanimous vote* to appropriate One Hundred Seventy Dollars and No Cents (\$170.00) to pay the FY2017 ODIS Expense for Conservation Commission Members Conference Fees, and Four Hundred Fifty One Dollars and Eighty One cents (\$451.81) for expenses of the Building Inspection Office to meet said appropriation by transferring from previously certified and available Free Cash or other



available funds; or take any action relating thereto. (*Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator*)

**Article 2:** (Finance Committee recommended approval as written contingent upon the passage of Article 3)

**AUTHORIZATION TO RESCIND THE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ARTICLE FOR THE FY2018 GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATING BUDGET**

*The Moderator declared the motion carried* to rescind Article 15 from the May 4, 2017 Annual Town Meeting for the purposes of voting to approve the following Article #3 that will adjust the Fiscal Year 2018 General Government Operating Budget; said rescission is contingent upon the approval of Article #3; or take any action relating thereto. (*Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator*)

**Article 3:** (Finance Committee recommended approval as written)

**AUTHORIZATION TO APPROPRIATE THE REVISED FY2018 GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATING BUDGET**

*The Moderator declared the motion carried* to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Million Eight Hundred Six Thousand Three Hundred Twenty Five Dollars and Zero Cents (\$8,806,325.00) to pay for the operations of the General Government expenses for Fiscal Year 2018, and to meet said appropriation from a transfer of Ten Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$10,000.00) from the Wetlands Account, from taxation, from available funds in the Treasury, and anticipated receipts as may be needed or decided necessary; or take any action relating thereto. (*Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator*)

*The Moderator noted the changes to the budget as outlined in the handout that was attached to and posted with the warrant.*

**Article 4:** (Finance Committee and Capital Improvement Planning Committee recommended approval as written)

**AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONIES TO THE WATER COMMISSION CAPITAL EFFICIENCY ACCOUNT**

*The Moderator declared the motion carried* to appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$200,000.00) to the Water Efficiency Account for capital projects as approved by the Capital Improvements Planning Committee and to meet said appropriation by transferring Two Hundred Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$200,000.00) from previously certified and available Retained Earnings of the Water Enterprise Fund. (*Sponsored by the Water Commissioners*)

**Article 5:** (Finance Committee recommended approval as written)

**AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONIES TO A RESERVE FUND**

*The Moderator declared the motion carried* to appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$10,000.00) for the Sick Leave Buy Back Fund (Account #083-83000-39800) and to meet said appropriation by transferring from previously certified and available Free Cash or other available funds; or take any action relating thereto. (*Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator*)

**Article 6:** (Finance Committee recommended approval as written)

**AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONIES TO FUND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES**

*The Moderator declared the motion carried* to appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Fifteen Thousand Eight Hundred Nine Dollars and Zero Cents (\$315,809.00) for capital equipment purchases and capital improvements, as generally illustrated below, and to meet said appropriation by raising and appropriating or transferring from available funds the sum of Three Hundred Fifteen Thousand Eight Hundred Nine Dollars and Zero Cents (\$315,809.00) or take any action relative thereto. (Sponsored by the Capital Improvements Planning Committee, Board of Selectmen, and the Town Administrator)

*Matthew Defosse, 7 Pauls Drive, Chief Robert Parsons, Selectman Dr. Ralph Hicks, Chief David Darrin and Shirley Hassett, 4 Lake Whittemore Drive all spoke on this article.*

<u>Dept.</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Fire Department	Turnout Gear	\$ 49,501.00
Fire Department	Truck Body for Ford F250	\$ 14,000.00
Parks and Recreation	Rail Trail Phase 3	\$ 15,000.00
Parks and Recreation	Rail Trail Phase 4	\$ 15,000.00
Police Department	Move Lake School generator to Police Bldg.	\$ 17,500.00
Town Hall	Cherry St, Fire Station Demo Specs	\$ 10,000.00
Town Hall	Lake Street School UST removal	\$ 25,000.00
Town Hall	20 Mechanic St. Specs and Demo.	\$ 55,000.00
Utilities and Facilities	Salt Shed Replacement	\$104,808.00
Utilities and Facilities	Browning Pond Road Layout	\$ 10,000.00
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$315,809.00</b>

**Article 7:** (Finance Committee recommended approval as written)

**AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND A PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ARTICLE**

*The Moderator declared the motion carried* to amend the action taken under Article 19 from the May 5, 2016 Annual Town Meeting which authorized borrowing for a comprehensive roads project, by striking under item B, the words “and the General Court has voted to approve the special legislation outlined in Article 20 hereunder”; or take any other action relating thereto. (Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator).

*The Town filed special legislation as outlined under Article 20 from the May 5, 2016 Annual Town Meeting Warrant, however, rather than only issuing a home rule exception, the General Court instead signed the Municipal Modernization Bill amending MGL c. 44 §7, allowing all cities and towns, not just Spencer, to have access to extended borrowing terms of up to 30 years. This language was prepared and approved by Town bond counsel.*

**Article 8**

**AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND THE PERSONNEL BYLAWS**

*The Moderator declared the motion carried* to amend Article 8 with a motion made by Gary Woodbury and seconded by Warren Monette changing the sentence on Firefighters to read “Full time firefighters shall receive overtime for hours worked over 53 hours in a 7 day work week.”

Kurt Nordquist, 8 Gale Drive called for a point of order asking Town Counsel to rule on whether or not new positions must be approved at Annual Town Meeting. Town Counsel informed Mr. Nordquist that he was unaware of any such provision or requirement and the Moderator declared acceptance of Town Counsel ruling and that Article 8 meeting action would proceed according to such ruling.

**Article 8:** (Finance Committee recommended approval as written)

**AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND THE PERSONNEL BYLAWS**

*The Moderator declared the motion carried* to amend the Personnel Bylaws, becoming effective January 1, 2018, by adding the below listed positions to Section 2-Schedule C and to amend Section 2C related to overtime compensation; or take any action relative thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*

SFD Full Time Firefighter	\$41,911	yearly
SFD On-Call Deputy Chief	\$9,222	yearly
SFD On-Call Captain	\$19.40	hourly
SFD On-Call Lieutenant	\$18.00	hourly
SFD On-Call Firefighter	\$16.45	hourly
Parks & Rec. Waterfront Dir.	\$18.00	hourly
Parks & Rec. Lifeguard	\$13.25	hourly
Parks & Rec. Admin. Asst.	\$17.00	hourly

“Full time firefighters shall receive overtime for hours worked over 53 hours in a 7 day work week.”

**Article 9:** (Finance Committee defers to the Planning Board, the Moderator noted that the Planning Board recommended in favor of this article)

**AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND THE ZONING BYLAWS**

*The Moderator declared a two thirds vote* to amend the Zoning Bylaws, by amending; Article 4.2 Use Table, Principal Uses,

Article 4.5 Temporary Uses and Article 4.8 Special Uses or take any action relating *thereto*. *(Sponsored by the Planning Board)*

**Article 10.**

**AUTHORIZATION TO ADD A BYLAW ON SNOW REMOVAL ON SIDEWALKS IN THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT**

*The Moderator declared the motion carried* to amend Article 10 with a motion made by Ralph Hicks and seconded by John Stevens removing the language “both sides of Main St. from approximately 96 Main to

188 Main and inserting the following language “both sides of Main St. including all parcels located or addressed from 96 Main St. to 176 Main St. and 95 Main St. to 159 Main St.”

**Article 10.** (Finance Committee defers to the Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator)

**AUTHORIZATION TO ADD A BYLAW ON SNOW REMOVAL ON SIDEWALKS IN THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT**

*The Moderator declared the motion carried* to amend Article 6, Section 5 of the General Bylaws by renumbering the existing section as Section 5.1 and creating Section 5.2 to read as follows:

Section 5.2 Property owners and/or occupants to remove snow and ice from sidewalks in the Central Business District described as follows: both sides of Main St. including all parcels located or addressed from 96 Main St. to 176 Main St. and 95 Main St. to 159 Main St. within 24 hours of the end of a storm and to place such snow or ice in the gutter of the street adjacent to the property. (Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator)

**Article 11.**

**AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT RICHLAND DRIVE AS A PUBLIC WAY**

*The Moderator declared the motion carried* to amend Article 11 with a motion made by John Stevens and seconded by Gary Woodbury changing the name Richland Drive to Richland Avenue.

**Article 11.** (Finance Committee recommended approval as written)

**AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT RICHLAND DRIVE AS A PUBLIC WAY**

*The Moderator declared the motion carried* to accept Richland Avenue as a public way, provided that all costs associated with the preparation and recording of the deed and plan as well as certification of good and clear record and marketable title, are paid by the owner; or take any other action relative thereto. (*Sponsored by the Planning Board*)

A motion was made by Selectman Ralph Hicks and seconded by Selectman Warren Monette to dissolve the Meeting.

Majority voted at 7:45 p.m. to dissolve this Meeting.

A total of 84 registered voters attended.

Laura J. Torti  
Town Clerk

# TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Sandra Buxton  
Accountant

TOWN OF SPENCER MASSACHUSETTS							
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - ALL FUNDS TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUP							
June 30,2017							
	Governmental Fund Type			Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type	Account Group	Totals
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Trust and Agency	Long Term Debt	Memorandum Only
<b>Assets</b>							
Cash and Investments	\$1,337,325.93	\$ 2,017,470.67	\$ 1,301,641.11	\$ 1,265,415.56	\$ 1,310,282.88	\$ -	\$ 7,232,136.15
Cash in Custody of Others	3,479.77	-	-	-	-	-	3,479.77
Receivables:							
Property Taxes	175,239.00	-	-	-	-	-	175,239.00
Excise Taxes	289,982.91	-	-	-	-	-	289,982.91
Tax Liens	284,300.34	-	-	-	-	-	284,300.34
Tax Foreclosures	95,725.10	-	-	-	-	-	95,725.10
User Charges	-	-	-	66,956.92	-	-	66,956.92
Other	349,753.70	142,932.72	-	-	-	-	492,686.42
Special Assessment Not Yet Due	\$ 1,185.48	164,832.88	-	-	-	-	166,018.36
Less: Allowance for Abatements	(125,060.05)	-	-	-	-	-	(125,060.05)
Due From Other Governments	-	254,914.42	-	-	-	-	254,914.42
Amount to be Provided for the Payment of Notes/Debts			-	7,793,995.92	-	586,400.00	8,380,395.92
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,411,932.18</b>	<b>\$ 2,580,150.69</b>	<b>\$ 1,301,641.11</b>	<b>\$ 9,126,368.40</b>	<b>\$ 1,310,282.88</b>	<b>\$ 586,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 17,316,775.26</b>
<b>Liabilities and Fund Equity</b>							
<i>Liabilities:</i>							
Employee Withholdings	\$ (5,657.46)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (5,657.46)
Due to Others/Deposits	407.61	6,730.00	-	11,000.00	-	-	18,137.61
Deferred Revenue:							
Property Taxes	50,178.95	-	-	-	-	-	50,178.95
Other	1,010,082.56	562,680.02	-	66,956.92	-	-	1,639,719.50
Bond Indebtedness		-	-	7,793,995.92	-	586,400.00	8,380,395.92
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 1,055,011.66</b>	<b>\$ 569,410.02</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 7,871,952.84</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 586,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 10,082,774.52</b>
<i>Fund Equity:</i>							
Fund Balance:							
Reserved for Debt	\$ 135,625.63	\$ -	\$ -	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 135,625.63
Reserved for Encumbrances	38,667.21	-	1,295,699.17	40,256.90	-	-	1,374,623.28
Reserved for Nonexpendable Trust Principle	-	-	-	-	40,375.00	-	40,375.00
Reserved for Capital	-	-	-	553,802.19	-	-	553,802.19
Unreserved:							
Undesignated	1,182,627.68	2,010,740.67	5,941.94	660,356.47	1,269,907.88	-	5,129,574.64
<b>Total Fund Equity</b>	<b>\$ 1,356,920.52</b>	<b>\$ 2,010,740.67</b>	<b>\$ 1,301,641.11</b>	<b>\$ 1,254,415.56</b>	<b>\$ 1,310,282.88</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 7,234,000.74</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Equity</b>	<b>\$ 2,411,932.18</b>	<b>\$ 2,580,150.69</b>	<b>\$ 1,301,641.11</b>	<b>\$ 9,126,368.40</b>	<b>\$ 1,310,282.88</b>	<b>\$ 586,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 17,316,775.26</b>

**TOWN OF SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES -  
BUDGETARY BASIS - (NON-GAAP) -  
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

	<b>Budgeted Amounts</b>		<b>Actual</b>	<b>Amounts Carried Forward to Next Year</b>	<b>Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)</b>
	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Final Budget</b>	<b>Budgetary Basis</b>		
	<b>Revenues:</b>				
Property Taxes	\$ 13,578,827.52	\$ 13,578,827.52	\$ 13,519,080.45	\$ -	\$ (59,747.07)
State Receipts	2,482,905.00	2,482,905.00	2,477,328.99	-	(5,576.01)
Excise and Other Taxes	1,451,796.00	1,451,796.00	1,524,524.44	-	72,728.44
Licenses, Permits, Fees	664,990.00	664,990.00	882,640.69	-	217,650.69
Interest on Taxes	89,934.00	89,934.00	109,047.22	-	19,113.22
Interest on Investments	8,614.00	8,614.00	12,507.48	-	3,893.48
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>18,277,066.52</b>	<b>18,277,066.52</b>	<b>18,525,129.27</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>248,062.75</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>					
Current:					
General Government	1,000,478.32	1,000,478.32	888,192.82	500.00	111,785.50
Protection of Persons and Property	3,028,726.07	3,028,726.07	2,932,294.27	2,020.84	94,410.96
Public Works	2,088,101.59	2,088,101.59	1,846,354.67	35,876.37	205,870.55
Education	9,436,974.00	9,436,974.00	9,413,159.03	-	23,814.97
Health and Human Services	323,056.00	323,056.00	309,078.25	-	13,977.75
Culture and Recreation	406,519.00	406,519.00	392,738.07	270.00	13,510.93
Insurance and Employee Benefits	1,996,196.00	1,996,196.00	1,812,428.43	-	183,767.57
State Assessments	120,624.00	120,624.00	118,944.00	-	1,680.00
Debt Service:					
Principal	390,000.00	390,000.00	390,000.00	-	-
Interest and Fiscal Charges	30,330.00	30,330.00	30,330.00	-	-
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>18,821,004.98</b>	<b>18,821,004.98</b>	<b>18,133,519.54</b>	<b>38,667.21</b>	<b>648,818.23</b>
<b>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</b>	<b>(543,938.46)</b>	<b>(543,938.46)</b>	<b>391,609.73</b>	<b>(38,667.21)</b>	<b>896,880.98</b>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</b>					
Operating Transfers In	300,126.00	300,126.00	300,126.00	-	-
Operating Transfers (Out)	(694,526.00)	(694,526.00)	(694,526.00)	-	-
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<b>(394,400.00)</b>	<b>(394,400.00)</b>	<b>(394,400.00)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Excess of Revenues and Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Financing Uses</b>	<b>(938,338.46)</b>	<b>(938,338.46)</b>	<b>(2,790.27)</b>	<b>(38,667.21)</b>	<b>896,880.98</b>
<b>Fund Balances, Beginning of Year</b>			<b>1,360,143.43</b>		
<b>Fund Balances, End of Year</b>			<b>\$ 1,357,353.16</b>		
			Senior Workoff Adjustment to Undesignated		
			432.64		

**TOWN OF SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS  
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - ENTERPRISE FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2017**

	<b>Proprietary Funds</b>		<b>Totals</b>
	<b>Water Enterprise</b>	<b>Sewer Enterprise</b>	<b>(Memorandum Only)</b>
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 517,245.68	\$ 748,169.88	\$ 1,265,415.56
Accounts Receivable:			
User Charges, net of allowance for uncollectible	17,570.56	49,386.36	66,956.92
Due from Other Governments			-
Amount to be Provided for Notes/Bonds	5,973,995.92	1,820,000.00	7,793,995.92
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 6,508,812.16</b>	<b>\$ 2,617,556.24</b>	<b>\$ 9,126,368.40</b>
<b>Liabilities and Fund Equity</b>			
<b>Liabilities:</b>			
Warrants Payable			\$ -
Accrued Payroll			-
Deferred Revenue	\$ 17,570.56	\$ 49,386.36	\$ 66,956.92
Due to Others	-	11,000.00	11,000.00
Notes Payable			-
Bonds Indebtedness	5,973,995.92	1,820,000.00	7,793,995.92
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>5,991,566.48</b>	<b>1,880,386.36</b>	<b>7,871,952.84</b>
<b>Fund Equity:</b>			
Invested in Capital Assets, net of related debt			-
Reserved for Encumbrances	34,934.63	5,322.27	40,256.90
Reserved for Subsequent Years Expenditures	-	-	-
Reserved for Capital	224,254.45	329,547.74	553,802.19
Unreserved:			
Undesignated	258,056.60	402,299.87	660,356.47
<b>Total Fund Equity</b>	<b>517,245.68</b>	<b>737,169.88</b>	<b>1,254,415.56</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Equity</b>	<b>\$ 6,508,812.16</b>	<b>\$ 2,617,556.24</b>	<b>\$ 9,126,368.40</b>

**TOWN OF SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS  
 PROPRIETARY FUNDS  
 STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND NET ASSETS  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

	<b>Business-Type Activities Enterprise Funds</b>		
	<b>Water Fund</b>	<b>Sewer Fund</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Operating Revenues:</b>			
Charges for Services	\$ 1,558,500.86	\$ 1,047,179.44	\$ 2,605,680.30
Intergovernmental			-
Other	45,021.72	406,810.78	451,832.50
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<b>1,603,522.58</b>	<b>1,453,990.22</b>	<b>3,057,512.80</b>
<b>Operating Expenses:</b>			
Salaries & Wages	354,372.73	289,319.81	643,692.54
Operating Expenses	769,855.91	689,149.92	1,459,005.83
Depreciation			-
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>1,124,228.64</b>	<b>978,469.73</b>	<b>2,102,698.37</b>
<b>Operating Income (Loss)</b>	<b>479,293.94</b>	<b>475,520.49</b>	<b>954,814.43</b>
<b>Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses):</b>			
Interest Income	2,303.85	2,792.19	5,096.04
Intergovernmental-ARRA			
Debt Principal Payment	(421,889.08)	(225,000.00)	(646,889.08)
Debt Interest Expense	(162,855.02)	(47,762.50)	(210,617.52)
<b>Total Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)</b>	<b>(582,440.25)</b>	<b>(269,970.31)</b>	<b>(852,410.56)</b>
<b>Income (Loss) Before Operating Transfers</b>	<b>(103,146.31)</b>	<b>205,550.18</b>	<b>102,403.87</b>
<b>Operating Transfers:</b>			
Transfer In	-	-	-
Transfers (Out)	(133,723.00)	(146,403.00)	(280,126.00)
<b>Total Operating Transfers</b>	<b>(133,723.00)</b>	<b>(146,403.00)</b>	<b>(280,126.00)</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>(236,869.31)</b>	<b>59,147.18</b>	<b>(177,722.13)</b>
<b>Net Assets at Beginning of Year</b>	<b>754,114.99</b>	<b>678,022.70</b>	<b>1,432,137.69</b>
<b>Net Assets at End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 517,245.68</b>	<b>\$ 737,169.88</b>	<b>\$ 1,254,415.56</b>



**TOWN OF SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS  
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
JUNE 30, 2017**

	Primary Government		
	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT:</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 4,472,310	\$ 1,543,495	\$ 6,015,805
Investments	684,505	-	684,505
Receivables, net of allowance for uncollectibles:			
Property Taxes	175,734	-	175,734
Tax Liens	282,806	-	282,806
Excise Taxes	262,083	-	262,083
User Charges	-	65,957	65,957
Departmental	141,685	-	141,685
Special Assessments	21,587	-	21,587
Due from Other Governments	926,187	-	926,187
Total current assets	<u>6,966,897</u>	<u>1,609,452</u>	<u>8,576,349</u>
<b>NONCURRENT:</b>			
Receivables, net of allowance for uncollectibles:			
Special Assessments	144,595	-	144,595
Capital Assets, net of accumulated Depreciation:			
Nondepreciable	1,006,265	471,877	1,478,142
Depreciable	9,924,994	12,749,679	22,674,673
Total noncurrent assets	<u>11,075,854</u>	<u>13,221,556</u>	<u>24,297,410</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>18,042,751</u>	<u>14,831,008</u>	<u>32,873,759</u>
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>			
Deferred Outflows Related to Pensions	1,753,200	189,671	1,942,871
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT:</b>			
Warrants Payable	350,764	256,976	607,740
Accrued Payroll	220,190	21,104	241,294
Payroll Withholdings	6,849	-	6,849
Other	408	-	408
Accrued Interest	4,532	71,996	76,528
Deposits	-	11,000	11,000
Compensated Absences	36,477	-	36,477
Bonds and Leases Payable	228,261	604,632	832,893
Total current liabilities	<u>847,481</u>	<u>965,708</u>	<u>1,813,189</u>
<b>NONCURRENT:</b>			
Compensated Absences	145,910	24,022	169,932
OPEB Obligation Payable	2,377,124	313,338	2,690,462
Net Pension Liability	10,803,367	1,168,773	11,972,140
Bonds and Leases Payable	668,479	7,189,364	7,857,843
Total noncurrent liabilities	<u>13,994,880</u>	<u>8,695,497</u>	<u>22,690,377</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>14,842,361</u>	<u>9,661,205</u>	<u>24,503,566</u>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>			
Deferred Inflows Related to Pensions	380,047	41,115	421,162
<b>NET POSITION</b>			
Net Investment in Capital Assets	10,250,919	5,427,560	15,678,479
Restricted for:			
Capital Projects	-	176,367	176,367
Federal & State Grants	1,227,874	-	1,227,874
Permanent Funds:			
Expendable	29,944	-	29,944
Nonexpendable	31,575	-	31,575
Other Purposes	740,227	-	740,227
Unrestricted	(7,706,996)	(285,568)	(7,992,564)
<b>Total Net Position</b>	<u>\$ 4,573,543</u>	<u>\$ 5,318,359</u>	<u>\$ 9,891,902</u>

The Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this Statement.

**TOWN OF SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES - BUDGETARY BASIS -  
(NON-GAAP) - BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

	Budgeted Amounts			Actual Budgetary Basis	Amounts Carried Forward to Next Year	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Amounts Carried Forward from Prior Year	Original Budget	Final Budget			
<b>Revenues:</b>						
Property Taxes	\$ -	\$ 13,459,065	\$ 13,459,065	\$ 13,505,548	\$ -	\$ 46,483
Intergovernmental	-	2,482,905	2,482,905	2,462,946	-	(19,959)
Excise and Other Taxes	-	1,451,796	1,451,796	1,537,624	-	85,828
Licenses, Permits, Fees	-	364,150	364,150	565,163	-	201,013
Charges for Services	-	300,840	300,840	317,934	-	17,094
Interest on Taxes	-	89,934	89,934	109,047	-	19,113
Investment Income	-	8,614	8,614	13,560	-	4,946
<b>Total Revenues</b>	-	<b>18,157,304</b>	<b>18,157,304</b>	<b>18,511,822</b>	-	<b>354,518</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>						
Current:						
General Government	13,956	984,521	1,000,477	880,560	500	119,417
Public Safety	10,198	3,006,528	3,028,726	2,932,294	2,021	94,411
Public Works	65,917	1,762,185	2,088,102	1,846,356	35,876	205,870
Education	-	9,436,974	9,436,974	9,413,159	-	23,815
Health and Human Services	-	323,056	323,056	309,078	-	13,978
Culture and Recreation	-	406,519	406,519	392,738	270	13,511
Employee Benefits and Insurance	-	1,996,196	1,996,196	1,853,557	-	142,639
State Assessments	-	120,624	120,624	118,944	-	1,680
Debt Service:						
Principal	-	390,000	390,000	390,000	-	-
Interest	-	30,330	30,330	30,330	-	-
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>90,071</b>	<b>18,456,933</b>	<b>18,821,004</b>	<b>18,167,016</b>	<b>38,667</b>	<b>615,321</b>
<b>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</b>	<b>(90,071)</b>	<b>(299,629)</b>	<b>(663,700)</b>	<b>344,806</b>	<b>(38,667)</b>	<b>969,839</b>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</b>						
Operating Transfers In	-	290,126	290,126	291,099	-	973
Operating Transfers (Out)	-	(280,650)	(694,526)	(694,526)	-	-
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,476</b>	<b>(404,400)</b>	<b>(403,427)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>973</b>
<b>Net Change in Budgetary Fund Balance</b>	<b>(90,071)</b>	<b>(290,153)</b>	<b>(1,068,100)</b>	<b>\$ (58,621)</b>	<b>\$ (38,667)</b>	<b>\$ 970,812</b>
<b>Other Budgetary Items:</b>						
Free Cash and Other Reserves	-	290,153	978,029			
Prior Year Encumbrances	90,071	-	90,071			
<b>Total Other Budgetary Items</b>	<b>90,071</b>	<b>290,153</b>	<b>1,068,100</b>			
<b>NET BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>			

The Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this Statement.

**TOWN OF SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
**NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

	Fund Balances July 1, 2016	Revenues	Expenditures	Other Financing Sources (Uses)	Fund Balances June 30, 2017
<b>Special Revenue:</b>					
<b>Federal and State Grants:</b>					
Arts Lottery	\$ 4,904	\$ 6,092	\$ 6,900	\$ -	\$ 4,096
Community Development Block Grant	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
Community Innovation Challenge Grant	133,756	112,000	56,195	-	189,561
Council on Aging Grants	1,913	23,433	23,609	-	1,737
Highway Grants	-	242,787	536,692	-	(293,905)
Library Grants	25,140	11,809	6,946	-	30,003
Other Grants and Programs	17,098	73,422	58,422	-	32,098
Public Safety Grants	985	54,785	44,090	-	11,680
<b>Other:</b>					
Animal Sterilization Fund	5,545	-	-	-	5,545
Betterment Fund	147,155	5,250	-	-	152,405
Building and Fire Code Fines	2,903	-	-	-	2,903
Cable PEG Access Grant	39,484	-	-	-	39,484
Clock Restoration Fund	5,270	-	-	-	5,270
Conservation Commission Funds	46,668	178,933	115,025	(10,000)	100,576
Council on Aging Revolving	3,054	7,207	1,294	-	8,967
Drug Enforcement Fund	6,812	2,348	4,000	-	5,160
Excavations and Driveway Permits	23,600	22,500	3,500	-	42,600
Gifts and Donations	71,319	12,158	18,299	-	65,178
Handicapped Parking Fines	7,833	400	6,129	-	2,104
Hastings Road Bridge Damages	4,135	-	-	-	4,135
Off Duty Details Revolving	25,928	465,554	469,746	-	21,736
Planning Board Revolving	34,006	3,570	2,962	-	34,614
Stormwater Revolving	-	450	-	-	450
Recreation Revolving	853	6,392	5,199	-	2,046
Reserve for Debt	973	-	-	(973)	-
Septic Loan Management Program	116,095	44,061	30,445	-	129,711
Small Cities Program Income	130,828	20,410	-	(100,000)	51,238
Sugden Building Revolving	144,289	52,334	78,466	-	118,157
Wiring Inspector Revolving	9,271	46,895	45,000	-	11,166
<b>Total Special Revenue page 63</b>	<b>\$ 1,009,817</b>	<b>\$ 1,393,790</b>	<b>\$ 1,513,919</b>	<b>\$ (110,973)</b>	<b>\$ 778,715</b>

**TOWN OF SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

	Fund Balances July 1, 2016	Revenues	Expenditures	Other Financing Sources (Uses)	Fund Balances June 30, 2017
<b>Continued from page 63</b>	\$ 1,009,817	\$ 1,393,790	\$ 1,513,919	\$ (110,973)	\$ 778,715
<b>Special Revenue (continued):</b>					
<b>Other (continued):</b>					
Buy Back Sick Leave Fund	880	132	5,550	20,000	15,462
Police Equipment Fund	14,658	7,220	14,127	-	7,751
Spencer World War II Memorial Fund	517	4	-	-	521
Unemployment Fund	27,558	175	1,093	-	26,640
Waterways Improvement Fund	39,099	259	-	-	39,358
<b>Total Special Revenue</b>	<u>1,092,529</u>	<u>1,401,580</u>	<u>1,534,689</u>	<u>(90,973)</u>	<u>868,447</u>
<b>Capital Projects:</b>					
David Prouty School Annex	5,245	-	-	-	5,245
School ADA Renovations	345	-	-	-	345
FY 2004 Capital Improvement Programs	1	-	-	-	1
FY 2006 Capital Improvement Programs	2,235	-	-	-	2,235
FY 2007 Capital Improvement Programs	855	-	363	-	492
FY 2008 Capital Improvement Programs	31,894	-	(1,254)	-	33,148
FY 2009 Capital Improvement Programs	130,201	-	-	-	130,201
FY 2010 Capital Improvement Programs	16,390	-	-	-	16,390
FY 2011 Capital Improvement Programs	2,726	-	-	(1,041)	1,685
FY 2012 Capital Improvement Programs	7,957	-	-	-	7,957
FY 2013 Capital Improvement Programs	2,339	-	-	(2,339)	-
FY 2014 Capital Improvement Programs	13,455	-	4,667	(8,788)	-
FY 2015 Capital Improvement Programs	105,109	-	41,117	(34,057)	29,935
FY 2016 Capital Improvement Programs	841,195	-	501,844	(22,762)	316,589
FY 2017 Capital Improvement Programs	-	-	36,095	793,513	757,418
<b>Total Capital Projects:</b>	<u>1,159,947</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>582,832</u>	<u>724,526</u>	<u>1,301,641</u>

**TOWN OF SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

	Fund Balances July 1, 2016	Revenues	Expenditures	Other Financing Sources (Uses)	Fund Balances June 30, 2017
<b>Perpetual Permanent Funds:</b>					
Cemetery Funds	25,575	-	-	-	25,575
Park Funds	6,000	-	-	-	6,000
<b>Total Perpetual Permanent Funds</b>	<b>31,575</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31,575</b>
<b>Permanent Funds:</b>					
Cemetery Funds	16,030	678	349	-	16,359
Park Funds	22,520	(78)	8,857	-	13,585
<b>Total Permanent Funds</b>	<b>38,550</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>9,206</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>29,944</b>
<b>Change in Unrealized Gain/(Loss)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Non-Major Governmental Funds</b>	<b>\$ 2,322,601</b>	<b>\$ 1,402,180</b>	<b>\$ 2,126,727</b>	<b>\$ 633,553</b>	<b>\$ 2,231,607</b>

## TOWN TREASURER

Susan L. Lacaire  
Treasurer

<b>Interest Bearing Checking Accounts:</b>			
Eastern Bank-Vendor Account			45.77
Santander Bank-Escrow We Care			5,599.43
Santander Bank-Sullivan			30,993.52
Century Bank-Deer Run Phase I			9,111.78
Century Bank Deer Run phase II			195,890.06
Unibank Lock Box			152.87
Unibank-Payroll			21,682.79
Century lockbox			4,615.67
Cornerstone Bixby Trail Estates			36,263.95
Cornerstone Storm Water Bond			59,489.94
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$363,845.78</b>
<b>Liquid Investments:</b>			
Eastern Bank- Money Market			7,533.80
Santander Bank-Depository Account treas			506,839.57
Santander Bank-Depository Account coll			224,671.16
Hometown Bank money Market			409,420.97
Century money market			326,677.64
Bartholomew-TitleV			100,682.88
Bartholomew-general cash			72,533.92
Unibank-Money Market			938,944.38
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$2,587,304.32</b>
<b>Trust Funds:</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Fund Total</b>
Bartholomew-Benjamin Drury	500.00	2,975.69	3,475.69
Bartholomew-George S Wilson Cemetery	259.07	1,202.77	1,461.84
Batholomew-Howe Memorial	500.00	9,170.91	9,670.91
Bartholomew-isaac lothrop Prouty	5,063.75	7,696.63	12,760.38
Bartholomew-Old Cemetery General Care	5,923.00	605.14	6,528.14
Bartholomew-Old Cemetery perpetual Care	11,975.00	2,961.45	14,936.45
Bartholomew-old Cemetery perpetual W Curtis	1,000.00	2,979.30	3,979.30
Bartholomew-Quinn Scholarship	3,500.00	9,745.47	13,245.47
Bartholomew-Richard Sugden public park	1,000.00	5,563.27	6,563.27
Bartholomew-Silas Grout Decoration	1,200.00	4,390.81	5,590.81
Bartholomew-Buy Back Sick leave Fund			936.54
Bartholomew-Friends of old Cemetary			613.52
Bartholomew-Police Equipment Fund			12,472.89
Bartholomew-Unemployment			26,284.36
Bartholomew-War Veterans Account			513.80
Bartholomew-Waterways improvement			38,832.25
Bartholomew-old Cemetery G Henry Wilson			4,184.02

Bartholomew-retirement liability			51,231.78
Bartholomew-Community Development			52,293.68
Bartholomew-Cultural Council			2,998.66
Bartholomew-Sugden Block Revolving			103,031.79
Bartholomew-Betterment Fund			150,435.99
Bartholomew-Capital Stabilization			463.49
Bartholomew-land Acquisition Stabilization			2,003.52
Bartholomew Building Stabilization			401.13
Bartholomew General Stabilization			1,089,548.68
Century Bank-Sewer Enterprise Fund			1,417,595.94
Century Bank-Water Enterprise Fund			538,446.56
Sanander Bank-Treasurers' Benefit Account			22,770.11
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$3,593,270.97</b>
<b>Total All Cash and Investments</b>			<b>\$6,544,421.07</b>

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## TOWN COLLECTOR

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Susan L. Lacaire  
Collector

2017 COLLECTOR'S REPORT		
Personal Property and Real Estate	\$	13,848,163.38
Betterments	\$	32,179.87
Motor Vehicle & Boat Excise	\$	1,478,558.41
Water and Water Fees	\$	1,549,213.23
Sewer and Sewer Fees	\$	1,048,195.59
Interest & Fees & Demands	\$	66,937.10
Certificate of Municipal Liens	\$	25,850.00
Trash Bags	\$	202,187.50
Rent-Sudgen Block	\$	54,175.75
Tax Title and Fees	\$	86,734.89
Transfer Station Stickers	\$	86,725.00
vitals	\$	13,873.75
dog	\$	30,660.00
Hwy Gas	\$	12,240.15
Septic	\$	446,815.00
Off Duty	\$	600,664.12
<b>Total Turned Over to Treasurer</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>19,583,173.74</b>



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## BOARD OF ASSESSORS

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The Board meets on the second Monday of each month at 6:00 P.M. in the Assessor's Office at the Town Hall located at 157 Main Street. The Board of Assessors is available by appointment to discuss values. In Fiscal year 2018 an interim year adjustment was conducted as mandated by the Mass. Dept. of Revenue. Market sales are the indicator of what values should be and analysis is done to determine updated values that are certified by the State Department of Revenue.

### LOCAL EXPENDITURES

Appropriations	\$22,507,122.62
Offsets	\$16,522.00
State & County Charges	\$129,996.00
Overlay	\$121,042.45
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE RAISED</b>	<b>\$22,774,683.07</b>

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### ESTIMATED RECEIPTS AND OTHER REVENUE SOURCES

Cherry Sheet Estimated Receipts	\$2,587,807.00
Local Estimated Receipts	\$2,220,713.00
Enterprise Funds	\$3,049,239.48
Other Available Funds	\$89,636.33
Free Cash	\$698,497.81
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$8,645,893.62</b>
<b>NET AMOUNT TO BE RAISED</b>	<b>\$14,128,789.45</b>

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### CLASSIFIED PERCENTAGES

	LEVY PERCENTAGE	LEVY BY CLASS
RESIDENTIAL	85.0945%	\$895,888,408
OPEN SPACE	0	
COMMERCIAL	6.2048%	\$65,325,532
INDUSTRIAL	3.8858%	\$40,909,927
PERSONAL PROPERTY	4.8149%	\$50,692,038
	100.00%	\$1,052,815,905

NET AMOUNT TO BE RAISED / TOTAL VALUATION	=	TAX RATE FY2016	
\$14,128,789.45	/	\$1,052,815,905	= \$13.42

Respectfully submitted,



Linda LeBlanc, Assessor  
 Jeremey L. Snow  
 David R. Derosier  
 Pamela Woodbury  
 Board of Assessors

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## BOARD OF SELECTMEN - LICENSING

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The following categories of licenses were issued by the Office of the Board of Selectmen during 2017:

❖ Alcohol	18
❖ Alcohol – One-Day	9
❖ Automatic Amusement	40
❖ Common Victualler	38
❖ Entertainment	14
❖ Gravel Licenses	7
❖ Junk Dealer	3
❖ Lodging House	2
❖ Inn Holder	3
❖ Class I (Motor Vehicles)	3
❖ Class II (Motor Vehicles)	13
❖ Class III (Motor Vehicles)	1
<b>Total Licenses issued in 2017:</b>	<b><u>151</u></b>
<b>Total License fees collected in 2017:</b>	<b>\$22,270.00</b>

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## SPENCER CABLE ACCESS

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Spencer Cable Access (SCA) is an independently operated 501(c)(3) corporation that implements public access television programming for the Town of Spencer. SCA continues to fulfill its mission to give the community a voice and a resource for sharing ideas, creativity, and a way to get connected with our town. SCA can be viewed on Charter Communications channels 191 (community bulletin board), 192 (public interest programming), and 194 (government programming). Recorded government meetings may also be viewed online live or on demand at [SCATV.org](http://SCATV.org).

SCA continues to broadcast Town Meetings and meetings of the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School Committee as well as special town and school events. The Christmas Parade of Lights and two events at Wire Village School, the new playground dedication, and the Veteran's Day program are highlights.

In 2017, SCA continued to make improvements to the McCourt Social Hall. The table-top microphones were replaced, a teleconferencing system which allows the person on the phone to be heard over the speakers in the room was installed, and large ultra-HD flat-panel TVs were installed to provide a better viewing experience when presentations are given in the space. Additional work to improve the overall experience is planned for 2018.

SCA welcomed a returning staff member as the Cable Access Coordinator. Kyle Gibbons has returned to his role and brings with him extensive technical knowledge which allows SCA to provide advanced services to the town (including the previously-mentioned enhancements made to the McCourt Social Hall).

Our annual event, *Feeding Our Neighbors*, helped generate \$9,100 in food and financial contributions to the Spencer Food Pantry. This number includes a large donation made by customers of Klem's Department Store. The event was held on September 30 and combined three town activities: the food drive and SCA open house, the grand opening of the DPHS Innovation Lab, and the Annual Town-Wide Yard Sale.

On December 1, we welcomed the return of *Talk of the Town*, a live talk show hosted by Gary Woodbury. This show gives us a chance to provide viewers with an in-depth discussion about what's happening in town and features live call-in questions. The show is live on the first Monday of every month.

Looking ahead to 2018, SCA and the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District are finding ways to work together on media education programs and workshops.

SCA welcomes any Spencer resident to produce their own programming and is always looking for new volunteers to help in a myriad of ways. Please contact the station at [SCATVSpencer@gmail.com](mailto:SCATVSpencer@gmail.com) to find out how you can earn a stipend when you become a local TV producer or volunteer.

Aaron Keyes  
Station Manager

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## CHARITABLE NEEDS COMMISSION

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The Spencer Charitable Needs Commission is a self-funded agency of the town. It was established by Florence Harrington in memory of Melinda A. Prouty. The specific purpose of the commission is “to be devoted to the relief of poor and needy residents of Spencer, Massachusetts.”

The commission is composed of five diverse residents of Spencer and typically meets the first Monday of every month except in September, when the meeting is held on the Tuesday after Labor Day. We do not meet in July or August. The commission tries to meet as many needs of those who come before us, helping with overdue rent, utilities, and any other catastrophic emergency as possible. We offer a hand up, not a hand out.

In 2017 the commission financially helped over 82 cases with various bills being paid to over 100 vendors.

### Commission Members:

Barbara Grusell, Chairman  
David Ingalls, Secretary  
Paulette LeBlanc  
Paul LaMontagne  
Karen Burke

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## COUNCIL ON AGING

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The mission of the Spencer Council on Aging (CoA) is to seek to enrich the lives of the community's senior population by providing educational programs, recreational activities, referral and social service assistance and to advocate for the seniors while educating the community of the needs of its elders.

The Council on Aging continues to increase its programming, services and activities. Our office and senior center hours were increased in FY 2018 and we are currently open 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Monday through Wednesday and Thursday 9-7. Our goal is to keep seniors in the community with an emphasis on wellness. We offer a wellness clinic and blood pressure screening monthly, with yoga and aerobic exercise classes twice weekly, 2 line dancing classes, tai chi classes, low impact exercise and Zumba. The emphasis is on building core muscle and balance to keep individuals from falling. Our instructors are certified instructors.

We offer referrals for many different senior needs and provide assistance with extra help for Medicare, and we can help with applications for MassHealth, Prescription Advantage, Food Stamps, Housing, etc. for seniors. There are now over 3000 seniors in town. We had an average of 8500 participants in our programs last year with 6,000 newsletters yearly distributed around the community. CoA's serve as the only public social service agency and assist numerous non-elders in accessing public benefits. They may also serve as a link to and support for elders and others in case of local emergencies.

If you know a senior in crisis, please get in touch with this office. The director is a mandated reporter and is always available for help.

This year we were able to add an Outreach worker here to service seniors in their homes. As our budget increases, so will additional services.

Please feel free to drop by the center at 68 Maple St. or call 508-885-7546 for help or information.

All citizens are welcome to attend all presentations here at the center and the classes offered. You must be 18 and over and understand that seniors take precedence. All fees also apply.

Pamela Woodbury  
Director

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## CULTURAL COUNCIL

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The mission of the Spencer Cultural Council is to promote the arts, sciences and humanities with the purpose of providing enhanced opportunities for the citizens of Spencer of all ages and backgrounds to participate in creative and educational experiences. To accomplish this purpose the cultural council received a grant of \$6,100 from the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) for distribution in 2017.

The cultural council awarded grants in the following manner (numbers are approximate): \$1,900 to support various music, art, and writing programs for children, teens, and adults at the Richard Sugden Library; \$950 for an enrichment program at the Knox Trail Middle School; \$1,100 for musical performances for seniors at the Senior Center and Senior Living at Prouty; \$600 for musical performances at the annual Massasoit Art Guild Show; and \$1,700 for a community concert series sponsored by the Parks and Recreation department.

The council also received \$6,100 from the MCC for distribution in 2018. To guide their decision-making, members initiated steps to develop a survey to determine where the community as a whole wants to see the grant funds directed in the future.

The council is anticipating increased communication with town and community leaders and other town boards to identify opportunities for cooperative projects and presentations in the near future.

John J. Green Jr., Chair  
Rachel Faugno, Secretary  
Joan Eccleston, Member

Diane Johnson, Treasurer  
Denise Famosa, Member  
Janice Peters, Member

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**OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT & INSPECTIONAL SERVICES**  
**TOWN PLANNER/PLANNING BOARD**  
**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**BOARD of HEALTH & BUILDING INSPECTOR**

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The Office of Development & Inspectional Services (ODIS) provides support for the Board of Health and its Agent, the Building Inspector, the Town Planner/Economic Development Officer, the Conservation Commission and its Agent, the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Planning Board; Gas, Plumbing & Electrical Inspectors and the Sealer of Weights & Measures. The office has one full time and one part time clerk.

All major projects now require a Technical Review with ODIS, Police, Fire, Water, Sewer, and the Utilities & Facilities Department, who work together to streamline applications and clarify requirements.

ODIS added a full time Town Planner, Paul Dell'Aquila to replace the one day a week consultant that previously held the position.

The following are the reports from the individual departments in ODIS:

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**TOWN PLANNER**

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2017 projects included the following:

- Reviewed and prepared decisions for all Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals applications
- Researched potential Zoning Bylaw amendments related to recreational marijuana, temporary emergency trailers, gravel pits, and other zoning bylaw edits and format modifications
- Handled public road acceptance process for Richland Ave.
- Began handling close-outs on the Abbey, Treadwell, Paxton/Woodchuck, Sunset/Holmes and Mechanic St. solar projects and Bixby Trail Estates housing project
- Town Planner Paul Dell'Aquila continued to work with the Economic Development Committee, Building Reuse Committee, and Solar Landfill Committee as part of the overall effort to update and implement an action plan for town economic development activities, with a particular focus on Downtown and reuse of the Sugden Block.

Paul Dell'Aquila, Town Planner  
Monica Santerre-Gervais, Clerk

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## PLANNING BOARD

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The Planning Board held meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month during 2017. Special Planning Board Meetings were held on April 4 (marijuana zoning), September 19 (zoning changes), October 23 (road acceptance), and December 5 (Sunpin solar).

The Board received 3 new Site Plan Review applications in 2017:

### 3 Site Plan Reviews (Major or Minor)

<u>Project</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Owner</u>
<b>36 Cranberry Meadow Road Solar</b>	Major	ForeFront Power, LLC	Laura Hopkins
<b>Doray Trucking (17 W. Main St.)</b>	Major	Dustin Doray	Same as Applicant
<b>No. Brookfield Road Solar</b>	Major	Joseph Bartzis/Sunpin Solar	Joseph & Susan Foley

A request to revise the existing 2012 Special Permit for the proposed solar farm on North Brookfield Road was heard by the Board and denied, as the request only received three affirmative votes while four were needed.

Additionally, 13 new ANR Plans resulting in 19 lots were approved (compared to 8 ANR's with 16 lots in 2016, 12 ANR's with 16 lots in 2015, 20 lots in 2014, 12 in 2013 and only 2 in 2012):

### 2017 ANR Approvals

Date	Owner/Applicant	Location	Description	Lots
1/18/2017	Hamadryad, LLC	Northside Donnelly Road	Boundary Line Adjustment	
2/6/2017	John Stevens	3 Thompson Pond Road	New Lots	2
5/23/2017	Hark Properties	117 W. Main Street		
6/14/2017	Arvid & Ruth Laderman	42 GH Wilson Road	Boundary Line Adjustment	
8/7/2017	Bruso Family Trust	Hastings Road	Create New lot	1
9/11/2017	Raymond Bergeron	9 West Ave	Create New Lot	2
9/13/2017	Jeffrey Hill	10 Marble Road	Create New Lot	2
10/4/2017	Sweetwater Hollow LLC	18 & 20 Crown Street	Boundary Line Adjustment	
10/10/2017	Main street Realty Trust	369 Main Street	Create New Lot	7
10/10/2017	Russell Davis	Northwest Road	Create New lots	2



10/10/2017	Bradford Stoler	21 Bond Street	Create New Lots	3
11/13/2017	Joseph Lacroix	20 Holmes Street	Boundary Line Adjustment	
11/13/2017	ZPT Energy	Holmes St	Boundary Line Adjustment	

No new residential subdivision applications were submitted; however a preliminary plan for the Cedar Woods project was submitted for the April Board meeting. That project would reconfigure the previously-approved Laureldale Woods II conventional subdivision into an Open Space Residential Design (OSRD) development.

Additionally, in March, the Board approved a common driveway at 327 Main Street, which had been applied for and initially heard in 2016.

The Planning Board extends their thanks to the other Boards and Commissions and Town staff and officials who have provided assistance and support in planning issues this past year.

Robert Ceppi, Chair  
Jonathan Viner  
Maria Reed  
Shirley Shiver  
Jeff Butensky

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## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

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The Zoning Board of Appeals held meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month during 2017.

There are currently two vacancies on the Zoning Board of Appeals.

The Board received and approved 9 Special Permit/Variance applications in 2016:

### 9 ZBA Applications (Special Permit/ Variance)

Location	Owner/Applicant	Purpose	Zoning Code Reference
76 Thompson Pond Road	Aline Riedle	Emergency temporary trailer on lot to rebuild home	4.5.3
218 Greenville Street	Anne Boucher	Dog Kennel	4.2.E.14 & 4.2.E.15
89 Cranberry Meadow Road	Leo Aucoin	Gravel Pit Renewal	4.2 (H.1) and 4.8.6
Cranberry Meadow Road	Bond Construction	Gravel Pit Renewal	4.2 (H.1) and 4.8.6
34 Donnelly Cross Road	Jonathan Viner	Accessory Apartment	4.2.A.6
113 Ash Street	Vitold Zenkus	Variance for frontage and square footage of lot	5.1
10 Laurel Lane	Stephen Boyle	Special Permit for 3 bay garage with storage area on vacant lot across the street	4.4.1B
89 Smithville Road	Peter Zukas	Gravel Renewal	4.2 (H.1) and 4.8.6
116 Main Street	Dmitry Bykhovsky	Extension of previous special permit for non-conforming automotive use	4.9.3

It should be noted that the only case not decided in 2017 and thus carried over into 2018, is the proposed special permit extension to non-conforming automobile use proposed for 116 Main St.

The Board wishes to thank other Town Boards and Commissions and all Town staff and officials who have provided assistance to the Board during the year.

Allan Collette, Chair  
 Mary Stolarczyk  
 Alan Stolarczyk

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## BOARD OF HEALTH

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The Board of Health provides basic health services to the Town residents including senior blood pressure clinics, flu clinics, and inspectional services to food establishments, housing & nuisance complaints, septic plan reviews & compliance, and Emergency Public Health services during outbreaks & disasters. This year the BOH received grants totaling \$6,650.50 for various Emergency Dispensing Site supplies & \$20,000.00 demolition assistance for 20 Mechanic Street. Through the Attorney General's Abandoned Housing Initiative, the BOH has taken seven blighted properties for rehab & resale. The following is a summary of inspections & compliance services during this calendar year.

- Foodservice inspections-52
- Foodservice Closings-2
- Mobile Food truck inspections-3
- Retail Food Inspections-34
- Food related complaints-12
- Housing Inspections-76
- Housing Court-13
- Receiverships requests & takings-7
- Enforcement letters-156
- Compliance letters-145
- Lead Determinations-2
- Percolation Testing-28
- Septic Inspections-61
- Septic Plan reviews-27
- Title 5 report reviews-62
- Bathing Beach Inspection report reviews-23
- Beach inspections-4
- Beaver Complaints-11
- Nuisance Complaints-64
- Tanning Booth Inspections-2
- Tobacco Compliance Inspections-22
- Gym/Health Club-2
- Tattoo/Body Art-1
- Pet Store Insp.-1
- Rabies Investigations-2
- Camp Inspections-4
- Wood Boiler Inspection-0
- Wood Boiler Complaint-1
- Seminar-8
- Flu Clinic-1
- Well Permits w/review-13
- Review Public well reports-21
- As-Built reviews-28
- Special Event inspections (farmers market, school sport food booths etc...)-19
- Spencer Fair Food Booths-53 (4 inspections ea.)=212
- Offsite Meetings (Region 2)-9
- Attend Tech review meeting-9
- Attend Staff meetings-9
- BOH meetings-9

- Emergency response to fires Police calls-5
- Public record requests-57
- Liens on property-4
- Provide Constable services to Town-6
- EDS Drill-1

**Revenue generated: \$67,922.26**

**PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE REPORT**

Disease Events and Classification for 2017

Bacterial	3
Gastro-intestinal	2
Hepatic	15
Respiratory	27
Zoonotic	43
Flu clinics	1
Misc. DPH monitoring	8

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Rodney L. Foisy-Chairman  
 Daniel C. Shields-Member  
 Robert James Bradshaw Jr.-Member  
 Lee Jarvis- Agent  
 Lisa Daoust- Clerk  
 Cheryl Rawinski-RN-Public Health Nurse

**SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES**

The Sealer of Weights & Measures for the calendar year 2017 has tested and sealed 178 devices and generated \$3,880.00 for the Town of Spencer.

Respectfully submitted,  
 John A. Biancheria-Sealer  
 Sincerely,

Rodney L. Foisy  
 Daniel C. Shields  
 Robert James Bradshaw Jr.  
 Lee Jarvis, Agent  
 Lisa Daoust, Clerk

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## BUILDING DEPARTMENT

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### Building permit activity

Single Family Dwellings	15	
Multi-Family Buildings	0	
Commercial	15	
Additions	5	
Renovations/Alterations/Remodel	42	
Sheet Metal	18	
Insulation/Weatherization	18	
Garages/Barns	10	
Decks/Porches/ Stairs & Egress	18	
Sheds	5	
Roofing/Siding	95	
Above Ground Pools	8	
In Ground Pools	3	
Signs	10	
Solid Fuel Appliances	24	
Windows/Doors	28	
Demolitions	7	
Temporary Trailers	1	
Foundations	2	
Certificate of Inspections	57	
Solar Panels (rooftop)	34	
Solar Panels (ground)	3	
Miscellaneous	21	
<b>Total permits issued</b>	<b>439</b>	
<b>Fees Collected</b>		<b>\$135,800.74</b>
<b>Occupancy Permits</b>	<b>50</b>	
<b>Gas (James Bergeron)</b>		
Permits issued	133	
Gas Inspections	141	
Plumbing Inspections	3	
<b>Fees Collected</b>		<b>\$10,572.00</b>
<b>Wiring (Norman Bassett)</b>		
Permits issued	236	
Inspections	270	
Fire Calls	4	
<b>Fees Collected</b>		<b>\$43,560.00</b>
<b>Plumbing (Bob Wall)</b>		
Permits issued	98	
Inspections Plumbing	166	
Inspections Gas	19	
<b>Fees Collected</b>		<b>\$10,776.50</b>

William Klansek, Inspector of Buildings

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## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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Notice of Intent: 23

Requests for Determinations: 25

Orders of Conditions issued: 23

Negative Determinations issued: 24

Positive Determinations issued: 2

Certificates of Compliance issued: 17

Extensions issued: 6

Notice of Violations: 5

Enforcement Order issued: 12

Total inspections: 226

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret Washburn-Wetlands Specialist

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## FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

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First and foremost, I must thank the Firefighters and Emergency Management personnel for dedicating their busy lives to assist their fellow man in times of disaster. I also want to thank the families of those same people to allow them to participate in these demanding professions that keep people safe. We continue to provide first class service to the citizens and visitors to the Town of Spencer and to those neighboring communities looking for assistance in their time of need.

The communities that belong to Fire District 7 comprising the communities in Southern Worcester County including the City of Worcester are very active in Mutual Aid. We are an active member of this group and intend to be going forward as we understand the need for mutual aid today more than ever with the lack of firefighters to respond to even the mundane calls. Getting volunteers to help their community is a challenge and we need the members of our community to step up and help their neighbors. We respond throughout Massachusetts each year responding to not only towns in our District but also in District 8 (Northern Worcester County) and as far west recently as South Hadley. We may have to travel far but others even from Cape Cod have come here to help us (remember the water emergency) so we will go whenever we are requested and are available.

Grants are something we apply for each year. This past year one grant award will change the outlook of the Spencer Fire Department for the future. We were able to secure a SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) grant that will pay for four full time firefighters to staff our station with two firefighters each day from 6am-6pm. This Federal grant will pay 75% of their salaries in benefits for the first two years then 35% for the third year with the Town responsible to pick up the remaining costs going forward. Our Board of Selectmen and the Interim Town Administrator have pledge their support in making sure this positions are funded going forward. These were much needed positions for responses during the day time hours. 99% of our staff does not work in town during the day and it has become an extreme challenge and dangerous endeavor each time the tones go off for a call. The first full time firefighters for the Town of Spencer are: David Hoyt, Patrick Gorham, Thomas Parsons and Joshua Blodgett.

The Massachusetts Firefighting Academy has now taken over training of recruits at our station free of charge to the Fire District. We also send recruits to the Fire Academies in Stow and Springfield. We encourage any townspeople interested in serving their community to come down and fill out an application at the fire station as we always need volunteers. Come down at any time to be educated on the workings of the Fire Department and how it saves the community thousands of dollars each year through volunteer work provided by our firefighters. Our Citizens Academy was highly successful this year with numerous graduates from the community. Keep an eye out on our web page for the training starting in August of 2018.

This past year we have seen some familiar faces leave us with resignations and moving away; we will miss them and wish them the best. We welcomed a few new faces and thank them for coming on board and sharing their valuable time with us. We continue to accept applications for both the Fire Department and the Emergency Management Department.

### **Current Roster:**

**Fire Chief:** Robert Parsons

**Deputy Chief:** William Locke

**SEMA Director of Operations:** Sandra Fritze

**Chaplain:** Rev. Ralph DiChiarra

**Clerk:** Stephanie Wachewski

**Custodian:** Donald Churchey  
**Photographer:** Tammie Gebo-Gadbois

**Ladder 1:** Captain Robert Churchey, Lt Jason Ferreira, Firefighter Brian Barber, Firefighter Albert Forand, Firefighter Adam German, Firefighter Travis Reilly, Firefighter Thomas Parsons, Firefighter Michael Stuppa, Firefighter Ryan Morton, Firefighter Keilena Johnson

**Engine 2:** Captain Michael Gadbois, Lt. Brian Mathon, Firefighter David Hoyt, Firefighter Kevin Kennedy, Firefighter Patrick Gorham, Firefighter Anthony Gianfriddo, Firefighter Johnny Miller, Firefighter Thomas Da Silva, Firefighter Glen Sweeney

**Engine 3:** Captain Joshua Gaucher, Lt. Jonathan Thibault, Firefighter Robert Bradshaw, Firefighter David Daoust, Captain Patrick Donohue, Firefighter John Dymek, Firefighter Jeremy Levitan, Firefighter Joseph Brodmerkle, Firefighter Deliah Shader, Firefighter Joshua Prater, Firefighter Joseph Di Pilato

**Engine 4:** Captain Corey Lacaire, Lt Joseph Nanigian, Firefighter Joshua Blodgett, Firefighter Lee Churchey, Firefighter Ralph Kirouac, Firefighter Glenn Maffei, Firefighter Corey Phoenix, Firefighter Jeremy Feldman, Firefighter Christopher Wyman, Firefighter Angel Colon, Firefighter David Leite.

**Spencer Emergency Management:** Tracey Bradshaw, Christine Gagne, John Gagne, Michael Hilow, Rosanne Ingalls, Michael Natale, Sheri Kaiser, Suzanne Lavallee, Megan Mathon, Sheila Phoenix, Kathi Pratt, Al Roussin, James Williams.

The following left the Department through resignation. Andrew Bellizzi and Stefanie Natale both moved from town. We were able to bring on board this year after completion of their Firefighter training and Certification the following: Keilena Johnson, Joshua Prater, Joseph Di Pilato, Thomas Da Silva, Glen Sweeney, Christopher Wyman, Angel Colon and David Leite. We currently have 6 in the current recruit class being held at Spencer Fire.

**Apparatus:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Condition</b>
Ladder 1	2010 Smeal	Excellent
Engine 1	1987 Ford/Maxim	Good
Engine 2	2014 Smeal	Excellent
Engine 3	1986 Maxim	Good
Engine 4	1995 E-One/International	Good
Tanker 1	2005 4-Guys/International	Good
Rescue 1	1990 E-One/GMC	Good
Forestry 1	2005 Ford F-350	Good
Forestry 2	1984 GMC K30	Fair
Forestry 3	1986 AM General	Good
Car 1	2017 Ford Expedition	Excellent
Car 2	2005 Ford Explorer	Good
CD1 SEMA	2004 Ford E-450	Good
Squad 1	2005 Ford F-450	Good

Its challenging keeping all the vehicles in top notch condition with some reaching over 30 years of service to the community but it's something we must do to make sure each time we respond to an incident the vehicles we operate are safe and road worthy for our firefighters and emergency management personnel. We were able to get through Homeland Security a 2005 Ford F-450 4WD with a utility body on it to tow the



numerous Homeland Security trailers we own and to use as we see fit within the Department. In the next year we will be looking to replace Engine 3. Even though it's in fairly good shape for its age it has outlived its life span. We had to put close to \$25k into it back in 2010 to keep it on the road. It has an open cab and only lap belts with both being non NFPA compliant since 1996. This next engine will most likely cost close to \$500,000 and we will in all likelihood lease as we did with engine 2 and not put any more burden on the tax payer.

In closing I would like to thank all the town officials for their support and assistance throughout the year especially Town Administrator Adam Gaudette and Interim Administrator William Ross. Without their support we would not be able to continue to provide the outstanding quality of assistance to the community that we can provide.

January 1, 2017-December 31, 2017

Total alarms for service 447

**FIRES**

Building Fires	26
Cooking Fires	25
Chimney Fires	0
Passenger Vehicles Fires	2
Grass/Brush Fires	14
Other Fires	<u>11</u>
	78

**RESCUE, EMS ASSIST**

Medical assist EMS crew	2
Vehicle accident with injuries	9
Extrications	8
Water/Ice Incident	2
Other Rescues	<u>0</u>
	21

**HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS**

Gas/Flammable liquids spills	18
Accident cleanup	47
Chemical spill or leak	2
Power lines down	3
Arcing/shorted electrical equipment	6
Electrical/wiring problem	7
Carbon monoxide incidents	13
Other hazardous conditions	<u>3</u>
	99

**SERVICE CALLS**

Water Problems	4
Public Service Assistance	8
Unauthorized burning	26
Other service calls	<u>8</u>
	46

**GOOD INTENT CALLS**

Smoke scare/odor	10
Other good intent calls	<u>33</u>
	43

**FALSE ALARM AND FALSE CALLS**

System malfunction	4
Sprinkler activation	4
Smoke detector activation	54
Alarm sounded/malfunction	51
CO detector activations	38
Other false alarms	<u>4</u>
	155

**SEVERE WEATHER STAND BY**

Severe weather or natural disaster	<u>5</u>
	5

**PERMITS/INSPECTIONS** 745**Mutual Aid to other Communities:**

Auburn	1
Brookfield	2
Charlton	4
Leicester	2
North Brookfield	2
New Braintree	1
Oxford	3
Princeton	1
Rutland	1
Sturbridge	5

**Mutual Aid from other Communities:**

Brimfield	1
Brookfield	3
Charlton	2
Dudley	1
East Brookfield	7
Grafton	1
Leicester	9
Millbury	1
North Brookfield	7
Oakham	2
Oxford	1
Paxton	6
Rutland	4
Southbridge	1
Sturbridge	2
Sutton	1
Upton	1

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## HOUSING AUTHORITY

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The Spencer Housing Authority manages Projects 667-1 and 667-2 known as “Howe Village”. Our eighty-four 667-1 units were built in 1970 and 667-2 was added in 1975 providing an additional sixty units for a total of one hundred and forty-four one-bedroom units for the elderly and handicapped. Included in the 667-2 Project were four units especially designed for handicapped tenants. Also included is space for noontime meals and “meals on wheels” delivery provided by Tri-Valley Elder Services.

On December 1, 2014, a contract with Tri-Valley Elder Services for a Supportive Housing Program was signed. The program will provide Howe village residents with 24 hour homemaker/personal care staffing, thereby allowing them to live independently while having access to the support they need.

The Housing Authority opened Project 667-3 on 4/1/1989 known as “Depot Village” which is located at 40 Wall Street. The Project consists of twenty-four one bedroom elderly and handicapped units; two separate congregate housing units, one six bedroom unit and one four bedroom unit. The congregate units are managed by Tri-Valley Elder Services and have private bedrooms with shared facilities for kitchen and living room use. Also included is commercial space, which is currently vacant.

Project 689-1 was opened in January 1988 at 77 Maple Street. There are (2) two separate buildings with (4) four bedrooms in each unit. The buildings are currently leased and operated by the Glavin Center to provide housing & services for handicapped individuals. Project 705-1 was opened on 4/1/1989 on Lloyd Dyer Drive. There are (4) four duplexes for (8) eight families, including one handicapped unit.

The Housing Authority administers two rental assistance programs: the (MRVP) Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program) formerly known as the 707 Program for low-income families currently has 5 units leased in the Spencer area. The other Program known as the (AHVP) Alternative Housing Voucher Program for non-elderly disabled applicants currently has 53 one-bedroom units leased in the state of Massachusetts.

Projects during 2017 included:

Paving Topcoat at 667-1 Howe Village

Concrete walkway repair at 667-1& 2 Howe Village

Exterior Window & Door Replacement at 689 and 77 Maple Street.

Projects slated for year 2018:

Roof replacement at 667-1&2 Howe Village

Bathroom repairs at 689, 77 Maple Street

The Housing Authority will continue to strive to provide safe and affordable housing to meet the elderly/handicapped and family needs of our area. We also serve as an informational & resource contact for services in the area.

Charlene Kaiser, Executive Director

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## PARKING CLERK

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Please be advised that the annual Town-wide Winter Parking Ban is in effect from November 1<sup>st</sup> at 12:01 a.m. and continues through April 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 a.m. Violators of the winter parking ban are subject to a \$20.00 fine

Kurt Nordquist,  
Parking Clerk

**NO PARKING ON EITHER SIDE OF THE STREET:**

Adams Street	Clark Street	Highland Street	Route 31 North
Chestnut Street	Elm Street	Main Street	Route 31 South
Church Street	Hastings Road	Maple Street	Sampson Street
(Between Maple & Mechanic)	High Street	Mechanic Street	Smithville Road
			Water Street

**PARKING ALLOWED ON ODD NUMBERED SIDE OF THE STREET ONLY:**

Bell Street	Grant Street	McDonald Street	Franklin Street
Lincoln Street	School Street	Summit Street (#3 to #27)	

**PARKING ALLOWED ON EVEN NUMBERED SIDE OF THE STREET ONLY:**

South Street	North Street (Between Main & Powers)	Summit Street (Main to #8)
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**STREETS WITH SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS:**

Cherry Street (From Mechanic to Maple) Parking allowed on the even numbered side of the street only.

Wall Street: Parking is allowed on the odd numbered side of the street from Mechanic to the beginning of the FlexCon Building.

Earley Street: Parking is allowed on the odd numbered side of the street from Chestnut to Church Street.

Temple Street: Parking is allowed on the odd numbered side of the street from Chestnut to Church Street.

**STREETS WITH NO RESTRICTIONS:**

Dustin Street

**ALL OTHER STREETS:**

No parking is allowed on the odd numbered side of the street, with the exception of those streets specifically named above where parking is allowed on the odd numbered side of the street.

No parking is allowed on sidewalks.

**Please note: Violations of the Winter Parking Barn are subject to a \$20.00 fine**

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## PARKS & RECREATION

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This past year, the Spencer Parks and Recreation Commission saw improvements to both the facilities of some of our parks as well as being able to present some new programming that we have not had in prior years. We are excited by the support and interest we have received in our ongoing efforts to reopen Luther Hill Park beach for the summer and restore the swimming lesson program. We would like to extend our thanks to Barnstorm Cycles. With funding from Barnstorm, the Park commission was able to accept the donation of a report which was prepared by Katie LaPrad who ran the beach programs for the Commission in the past. She was able to research surrounding communities and presented several options with backup material on how we could reopen Luther Hill Park beach for the upcoming summer. As a result of this report and the support of the Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen, the Park commission received funds at the fall town meeting to complete needed repairs, buy new equipment, and have the salary money needed for the current fiscal year to open the beach in June. We are hopeful to receive the support of voters at the May annual town meeting to fund the opening of the Luther Hill Park beach and beach programs for the entire summer season. We also thank St. Joseph's Abbey, the Exchange Club, and the Fire Association for their support in these efforts.

One of the major positive developments has been the continuing efforts to improve the Rail Trail. The second phase is currently under way also through the support of town matching funds with another MA DCR Recreational Trails Program grant. Phase Two work consists of resurfacing along the length of the trail from Chestnut Street to South Spencer Road to produce a firm, stable, and accessibility compliant trail surface. Two metal swinging pipe gates will also be installed where existing side trails meet the Rail Trail. These gates will allow winter access for snowmobilers while preventing unwanted access from other motorized vehicles. A grant has been submitted for Phase Three work, which will focus on improving the quality of the visitor experience for trail users through the addition and upgrade of various trail amenities, including new trash receptacles, benches, improved kiosks, informational trail markers, and additional metal gates. We have received town support for a future Phase Four grant application. Future projects will include connecting the O'Gara Parking lot to the Rail Trail, expanding the north end of the Rail Trail toward the center of town, and adding wellness stations. We extend thanks to Spencer Trailways, Inc., Spencer Snowbirds Snowmobile Club, Spencer Highway Department, Spencer Conservation Commission, and EM Thibault Excavation, Inc. for their support of these efforts. We wish to extend special thanks to Steven Tyler, Director of Utilities and Facilities and Margaret Washburn, Conservation Agent for their countless hours helping to plan and coordinate these very positive and successful efforts.

Another major successful development has been the continued upkeep and additional improvements made to Isaac Lathrop Prouty Memorial Park to maintain a living memorial to those Spencer members of the armed forces who have served and sacrificed to preserve our democratic way of life. We also thank the Spencer Exchange Club for their continuing financial support of this park which will honor the memory of those who served.

Several groups used the field at O'Gara Park including women's softball, men's softball, youth football, and a dog trainer. Future planned improvements for the park include restoration of the grandstand roof, construction of new bathroom/concession building, installation of security camera system, and improved lighting. Future plans for Powdermill Park include grass refurbishment, landscaping, more benches/picnic tables, and refurbishment of the pavilion. A 10 year plan is being developed to refurbish all sections of the playground and potentially expand upon it. We are also seriously exploring the possibility of grant funding to create a dog park at Luther Hill Park.

Thanks to funding from the MA Cultural Council awarded by the Spencer Cultural Council, the Park and Recreation Commission was able to present another of what will hopefully become a yearly Summer Concert Series held at the pavilion at Powdermill Park. We have again sought grant funding for a concert series next summer and look to expand our offerings to potentially include family events in addition to concerts.

In fiscally challenging times, we continue to explore various means to seek additional consistent funding to improve the conditions of our existing park facilities, create new programming opportunities, and to restore services to Luther Hill Park. We thank the Spencer Abbey for their continued support. Donations can be made to the Luther Hill Park Donation Account, O’Gara Park Donation Account, and for general park needs for use in any park to the Youth Commission Donation Account. Our hope is to find new consistent recurring revenue sources to cover the recurring expenses needed to restore and eventually expand Luther Hill Park Summer Services. We do not want to restore services for just one summer only to lose them the following summer. We welcome any assistance from the public in gaining support to help us maintain and restore our recreational parks, facilities, and programming. Strong and vibrant park and recreation programming and facilitates is key to improving the quality of life for all Spencer residents and families.

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## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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The Spencer Police Department continues to conduct policing on a proactive basis. In today's society, Police Officers can no longer just react to crime. They must instead, respond to the wide variety of issues and problems impacting the fear of crime and quality of life in our community.

The Spencer Police Department continues to participate in the Central Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council, which allows access to specialized assets including a SWAT Team along with K9, Motorcycle and Collision Reconstruction Units. The Spencer Police Department currently has one Officer assigned to the Collision Reconstruction Team.

The Spencer Police Department conducts a variety of community outreach programs, including: the deployment of our speed radar dolly; the installation and inspection of child safety seats; the participation in the Goods for Guns Buyback and Drug Take Back events; providing Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) Instruction to local businesses; the use of social media, Facebook & Twitter to keep the public informed.

The Spencer Police Department maintains affiliation with the following organizations: Worcester County Detectives; Worcester County Fraudulent Check Association; Street Violence Prevention Group; Tri-Valley Elder Task Force; District Attorney's Opioid Task Force; Worcester County Anti-Crime Task Force and the Massachusetts Financial Crimes Task Force.

Continued and comprehensive training of all Spencer Police Department personnel is of paramount importance in the areas of law enforcement and public safety. On an annual basis, Officers attend Firearms Qualification and Proficiency training. In addition Officers and Dispatchers participated in an internet based in-service training program provided by the Massachusetts Police Institute in accordance with standards promulgated by the Massachusetts Police Training Committee and State 911 Department.

What was new in 2017? In response to the Opioid Epidemic, we have employed a multifaceted response. 1. Enforcement. 2. Recovery 3. Drug Take-Back 4. Prescription Monitoring 5. Education 6. Awareness. The recovery segment of our response we call the Champion Program. With the assistance of the "24/7 Addiction Task Force" we trained local citizens to work as Advocates, helping addicted individuals navigate recovery options. Officers provide postcards when responding to overdose calls outlining the program and providing other recovery options. Lastly, the NexGen 911 upgrade we received last year will allow us to begin receiving all cellular 911 calls as part of the "Wireless Direct" Program.

There were several personnel changes in 2017.

Officers Patrick Waugh and Christopher Snow of the Barre Police Department were hired to fill the fulltime vacancies resulting from Officers David Allen and Peter Levesque being hired by the Massachusetts State Police.

Whenever possible the Spencer Police Department makes application for Federal and State grants. Grants are important, as they allow a community to address issues that may be beyond their financial resources. This year the Spencer Police Department was awarded a variety of grants, including: \$10,000 from the State 911 Department for training; \$43,301 from the State 911 Department for overtime; \$10,000 from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security for traffic enforcement & equipment; \$1,600 from the Department of Justice for Bullet Proof Vests.

In closing, I wish to thank the members of the Spencer Police Department for their dedication and support. I also wish to thank the Town Administrator, Board of Selectmen, along with all other Town Officials, Boards and Departments for their assistance in providing the citizens of Spencer with exceptional public services.

David B. Darrin,  
Chief of Police

## ACTIVITY REPORT

### ARRESTS:

Murder	0	
Rape	0	
Armed Robbery	0	
Unarmed Robbery	0	
Assault & Battery	9	
Assault w/Dangerous Weapon	8	
Burglary	1	
Larceny	24	
Motor Vehicle Theft	1	
Vandalism	18	
Arson	0	
Domestic A&B	48	
Warrants	37	
209A/HPO Violation	8	Misdemeanor – Miscellaneous 18
Felony – Miscellaneous	14	
Motor Vehicle – Miscellaneous	65	
Minor in Possession of Alcohol	0	
Possession of Drugs	11	
Distribution of Drugs	8	
Disorderly Conduct	24	
Protective Custody	48	
OUI – Alcohol/Drugs	20	
Mental Health 123-12	20	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>459</b>	

### OFFENSES

Murder	0
Rape	3
Robbery	0
Assault	30
Burglary	15
Larceny	100
Motor Vehicle Theft	14
Vandalism	44
<b>Total</b>	<b>208</b>



**SELECT CALLS**

Accidents	523
911 Calls	2644
Medical Calls	1628
Fire Assists	239
Alarm Response	510
Detain Prisoners for Others	79
Disturbances – General	385
Disturbances – Domestic	75

**CALLS BY SHIFT:**

11p-7a	6495
7a-3p	10440
3p-11a	9263
<b>Total</b>	<b>26198</b>

**ANIMAL CONTROL:**

Calls	794
Impounds	47
Adopt/Transfer	17
Bylaw Violations	89

**CITATIONS**

Civil Infractions	110
Criminal	56
Warning	161
Arrest	46
Parking	211
Bylaw – Police	60
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>644</b>

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## RICHARD SUGDEN LIBRARY

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A year has passed since making Spencer and the Richard Sugden Library my home. I moved to Spencer from my hometown in central Connecticut. What have I learned about the town and my new library? The community has welcomed me in countless ways: from being invited to read to first graders at school during a Dr. Seuss celebration to joining the local chapter of the Exchange Club to enjoying an oldies sing along at an area senior living facility to attending the annual family Halloween party at town hall to personal invites extended for social gatherings. This warmth and kindness has helped prevent my feeling lonely or isolated. My positive relocation experience is mirrored in the role of our library: a place that shines with the spirit of inclusivity. The library embraces all with open arms, welcoming every person stepping through the doors. Our staff works tirelessly to provide an exceptional level of service to thousands of visitors throughout the year. The library fields hundreds of questions each month on all sorts of topics; helping our users find the answers they need in a timely, professional and nonjudgmental way. We enable our patrons to connect with the world today, giving assistance and guiding them to the information they seek. One of the reasons our staff chose library work is the reward found in facilitating individual learning and growth. Staff members continue to learn and grow by attending workshops; networking with colleagues from other libraries with the goal of improving services. Professional development also occurs by participation in online webinars. The library now offers Lynda.com where users have access to thousands of courses where they can learn at home. This electronic product enhances personal and professional expertise in areas such as software, creative and business skills. Along with online resources like Lynda.com, we serve our community's educational needs by offering computer classes in the library on a regular basis.

Public libraries are often called upon to assist with social services, giving answers to questions on an array of issues from how to apply for aid to local bus schedules. We provide meeting spaces for a variety of needs: including supervised visits for families, scouting events, proctored exams for students, fuel assistance and a focus group to gather input by the finance committee. The library held an evening open house where our citizens were able to meet and talk with town leaders including the new selectman and the interim town manager. We host many functions for the community, enhancing the quality of life of our citizens.

Along with our mission to educate, we entertain and inspire. This is evident by the success of our "Make It @the Library" programs where creativity and collaboration are fostered. Makers of all ages gather to sculpt, paint, draw and make jewelry. Local talent is shared and enjoyed at our open mic programming featuring spoken word and music performances by young artists to seniors. Self-expression is encouraged by a series on songwriting as well as monthly meetings of a writers' group. The library partnered with a neighboring business to host several days of escape room events with 60 gamers of all ages working together to solve riddles and puzzles in this fun series of a dozen programs during winter vacation. The feedback was overwhelmingly favorable with quite a few individuals in attendance who were new to the library. They joined the ranks of our regulars in their admiration and appreciation of the Richard Sugden Library.

Many of our programs are inter-generational, giving opportunities for kids, teens and adults to learn together. The library attracts an audience of participants by offering informative and enlightening programs. Frequently residents donate their time, sharing knowledge with our community. The monks from St. Joseph's Abbey spoke to a large and enthusiastic group about life at the monastery and its rich history. We recruited members of our community to lead weekly walks around town. The group of walkers visited parks, farms, cemeteries, historic sites, local backyard habitats and several other spots in Spencer. These Wednesday walks were special mornings spent exercising, talking, listening, learning and sharing:

connecting us to the natural world and one another. Our programming highlights both local talent and history. The library offered around 50 programs for adults with close to 500 participants while the children's department held 200 programs with over 3,000 participants.

The library partners with the Massasoit Art Guild to exhibit artwork which changes monthly. We also display collections showcasing local interests featuring creations, handiwork and nostalgia. The displays are well-received, often sparking conversation and insightful observations by viewers.

Our building in the center of town serves as a hub for learning and discovery, yet library workers often venture out into the community to make connections. Materials are delivered to individuals unable to visit the library and the children's staff spend time in the schools as often as possible. Information about the library's offerings was presented during parents' night and we hosted a kindergarten open house where families played games, won prizes, went on a scavenger hunt and enjoyed a puppet show. Our children's librarians visit classes to promote literacy by doing book talks as well as encouraging kids to participate in summer reading.

The people of Spencer value thriftiness are prudent and prefer to avoid waste. This results in careful use of resources, doing a lot with a little. At the library, much is accomplished by a staff of 6. Our services are a bargain: at a cost of less than \$30 annually per person our citizens have access to over 250,000 items as well as exceptional programming and a beautiful space to use and enjoy. Our staff and volunteers contribute a great deal to Spencer, using herculean energy to ensure the library operates smoothly. The library is fortunate to be served by a progressive, open-minded and compassionate board of trustees: Lynn Dobson, Mary Anne Slack and Amy Paul. The retired director spends one morning each week concentrating on the resources in the local history museum housed in the library. She continues to serve our town by making artifacts and information available to those interested in Spencer families and their past. Although the staff and volunteers perform to the best of their abilities, reduced hours detract from our success. The library is open Mondays 10 to 7, Tuesdays 10 to 5, Wednesdays 10 to 5 and Thursdays 10 to 7. The building is closed for three consecutive days, preventing working families and others the opportunity to use the library and benefit from its services.

The possible loss of the Sugden Block reveals Spencer residents' sentimental and deep attachment to historic buildings. We now realize the importance of preserving the grace and beauty of a time in our memories when Spencer was a wonderful place to be. It's never too late to reshape our future by coming together to make our world a better one. Supporting the library is key to a connected, attractive and vibrant Town.

Cheryl Donahue,  
Library Director

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## SEWER DEPARTMENT

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The Spencer Wastewater Treatment Plant is permitted for 1,080,000 gallons per day, but also has an annual average maximum influent flow of 860,000 gallons per day. Exceeding the maximum influent flow can trigger treatment plant expansion and/or collection system inflow & infiltration repairs. Our yearly average influent flow was 820,000 gallons per day.

The Sewer Department has allocated \$242,111 For the 2017 Main St. TIP Project, which involves the replacement of sewer main lines, Manholes, Covers, and Risers.

Several meetings were held with the Board of Sewer Commissioners; Consulting Engineers, Wright Pierce; and officials from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and the Environmental Protection Agency to discuss the issuance of new NPDES Permit and future upgrade of Spencer Waste Water Treatment Facility. The Environmental Protection Agency has agreed and begun an “Affordability Study” with data shared from the Town to assess the financial impact that such a large and expensive project will have on the Community. This is an ongoing process, and we at the Sewer Department will keep all informed as we progress.

The Sewer Department is currently conducting a State mandated Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) study. The study should highlight areas of concern in the collection system by monitoring flows in both dry and wet weather scenarios.

The Sewer Department has entered into an agreement with Wright Pierce Engineering to conduct and complete a SSES (Sewer System Evaluation Study) and CWMP (Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan) these studies are required in order for the Department to be eligible for 0-2% loans and any Grant monies available. The SSES will expand on the I&I study to locate, identify, and correct collections system issues.

The CWMP is a complete review of the Treatment Facility. This study will identify aging and outdated treatment processes, equipment, and infrastructure. At the completion of these studies we will assess potential upgrades to meet a more stringent permit so that we will remain compliant to new nutrient levels that will be imposed with the issuance of our new permit.

**GIS MAPPING** The Spencer Sewer Department is pleased to announce that we have completed the GIS mapping of the sewer collection system.

**Chestnut Steet** The Sewer Department will be the beneficiary of a Community Block Development Grant to replace Sewer mains, manholes, and structures in the upcoming Chestnut St. Project which will begin in the Spring of 2018.

**Bixby Trails Project** The Sewer Department has also completed its oversight of the Bixby Trails Project and the complete rehabilitation of all Sewer lines, and manholes as outlined in the Project agreement.

The Board of Sewer Commissioners, Facility staff and I wish to thank the residents for their continued support and understanding. We also would like to thank all Town Departments, Boards, and Committees for their assistance and cooperation during the past year. We look forward to our continued service to the community.

James T. LaPlante Jr., Superintendent

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## **TREE WARDEN**

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I hereby submit my annual report for 2017.

Approximately 12 trees were removed that were dead or dangerous. A number of trees were upbranched with deadwood removed.

National Grid conducted a tree survey of the town and identified a large number of trees for removal. A hearing was held and there were no objections from the public. The removal and trimming of trees is ongoing.

The highway department continues to assist me whenever possible and is greatly appreciated.

Ray Holmes,  
Tree Warden

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## VETERANS SERVICES

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The Veterans Services Office is located in the Town Hall on Main St. The Office is open on Mondays and Tuesdays from 9 to 2 and on Wednesdays from 10 to 3. Walk-ins are welcome, however appointments are preferred.

The Spencer Veterans Department works with both the Massachusetts Department of Veterans Services and the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs, (VA) in assisting all eligible Veterans and their families who find themselves in need of services, E.g. VA disability applications, financial, housing, medical access, employment or help with funeral expenses. In 2017, a total of \$251,929 was paid out in Federal Veterans Administration benefits to Veterans, or their surviving families in Spencer.

The Town of Spencer has a large Veteran population representing conflicts covering the history of our Nation. The Rotunda in Town Hall contains the names of many of these Veterans. On Veterans Day 2016, a new portion of the Rotunda was dedicated honoring service men and women from the Gulf War, and post 911 Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Spencer Veterans from these conflicts will continue to be added to this memorial as they return home. Eligible veterans should contact this office with appropriate documentation in order that they may be added to this memorial.

The residents of Spencer have always honored the sacrifices of our neighbors who have served in the military and have been generous in both word and deed in the assistance they have provided to the Veterans in this community. The gratitude and appreciation felt by our Veterans for this assistance is expressed to me by Veterans or their families every day. As their Veterans Services Officer and on behalf of the people of Spencer, I try always to express the collective gratitude to them for their honorable service.

Veterans or their families can reach me at 508-885-7500 X115, or email [TGagnon@spencerma.gov](mailto:TGagnon@spencerma.gov) .

Timothy Gagnon,  
Veterans' Services Officer

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**UTILITIES & FACILITIES  
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
WATER DEPARTMENT  
TRANSFER STATION**

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**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

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**Highway Department** (website: [http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA\\_Highway/index](http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA_Highway/index))

Spencer has over 125 miles of Roads. At current staffing this equates to over 30 lane miles per highway staff person to maintain and care for our roads and roadsides plus many more regular and irregular duties, responsibilities, properties and facilities to manage and maintain including but not limited to Town owned buildings, parks and recreational facilities, being called upon to assist other Town Departments and the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District and many other properties and projects. Depending upon the roadway, facility or property this normal care may include grounds/landscape maintenance, plowing, roadside mowing and brush cutting, tree and limb removal and cleanup, patching, routine maintenance and repairs, annual and season traffic markings and line painting, street sweeping, catch basin and drainage system maintenance, repairs and cleaning. The Highway Department is also responsible for maintenance of all dams owned by or under the responsibility of the Town, weekly trash pickup from all Town Buildings and public parks, routine site and facility maintenance at the transfer station, supporting electronics collection days, elections/voting/meeting setup and oversight of contractors working on Town projects. These are just some of the Highway Department's common maintenance operations and responsibilities. In addition to these, your Highway staff is heavily involved in constructing and upgrading closed and open country drainage systems, replacing failed culverts, aging and damaged bridge repairs, emergency storm response/cleanup and addressing numerous other infrastructure needs.

The Highway Department is now down to 9 full time dedicated highway men that service and maintain all of the above described infrastructure and much more. In order to meet the needs of the Town it is important now, more than ever before that the Town restores staffing to the Highway and other departments. It is just as important to fill much needed modernized equipment purchases and finance necessary capital expenditures so that we can increase productivity and not struggle to get by with limited resources, which is counterproductive.

Keeping aged and deteriorated infrastructure (i.e., roads, buildings, utilities, vehicles and equipment) in a reasonable state of good repair is not sustainable and will cost each and every taxpayer much more in both the short and long term for necessary maintenance, repairs and reconstruction. It is imperative that future budgets include an increase to restore at least two Highway Department full-time positions. We must also cover the cost of inflation and include capital expenditures for new equipment, refurbishments and regular annual maintenance.

The great news is Spencer Highway Department employees are dedicated and experienced employees committed to getting the job done. Despite difficult winter storms and budget constraints, we were able to put our refurbished loader to good use replacing more than a half dozen culverts and restoring the Depot Rail Trail. We also upgraded some of our small-scale grounds maintenance equipment. The staff continues to do their best to keep up with increasing responsibilities and appreciates your understanding and patience with inevitable delays and the amount of time needed to complete lengthened plow routes.

### **Upcoming Roadway Reconstruction Projects**

First and foremost, thanks to the forethought of Spencer Residents and their votes for the \$19 million dollar FMPC Roads Project Bond we will see a lot of road reconstruction over the next 5 years. The FMPC Roads Project monies will not be available until July 2017, therefore, we will not begin any of those projects until after July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 and much of the first year will be spent developing necessary survey, engineering and bidding documents. For further project information and project updates please refer to the following web page link dedicated to the FMPC Roads Projects:

[http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA\\_Bcomm/FinancialManagement/index](http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA_Bcomm/FinancialManagement/index)

Thanks to MassDOT and the CMMPO TIP process, the Town will realize the full reconstruction of 2 critical roadway segments beginning in 2017. These two TIP projects: the Downtown Revitalization – Main Street Reconstruction Project valued at approximately \$4.1 million dollars; and the Reconstruction of Charlton Road (Route 31) from Bemis Street to the Charlton Town line ( 3.7 miles) valued at approximately \$4.9 million dollars and are described in greater detail below.

### **Downtown Revitalization – Main Street (Route 9) Reconstruction Project**

This project has been awarded to Baltazar Contractors, Inc. and will begin full-time construction operations in March 2017.

The Main Street project, from High Street to Maple Street, will reconstruct and revitalize downtown Spencer and will include roadway resurfacing; traffic and signal coordination improvements; improved geometry for truck turning; improved traffic flow; bicycle accommodations; pedestrian sidewalk reconstruction inclusive of all necessary handicap accessibility upgrades, ramps and crosswalks; streetscape enhancements; and utility systems infrastructure (water and sewer) upgrades. The total estimated construction cost for this project is \$3.6 million dollars, to be paid by State/Federal Transportation funds. For further project information and project updates please refer to the following web page link dedicated to the Main Street and Downtown revitalization project:

[http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA\\_Highway/mainstreetproject](http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA_Highway/mainstreetproject)

### **Route 31 (Maple St. / Charlton Rd.) Reconstruction (3.7 miles from Bemis St to Charlton TL)**

Again, thanks primarily to the MassDOT Highway Division, the continual efforts by the Town completing more than a dozen culvert replacements and removing over 160 trees, and the invaluable support and efforts by our State Senator and Representatives, this project was approved for State Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) funding by the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization on 8/3/2016. Presently the roadway project has been advertised for construction and bids scheduled to be opened in June, 2017. Full reconstruction activities on Route 31 (Maple St / Charlton Rd) from the Bemis Street to the Charlton Town line (3.7 miles) is scheduled to begin in approximately July 2017. The total estimated cost for this project is \$4.8 million dollars. All work under this project will be accomplished within the existing Town owned right-of-way (ROW). The project will include the following:

- Reclaiming Route 31 from the Charlton Town line to Bemis St (3.7 miles) to a depth of 12 inches and putting down 7.25 inches of Superpave in 3 lifts.
- South of Howe Road, we're planning on 26 feet of width. North of Howe Road, we're planning on 28 feet of width.
- Replacing all guardrails.
- Updating existing / installing proposed drainage improvements.
- Bacon Hill Road / Cranberry Meadow Road intersection safety improvements consisting of sight improvements in the northeast quadrant.
- East Charlton Road intersection safety improvements consisting of the complete realignment of the intersection to a typical "T" intersection.



For further project information and project updates please refer to the following web page link dedicated to the Route 31 (Maple St. / Charlton Rd.) Reconstruction Project:

[http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA\\_Highway/route31project](http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA_Highway/route31project)

### **Spencer Construction Updates Email List**

Regarding all planned and ongoing construction projects this office provides up to date notices using our construction updates email list. If you wish to be on our construction project status and updates email update list please send an email requesting to be placed on the Spencer Construction updates list to [styler@spencerma.gov](mailto:styler@spencerma.gov). Please include “*Spencer Construction Updates*” in your email subject line. A majority to all of our larger road and infrastructure (i.e., water and sewer) construction project updates will be made electronically using this email list. Also, we try to provide advanced notification of other utility projects (i.e., National Grid Gas) whenever possible.

### **Roadway, Bridge and Sidewalk Projects Completed in 2015**

**Elm Street Resurfacing from Main Street to Valley Street** - In 2016 the final finish road surface was placed on this section of Elm Street to wrap up culvert replacement and water and gas main improvements completed during the preceding years.

**Valley Street Resurfacing** - In 2016 an approximately 2,000 foot long section of Valley Street was resurfaced.

**Chestnut Street Resurfacing from Valley Street to Early Street** - In 2016 an approximately 1,000 foot long section of Chestnut Street was resurfaced to help get this roadway through to the proposed full reconstruction currently under design and seeking a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for construction funding. This is a critical Main Street bypass road that will see increases in traffic during the Main Street reconstruction project. A grant application to fund construction for the Chestnut Street project will be submitted in 2017 with the goal of realizing construction in 2018 or 2019. Contact Chris Dunphy at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (413) 781-6045 for further information regarding CDBG projects.

**Wall Street Culvert Replacement** - In 2016 the long overdue Wall Street culvert replacement was completed. In addition, drainage improvements alleviating ponding issues were also made to this roadway. Further work on Wall Street is needed prior to resurfacing of this road including water main replacement planned for the near future.

**Crack Sealing Roadway Maintenance** –Crack sealing in 2016 was completed on entire length of Greenville Street, Candlewood Drive, Buteau Road, Chickering Road, portions of Clark Road and the Police Department lot. Crack sealing is an important part of our ongoing roadway maintenance program that we will be performing again in 2017. Please drive alert and safe around all road crews.

### **Drainage Improvements and Culvert Replacement Projects Completed in 2016**

The following roadway drainage improvements and culvert replacements were completed in 2016. These projects were completed by the Town of Spencer Highway Department staff at a tremendous overall savings to the taxpayer.

- Clark Road between Borkum Road and Marble Road had nearly 1,000 feet of new closed drainage system installed to alleviate stormwater flows and erosion issues. In addition, the existing aged and failing culvert located in this section of Clark Road was also replaced.
- Wall Street culvert replacement and drainage improvements as described above.
- Howe Road culvert replacement.
- Lincoln Street drainage outfall pipe replacement.
- Tom Casey Road culvert replacement.

- Charlton Road (#238) culvert replacement and extension.
- Maple Street (#99) culvert replacement and extension.

### **Other Proposed Culvert Replacements and Drainage Improvement Projects**

This section includes a list of additional culvert replacements and drainage improvement projects that have been permitted for replacement. Due to Town budget cuts and cuts in Highway staffing over the past few years we are not able to address as many culvert replacements or drainage improvement projects ourselves resulting in 3 times or more higher in total costs to publically advertise and hire a MassDOT prequalified contractor to do that work instead of Town forces. Therefore, the culvert replacements we are able to do cost significantly more and thus we cannot do as many in a construction season. This problem is going to exacerbate in the upcoming years, therefore, it is critical that the Town increase Highway staff levels and budget for good fiscal stewardship of taxpayer monies and to better maximize the value received from each dollar spent. The following culvert replacement projects are ready for construction in 2017 and beyond and will all be replaced as soon as possible subject to need, urgency, available funding and manpower. Please watch for construction notices so that you can be aware of delays or detours in advance. In addition to the list below we have many other places where similar work is needed, however, the previously described budget constraints and staff reductions over the past few years greatly limits our ability to perform and complete important project like this in-house, since we must keep up with many other routine responsibilities first. It should be noted the following is merely a list of identified concerns. Given the ages of our culvert inventory the actual needs for culvert replacements is likely 3-4 times or more greater than the list below, therefore, we anticipate other culvert failures or emergency replacements to be a matter of routine and that many other roadway, sidewalk, drainage and other concerns will be left as-is until we are able to address them.

- Greenville Street Drainage Improvements (Near #218 and #219)
- Replace existing culvert on Clark Rd. (near Chickering Rd)
- Replace existing culvert on R Jones Rd. (near 63 R Jones Rd)
- Chickering Road Drainage Repairs to alleviate icing issues (Near #61)

### **Pavement Management Plan (PMP)**

Spencer has maintained a pavement conditions index used for roadway project management since 2009. This system has been an important part of our decision making due to the limited resources Spencer has to invest in our roadway infrastructure. Our most recent Pavement Management (PM) Program database update was completed in January 2016. The PMP information was critical to the above described FMPC Roads Projects development and funding approval process.

In summary, our PMP findings and reports show that Spencer's roadway infrastructure conditions have been declining for some time. And that Spencer's roadway network conditions are now in a state of rapid and steep decline due to many years of inadequate funding and investments. In order to get this situation back under control a substantial re-investment in Spencer's roadway infrastructure is necessary. The recently approved local transportation funding bond (FMPC Roads Projects) will soon be put into place to keep this situation from spiraling out of control, which if allowed to continue would double or triple our cost to restore our roadway infrastructure assets in just a few years. So far the 2016-17 winter has been particularly harsh, with many very harmful freeze-thaw transitions occurring and has worsened roadway base and surface conditions considerably since the January 2016 PM update.

### **Spencer Roads FMPC Capital Improvement Project**

Once again, thanks to the forethought of Spencer Residents and their votes for the FMPC Roads Project Bond, we will see a lot of road reconstruction upcoming over the next 5 years, however, the FMPC Roads Project monies will not be available until July 2017, therefore, we will not begin any of those projects until after the loans have been negotiated and monies are made available for use. Therefore, actual full scale FMPC road reconstruction project will not truly be able to begin until the 2018 construction season. FMPC project work in 2017 will consist of having necessary survey, engineering and bidding documents under development. Also, we plan to advertise necessary culvert, drainage and other underlying roadway infrastructure improvements for the roads we plan to reconstruct in 2017. In addition we have a bridge repair contract that we will advertise to address a majority of our bridge needs. Larger bridge reconstruction or repair projects requiring greater levels of design will be addressed in future years of the FMPC program. Please go to the following Financial Management Planning Committee (FMPC) web page for further information regarding the Spencer Roads FMPC Capital Improvement Project.

[http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA\\_Bcomm/FinancialManagement/index](http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA_Bcomm/FinancialManagement/index)

### **Snow & Ice Reminders**

The winter season in Spencer results in the significant accumulation of snow and ice on the ground. A reminder to homeowners that the Town of Spencer General By-Laws, (Article 6, section 3), Obstruction of Streets and Sidewalks states, *“No person shall place or cause to place in any of the public streets, sidewalks, or squares, any dirt, rubbish, wood, timber, snow or other material of any kind tending to obstruct the streets or sidewalks without written permission from the Highway Superintendent.”* Please keep in mind that our average snow plow route takes approximately 5 hours to complete in one direction only (up to 10 hours per route both directions/sides). Also, initial snow clearing operations focus on principal arterials and anti-slip treatments. A little bit of kindness, understanding and safe driving goes a long way. Help your neighbors and leave plenty of time to get to your destination. Please drive safely, fasten safety belts, stay alert and cautious at all times.

### **Routine Roadside Maintenance**

We made additional progress in 2016 our routine roadside brush cutting and maintenance that had fallen behind in past seasons. Routine roadside brush cutting is a critical element for roadway maintenance and public safety. The Spencer Highway Department retains all rights to maintain the roadway layout for the good of public safety and users of the road including, but not limited to, roadside cutting and maintenance operations. The edges of roads must be kept clear of vegetation and plant growth for many reasons including driver line of site visibility, and to prevent pavement degradation. Also, this routine maintenance helps prevent the growth that can lead to power outages and other concerns from heavy wind and snow storms. All too often roadway abutters encroach upon Town owned lands that are part of the roadway layout by installing shrubbery, trees, walls, gardens, flower beds, etc. In these instances where abutters have either knowingly or unknowingly encroached upon Town owned roadway layouts, it is standard policy that the Town as the owner of the roadway layout land that adjoins the paved surface, can remove or have the unlawful encroachments removed immediately as needed. At the very least, the Town cannot be held responsible for any damage that might occur to unlawful or unauthorized encroachments onto Town owned land. It is, therefore, imperative that we preserve our rights and authority to maintain all portions of our roadway layouts and right-of-ways, which typically extend well beyond the edge of pavement. Residents should be mindful that any vegetative growth, poles, fences, structures, walls, etc., within the Town owned roadway layout and/or within 5-10 feet of the existing edge of roadway are at risk to be cut or removed at any time and without prior notification, restoration or mitigation of any kind.

### **Spencer Depot Rail Trail Phase 1 Completion**

We are pleased to announce that the Phase 1 Depot Rail Trail Restoration and Improvement project were completed in the fall of 2016 and the trail has been reopened to the public. It is beautiful!!! Please check it out and enjoy a wonderful day out. We would very much like to thank the DCR Recreational Trails

Program for the Phase 1 Grant and thank you very much to a host of workers and local volunteer organizations and individuals including the Spencer Trailways, the Snowbirds, the Spencer Conservation Commission, our contractor E.M. Thibault Excavation, Inc., and the Spencer Highway Department for all their hard work and exceptional efforts. The Phase 1 work included major drainage improvements, vegetative clearing/cleanup, new trail head gates, regrading and shaping of the entire trail, the installation, grading and compacting of several hundred tons of millings and much more. The improvements are overwhelming. Future goals and objectives are to continue the restoration and begin Phase 2, accessibility enhancements in 2017. At our May 2015 Town Meeting the citizens of Spencer voted to set aside \$25,000.00 into a Capital Account dedicated for use on the trail with the goal of obtaining additional DCR Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant funds to complete Phase 2. In August 2016 we received notice that we were awarded the Phase 2 grant by DCR and the RTP in the amount of \$50,000. We look forward to Phase 2 in 2017 and hope for another DCR RTP grant for Phase 3, which will put the finishing touches on this beautiful and priceless resource.

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## WATER DEPARTMENT

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As described below the Spencer Water Department continues to improve its operations and infrastructure to comply with ever growing regulations and permitting requirements. The water treatment and supply industry is one of the most regulated public service industries. Lead by an outstanding Chief Water Operator and supported by three equally exceptional and dedicated licensed water treatment plant operators the Spencer Water Department is a model water treatment plant with exceptional operations and QA/QC capabilities for a facility of its size or even many times larger. Potable drinking water from the Spencer Water Department to the customer tap costs only \$0.01 per gallon (yes, just one penny per gallon) and is therefore still one of the absolute best deals in Town.

The Water Department is refocusing on efforts to improve the existing infrastructure with other planned system maintenance and upgrades such as replacing or upgrading aged or deficient water mains in advance of upcoming roadway/development projects. The water utility infrastructure is literally a living system in its own way and must be maintained and cared for accordingly.

### **Retirement after 22 Years of Dedicated Water Department Service**

In 2017 the Water Department's most tenured and experienced employee, Bruce Guyan, retired after 22 years of dedicated service to the Town of Spencer and the Water Department. We thank Bruce for his exceptional dedication and service to the community and wish him a happy retirement and enjoyment of all his future endeavors. Thank you Bruce!

### **Water System-wide Leak Detection**

In an effort to keep our costs of annual unaccounted for water down (primarily attributed to unknown system leaks) we have instituted a bi-annual system-wide leak detection program. Undetected leaks in our water system are very expensive. As of June 2008, the American Water Works Association (AWWA) quotes the national average cost for pumping 1,000,000 gallons of water per year is \$1,767. Following is a list of results from our most recently conducted system-wide leak detections:

2010 Leak Detection performed by Prowler Water Conservation Systems:

Estimated leakage – 11.40 (MGY) million gallons per year

AWWA estimated annual savings – \$20,485

2011-12 Leak Detection performed by Prowler Water Conservation Systems:

Results - No leaks found

2014 Leak Detection performed by Prowler Water Conservation Systems:

Estimated leakage – 7.36 (MGY) million gallons per year

AWWA estimated annual savings – \$15,014

2015 Leak Detection performed by Prowler Water Conservation Systems:

Results – no leaks found

Our next leak detection study and report will be performed in 2018.

Standard practice for our Water Department is to repair all leaks found during the leak detection program. As you can see we have had significantly less leakage over subsequent years resulting in significant annual savings, (primarily in unrealized costs). The savings includes only leaks found during the leak inspection programs, other leaks encountered or reported throughout the year were also repaired immediately but the savings is not factored in to the program.

### **New Storage Building at Cranberry Well**

In 2017 the construction of a new Water Department storage building at the Cranberry Meadow Well site was completed to replace the existing deteriorated storage building. The existing building had reached the end of its useful life. Its replacement will better protect Water Department equipment and supplies. The storage building site is the location of pumps and corrosion control equipment for the Town's Cranberry Meadow wellfield. The project included demolition of the existing 1,150 square foot cold storage building and concrete slab, and construction of a new 20'x40' single-story steel building structure on a new concrete slab. The project also included the construction of a new state-of-the-art rain garden system for roof and site storm water runoff. One of the goals of constructing the rain garden is to provide a demonstration of how easy it is to implement this type of stormwater treatment and to show it as a model. Plans of the redeveloped storage building site and rain garden are available at the link below:

[http://www.spncerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA\\_Bcomm/Planning/Stormwater/Spencer\\_CranberryMeadowWellRainGardenDesign.pdf](http://www.spncerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA_Bcomm/Planning/Stormwater/Spencer_CranberryMeadowWellRainGardenDesign.pdf)

### **Water Department Capital Efficiency Plan (CEP)**

The Water Department's Capital Efficiency Plan (CEP) is what we use to plan our necessary infrastructure improvements in the years ahead. The CEP identifies, much like our Pavement Management Report does for our public roads, the condition of our water distribution system and outlines a methodical prioritization plan for investing in future replacements based on sound evaluation criteria in order to maximize efficient use of rate payer's dollars. The following CEP projects were completed in 2017:

**Meadow Road Water Main Extension from Bay Path Road to Smithville Road** – This extension will allow the Water Department to prepare for a future water main replacement on Smithville Road.

**Main Street Looping Study between Greenville Street and Moose Hill Water Tank:** This study will provide a Conceptual Water Main Layout; conduct a site visit; review information regarding elevations, property boundaries and site conditions; and prepare a report summarizing potential water main looping layout alternatives and estimated costs.

**Meadow Well Redevelopment and Cleaning:** Developed a scope of services and solicited cost proposals to clean and redevelop Meadow Road Well, which was completed in November 2017.

**Update Water Department Rules and Regulations:** Review and update Water Department rules and regulations to address inconsistencies, add technical specifications, required permits, and private hydrant flushing.

**Repair Sewer Pipe Deficiencies at the Meadow Well Water Treatment Plant:** Water Department staff worked with our excavation contractor to install a new sewer service to the rest rooms to alleviate a longstanding sewer problem.

**Develop an Accurate GIS Depiction of Hydrant Locations:** Completed a grid map system using GIS depicting hydrant locations in Spencer for Water and Fire Departments use and for public reference in the form of adding hydrant locations to Spencer's online GIS mapping tool.

### **Main Street/Moose Hill Tank Water Main Looping and System Improvement Project**

In 2017 the Water Department, following the priorities and recommendations of the CEP initiated further concept development and cost estimates to address our highest priority water system need on the water mains on the easterly side of Spencer. The assistance of our consultant Tata & Howard, the Water Department applied for and was approved for a low interest MassDEP State Revolving fund (SRF) to design and construct a two phase Main Street water main looping and improvement project that will be designed in 2018 and advertised for construction in 2019.

### **2018 Anticipated Water Department Projects**

In 2018 the Water Department will continue progress on the above CEP projects started in 2017. The Water Department also plans to do water main replacements/improvements at the following locations in 2018:

- Water main replacement on Earley Street
- Water main replacement on Smithville road
- Water main work on Main Street between Water and Mill Streets consisting of upgrading the side street connections ahead of the Main Street pedestrian improvement project.
- Relocated two hydrants on Maple Street to clear the way for a new pedestrian sidewalk extension to Asterwood Place
- Water main replacement on Wall Street

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## TRANSFER STATION

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The Spencer Transfer Station is the best value in Town for your waste disposal and recycling needs. And now thanks to funding provided in part by a grant from the MassDEP our single-stream recycling compactors have been up and running for three full years allowing you to put accepted recyclables into one compactor. Trash and recyclable separation and management just got a whole lot easier. It is imperative to the present and future for everyone to understand and practice recycling and solid waste reduction to the greatest extent possible. ***Recycle Spencer!*** It is important for the environment and for each and every one of us now and for the future.

### **Spencer Character and Community - Thank you!**

From time to time we all face the extreme conditions and hardships that come with major storms like hurricanes, tropical storms and rare, early-season blizzards. During these events I observed many good people ignoring their own difficult times so that they could help others. As a Town of Spencer resident and as the Superintendent of Utilities and Facilities I fiercely applaud the work ethic and efforts of the Highway and Water Departments. I have the same highest praise possible for the Fire and Police departments and am very thankful for the emergency response leadership provided by Police Chief David Darrin and the exceptional overall emergency management leadership and caring community effort continually provided by Fire Chief Robert Parsons. We are truly fortunate to have an outstanding group working together for you.

Thank you all for your patience and understanding as we balance a significant backlog of deteriorating infrastructure conditions with a fiscally constrained budget to get the best overall benefit possible for the community as a whole. There is more infrastructure work and details to keep up than anyone who is not in this office on a daily basis can imagine as we face the difficult task of determining ever changing priorities. We are sure that anyone would be more than surprised at all the intricate details and the amount of work accomplished by each and every member of the Utilities and Facilities staff including the Water, Highway, Sewer and Transfer Station Departments. Also, I wish to similarly acknowledge the accomplishments of the other departments that we work closely with on a day to day basis including but not limited to Police, Fire, Planning, Conservation, Library, the Select Board, Water and Sewer Commissioners, the Town Administrator, Town Clerk and all the departments located at Town Hall, as well as the Financial and other committees and commissions. There are a lot of good people that care and work hard for the people of Spencer including employees and volunteers. The challenges of multitasking and changing priorities are daunting to say the least; these people serve the residents of Spencer each and every day. So, thank you to all the employees and volunteers of Spencer for all your help and support. Also thank you to the people of Spencer for your patience, understanding and for caring about the community as well. Everything described in this bulletin we have or we will accomplish together as a community. Thank you and good luck to us all.

### **Feedback**

*Do you like what is happening with your Utilities & Facilities Office including Water Department, Highway Department, Town Properties and Transfer Station? We want to know. Get involved. Please address your concerns or words of praise to:*

Utilities & Facilities Office  
Steven J. Tyler, P.E., Superintendent  
3 Old Meadow Road  
Spencer, MA 01562  
[styler@spencerma.gov](mailto:styler@spencerma.gov)



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**BAY PATH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
AUBURN/CHARLTON/DUDLEY NORTH BROOKFIELD/OXFORD  
PAXTON/RUTLAND/SOUTHBRIDGE/SPENCER/WEBSTER**

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Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School graduated a class of 260 students in June of 2017, and accepted a class of 295 freshmen in September of 2017. Our current enrollment has reached 1,120 students.

Of the 34 Spencer seniors who graduated, 5 are now gainfully employed in an occupation related to their training and 22 are now attending College. Currently, 149 students from Spencer are enrolled in one of our 22 vocational areas for the 2017-2018 school year. Twenty-one Spencer students are receiving extra services from our Special Education Department.

Whenever possible, we have continued our practice of utilizing our occupational programs to provide requested services to municipalities, non-profit organizations and residents from any of our ten district towns. During the 2016-2017 school year, our 22 vocational programs completed 1,036 work orders, of which, 52 were for residents of the Town of Spencer.

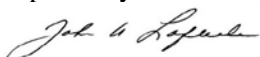
Our Hilltop Restaurant and Minuteman Shoppe are opened to the public Tuesday through Friday from 11:00am to 1:00pm. Our cosmetology program is also open to the general public. Appointments for cosmetology services must be made in advance by calling the school. Residents of the Bay Path district are encouraged to take advantage of the services provided by our students. These learning opportunities benefit not only the students but provide useful services at reasonable costs to in-district residents. We will continue this type of work whenever possible, keeping in mind that the projects must be of educational value for our students.

Our Evening School Program continues to serve the adult needs of our 10-town district, as well as an additional 20 surrounding towns. Our Spring and Fall programs had a combined enrollment of 1,630, in programs ranging from Business & Finance, Career/ Licensing; Computers; Cooking; Entertainment; Health & Fitness; Hobbies & Crafts; Home & Job; Language & Art; and Sports & Leisure. The program also offered a wide variety of over 400 online courses, including career certificate programs and courses to satisfy professional development requirements for teachers.

This year, the only "Out of District" students that have been accepted are students who began their high school education at Bay Path while residing in one of the Districts ten member towns and then subsequently moved out of the District before completing their high school education. It is important to note that the town where the students now reside must pay an out of district tuition for each student ranging in cost between \$15,212 and \$17,061. Those towns also pay the transportation costs for those students. The Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District continues to provide excellent cooperation for our recruiting program and we are thankful for their efforts. I believe that they share our feeling that all students must be given the right, the information, and the opportunity to make an informed school choice.

We, at Bay Path, will continue to serve Spencer with the finest vocational education programs available for high school students and adults, and will, when at all possible, use our skills and facilities to further town projects as they add to our students' education.

Respectfully submitted,



John A. Lafleche  
Superintendent-Director

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## **SPENCER-EAST BROOKFIELD REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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### **FINANCIAL**

The final capital and operating for FY18 Budget was set at \$25,754,055, a 2.95% increase over the FY17 Budget.

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Dr. Tracy Crowe served as Superintendent of Schools until July 2017. Jodi Bourassa was appointed as Interim Superintendent until June 30, 2018.
- The District has approximately 52 students who are School Choice. As of December 31st, there were 1,117 Spencer students and 232 East Brookfield students enrolled in the school district.
- Grants continue to be written by district members bringing in extra funding for the schools.
- The After School Program began its 13<sup>th</sup> year and remains successful, as well as self-supporting.
- We continue to develop new special education programs that save the district money while educating these students locally in the least restrictive environment.
- A Director of Academic Affairs position was added in the 2017-2018 school year.

### **SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Current School Committee members are: Martha Berthiaume (Spencer), Heather Messier (East Brookfield), Jason Monette (Spencer), Michael Ethier (East Brookfield), Patricia Bergeron (Spencer), Robert Ortiz (Spencer), and Wendy Pelchat (Spencer).

Mr. Monette serves as the Chair and Ms. Berthiaume serves as the Vice Chair of the School Committee. There are two (2) positions up for election in Spencer and one (1) position up for election in East Brookfield.

## DAVID PROUTY HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2017

*+Jillian Grace Anderson	Evan Henry Fritz	Emma Deborah Moroney
Anthony William Barrett	*+Jacob Thomas Fulmer	Emily Margaret Nairn
Darrell Scot Beer Jr.	*Jeffrey Ryan Fulmer	Ryan James Neeland
Makala Nichole Blodgett	*+Eric Richard Fyrberg	Quincy Chance Ogunfeitimi
*+Meghan Irene Bowen	John Michael Gibbons	*+Kimarilis Ojeda
*Colby Stephen Brennan	Patrick Joseph Gilbert	Kyle Anthony Ortiz Arguin
Shelby Faith Brooks	Raymond Roy Girard	Christopher Mark Paine Jr.
*+Elizabeth Madison Buckingham-Brown	Joseph Jefferson Guertin	Erin Gabrielle Parker
Nicolas Quidus Caffarena	*+Cheyanne Rose Gustafson	*+Whitney Lee Perry
Tyler Steven Caissie	Emily Christina Hackett	Julianna Rose Petraitis
*Ryan Matthew Casault	Lucas John Hammond	*+Rachel June Petruzzi
*+Cole Richard Cashman	Mathew Paul Hare	Sabrina Rose Petruzzi
Daniel Francis Chausse	*+Jaymee Lee Hayes	Christopher Fermin Quiles
*+Tyler Jonathan Clayfield	*+Ryan William Hennigan	Michael Richard Reniere
Gabriel Alexander Coolbaugh	Arianna Marie Huertas	*Tania Marie Rivera-Valentin
*+Britnie Marie Cournoyer	+Alexis Ramona Jacome	Sam Jefferson Robert
Patrick Joseph Curran	Victoria Maria Jeovaras	Mark Douglas Robillard Jr.
*+Jordyn Ashley Cyr	Walter Barber Johnson III	*+Jillian Anne Roy
Haley Elise Deane	+Alysia Hayley Joppas	Timothy Jacob Sears
Sarah Jade Decker	Jordan Lee Kelley	Erin Maree Shannon
David Alexander DeLaura Jr.	Caitlyn Ann Kelly	Jonathan Charles Smith
Destiny Kassandra-Lee Delisle	Jamie Keith Kiesiner	Jacob Robert Spence
Noelle Brianna Demers	Andrew Christopher LaFleche	Alekzander Richard James St. Jean
Michael Daniel Derosier	Kody Michael LaFlower	Jesse Ray St. Peter
Rachel Ann DeWan	*+Alivia Hope Lamoureux	+Joseph Matthew Thebeau
Adam Michael DiPadua	*+Jessica Leah Lascom	*+Rachael LeeAnne Thibeault
Seamus Michael Donahue Jr.	Zachary Quinn Leach	*Jenifer Lynn Treadway
Kyle Joseph Driscoll	Gabriel William Leahy	*+Jacob Joseph Tutlis
Rachel Marie Duda	Justin Thomas Magnusson	*+Dustin George VanDyke
Joshua David Dukes	Christian Allen Shine Marshall	Mackenzie Taylor Wallis
Matthew Raymond Duval	Alexis Junior Martinez	Joshua Henry-Ellis Wheeler
*+Olivia Doros Fahey	Destiny Love Masiello	Stefyni Vycторыa Whitenett
*+Briana Lynn Fancy	Derrick Oblitey Mensah	*+Joseph Robert Wilkman Jr.
*+Elycia Marie Figarsky	*+Katherine Elizabeth Miner	Alicia Adrienne Wood
Ashley Marie Forrest	Patrick William Morgan-Poirier	*+Rebekkah Marie Yang
		Jacob Daniel Yascavage

**\*Graduating with Honors  
+ National Honor Society**

**Class Advisors:** Mr. Tab Bassett and Mrs. Donna Hayes

**President:** Ryan Hennigan - **Vice President:** Ray Girard

**Treasurer:** Cheyanne Gustafson - **Secretary:** Dan Chausse

**Historians:** Eric Fyrberg and Alexis Jacome

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## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

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Meetings listed below are typically held as indicated. Please consult the Website calendar at [www.spencerma.gov](http://www.spencerma.gov) for the official posting and most up to date information.

Annual Town Meetings	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday in May
Annual Town Election	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in May
Selectmen's Meetings	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday of month at 6:00 pm
Assessor's Meetings	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of month at 6:15 pm
Charitable Needs Commission	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday of month Sept. - June at 6:30 pm
Conservation Commission	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed. of month at 7:00 pm
Council on Aging	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of month at 6:00 pm
Finance Committee	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of month at 7:00 pm
Board of Health	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday of month at 6:30 pm
Historical Commission	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of month at 7:00 pm
Housing Authority	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of month at 7:00 pm
Library Trustees	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday of month at 7:00 pm
Parks & Recreation Committee	As posted at <a href="http://www.spencerma.gov">www.spencerma.gov</a>
Planning Board	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of month at 7:00 pm
Regional School Committee	See School District website
Sewer Commission	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of month at 5:00 pm
Veteran's Agent	By appointment
Water Commission	1st Wednesday of month at 5:00 pm
ZBA	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of month at 7:15 pm

**Town Offices are closed for the following holidays:** New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, Presidents Day, Patriot's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

**Transfer Stations Hours:** Wednesday & Saturday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**RICHARD SUGDEN LIBRARY HOURS:**

Monday & Thursday:	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Tuesday & Wednesday	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**DUE DATES:**

**The following bills are paid at the Town Collector's Office:**

Real Estate & Personal Taxes	Due Quarterly
Excise Taxes	Due 30 days after issuance
Water/Sewer Bills	Due Quarterly

**The following bills are paid at the Town Clerk's Office:**

Dog Licenses	Due June 30 <sup>th</sup> (late fee applies on July 1 <sup>st</sup> )
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**The following bills are paid at the Town Assessor's Office:**

List of Tangible Personal Property	Due March 1 <sup>st</sup>
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**EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

POLICE – AMBULANCE – FIRE EMERGENCY - DIAL 911

**NON-EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

POLICE 885-6333

AMBULANCE 885-4476

FIRE 885-3555

**TOWN DIRECTORY:**

<b>Department/Office:</b>	<b>Services:</b>	<b>Telephone Number:</b>
<b>Administration</b>	Administrator	508 885-7500 x155
	Board of Selectmen	508 885-7500 x155
<b>Town Clerk</b>	Vital Records	508 885-7500 x150
	Dog Licenses	508 885-7500 x150
	Elections	508 885-7500 x150
	Voting & Registration	508 885-7500 x150
<b>Town Accountant</b>	Accounting	508 885-7500 x160
<b>Town Assessors</b>	Assessment	508 885-7500 x165
	House Numbering	508 885-7500 x165
<b>Town Treasurer/Collector</b>	Tax & Utility Collections	508 885-7500 x170
	Treasurer	508 885-7500 x170
<b>Inspectional &amp; Development Services</b>	Building Inspector	508 885-7500 x180
	Building Permits	508 885-7500 x180
	Conservation	508 885-7500 x180
	Health Matters	508 885-7500 x180
	Inspections: Plumbing, Sanitary, Wiring, Zoning	508 885-7500 x180
	Planning Board	508 885-7500 x180
	Zoning Board	508 885-7500 x180
<b>Veteran's Agent</b>		508 885-7500 x115
<b>Cultural Office</b>		508 885-7500 x187
<b>Historical Commission</b>		508 885-7500 x186
<b>Parks &amp; Recreation</b>		508 885-7500 x185
<b>Fire Department</b>	Fire Chief	508 885-3555
	Burning Permits	508 885-3555
	Oil Burner Permits	508 885-3555
	Civil Defense	508 885-3555
<b>Library (Richard Sugden Library)</b>		508 885-7513
<b>Police</b>	Police Chief	508 885-6333
	Dog Complaints	508 885-6333

<b>Transfer Station</b>		508 885-7539
<b>Utilities &amp; Facilities:</b>	Drainage	508 885-7525
	Highway	508 885-7525
	Street Maintenance, Snow Removal	508 885-7525
	Sewer	508 885-7525
	Water	508 885-7525
<b>Council on Aging</b>	Drop-in Center	508 885-7546
	Senior Citizens Matters	508 885-7546
<b>District Court</b>		508 885-6305
<b>Spencer Public Health Nurse</b>		508 885-7500 x180
<b>Fuel Assistance</b>	Worcester Community Action Council	508 754-1176 x110
<b>Housing Authority</b>		508 885-3904
<b>Post Office</b>		800 275-8777
<b>School Department</b>	Superintendent of Schools	508 885-8500
<b>Van Dispatcher</b>	Elder Bus	508 867-9941
<b>Welfare Office</b>	Southbridge	508 765-2400

**TTY Phone Numbers in the Town of Spencer:**

Town Hall: 508 885-7503  
Police Department: 508 885-2399  
Fire Department: 508 885-2732  
Utilities & Facilities: 508 885-7527

**Schools:**

District Office: 508 885-8500  
David Prouty High: 508 885-8505  
Knox Trail: 508 885-8550  
Wire Village: 508 885-8524

**2017 POPULATION:**

**10,189**