

Colored picture of the new Veterans Memorial
was placed here

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ELECTED OFFICIALS

Board of Assessors

Christie Moran, Chairman 2023
Renee Hanson 2022
Felicity Cassavaugh 2024

Board of Health

John Quimby, Chairman 2024
Melissa Leab 2022
Wendy Kipp 2023
Melanie Jackson 2022
Greg Canales 2022

Board of Selectmen

Sherman L. Derby, Sr., Chairman 2023
Don Rancatti 2024
Dave Boyer 2022

Cemetery Commission

Donald Cassavaugh, Chairman 2023
Lydia Cassavaugh 2022
Tanya Rathbun 2024

Constable

Mark Gaskill 2022

Finance Committee

Renee Hanson, Chairman 2022
Sharon Hyde 2023
Tanya Rathbun 2024

Library Trustees

Connie Chase 2024
Joan Burdick 2023
Jane Roberts 2022

Moderator

Brian Fairbank 2022

Planning Board

Christie W. Moran, Chairman 2024
Sherman L. Derby, Sr. 2023
Zach Hanson 2022
Leo Laviolette 2022
Barbara Markessenis 2024

School Committee

Alex Kastrinakas, Chairman 2022
Melissa Turner 2023
Bruce Weiner 2022
Elizabeth Kryskow 2024
Cahill LeBarron 2024

Tax Collector

Julie Williams 2022

Town Clerk

Linda Burdick 2022

Treasurer

Joan Burdick 2022

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Agricultural Commission: Laurie Boyer 2024, Unfilled appointment 2023, Carolyn Sebring 2022

Animal Control Officer: Donald Cassavaugh 2022

Auxiliary Police: Don Rancatti 2022, Donald Cassavaugh 2022

Board of Registrars: Lydia Cassavaugh 2022, Renee Hanson 2022, Vicki Fairbank, 2022

Building Inspector: Rob Rosier 2022

Conservation Commission: Paul Hyde 2022, Robert Leab 2023, Kevin Nichols 2024, Rick Ehle 2022, Robin Keeney 2024, Kristin Hickey 2024

Council on Aging: Margaret Fenander, Chairman 2022, Joan Burdick 2022, Kathleen Gideon 2022, Marjorie Feathers 2022, Lydia Cassavaugh 2022

District Commissioner to Northern Berkshire Solid Waste: John Quimby 2022

Emergency Management Director: David Rash 2022

Fire Chief: Michael Williams 2022

First Assistant Fire Chief: Anthony Anderton 2022

Second Assistant Fire Chief: Ross Jackson 2022

Fire Police: David Rash 2022

Forest Warden: Michael Williams 2022

Gas Pipe Inspector and Plumbing Inspector: Thomas DiCicco 2022

Assistant Plumbing Inspector: Unfilled appointment

Health Inspector: Unfilled appointment

Highway Supervisor: Sherman L. Derby, Sr. 2022

Historical Commission: Marjorie Feathers, Chairman 2024, Elna Rodda 2023, Hiram Greene 2022, Kathleen Gideon 2023, Cynthia Grauman 2022, Nan Derby 2023, Unfilled appointment 2024

Insurance Agent: Dave Boyer 2022

911 Numbering Official: Dave Boyer 2022

Northern Berkshire Cultural Council: Unfilled appointment 2022

Police Chief: Sherman L. Derby, Sr. 2022

Procurement Officer: Sherman L. Derby, Sr. 2022

Assistant Procurement Officer: Rebecca Phillips 2022

Special Police: Dave Boyer 2022

Superintendent of Streets: Don Rancatti 2022

Tree Warden: Dave Boyer 2022

Trench Permitting Authority: Dave Boyer 2022

Veteran's Agent and Veteran's Burial Agent: Valerie Tallet 2022

Veteran's Memorial Committee: Linda Burdick, 2022, Valerie Tallet 2022, Sherman L. Derby, Sr. 2022

Wiring Inspector: Shawn Derby, Jr. 2022

Assistant Wiring Inspector: Joseph P. Kynsh 2022

Zoning Board of Appeals: Donald Whitman 2024, Barbara Markessinis 2023, Robert A. Smith 2023, Scott Burdick 2022, One unfilled appointment

Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate: Two unfilled appointments

Our town website is town.hancock.ma.us

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REPORT

The Selectmen would like to thank all elected and appointed officials for their help to maintain financial stability of the Town of Hancock during the Covid-19 crisis.

The Selectmen would like to thank all the people who worked on and donated money to build the Hancock Veterans' Memorial. This project was completed without any funds from the Town of Hancock.

Snowplowing on Route 43 and Route 20 is done by the MA Highway Department whose telephone number is 413-637-5700. A new 3-year contract for all other Town roads has been awarded to Darcy Construction who can be reached at 518-441-8332 (Joe) or 518-791-8476 (Pete). Please call them with any snow road situations that need emergency attention. If the problem is not resolved please call the Town Office at 413-738-5225. There is a pile of a mixture of sand and salt at the Town Hall and one at the Route 20 #2 Firehouse for use by Town residents.

Main Street and Estes Road were resurfaced using a Chapter 90 Grant. The Board has applied for and received \$169,000.00 STRAP Grant which will be used to blacktop Dee Road, Tower Mtn. Road, parts of Goodrich Hollow Road and Clark Road this summer.

The Mill Bridge in the Village was removed by the Hancock Highway Department.

The Town applied for and received \$208,000.00 ARPA Funds of which a portion has been spent to purchase and install two school flashing caution lights on Route 43. We are presently in the process of making the School safer by putting in a secure entrance as well as adding a unisex fully handicapped-accessible bathroom and making the other two bathrooms handicapped-accessible. We are still reviewing other projects for the balance of the ARPA Funds.

The Selectmen have negotiated and accepted a five year in-lieu-of-taxes PILOT agreement with MEMWIC (windtowers) which will increase if our taxes increase.

We are looking for volunteers who are interested in restoring the cemeteries at the Johnson and Summit Farms. Anyone interested in helping should contact the Historical Commission.

We would like to remind the people of Hancock that a pass for free entrance to state parks can be signed out at the Town Hall by contacting the Town Secretary. There are two pieces of property in Town to be used by residents for hiking and camping. One is 90 acres adjacent to the salt shed and the other is 278 acres called the Jones Farm just south of Hancock School on Route 43. If you want further information to locate it, Assessors map 7, lot 19 will help you. Also, if you bring ID that you are a Hancock resident, you can visit the Hancock Shaker Village at no charge.

Respectfully Submitted: BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Sherman L. Derby, Sr., Chairman, Don Rancatti and Dave Boyer

**TOWN MEETING
WARRANT**

BERKSHIRE, SS;

TO: Constable of the Town of Hancock, Massachusetts in the County of Berkshire

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Hancock qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs, to meet at the Hancock School, Route 43 in Hancock on **MONDAY, THE SECOND DAY OF MAY, 2022** at 7:00 P.M. to act on Article 2 through 27 as applicable to Fiscal Year 2023 unless otherwise indicated.

And furthermore to meet at the Hancock School, Route 43 in Hancock, on **MONDAY, THE NINTH DAY OF MAY, 2022** then and there to act on Article 1 calling for the election of the necessary Town Officers. The polls will open at 12:00 NOON and close at 8:00 P.M.

FIRST - To Choose the Following Town Officers:

- One Assessor for three years (currently Renee Hanson)
- One Board of Health member for two years (currently Melissa Leab)
- Two Board of Health members for three years (currently Melanie Jackson & Greg Canales)
- One Cemetery Commission member for three years (currently Lydia Cassavaugh)
- One Constable for three years (currently Mark Gaskill)
- One Finance Committee member for three years (currently Renee Hanson)
- One Library Trustee for three years (currently Jane Roberts)
- One Moderator for one year (currently Brian Fairbank)
- Two Planning Board members for three years (currently Zach Hanson & Leo Laviolette)
- Two School Committee members for three years (currently Bruce Weiner & Alex Kastrinakis)
- One Selectman for three years (currently Dave Boyer)
- One Tax Collector for three years (currently Julie Williams)
- One Town Clerk for three years (currently Linda Burdick)
- One Treasurer for three years (currently Joan Burdick)

SECOND – Town Reports

To see if the Town will accept the Report of the Board of Selectmen and other Town Officers as printed in the Town Report and to act thereon.

THIRD - Transfer from Free Cash

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$450,000.00 or any other amount to reduce the tax rate, or take any other action thereon.

The Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen recommends this amount to be \$450,000.00.

FOURTH – Elected and Appointed Town Officials Salaries

To see if the Town will vote to set the compensation of elected officials as shown below (indicated by a *) and to raise and appropriate the sum of **SIXTY THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHT (\$60,808.00) DOLLARS** as compensation for both elected and appointed Town Officials, as shown below or take any other action thereon.

Accountant	\$16,386.00	* Finance Committee	\$160.00
Animal Control Officer	780.00	* Moderator	83.00
Animal Inspector	195.00	Plumbing Inspector	Keeps ¾ fees
* Assessors (3)	6,196.00	Police Chief	1,412.00
Board of Registrars	160.00	* School Committee (5)	1,503.00
* Board of Health (5)	3,382.00	* Tax Collector	7,020.00
* Board of Selectmen (3)	5,538.00	* Town Clerk	6,241.00
Building Inspector/Keeps ¾ adjusted fees		* Treasurer	7,721.00
* Constable	275.00	Veteran’s Agent	313.00
Fire Chief	1,379.00	Wire Inspector	Keeps ¾ fees
& keeps smoke detector insp. fees		911 Numbering Official	144.00
Assistant Fire Chief	826.00	Emergency Manager	<u>268.00</u>
2nd Assistant Fire Chief	826.00		
		TOTAL	\$60,808.00

FIFTH – Town Personnel

To see if the Town will vote to pay Town Personnel at the following hourly rates, or any other amounts. The hourly rates may be changed at any time either upward or downward as needed to fill positions, provided such change is approved by a majority of both the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee.

Assessors	\$14.96	Police Work	15.11
Cemetery Burial	14.96	Road Superintendent	15.21
Equipment Operators	14.96	Road Supervisor	15.21
Laborers	14.96	Secretary	16.76
Fire Chief	15.21	Transfer Site Operator	15.21
Assistant Fire Chief	15.21	Veteran’s Administrator	14.96
Fire Fighters	14.96		

SIXTH – Cemeteries; Health and Sanitation; Highways; Operating Budgets

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sums as listed below or any other sums, or take any other action thereon.

- (1.) **CEMETERIES - SIX THOUSAND FIFTY (\$6,050.00) DOLLARS** to be expended as follows:

Burial Expenses	\$1,000.00
Cemetery Maintenance and Upkeep	4,550.00
Secondary Cemeteries Maintenance	<u>500.00</u>
TOTAL	\$6,050.00

- (2.) **HEALTH AND SANITATION – SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND FIFTY (\$75,050.00) DOLLARS** to be expended as follows:

Transfer Site Operation	\$75,000.00
Water Resource Expenses	<u>50.00</u>
TOTAL	\$75,050.00

(3.) **HIGHWAYS – ONE HUNDRED SIXTEEN THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED (\$116,900.00) DOLLARS** to be expended as follows:

Highway Maintenance	\$40,000.00
Street Lights	3,900.00
Winter Roads	<u>73,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$116,900.00

(4.) **OPERATING BUDGETS – ONE HUNDRED TWENTY THREE THOUSAND, THREE HUNDRED EIGHTY-ONE (\$123,381.00) DOLLARS** to be expended as follows:

Accountant Expenses	\$2,250.00	Library	23,852.00
Computer Backup Exp.	1,400.00	Planning Board Expenses	700.00
Animal Control Exp.	750.00	Secretary, Town	14,625.00
Assessors Expenses	26,500.00	Tax Collector Expenses	9,084.00
Board of Health Exp.	16,500.00	Tax Collector Clerk	1,000.00
Board of Registrars Exp.	30.00	Town Clerk Expenses	1,800.00
Conservation Comm. Exp.	600.00	Town Clerk Assistant	500.00
Election and Census	1,800.00	Town Hall Maintenance,	
Voting Machine Maintenance		Operation and Repair	7,000.00
& Programming	1,000.00	Town Hall Paint & Repair	1,500.00
Finance Committee Exp.	140.00	Town Operating Expense	8,000.00
Historical Commission Exp.	650.00	Treasurer Expenses	3,200.00
		Zoning Board of Appeals	
		Expense	<u>500.00</u>
		TOTAL	\$123,381.00

SEVENTH – Revolving Funds Bylaw

To see if the Town will vote by a 2/3 vote to enact a bylaw to maintain separate Revolving Funds pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ for the following fees. Fees received by Town Officials shall be credited to the respective revolving fund and expended for payment only by the authorization of the Town Treasurer. Respective expenditures from said Revolving Funds shall not exceed the amounts shown below for fiscal year 2022 without prior approval from the Board of Selectmen, or take any other action thereon. Said bylaw shall read as follows:

Section I: There are hereby established in the Town of Hancock pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.44, 53E ½, the following Revolving Funds:

Building Inspection	Fees & Charges for Building Inspections
Plumbing/Gas	Fees & Charges for Plumbing/Gas Inspections
Wiring Inspector	Fees & Charges for Wiring Inspections
Fire Department False Alarm	Fees & Charges for False Alarm Fines

Section II Expenditures from each revolving fund set forth herein shall be subject to the limitation established by Town Meeting or any increase therein as may be authorized in accordance with G.L. c. 44, 53E½.

Building Inspector receipts from permit fees	\$14,200.00
Plumbing Inspector receipts from permit fees	\$10,000.00
Wiring Inspector receipts from permit fees	\$10,000.00
Fire Department False Alarm fines	\$ 600.00

EIGHTH – Fire Alarm Account

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Fire Alarm Account the sum of **SIX HUNDRED (\$600.00) DOLLARS**, which is the amount collected by that revolving fund during the 2020-2021 fiscal year to be expended for wages to be paid to the fire fighters of the Hancock Fire Department or take any other action thereon.

NINTH – Public Safety; Unclassified Expenses

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sums listed below or any other sums, or take any other action thereon.

(1.) PUBLIC SAFETY – SEVENTY-TWO THOUSAND, EIGHT HUNDRED FORTY (\$72,840.00) DOLLARS to be expended as follows:

Building Insp. Expense	500.00	Forest Fires & Equip.	500.00
Wire Insp. Expense	500.00	Housing Authority Exp.	50.00
Plumbing Insp. Expense	700.00	Police Work and Supplies	700.00
Fire Dept. Maint. & Exp.	52,000.00	Gas Pipe Inspection Exp.	50.00
Firemen’s Wages	16,000.00	Emergency Manager Expense	<u>840.00</u>
Tree Warden and Public Nuisance Expense	1,000.00	TOTAL	\$72,840.00

(2.) UNCLASSIFIED EXPENSES – NINETY-EIGHT THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTY-SIX (\$98,476.00) DOLLARS to be expended as follows:

Attorneys' Fees	7,000.00
Berkshire County Regional Planning Commission, Assessment	629.00
Berkshire County Retirement Expenses	16,247.00
Berkshire Regional Purchasing Program	600.00
Community Christmas	500.00
Insurance-Group Life and Health	10,000.00
Insurance-Property, Bldgs. & Liability for School Board, Town Officers & Police	15,000.00
Interest on Loans	5,000.00
Medicare Employee Tax	12,000.00
Reserve Fund	24,000.00
Unemployment Compensation	3,500.00
Veterans' Fund	<u>4,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$98,476.00

TENTH – Board, Commission, and Committee Appointments

To see if the Town will vote to allow members of

- A. The Board of Assessors to be employed by the Town for services over and above their usual salaried duties pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 268A and Chapter 41, Section 4A.
- B. The members of the Board of Health to be employed in the supervision of percolation testing, ground water level determination under Title V of the Massachusetts State Sanitary Code and all other inspections required by the Department of Environmental Protection and the Board of Health of the State of Massachusetts and to work at the transfer station.
- C. The Board of Selectmen to:
Appoint one or more of its members as Superintendent of Streets, Chief of Police and Special Police; be employed where necessary to meet pressing needs; provide material and services to the Town, or to take any other action thereon.
- D. The members of the Cemetery Commission and Library Trustees to be employed in the Cemetery and Library respectively, or take any other action thereon.

ELEVENTH – Animal Control Officer

To see if the Town will permit the Board of Health to appoint the Animal Control Officer, whose duties shall also encompass the duties of the Animal Inspector and the Dog Officer or to take any other action thereon.

TWELFTH – FY23 Hancock Educational Expenses

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **ONE MILLION, EIGHT HUNDRED SEVENTY-NINE THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED AND TWO (\$1,879,202.00) DOLLARS** or any other sum for school operating expenses or take any other action thereon. **RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN AND THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.**

THIRTEENTH - Land Purchase Stabilization Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED (\$2,500.00) DOLLARS** for the Land Purchase Stabilization Fund, which also includes the purchase of Chapter 61 lands under MGL Chapter 40 Section 5b or take any other action thereon.

FOURTEENTH – Report Printing

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY FIVE (\$855.44) DOLLARS and FORTY-FOUR CENTS** to pay for the printing of the Town Report for year ending June 30, 2020.

FIFTEENTH – Annual Town Meeting

To see if the Town will vote to permit the Selectmen to set, within the month of May, the date, time and place of the annual Town Meeting.

SIXTEENTH – Legal Advertising By-Law

To see if the town will vote to accept the following By-Law pertaining to advertising of all Town Meetings and Public Hearings.

I Annual Town Meeting:

- A. A town report shall be provided for every household as recorded in the Town Clerk's Data base and can be picked up at any of five location in town being: Hancock School, Town Hall, Hancock Post Office, Liberty Plaza Rte. 20, and the Hancock Dump, not less than (14) fourteen days prior to the meeting.
- B. Legal newspaper advertising is not required.
- C. The warrant shall be posted in at least (5) five public places, the town website and calendar, and with the Town Clerk, not less than (14) fourteen days prior to the meeting.

II Special Town Meeting:

- A. The warrant shall be posted in at least (5) five public places, the town website and calendar, and with the Town Clerk not less than (14) fourteen days prior to the meeting.
- B. The warrant shall be legally posted in the Berkshire Eagle twice within (14) fourteen days prior to the meeting.

III Public Hearings:

- A. Specific cases where MGL require all abutting land owners to be notified by prepaid mail:
 - 1. Notice shall be posted in at least (5) five public places, the town website and calendar, and with the Town Clerk, a minimum of (14) days prior to said hearing.
 - 2. Abutters and other land owners, as required by MGL governing such action, shall be notified by prepaid mail within the time specified by that law.
- B. Hearings of general interest where no abutters or interested parties are required by MGL to be notified by prepaid mail:
 - 1. Notice shall be posted in at least (5) five public places, the town website and calendar, and with the Town Clerk a minimum of (14) fourteen days prior to the hearing.
 - 2. The Board or Hearing Authority calling said hearing shall cause a description of all proposals to be discussed at said hearing, and to be sent to the Town Clerk not less than (14) fourteen days prior to the hearing, with sufficient quantity to insure any land owner or resident desiring a copy can obtain one.
 - 3. The notice shall be legally posted twice in the Berkshire Eagle, the first publication to be not less than (14) fourteen days before the date of the hearing.

IV Validity:

- A. This By-Law shall take precedence over all other town By-Laws and regulations in so far as they pertain to advertising of Town Meetings and Public Hearings.
- B. Any portion of this By-Law which is found to be invalid shall not invalidate any other section or provision thereof.
- C. In the event this By-Law conflicts with MGL such general law shall take precedence.
 - 1. When such general law specifies a newspaper, to clarity, when it is determined by this By-Law that no such newspaper exist for the town of Hancock, the requirement for posting in such newspaper shall be satisfied by posting in (5) public places, the town website and calendar, and with the Town Clerk.

V Definitions:

1. (5) Five Public Places: The Hancock Elementary School, Hancock Town Hall, Hancock Post Office, Liberty Plaza Rte. 20, and Hancock Fire House Rte. 43, the Hancock website and calendar (town.hancock.ma.us), and the Town Clerk.
2. Public Hearing: Any hearing as required by MGL or Town Ordinance whereby advertisement of such hearing is required.
3. MGL: Massachusetts General Law

VI Exclusions:

- A. This By-Law shall not be applied to routine meetings (monthly or otherwise) of various town boards and commissions.

Or take any other action thereon.

SEVENTEENTH – Citizen’s Petition

We, the undersigned citizens of Hancock Massachusetts, submit the following petition in an effort to promote transparency and improve accessibility of town government information available to residents through the following amendments (as italicized below) to “OF LEGAL ADVERTISING BY-LAW, HANCOCK, MASS.”:

“To see if the town will vote to accept the following By-Law pertaining to advertising of all Town Meetings, ~~and~~ Public Hearings, *Town Board Meetings, and Town Commission Meetings.*”

“I Annual Town Meeting

- D. *A town report shall be posted on the Town of Hancock website at <https://town.hancock.ma.us/> not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.”*
- E. *Annual Town Meetings shall be made available for live viewing via a virtual venue platform.*

“II Special Town Meetings

- C. *The warrant shall be posted on the Town of Hancock website at <https://town.hancock.ma.us/> not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.*
- D. *Special Town Meeting dates shall be posted on the Town of Hancock website calendar at <https://town.hancock.ma.us/calendar/> not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.*
- E. *Special Town Meetings shall be made available for live viewing via a virtual venue platform.*
- F. *Special Town Meeting minutes shall be posted on the Town of Hancock website at <https://town.hancock.ma.us/> within seven (7) days of minutes approval date.”*

“III Public Hearings

- A.
 3. *Public Hearing Meeting dates shall be posted on the Town of Hancock website calendar at <https://town.hancock.ma.us/calendar/> not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.*
 4. *Public Hearing Meeting agendas shall be posted on the Town of Hancock website at <https://town.hancock.ma.us/> not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.*
 5. *Public Hearing Meetings shall be made available for live viewing via a virtual venue platform.*
 6. *Public Hearing Meeting minutes shall be posted on the Town of Hancock website <https://town.hancock.ma.us/> within seven (7) days of minutes approval date.*
- B.
 4. *Public Hearing Meeting dates shall be posted on the Town of Hancock website calendar at <https://town.hancock.ma.us/calendar/> not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.*

5. *Public Hearing Meeting agendas shall be posted on the Town of Hancock website at <https://town.hancock.ma.us/> not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.*
6. *Public Hearing Meetings shall be made available for live viewing via a virtual venue platform.*
7. *Public Hearing Meeting minutes shall be posted on the Town of Hancock website at <https://town.hancock.ma.us/> within seven (7) days of minutes approval date.”*

“IV Town Board and Town Commission Meetings

- A. *Town Board and Town Commission Meetings dates shall be posted on the Town of Hancock website calendar at <https://town.hancock.ma.us/calendar/> not less than seven (7) days prior to the meeting.*
- B. *Town Board and Town Commission Meeting agendas shall be posted on the Town of Hancock website at <https://town.hancock.ma.us/> not less than seven (7) days prior to the meeting.*
- C. *Town Board and Town Commission Meetings shall be made available for live viewing via a virtual venue platform.*
- D. *Town Board and Town Commission Meeting minutes shall be posted on the Town of Hancock website at <https://town.hancock.ma.us/> within seven (7) days of minutes approval date.”*

~~“V~~ *Validity:*

- A. *This By-Law shall take precedence over all other town By-Laws and regulations inso far as they pertain to advertising of Town Meetings, ~~and~~ Public Hearings, Town Board Meetings, and Town Commission Meetings.”*
- C. 1. *[...] shall be satisfied by posting in five (5) public places and on the Town of Hancock website at <https://town.hancock.ma.us/>*

~~“VI Exclusions:~~

- A. ~~This By Law shall not be applied to routine meetings (monthly or otherwise) of the various town boards and commissions.”~~

EIGHTEENTH – New Zoning Proposal

To see if the Town will vote by two-thirds majority to amend the Zoning Bylaw titled “Hancock Zoning Bylaw dated January 2, 2001, amended May 2006, December 10th 2018 and May 6, 2019”, under the Provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40A Section 5 by adopting three new sections to be titled Section 2.5 and Section 2.6 and section 3.2 to read as follows:

Section 2.5 There shall be a setback of (15) fifteen feet around the perimeter and (20) twenty feet setback from the frontage.

Section 2.6 For each (1) one acre lot, there shall be (60) sixty feet road frontage.

Section 3.2 Road Frontage: The way you enter and exit your property.

Or take any other action in relation thereto, recommended by the Planning Board.

NINETEENTH – Emergency Equipment Grant

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **EIGHT THOUSAND (\$8,000.00) DOLLARS** to be used to pay for MEMA (Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency) grants. These grants will be 100% reimbursed by MEMA to the Town of Hancock’s General Fund.

TWENTIETH – Emergency Management

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **FOUR HUNDRED (\$400.00) DOLLARS** or any other sum for emergency generator maintenance and repairs.

TWENTY-FIRST – Fire Fighter Equipment

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED (\$7,500.00) DOLLARS** for the Town’s portion of a \$75,000.00 Grant or for any equipment.

TWENTY-SECOND – FEMA Grant match for Fire Tanker Truck

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of **TWENTY TWO THOUSAND (\$22,000.00) DOLLARS** from the Fire Truck Stabilization Fund for the Town’s portion of a new FEMA Grant awarded fire tanker.

TWENTY-THIRD – Fire Truck for Fire Department

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **THIRTY THOUSAND (\$30,000.00) DOLLARS** for the purchase of a fire truck to be put in the Stabilization Fund or take any other action thereon.

TWENTY-FOURTH – Town Audit

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **EIGHTEEN THOUSAND (\$18,000.00) DOLLARS** or any other amount to do a complete town audit for FY2023.

TWENTY-FIFTH – Payment for Richmond Fire Department

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED (\$1,200.00) DOLLARS** or any other amount for paying Richmond Fire Department for responding to all accidents, fires, and medical calls on Route 20 and adjacent streets in the Town of Hancock or take any other action thereon.

TWENTY-SIXTH – Council on Aging

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **THREE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED (\$3,500.00) DOLLARS** to be used for the operating expenses of the Council on Aging, or take any other action thereon.

TWENTY-SEVENTH – Age Restrictions

To see if the Town will vote to petition the Massachusetts Legislature for special legislation to allow firefighters and police serving in the Town of Hancock to continue serving past the age of 65, or take any other actions relative thereto.

Signatures of the three Selectmen, the Town Constable and the Town Clerk were inserted here.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

RECORDED MARRIAGES (6)

	D.O.M.
Shane O. Leandro Clark & Mary G. McNulty	03/27/2021
Michael W. Markiewicz & Meredith V. Guetig	06/26/2021
Michael T. Brown & Shaina L. Stebbins	07/31/2021
Jesse J. Napolitano & Lisa D. Kahn Weinstein	08/14/2021
Lucas Mitchell Martin & Olivia Jo Cobb	09/04/2021
Eric M. Parmelee & Juliana E. McCabe	09/17/2021

RECORDED BIRTHS (3)

RECORDED DEATHS (10)

	D.O.D	DISPOSITION
Susan Regina Southard	05/12/2020	Burial Hancock Cemetery
Elsie Irene Gates	01/02/2021	Cremation
Mabel Edith Watson	01/22/2021	Burial Hancock Cemetery
Lee Maxwell Buffington	05/13/2021	Cremation
Richard E Hammond	07/01/2021	Burial Hancock Cemetery
Elizabeth E Hyde	07/21/2021	Cremation
Judy C. Leab	09/14/2021	Burial Hancock Cemetery
Rosemary Young	09/23/2021	Burial Southview Cemetery
Mary E Rathbun	10/28/2021	Burial Hancock Cemetery
Joan Arlene Wetherell	10/31/2021	Burial Hancock Cemetery
William Samuel Maynard, Jr.	11/06/2021	Burial Hancock Cemetery
Daniel Elias Bookstein	12/02/2021	Cremation
Jennifer Fenander	12/09/2021	Harvard Medical School
Todd Richard Morin	12/13/2021	
Donald Kendall Adams	12/30/2021	Cremation

DOG LICENSE FEES	# DOGS	KENNELS	# KENNELS
Male \$10.00	13	4 Dogs or less \$20.00	
Neutered \$ 5.00	62	10 Dogs or less \$40.00	2
Female \$10.00	12	Over 10 Dogs \$100.00	0
Spayed \$ 5.00	74		

DOG LICENSES ARE DUE BY APRIL 1, 2022

The By-Law below was passed at the Annual Town Meeting on May 7, 2001 and approved by the Attorney General on August 30, 2001.

C. If the owner/keeper fails to license animals pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 140 and this By-Law, the owner/keeper shall be subject to a fine of **TEN DOLLARD (\$10.00)**. If the animal is not licensed within 10 day notification of this violation, owner/keeper shall be subject to a fine of **FIFTY DOLLARS (\$50.00)**. **NO EXCEPTIONS**

Town Clerk's Hours at Town Hall: Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

First Saturday of the month 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. If a holiday falls on a Saturday, the clerk's office will be open on the second Saturday of the month same hours.

Other Hours By Appointment ONLY Website town.hancock.ma.us (for forms)

Town Clerk/Assessor's Telephone 413-738-5126 FAX 413-738-5310

Notary Service for Town Residents is no longer available.

Respectfully Submitted: Linda C Burdick, Town Clerk

BOARD OF HEALTH REPORT

The Board of Health welcomed John Quimby for another three year term, Wendy Kipp for another two more years and Melissa Leab for a one year term. Greg Canales, Melanie Jackson and Wendy Kipp will perform all food service and lodging inspections for the Board of Health. Greg Canales will work on the Town's Emergency Plan as needed. Melissa Leab remains the Board's RN, dealing with health issues. John Quimby is the Chairman of the Board and deals with the everyday workings of the Board, septic responsibilities, transfer station operations, and is the town's representative to the Northern Berkshire Solid Waste District Board.

Covid-19 has continued to dramatically impact our lives and livelihood but progress has been made and we are seeing our work, school, and family routines return. The Board of Health has joined the Berkshire Health Alliance team and they help with contact tracing and support. We will be sharing programs and opportunities that the Health Alliance team can offer our community.

ATTENTION – ATTENTION – ATTENTION

To enter the landfill, you need a current dump sticker. It must be on your vehicle or on you. If you don't have a current sticker you will be asked to leave or buy a new one. You also have to sign a form that you will enter the landfill at your own risk (insurance request).

Residents are entering at their own risk.

Residents should not enter the premises until the attendant has deemed it safe and is at the transfer station itself, not still at the top by the gate.

Residents will take responsibility for their actions on the transfer station property and understand that all weather conditions cannot be controlled and that they will proceed with caution.

Scott Krzanik is the Board's Health Agent.

The Board of Health oversaw the events at Bloom Meadows. We went every Saturday to meet with the caterers, inspect and give them their permits.

There is a clothing and shoe box at the dump. Please put all clothes in there – not in the trash.

There will be a Household Hazardous Waste Collection on Saturday, April 23, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Adams DPW Garage on North Summer Street in Adams, MA. You must preregister with the District Office at (413) 743-8208 between April 4 and April 20. More information is available at the Transfer Station.

All restaurant, lodging, pool, and hot tub inspections were completed twice before December 1, 2021, as required.

Routine Board of Health Activities

The Board of Health meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM at Hancock School, but will convene at other times as circumstances require and following appropriate public notice.

PLEASE BE ADVISED OF RECYCLING RULES

Acceptable Items In Paper Box

White Envelopes
 Computer, Fax and Copy Paper
 Kraft Paper (brown grocery bags)
 Magazines and Catalogs
 Chipboard/Box Board and Gift Boxes
 White and Colored Ledger Paper
 Newspaper
 Notebook Paper and Wrapping Paper
 Paper Egg Cartons
 Construction Paper
 Telephone and Paperback Books – Covers can be left on
 Junk Mail (including envelopes and coupons)

Acceptable Items In Bottle & Can Box

Plastic Containers (marked with numbers 1-7)
 Aluminum Cans
 Glass Bottles (green, clear, brown)
 Tin and Bi-Metallic Containers
 Aseptic Milk/Juice Cartons
 Aluminum Foil (pie plates, eg.)
 Rigid Plastics with Recycling Symbol

Unacceptable Items

Styrofoam
 Plastic Bags
 Caps or Lids
 Pizza Boxes

Report of Municipal Solid Waste Removal:

	<u>Solid Waste Cost/Ton</u>	<u>Tons Collected</u>	<u>Total Cost to Town</u>
'19	Trash (16 hauls) \$ 110.00	185.10	\$20,361.00
'20	Trash (20 hauls) \$ 97/ton-365/haul	233.00	\$29,901.00
'21	Trash (20 hauls) \$ 97/ton-365/haul	241.91	\$30,765.27

	<u>Recyclables</u>	<u>Cost per ton/haul</u>	<u>Tons Collected</u>	<u>Total Cost to Town</u>
'19	Wood (7 hauls)	\$122.00	29.10	\$3,550.20
'20	Wood (10 hauls)	\$97/ton-\$365/haul	49.00	\$7,403.00
'21	Wood (5 hauls)	\$97/ton-\$365/haul	35.13	\$5,232.61
'19	Metal (4 hauls)	Receive \$55.00	25.02	\$ 1,376.10 received
'20	Metal (8 hauls)	Receive \$55.00	31.58	\$ 1,736.90 received
'21	Metal (6 hauls)	Receive \$55.00	28.63	\$ 1,574.65 received
'19	Paper (17 hauls)	\$366.00	26.77	\$6,222.00
'20	Paper (19 hauls)	\$365.00	30.00	\$6,935.00
'21	Paper (21 hauls)	\$365.00	27.97	\$7,665.00
	<u>Plastic, glass, cans</u>			
'19	17 hauls	\$366.00	17.09	\$6,222.00
'20	15 hauls	\$163/ton-\$365/haul	18.00	\$8,409.00
'21	8 hauls	\$168/ton-\$365/haul	18.77	\$6,073.36
'19	Electronics (3 hauls)	\$1,250.00	8.97	\$3,825.00
'20	Electronics (3 hauls)	\$1,250.00	9.01	\$3,825.00
'21	Electronics (4 hauls)	\$1,252.00	12.02	\$5,000.00

NORTHERN BERKSHIRE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT REPORT

Town of Hancock 2021

The Northern Berkshire Solid Waste Management District (NBSWMD) was established in 1988 through legislation passed by the Massachusetts General Court. By forming the solid waste district, the small municipalities in Northern Berkshire County have been able to pool resources and obtain professional waste management services to conduct recycling and outreach education programs, hazardous and special recycling collections. We have a vision to seek regional solutions to attain sustainability and environmental objectives through solid waste and recycling programs.

The 13 member -towns that comprise NBSWMD include Adams, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Monroe, New Ashford, Peru, Savoy, Windsor, and Williamstown. Each town appoints a representative to serve on the NBSWMD Board. Board Officers for 2021 included: Joseph Szczepaniak Jr., Chair (Lanesborough), Edward Driscoll, Vice Chair (Adams); and, Terry Haig, Treasurer. In 2021, NBSWMD services included:

- Worked with third party Inspector from MassDEP conducting annual transfer station Inspections pursuant to 310 CMR 19.018. This inspection is regarding transfer station compliance matters. Under my leadership 5 plus year's with NBSWMD transfer station inspections are highly rated. Thanks goes out to Town's DPW, BOH, Attendant's, all the districts contracted haulers and processors, and NBSWMD board.
- Bid Administrator for 5 years hauling and processing of waste, recyclables with Casella Waste Systems INC.
- Work with regional entities to challenge increased prevailing wage rates for hauling
- Execution of annual Bulky and Electronics recycling events, Towns of Adams, Clarksburg
And Lanesborough, Household Hazardous Waste Collection, Community paper Shredding event, and outreach on Food waste reduction programs including offering 80-gallon home composting units (Earth Machine) Subsidized through Sustainable Materials recovery programs grant awards. The districts special collections are Open to all 13 member towns.
- Program management of transfer station recyclables including collection, hauling and recycling of tires, electronic waste, universal waste, textiles, scrap metal, books, swap shops (household good) 3 in place towns of Hinsdale, Savoy, and Windsor. New programing in 2021; Town of Williamstown, Food waste reduction through a six-month composting Pilot program. Town of Adams and New Ashford textile recycling bins with Apparel Impact.
- Outreach with local youth groups introducing MassDEP "Green Team" educational Program.
- Submittal of member-town MassDEP annual recycling and solid waste surveys, grants through Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP) and all reporting.

The district in 2021 held two comprehensive household hazardous waste collections. This allows residents to properly dispose of toxic cleaners, oil-based paints, oil, pesticides, and other products. A total of 270 households participated in the collections. Also, the district held 3 bulky waste and electronics collections in 2021. Total of 250 plus households participated in these collections. Over 15,896 pounds of electronics, 8 tons of scrap metals were recycled. Community paper shredding days was held in May 2021, over 48 tons = 2450 pounds of paper were shredded with Pro-shred. This offers residents a safe way to recycle secure documents. District continues to offer all the member town's residents subsidized home composting units \$25. This allows food waste, leaves, brush to be composted at home.

The day-to-day program operations of the NBSWMD are managed by Program Coordinator, Linda Cernik. Board meetings are held monthly the third Thursday of every month. Due to COVID many of the meetings were held on the Zoom platform, posted with each member town.

The NBSWMD has an annual operations assessment that is approved by the district's Board of Commissioners, which is based on the current census 2010. The combined assessments for all Thirteen towns were \$90,707.83. The assessments are for operating costs, special collections, such as Household Hazardous waste collection contracted with Clean Harbors Environmental, Community paper shredding events, subsidized home composting units, six universal waste collection sites with Next Level Recycling.

In 2021, all NBSWMD member-towns were eligible for and received grants under the DEP Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP). In total, the NBSWMD Towns received \$40,500 in grant funds to be used to further enhance recycling programming. With the town of Hancock being granted \$3,500. The grant funding is a result of a town's successful waste management and recycling infrastructure.

During the past year, the NBSWMD member-towns collectively diverted 825 tons of recyclable materials to Casella Waste Systems INC, Vermont MRF; Town of Hancock recycling 27.97 tons paper & 18.77 tons co-mingle. MSW 241.91 tons, demo wood 35.13 tons (with a total of 2 hauls per month for MSW and demo. Recycling 20 hauls paper, comingle 9 hauls. The Town diverted 962 pounds of textile with Apparel Impact. Scrap metal recycling 28.63 tons generating 1,586.20 in revenue. Electronic recycling had 3 swaps out with total pounds 22,345.

Thank you to all the district volunteers, town's DPW, officials, and the residents of all the member towns. Your continued support in recycling and waste reduction keeps our communities a beautiful place to call home.

If you have questions about district programs, call us at 413-743-8208. Web site www.nbswmd.com

Linda Cernik, NBSWMD Program Coordinator

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER'S REPORT

We had a number of loose dogs reported this year. Please remember there is a leash law that requires you to have your dogs on a restraint of some kind or kept in a fenced-in area so that they don't wander out of your yard. It isn't fair to those that keep their dogs under control when they are out walking or in their own yards.

Just a reminder to have your cats and dogs spayed or neutered. Don't forget to get your dog(s) vaccinated and bring your proof of vaccination with you to the Town Clerk's office when you go in to get your dog(s) license(s) that are due by April 1st of each year.

There are a total of 12 farms in town that include 76 Equine, 67 Cattle, 8 Goats, 2 Alpacas and one farm of more than 25 Poultry with 28 Poultry.

Respectfully submitted,

Animal Control Officer/Inspector, Donald L. Cassavaugh

The Board of Health would like to thank John Quimby for keeping the Transfer Station working so smoothly, Shawn Derby, Sr. for packing our wood and metal dumpsters, Melanie Jackson for all her help at the Transfer Station, all Boards, Committees, Departments, and Town Secretary, Lydia Cassavaugh, for their help throughout the year. We also want to thank Jeff and Greg for helping at the transfer station.

Respectfully submitted: BOARD OF HEALTH

John Quimby, Chair; Melanie Jackson, Melissa Leab,
Greg Canales and Wendy Kipp

CEMETERY COMMISSION REPORT

The lawns in the main cemetery and the secondary cemeteries have been mowed and trimmed regularly.

We want to give a big THANK YOU to Bob Smith for the many hours of helping to restore the Ely Cemetery. Without his help we could not have done the work of straightening up the many stones. We will resume in the spring to finish up what needs to be done. Thank you also to those who came and helped. The front fence was replaced, the gate restored and three head stones repaired from a car accident more than two years ago.

We would also like to thank Dave Rash for all of his help in repairing the flag pole in the old section of the cemetery that stands next to the Firemen's Memorial.

Once again we would like to thank Hiram and Hunter Greene for the work that they have done behind the scenes.

Please remove the gravestone decorations at the end of each season. Thank you. Please contact the Cemetery Commission before having any monuments and/or corner stones installed.

The Cemetery is closed to cars from Dusk to Dawn and totally closed to cars from November 15th thru April 1st. If the chains are up do not unhook them and drive into the Cemetery. Feel free to park in the Town Hall parking lot or on the side of Route 43 and walk in when the cemetery is closed.

Respectfully submitted,

Cemetery Commission - Donald Cassavaugh, Chair, Lydia Cassavaugh and Tanya Rathbun

CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT

The Conservation Commission continues its state-mandated review of projects affecting the wetland areas protected by the Wetlands Protection Act, Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 131, Section 40. The act prohibits any filling, excavation, or other alteration of land surface, water levels or vegetation in wetlands regardless of ownership without permit from the local Conservation Commission. All projects within 200' of a river or stream or within 100' of a wetlands area must be brought before the Commission.

Our mission is to protect our natural resources while considering the rights of residents to legally use their land as they see fit.

During the 2021 calendar year the Commission reviewed applications and held hearings on activities including work off of Route 43 for new sidewalks in front of the Hancock Elementary School, and numerous other RDA & NOI applications.

Due to Covid virus restrictions some of the meetings during the year were conducted by Skype or Zoom meetings. Conservation Commission meetings are held monthly, on the 3rd non-holiday Monday of the month at 7:30 PM and are open the public. Public Hearings are held to review projects filed with the Commission, as the need arises. All such Hearings are posted as required by Massachusetts General Law, the Department of Environmental Protection, and Town of Hancock bylaws. We welcome all inquiries and participation by any and all town residents.

We are seeking one or more individuals who have the time to commit to this important mission and are interested in the nature of the work engaged in by the Commission. Volunteers should contact the Town Selectmen.

Respectfully submitted: Conservation Commission

Kevin Nichols, Robin Keeney, Rick Ehle, Greg Holland, Kristin Hickey & Paul Hyde

VETERANS MEMORIAL COMITTEE REPORT

This seems like ages ago as I drive into Town Hall weekly. Back then it seemed like we didn't have enough time in the day to complete what needed to be done to meet our deadline of September 4th when we planned a gala celebration of this beautiful memorial.

Clearing began the fall before with the help of many volunteers, designs were drawn up, product ordered, and many stumbling blocks overcome with Corona sneaking in but we persevered and moved forward. The weather could not have cooperated better as the flag poles went up, ground lights and markers installed, the monument and walkway set up, the poppies planted, benches finally arriving, and the big day rising up as sunny, bright, and just the right temperature.

The committee would like to thank the people of Hancock for your support - monetary and labor. Over twenty people could be seen working at any one time. Without you we could not have made this happen.

We did apply for another round of grants, Phase 2, but due to the Corona virus strains Delta and Omicron, we found it extremely difficult to make the deadlines, so our need to withdraw was imminent. We will apply again in the future but for now are working on some plans to raise funds to use in conjunction with what we have left over from the Phase 1 project to remove and replace the two small monuments at the library to the Town Hall site and to add two more walkways to those small monuments. We will also have parking spots updated but that will not be covered by any grants. With continued planning and moving forward, we once again Thank You All for making this dream a reality.

Linda C Burdick, Chairman, Tanya Derby, Cynthia Grauman and Valerie Dean Tallet

HANCOCK FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

The Hancock Fire Department made the following responses during 2021:

INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS
111 - Building fire	3
113 - Cooking fire, confined to container	1
114 - Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue	2
131 - Passenger vehicle fire	1
134 - Water vehicle fire	1
141 - Forest, woods or wildland fire	2
142 - Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	2
151 - Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	1
320 - Emergency medical service, other	1
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	58
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	5
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	7
424 - Carbon monoxide incident	1
444 - Power line down	2
500 - Service Call, other	4
571 - Cover assignment, standby, move up	1
731 - Sprinkler activation due to malfunction	1
733 - Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	2
735 - Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	1
743 - Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	54
744 - Detector activation, no fire - unintentional	2
745 - Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	5
746 - Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	1
900 - Special type of incident, other	1
Total Incidents	159

The following permits were issued:

Fire Works	0
Oil Burner Installation	1
Propane Tank Installation	9

The Fire Department responded to a record number of incidents this year with a 34% increase over last year. Due to the ongoing pandemic we were unable to host our annual Ski Sale at Jiminy again this year. We were able to host our Car Show with a great turn out. Thank you to Ioka Valley Farm for their help with that. The dedication and support of the Department Members and their families cannot be overstated.

We were awarded a \$450,000 grant from FEMA to purchase a new Fire Tanker. The Department has chosen a truck built by Rosenbauer, delivery is expected sometime in Calendar year 2023.

All fire department permits (excluding open burning permits) are \$20.00. This includes Oil Burner inspections, Oil tank installations, Oil tank removals, LP Tank installations, Fire Works Permits, and Smoke/Carbon Monoxide Detector Inspections.

Burning permits for burning brush are available online at bcburnpermits.com or on the Town website town.hancock.ma.us in 'Departments' & 'Fire Department' daily January 15 thru May 1 from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM. To see if permits are available for that day, click on 'click here'. If you would like to get a burning permit, click on 'Hancock' from the list of towns issuing permits that day, fill in the blanks, click on 'Apply' and then print your permit. Or paper permits can also be obtained from Bob's Camper and RV's from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM Monday thru Saturday or by contacting the Chief.

The Hancock Fire Department continues to sponsor the Memorial Day Parade and ceremony. Please join us in remembering and honoring our past and present veterans.

SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS SAVE LIVES.

Don't forget to change the batteries in your detectors at least once a year and to test them regularly.

DIAL 911 FOR ALL EMERGENCIES.

**Respectfully submitted: Fire Chief
Michael Williams**

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

The Planning Board meetings are the first Thursday of the month at 5pm, excluding July and August. Anyone requesting to be on the Agenda must do so 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

Several Form A Applications were submitted to the Board throughout the year.

Respectively Submitted - Christie Moran - Chair, Sherman Derby, Sr., Barbara Markessinis and Zach Hanson.

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT

The Building Department has no fixed hours. Appointments may be made by calling Rob Rosier at (518) 653-4565 or email at Hancockbuildinginspector@gmail.com. Permit applications may be obtained at the Town Hall during regular hours, Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 12:00 noon or on the town website town.hancock.ma.us under 'Forms'.

During the period from July 1, 2020 until June 30, 2021, the Building Commissioner issued 66 permits. These consisted of 6 new homes, 2 accessory structures, 8 renewable energy, 10 roof replacements, 9 wood/pellet stoves, and 31 renovations.

20 annual inspections were performed on commercial structures to ensure continuing compliance with life safety requirements. State Building Code requires such annual inspections on all restaurants, places of assembly, and transient lodging facilities.

Respectfully submitted: Building Commissioner
Rob Rosier

GAS PIPE INSPECTOR & PLUMBING INSPECTOR'S REPORT

The Gas Pipe / Plumbing Inspector has no fixed hours. Appointments may be made by calling Thomas DiCicco at 413-738-5750. Permit applications may be obtained at the Town Hall during regular hours Monday through Friday, 9:00am to noon or on the town website town.hancock.ma.us under 'Forms'.

The Gas Pipe / Plumbing Inspector issued 34 permits consisting of 13 plumbing permits and 21 gas permits between the period of 1/1/21 to 12/31/21.

Respectfully submitted: GAS PIPE & PLUMBING INSPECTOR
Thomas DiCicco

WIRING INSPECTOR'S REPORT

The Wiring Inspector has no fixed hours. Appointments may be made by calling Shawn L. Derby Jr. at 413-738-5410 or 413-884-3535. Permit applications may be obtained at the Town Hall during regular hours, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon or on the town website town.hancock.ma.us under 'Forms'.

The wiring inspector issued (21) permits consisting of: (2) HVAC systems, (3) Service upgrades, (1) Solar systems, (1) Addition, (5) Remodels, (3) Communication distribution, (2) New Homes, (1) Garage and (2) Generators and (1) Pool.

Respectfully submitted: Wiring Inspector
Shawn L Derby Jr.

COUNCIL ON AGING

For a second year, COVID has been a limiting factor in the Council on Aging's ability to offer programs for Hancock's seniors. In June, with people becoming vaccinated, cases waning, and the fresh air of outdoors, we ventured to the Town Pavilion for a different type of picnic – pre-made sandwiches individually bagged. In August, we had our annual picnic at Andre Rambaud's Privacy Campground with small turnout. Another picnic at the pavilion in September ended those open-air meetings. In October, Elder Services SHINE director came to our church basement meeting room to explain Medicare Open Enrollment and the various possibilities offered in our area, along with their price tags. For a second year, we distributed catered dinners from the church in December in place of our traditional well-attended Christmas dinner. It was a hit, with an equally large number of people picking up the dinners.

Birthdays, major illnesses, and deaths were acknowledged with cards, flowers, or food. Only four newsletters were sent out this year. The community was invited to attend a meeting at Williamstown's Harper Center to hear Elliott Greenblot from the AARP Fraud Watch Network speak about what to watch for and how to avoid computer scams. One member of the Council attended.

Yoga and balance classes made use of the pavilion, and a new exercise gathering was introduced – weekly walking through the village. Depending on COVID surges and wanes, coffee hour was at times held at the former Green Valley Equipment building.

Respectfully submitted: Council on Aging

Margaret Fenander, Director

Kathy Gideon, Chairman

Marjorie Feathers, Publisher of *The Silver Source*

Joan Burdick

Lydia Cassavaugh

ASSESSORS' REPORT

Informational brochures and forms are located outside of the Assessors' office and are available Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to noon or can be found on the Town website at town.hancock.ma.us under the Assessor tab.

If you are filing for an abatement on your motor vehicle excise tax bill and you transferred your plates to a new vehicle or returned your plate to RMV, please provide the Assessors with a copy of your new registration, bill of sale, or disposition of vehicle and plate return receipt so that we can grant your abatement in a timely manner. You may leave the information in our mailbox at Town Hall or mail to P.O. Box 1097, Hancock MA 01237.

The Assessors hours are Tuesday from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Our phone number is 413-738-5126 and the fax number is 413-738-5310. You may also e-mail BOATOWNOFHANCOCK@aol.com.

Respectfully submitted: Board of Assessors

Christie W Moran, Chairman, Renee Hanson & Felicity Cassavaugh

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

For a second year, COVID concerns kept the commission from having regular meetings and doing much of anything. We did purchase a fancy metal sign to replace the rusting tin one installed many years ago near Ioka Valley Farm showing the approximate location of the first Hancock Baptist Church before the new commodious one was built in the village in 1850. The sign has not yet been installed. If anyone is interested in helping with that project, it would be appreciated.

During this past year, Robert Smith discovered that many of his ancestors are buried in the old Ely Cemetery near the Firehouse, so he took it upon himself to use his large equipment to dig up, straighten and reset not only several Smith headstones, but also several others that needed resetting. He also enlisted help from several other town volunteers. Wonderful improvement in the front part of a cemetery that has been in great need of care for many years. Many thanks to all.

That same Ely Cemetery had headstones, fence, marble posts and the gate destroyed when a car slammed into it. Photos were taken, insurance company involved, and some replacement work has been done.

It is with great sadness that we deal with the death of long-time Historical Commission member Jenna Fenander last fall.

Respectfully submitted: Chairman Marjorie Feathers, Elna Rodda, Jennifer Fenander, Hiram Greene, Kathy Gideon, Cynthia Grauman & Nancy Derby

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT FISCAL 2021

	<u>Real Estate</u>	<u>Personal Property</u>	<u>Motor Vehicle</u>
Committed	\$909,946.48	\$34,433.71	\$78,782.80
Collected	\$890,899.81	\$33,573.52	\$64,658.49
Abated	\$7,450.46	\$308.23	\$2,521.67
Refunded	\$8,728.78	\$49.86	\$758.27
Outstanding	\$20,324.99	\$601.82	\$12,360.91

Pilot Payments:

\$145,000.00 Wind Turbines First Phase

\$50,000.00 Wind Turbines Second Phase

Report Submitted by Julie Williams, Tax Collector

Telephone 413-738-5129 Fax 413-738-5310

Tax Collector's Office Hours:

Tuesday Mornings: 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday Afternoons: 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

INFORMATION REGARDING MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE

When registering or re-registering a motor vehicle please make sure that **HANCOCK** is listed as your place of residence at both the Registry of Motor Vehicles and your insurance company. There is a line designated for those of us who have a different mailing address from our residential address.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Emergency Management Director continues to ensure the town is 100% NIMS compliant.

There were no Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) mobilization incidents in the town this year.

The Emergency Management Department did receive a \$2,500.00 grant from MEMA and was used to purchase new batteries for all the emergency generators for the Emergency Operation Center.

We currently are members in The Central Berkshire Regional Emergency Planning Committee that meets every month. I will continue to attend these meetings as well as the quarterly MEMA meetings virtually.

Continuing to review the Emergency Sheltering Plans and the Emergence Dispensing Sites (EDS) with the Board of Health and the Selectmen.

The Electronic Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (ECEMP) has been updated and is on file with The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA).

Still working to update the COOP (Continuity Of Operation Plan) with Town leaders. Will be working to update our Hazard Mitigation Plan for the Town.

Respectfully submitted: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR
David Rash

TAYLOR MEMORIAL LIBRARY 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Our library collection has over 4,500 items to offer the community as well as computers to use, copier available to the public, and can print items for patrons. In July, we started the year with curb side pickup and virtual Craft Night. By the end of the month, we were open to patrons. The library had a total of 597 in attendance, with 68 on Halloween and 75 for Community Christmas. For circulation, we received 44 items from other libraries for our patrons, we provided 414 items to other libraries through Interlibrary Loan. There were 1,273 items taken out directly for a total of 1,687 items circulated this year.

Our hours continue to be
Monday 2pm-6pm and 6:30pm to 8pm (Craft Night)
Thursday 9:30am to 11:30am and 2pm-6pm
Saturday from 10am to noon

We upgraded our system to CWMars, the same system that many libraries in Berkshire County utilize. This allows patrons to request items from other libraries and pick them up at our library.

We accepted the bid from Guntlow Associates to design an addition for a handicap accessible bathroom and received bids for the foundation of the addition.

White Wolf Septic continues to provide an ADA compliant portable restroom and seasonal handwashing station at no cost.

We thank the town and community for their continuing support.

Respectfully,
Joan Burdick, Connie Chase and Jane Roberts

Town of Hancock Report of the Superintendent

During the school year, The Hancock School District continued to pursue its primary mission to create a positive, safe, and rigorous educational setting that fostered a student-centered learning environment based on mutual respect. Despite the ongoing challenges, restrictions, and mitigation strategies set in place due to the pandemic, the Hancock Central School was able to provide students with a robust and enriching learning experience.

This was accomplished through a variety of activities focused on addressing the academic, social, and emotional needs of all students. An increase in counseling staff support, the provision of related services through a tiered support system both within the classrooms and on a pull out basis, and professional development activities in the area of meeting the needs of all students were instrumental in our success this year. In addition, the curriculum committee and teaching staff as a whole reviewed and adopted a new literacy curriculum that met our academic needs as well as provided support for developing essential skills in the areas of oral and written presentation, clear communication of ideas and opinions, and facilitation of discussions connected to differing opinions.

After school tutorial support was offered four afternoons a week for students in grades second through sixth. This provided an opportunity for students to have access to a teacher while either completing assigned homework or working on other identified skills. An extended summer program was offered to students in grades K - 6. This program focused on addressing achievement gaps through targeting Literacy and Mathematics skills with a focus on problem solving, executive functioning, and play skills. The program was well attended and well received and provided opportunities for physical activity, creative game play, and arts and crafts.

Through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in conjunction with the Department of Health, the school was able to offer COVID-19 testing to staff and students. Those who opted into the program were given a weekly PCR test. In addition, a test and stay component of this program allowed us to keep school based close contacts in school and engaged in their full academic program.

It is a pleasure to be a part of the Hancock community. I look forward to continuing to support the educational needs of our students.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Rebecca R. Phillips
Superintendent

Hancock School Committee

Town Report 2021

Community

As part of School Union #70, Shaker Mountain School District we continue to be connected to the New Ashford School Committee. We continue our collaboration with Lanesborough Elementary in terms of curriculum coordination and sharing activities.

We continue to strive to strengthen the lines of communication at both Mount Greylock and New Lebanon. Sixth graders are given an opportunity to visit both schools. We invite representatives from both schools to meet with parents to discuss curriculum, sports and musical opportunities.

Staff

We thank Marla Dix for her many years of dedicated service and wish her well in Retirement. Marla was an important part of our school community for 10 years. Her commitment to the success of all the students was a driving force behind her desire to be an educator.

Committee changes

Patty Bishop and Mark Gaskill have decided to retire after 20 plus years serving on the School Committee. We thank them for their years of dedicated service.

We welcome Cahill LeBarron and Elisabeth Kryskow who were elected for 3 years terms.

Programs

We maintained our unofficial Level 1 standing on the MCAS testing done last spring, which is a great reflection on the combined strengths of the leadership, faculty and staff, and families all working towards the mission statement of Hancock School (To create a positive, safe and rigorous educational setting that fosters a student-centered learning environment based on mutual respect). To prepare our students for an ever-changing world, we believe education is the shared responsibility of the student, home, school, and community.

The public is invited to attend School Committee Meetings. We meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month (except for July) at 6:00 P.M. at the school. Please visit our website: www.hancockschool.org for information about our school, teachers, specialists, school calendar and more.

Respectfully submitted,

Alex Kastrinakis, Chair

Melissa Turner, Bruce Weiner, Elisabeth Kryskow and Cahill LeBarron

Hancock Elementary School Principal's Report

The Hancock School and surrounding community has every reason to be proud; the 2020-2021 saw our school as one of the very few in the state that was fully open all year long. We were able to accomplish this thanks to the “can do” attitude of the staff, students, and parents, all of whom worked tirelessly to make sure that our policies and procedures met the state requirements and more importantly, kept our community safe. Thank you everyone for your efforts!

In June, 2021 we bid farewell to Mrs. Dix who retired after many, many years in the Ruby Room. She is missed! Our new Ruby Room teacher, Ms. Rudd has jumped into the school community with both feet. Welcome Ms. Rudd. Other new hires include Mrs. Williams, Ms. Quattrochi, and Miss Boucher as paraprofessionals and Mr. Livermore as the music teacher. Mrs. Talbot has retired from teaching music but is still very involved as the school secretary and frequent substitute. Finally, in January we welcomed back Mrs. Babcock-Adams who heads up the after school program.

This year we saw another influx of Hancock residents, especially in the PreK program. Our enrollment continues to be above 50, an increase of over 40% from a few years ago. Clearly, people are recognizing what a great place Hancock is to live and the benefits of our small school.

Unfortunately, again this year events such as concerts and the Community Thanksgiving have not been able to happen. On the plus side, we have been able to go on some field trips, welcome people into the building and classrooms, and continue to make steps toward normalcy. Our hope is that by the time the annual meeting takes place, community events will be happening once again.

Over the past year Hancock has quietly focused a lot of attention on our literacy program. We have devoted professional development days to looking at best practices and analyzing data. As we identify struggling students we are allocating resources to address issues early and quickly lest small problems grow into larger ones. We have adopted a new curriculum which has proven to be engaging, rigorous, and well suited to our needs. Next we will take a close look at our math program to make sure that it is meeting the needs of our students and giving them the foundation necessary for continued success after they graduate from sixth grade.

Hancock School is a unique, special school. In addition to a strong academic program, students learn what it means to be part of a community. Our mission ends with the sentence “To prepare our students for an ever-changing world, we believe education is the shared responsibility of the student, home, school, and community.” Our students are blessed to have such a wonderful school and the support of the Hancock community. On behalf of the Hancock School, thank you for your support!

Respectfully submitted,

John G. Merselis III (Jay), Principal

413-738-5676

jmerselis@hancockschool.org

School Committee

Alex Kastrinakis, Chair	464-1700
Elisa Kryskow	970-531-2499
Cahill LeBarron	449-4018
Melisa Turner	738-5099
Bruce Weiner	738-5488

Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Rebecca Phillips	738-5676
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Special Education Director

Dr. Rebecca Phillips	738-5676
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Administrative Assistant to Superintendent and Special Education Director

Amy Scott	698-4001
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Principal

John G. Merselis III	738-5676 or 441-0081 (cell)
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Hancock Central School Staff and Specialists

Secretary	Mary Talbot
Art Teacher	Lori Signer
Custodian	John Quimby
Music Teacher	Allen Livermore
Occupational Therapist	Rachel Mendelowitz
Phys. Ed, Technology, Science	Brian Keller
School Nurse	Carol Stein-Payne
School Adjustment Counselor	Jane Shiyah
Speech, Language Pathologist	Phoebe Chestna
Special Ed Teacher	Donna Beguin
Teacher Paraprofessionals	Janice Derby
	Lisa Buell
	Joanne Quattrochi
	Casey Bouchard

School Entrance Regulations

A child must have reached the age of five on or before September 1 in order to be eligible to enter the Kindergarten at the start of the school year. To enroll in Cricket Cove a child must be three years old on or before September 1. Hancock residents on a qualified Individual Education Plan may enroll at 2 years nine months. Any and all Hancock residents who meet the age requirements are welcome at the Hancock School. No child may begin school until she/he presents a birth certificate.

Total Number of Students as of January 1, 2022 (55)

Miss Cummings, Cricket Cove (12) - 11 residents
1 nonresident (Williamstown)

Mrs. Buell, Ms. Quattrochi, Sapphire Room (14) - 11 residents
3 school choice (Lanesborough)

Ms. Rudd, Miss Bouchard, Ruby Room (14) - 8 residents
6 school choice (Lanesborough (2), Williamstown (2), North Adams, Cheshire)

Mrs. Tremblay, Mrs. Derby, Diamond Room (11) - 5 residents
6 school choice (Cheshire (3), Lanesborough (2), Williamstown)

Mrs. Mills, Emerald Room (4)
4 residents

HANCOCK TUITION/CHOICE STUDENTS

2021-2022 as of 11/16/21

***RICHMOND CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL**

Grade PK: 1 (t)
Grade K: 2 (t)
Grade 1: 2 (t)
Grade 2: 1 (t)
Grade 3: 1 (t)
Grade 4: 1 (t)
Grade 6: 1 (t)
Grade 7: 1 (t)
Grade 8: 1 (sc)

***MT GREYLOCK REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL**

Grade 7: 8 (t)
Grade 8: 3 (t)
Grade 9: 2 (t)
Grade 10: 5 (t)
Grade 11: 6 (t)
Grade 12: 4 (t)

***C.H. McCANN TECHNICAL SCHOOL**

Grade 9: 2 (t)
Grade 10: 3 (t)
Grade 11: 2 (t)
Grade 12: 1 (t)

***TACONIC HIGH SCHOOL**

Grade 10: 1 (t)

***NEW LEBANON CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL**

Grade 10: 1 (t)
Grade 11: 1 (t)

The FY2021 Hancock Education Budget
was inserted here

Hancock Community Christmas Committee Report 2021

The Hancock Community Christmas Committee coordinated with the Hancock School to provide a holiday program for the community. One hundred thirteen (113) gifts bags were prepared for the children, filled with an age-appropriate gift, book, gift card, candy, and a variety of fresh fruit.

We sent postcards to all residents of Hancock and posted details, letting everyone know about the Community Christmas event. Our program depends on donations and even in tough economic times, the Hancock community came through for our children. We appreciate and thank the folks who donated and were able to deliver bags to children who could not attend.

This year the committee included Katie Hyde, Amanda Lahey, Lynsey Kastrinakis, Ana Bradbury, Brittany Derby and Cahill Lebaron. We thank all those who donated time and/or money to make this year's event successful.

Treasurer's Report Hancock Community Christmas 2021

Balance Forward	\$11,562.09
Donation Received	\$ 5,065.00
Money Expended	\$ 2,649.61
Current Bankbook Balance	\$13,977.48
<i>Bags and Supplies</i>	\$ 69.72
<i>Books</i>	\$ 387.52
<i>Fruit, Candy, Food</i>	\$ 470.83
<i>Gift Cards</i>	\$ 187.00
<i>Postcards</i>	\$ 113.33
<i>Supplies</i>	\$ 95.58
<i>Toys</i>	\$ 1,325.63

Respectfully submitted by Katie Hyde, Chair
2021 Community Christmas Committee

The Treasurer's Report
for Year Ending June 30, 2021
was inserted here

The 'All Department Revenue Report and
Stabilization Balance 7/1/2020 – 6/30/21'
was inserted here

The 'All Departments Expenditure Report
From 7/1/2020 – 6/30/21'
was inserted here
(Page 1 of 2)

The 'All Departments Expenditure Report
From 7/1/2020 – 6/30/21'
was inserted here
(Page 2 of 2)

The 'Combined Balance Sheet
Date range 7/1/2020 – 6/30/21'
was inserted here
(Page 2 of 2)