



TOWN OF SANDISFIELD
MASSACHUSETTS

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE TOWN OFFICERS
2021

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ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

MODERATOR

Dominic Konstam 2022

TOWN CLERK

Douglas T. Miner (appointed until Annual Town Election) 258-4711 2022

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Alex Bowman..... 258-4711 2024

George Riley..... 269-6826 2022

Steven Seddon..... 258-4711 2023

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Kathie Burrows..... 258-4943 2024

Bethany R. Perry..... 258-4172 2022

Steven Kopiec..... 258-4141 2023

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Carl Nett 2024

Jennifer B. Hibbins..... 258-2863 2022

Roger Kohler..... 429-6628 2023

BOARD OF HEALTH

Keith Larson..... 2024

Kim Spring..... 258-4450 2022

Victor Hryckvich..... 717-0592 2023

PLANNING BOARD

John Field 329-6203 2026

Roger Kohler..... 429-6628 2022

Willard R. Platt, Jr..... 258-4800 2023

Paul Gaudette..... 429-1058 2024

William Taylor 2025

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Kathie Burrows..... 258-4943 2024

Mary Turek..... 258-4430 2022

Clare M. English..... 258-4901 2023

CONSTABLES

John Burrows..... 258-4943 2023

Nazario Sanchez..... 2023

APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Roger Brown.....	258-3395	2021
Myles Reynolds.....		2021
Steven Seddon.....	563-1483	2022
Larry Dwyer		2022
Calvin Rodman.....		2023

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

John Burrows.....		2023
Barbara Cormier.....		2022
AnnaLee Riley.....		2024
Town Clerk.....	258-4711	By Law

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Chuck Pease.....		2022
Barbara Cormier.....	258-4402	2023
Paul Gaudette.....	429-1058	2024

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Vacancy.....		2025
Paul Gaudette.....	429-1058	2022
Mary Turek.....	258-4430	2023
Stephan Harasyko.....	258-4460	2024
Clare English.....	258-4901	2025

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Mike Loglisci		2021
Rosanne Carnici Hoekstra.....	258-4968	2024
Ron Bernard.....	269-0012	2022
Connie Canty Donaldson.....	258-4941	2023
Liane Toscanini		2023

ENERGY COMMISSION

Vacancy.....		2022
Vacancy.....		2023
Vacancy.....		2024

SANDISFIELD CULTURAL COUNCIL

Connie Canty Donaldson.....	258-4941	2024
John Skrip.....	258-4788	2024
Jennifer Lenzi.....		2024
Rosanne Skrip.....	258-4788	2022
Ellen Croibier Fischman.....	258-2861	2023
Roseann Hoekstra.....	258-4968	2023
Jennifer Hibbins.....	258-2863	2023
Vacancy.....		2023

COUNCIL ON AGING

Ann Wald.....	258-4415	2024
Anina Carr.....	258-3314	2022
Shirley Spring.....	258-4450	2023
Linda Riiska.....	258-4816	2023
Barbara Cormier.....	258-4402	2023

ELECTION OFFICIALS

Shirley R. McArthur, Clerk/Warden	Kathie Burrows
Laura Rogers-Castro, Inspector	Brenda Larson
Mario Castro, Jr., Inspector	
Connie Canty-Donaldson,	
Anina Carr	

TOWN MANAGER – Jonathan Sylbert 258-4711, Ext. 1

ASST. TO T.M./SELECT BOARD - Janey Beardsley 258-4711, Ext. 3

PRINCIPAL ASSESOR - Jacqueline Bitso 258-4711, Ext. 6

TREASURER/TAX COLLECTOR – Gina Campbell 258-4711, Ext. 4

TOWN ACCOUNTANT – Margaret McClellen 258-4711, Ext. 5

TOWN COUNSEL - KP-Law

CHIEF OF POLICE Michael D. Morrison 258-4742

Assistant Chief of Police Ralph E. Morrison 258-4742

FIRE CHIEF Ralph E. Morrison 258-4742

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR Eric Pachulski 464-6835

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT Bradley Curry 258-4979 or cell 413-717-7627

VETERANS' SERVICE DIRECTOR Laurie Hills 528-1580

Great Barrington, MA 01230

Local Town Representative Peter Levine 258-2861

ANIMAL INSPECTOR Vacant

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Kathie Burrows, Chair

Vickie Bakunis

Laurie Foulke-Green

Brenda Larson

Steve Harasyko

BUILDING INSPECTOR	Don Torrico	413-356-8509
Asst. Building Inspector	Robert Sullivan	413-348-5756 cell 413-357-8810 home
PLUMBING INSPECTOR	Brian Middleton	269-7269
Asst. Plumbing Inspector	Mark Levernoch	623-5881
FIRE INSPECTOR	Ralph Morrison	258-4742
WIRING INSPECTOR	Jay Reynolds	1-860-798-2578
Asst. Wiring Inspector	Jeffrey Aloisi	413-229-3696
Asst. Wiring Inspector	Robert Kimberley	

SELECT BOARD

It has been a very unusual year in many ways! We continued this year dealing with the pandemic and its consequences for the Town. After a few unsatisfactory arrangements, we found a technical setup for our conference calls for Zoom Board meetings which seems to work well, although remote meetings have been in themselves less than ideal. Finally, with the re-opening of Town Hall to the public, we now have “hybrid” (with both in-person and remote participation) meetings and that seems to satisfy most people.

With Selectman Brian O’Rourke’s decision not to run for another term, the annual election brought Alex Bowman to join the Select Board. After an initial adjustment period, Alex has brought a helpful perspective to our deliberations. The tragic resignation of our excellent Town Administrator Joanne Grybosh in May precipitated a cascade of subsequent resignations: the Town Clerk/Select Board Assistant; the Assistant Town Clerk; a Selectman; and the Treasurer/Collector. The ensuing crisis was intense, requiring Select Board Chair George Riley to take on the additional role of Interim Town Manager for six months, and bringing in a few very welcome interim helpers. A special note of thanks is due to Laura Lee Bertram, Tyringham’s Assistant Town Manager, who stepped very ably into the Treasurer/Collector role and got our bills paid, weekly payroll completed and many other tasks accomplished, and to Roger Brown, Finance Chair, whose expertise and enormous dedication made much of the financial transition possible. In hindsight, this crisis was also an opportunity, as each of these positions has now been filled by a competent and dedicated individual, resulting in a degree of harmony and teamwork in Town Hall which has not been experienced in many years.

Mary Kronholm was appointed Temporary Town Clerk and has worked diligently and admirably, including a Special Election, in addition to her regular duties. She appointed Donna Fillion of Granville as Assistant Town Clerk. Our pleasure at Donna’s arrival was short-lived, however, as we grieved in November for her untimely death. The Assistant Clerk position remained vacant until the following March, when Douglas Miner was appointed and soon stepped into Mary’s substantial Town Clerk shoes with Mary as his Assistant.

The Special Election in September brought Steven Seddon to complete the Select Board. Steven has quietly taken on a host of responsibilities and has proven a tremendous asset to our team.

Janey Beardsley was appointed Assistant to the Select Board and Town Manager and proved to be a quick study. In addition to compiling and posting agendas and minutes of Select Board meetings, she has been answering phones, handling correspondence and creating warrant sheets for Town invoices, among many other duties.

Gina Campbell, Collector for New Marlborough for the past six years and current Treasurer/Collector for the Town of Washington, joined the team in November and also got quickly and skillfully up to speed. She joined our seasoned Principal Assessor Jacki Bitso and Assessors' Clerk Kathie Burrows, and our Accountant Margaret McClellan to complete a first-rate financial team.

And Larry Dwyer of the Green Team stepped in as Webmaster and has made the Town website into a truly useful tool.

We appointed a Town Manager Search Advisory Committee, consisting of Barbara Cormier, Joanne Olson and Rita Kasky, which worked diligently and speedily to recruit and narrow the field to five candidates. Two of those last five dropped out, citing the inability to find affordable housing in this area. After several interviews we selected Kevin Flynn, the former Town Manager of Philipston, Mass., who assured us that he could relocate from his current home, a 2 ½ hour drive away. But that move did not happen, and the Select Board, after reluctantly allowing him to work from home two days a week, began to press him on the need to be closer to the area. When other performance issues began to surface, we scheduled a meeting with him to discuss these, upon which he abruptly resigned. This left us with a backlog of budget issues, requiring an intense "fast track" process of many hours-long budget meetings per week to meet a very short deadline.

Into this tense situation came Jonathan Sylbert, former Monterey Select Board and current Finance Committee member, offering to help. In brief, he was appointed Interim Town Manager and has bravely worked to help produce our budget in time.

Despite the restrictions of the pandemic and the need to focus on personnel and hiring issues, we made good progress on several fronts:

- We purchased a climate-controlled storage trailer and worked with King Information Systems on the project of cataloging, organizing and archiving our Town records.
- The Route 57 paving project, long in the making, was finally completed for the first 5-mile section. More paving of this essential road is in the works.
- Yanner Park is getting improved, and new trails are planned.

- In September we hosted an important visit by some of the top officials of the State Division of Local Services (DLS). We shared with them our plans for organizing Town government and filling vacancies, and the state of our financial management processes. They returned to Boston relieved and impressed with the quality and competence of our team.
- The new online system for building permits, plumbing, and electrical permits is working well. You can also pay your taxes online.
- A Special Town Meeting in February 2022 dealt with Cannabis sales tax, town property, changing the Town Clerk position from elected to appointed, purchasing a DPW truck and various budget issues.
- In a remarkably agreeable process, the town's first cannabis retailer, Berkshire Mountain Cannabis, was granted a Special Permit.
- Broadband work is progressing, miles of cable have been strung, and we are on track for town-wide high-speed internet by this summer.
- The fact that (as of April 1) all the candidates on the ballot are running unopposed might suggest a nearly unprecedented level of town-wide satisfaction with local government.

Nevertheless, we still have some deep-seated problems to deal with. For example, it has become extremely difficult, especially with the current severe lack of affordable housing, to attract younger folks to Sandisfield. And the future of both our Fire & Police departments is in doubt, due to the age of our members and increased training requirements. We will have to find some creative solutions to these and other issues.

It's been a second extraordinary year, but we have weathered it well, thanks to many individuals who have gone "above and beyond" in their efforts to see the Town through once more. We are most grateful to our fine team.

George Riley, Chair

Alex Bowman

Steven Seddon

TOWN MANAGER

Please see the Select Board report

TREASURER / COLLECTORS REPORT

For the Town of Sandisfield for the year ending June 30, 2021

Respectfully submit the Treasurer's Year End Cash Report.

General Fund Accounts

Unibank Vendor Checking Account	\$	656,705.73
Unibank Payroll Account	\$	102,798.70
unipay online payments	\$	187,280.81
Unibank Ambulance	\$	44,608.93
Lee Bank - Cultural Council	\$	1,421.13
Unibank MM State Aid	\$	154,580.62
MMDT Investment	\$	65,732.10
Lee Bank - Investment	\$	208,575.35

Stabilization Fund Accounts

Adams Community	\$	513,372.81
Adams Community	\$	590,312.28
Lee Bank Stabilization	\$	23,842.87
Lee Bank Stabilization	\$	92,888.36
Lee Bank Stabilization	\$	181,249.19

Agency Funds

Lee Bank Library Gift Fund	\$	649.72
Lee Bank Deming	\$	1,501.18
Lee Bank Leonard	\$	1,674.52
Lee Bank New Boston	\$	415.86
Lee Bank New Sandisfield	\$	1,685.95
Lee Bank Webster	\$	375.35
Lee Bank Wuori	\$	1,486.47

Total All Cash and Investments **\$ 2,831,157.93**

Tax Collection Report for FY2021

	Balance at 07/01/2020	Commitment	Adjustments	Refunds	Abatements/ Exemptions	Collections	Balance at 06/30/2021
2021 Real Estate		\$ 2,841,391.31	\$12,936.10	\$ 252.06	\$ 21,064.47	\$ 2,702,833.83	\$ 104,808.97
2021 Personal Property		\$ 377,030.30		\$ 79.35	\$ 1,183.56	\$ 368,699.91	\$ 7,226.18
2021 Motor Vehicle		\$ 122,798.78		\$ 563.15	\$ 2,514.45	\$ 103,416.71	\$ 17,430.77
2020 Real Estate	\$ 181,794.49	\$ -	\$12,149.46	\$ 4,209.60	\$ 4,209.60	\$ 83,689.34	\$ 85,955.69
2020 Personal Property	\$ 343.72	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 329.88	\$ 811.85	\$ (798.01)
2020 Motor Vehicle	\$ 33,389.90	\$ -		\$ 1,001.77	\$ 2,341.80	\$ 28,523.12	\$ 3,526.75
2019 Real Estate	\$ 69,113.88	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 902.25	\$ 902.25	\$ 30,407.40	\$ 38,706.48
2019 Personal Property	\$ 2,691.62	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 298.38	\$ 496.04	\$ 1,897.20
2019 Motor Vehicle	\$ 4,058.28	\$ -	\$ (80.70)	\$ 221.72	\$ 221.72	\$ 2,420.41	\$ 1,718.57
2018 Real Estate	\$ 44,988.45	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,783.01	\$ 19,205.44
2018 Personal Property	\$ 5,105.62	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 46.37	\$ 707.45	\$ 4,351.80
2018 Motor Vehicle	\$ 1,466.36	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 172.64	\$ 611.36	\$ 682.36
2017 Real Estate	\$ 19,791.56	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,985.55	\$ 10,806.01
2017 Personal Property	\$ 4,587.55	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 64.47	\$ 4,523.08
2017 Motor Vehicle	\$ 1,809.65	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41.67	\$ 286.15	\$ 1,481.83
2016 Real Estate	\$ 17,819.24		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,502.98	\$ 10,316.26
2016 Personal Property	\$ 4,203.83	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 396.06	\$ 3,807.77
2016 Motor Vehicle	\$ 1,283.83	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 614.72	\$ 669.11
2015 Real Estate	\$ 4,542.53	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 937.73	\$ -	\$ 3,604.80
2015 Personal Property	\$ 296.86	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 296.86
2015 Motor Vehicle	\$ 1,920.51	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 258.32	\$ 1,662.19
2014 Real Estate	\$ 1,211.58	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,211.58
2014 Personal Property	\$ 129.36	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 129.36
2014 Motor Vehicle	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2013 Real Estate	\$ 1,202.04	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 364.26	\$ 837.78
2013 Personal Property	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2013 Motor Vehicle	\$ 901.67	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 71.27	\$ -	\$ 139.40	\$ 833.54

ACCOUNTANT

Town of Sandisfield Expense Report - B&H

From 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021

01 - GENERAL FUND		Previous	Original	Budget	Revised	Actual		
Account	Description	Year's Bal	Budget	Revisions	Budget Expended		Balance	% Exp
10114.01	MODERATOR EXPENSE		100.00		100.00	100.00		100.00 %
10114.02	MODERATOR SALARY		150.00		150.00	150.00		100.00 %
10122.02	SELECTBOARD EXPENSES		6,805.00		6,805.00	6,805.00		100.00 %
10122.03	SELECTBOARD SALARIES		55,056.00		55,056.00	55,939.44	-883.44	101.60 %
10122.04	LEGAL SERVICES		10,000.00		10,000.00	15,840.03	-5,840.03	158.40 %
10122.08	EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE	10,000.00	10,000.00	-10,700.00	9,300.00	9,300.00		100.00 %
10122.22	WEB SITE EXPENSE							100.00 %
10122.70	Technology Upgrade	1,690.00			1,690.00	1,690.00		100.00 %
10124.04	TOWN MANAGER SALARY		75,000.00	37,301.48	112,301.48	112,301.48		100.00 %
10124.07	TOWN MANAGER EXPENSES		6,005.00		6,005.00	6,005.00		100.00 %
10131.00	FINANCE COMMITTEE		475.00		475.00	475.00		100.00 %
10131.01	FINANCE COMMITTEE SALARY		1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00		100.00 %
10141.01	ASSESSORS SALARIES		51,031.29		51,031.29	51,031.29		100.00 %
10141.02	ASSESSORS' EXPENSE	23.50	3,855.00		3,878.50	3,878.50		100.00 %
10141.05	ASSESSOR'S TRI RECERT.	396.25	8,160.00		8,556.25	8,556.25		100.00 %
10145.06	TREAS/COLLECTOR SALARY		41,770.06		41,770.06	41,770.06		100.00 %
10145.07	TREAS/COLLECTOR EXPENSE		5,112.00		5,112.00	4,886.10	225.90	95.58 %
10145.08	TREASURER'S TAX LIEN	7,250.50	22,100.00		29,350.50	29,350.50		100.00 %
10145.09	AUDIT	17,500.00			17,500.00	17,500.00		100.00 %
10147.01	TOWN ACCOUNTANT SALARY		24,960.00		24,960.00	24,960.00		100.00 %
10147.02	TOWN ACCOUNTANT EXPENSE		3,350.00		3,350.00	3,152.03	197.97	94.09 %
10150.00	TECHNOLOGY EXPENSE		36,364.00		36,364.00	36,364.00		100.00 %
10150.01	TECHNOLOGY SALARY		2,386.80		2,386.80	2,386.80		100.00 %
10161.01	TOWN CLERK SALARIES		30,356.00		30,356.00	30,356.00		100.00 %
10161.02	TOWN CLERK EXPENSES	1,747.30	9,101.00		10,848.30	10,848.30		100.00 %
10171.00	CONSERVATION COMMITTEE		1,020.00		1,020.00	1,020.00		100.00 %
10171.01	CONSERVATION COMM		1,795.15		1,795.15	1,795.15		100.00 %
10171.04	HIGHWAY CONSERVATION		10,000.00		10,000.00	10,000.00		100.00 %
10175.00	PLANNING BOARD EXPENSES	227.20	1,000.00		1,227.20	1,227.20		100.00 %
10175.01	PLANNING BOARD SALARIES		1,550.00		1,550.00	1,550.00		100.00 %
10175.03	ZONING BOARD SALARIES		1.00		1.00	1.00		100.00 %
10175.05	ZONING BOARD EXPENSES		500.00		500.00	500.00		100.00 %
Total	General Government	38,834.75	419,503.30	26,601.48	484,939.53	491,239.13	-6,299.60	
20421.00	HIGHWAYS/BRIDGES MAINT.	1,056.95	59,791.28		60,848.23	60,848.23		100.00 %
20421.01	HIGHWAY SNOW/ICE REMOVAL		141,000.00		141,000.00	145,263.24	-4,263.24	103.02 %
20421.02	HIGHWAY MACHINERY	341.67	75,000.00		75,341.67	75,341.67		100.00 %
20421.13	HIGHWAY TREE ACCOUNT	-140.96	27,100.00	140.96	27,100.00	29,087.82	-1,987.82	107.33 %
20421.18	HIGHWAY/BRIDGES SALARIES		241,618.09		241,618.09	241,618.09		100.00 %
20421.19	YANNER PARK	3,217.26	15,500.00		18,717.26	18,717.26		100.00 %
20421.22	HIGHWAY SNOW/ICE SALARIES		34,680.00		34,680.00	34,680.00		100.00 %
20421.23	HIGHWAY MACHINERY MAINT.		5,202.00		5,202.00	5,202.00		100.00 %
20421.60	HIGHWAY FIRE INSURANCE	46,604.15			46,604.15	12,686.21	33,917.94	27.22 %
20422.00	HIGHWAY STRAP GRANT			165,285.52	165,285.52	845,398.00	-680,112.48	511.47 %
20423.00	HIGHWAY CHAPTER 90 APPROP	144,549.46			144,549.46	-68,393.90	212,943.36	-47.31 %
20444.00	COMPLETE STREETS GRANT	-30,825.37			-30,825.37		-30,825.37	100.00 %
20555.00	MVP GRANT	-13,499.85			-13,499.85		-13,499.85	100.00 %
Total	Highways	151,303.31	599,891.37	165,426.48	916,621.16	1,400,448.62	-483,827.46	

Town of Sandisfield
Expense Report - B&H

From 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021

01 - GENERAL FUND		Previous	Original	Budget	Revised	Actual		
Account	Description	Year's Bal	Budget	Revisions	Budget Expended		Balance	% Exp
30310.01	SCHOOL OPERATIONS		1,652,728.00		1,652,728.00	1,652,728.00		100.00 %
30310.05	SCHOOL COMM. MEMBERS SAL.	-850.00	1.00	850.00	1.00	1.00		100.00 %
30610.02	LIBRARY EXPENSES		4,107.66		4,107.66	4,107.66		100.00 %
30610.03	LIBRARY SALARIES		13,766.72		13,766.72	13,861.12	-94.40	100.68 %
30610.11	PURCHASE & INSTALL LIBRARY	692.27			692.27	692.27		100.00 %
Total	Education	-157.73	1,670,603.38	850.00	1,671,295.65	1,671,390.05	-94.40	
40543.00	VETERAN'S BENEFITS		52,000.00		52,000.00	52,000.00		100.00 %
40543.01	VETERAN'S SERVICE DISTRCT		3,787.68		3,787.68	3,787.68		100.00 %
Total	Veterans		55,787.68		55,787.68	55,787.68		
50000.03	REPAIR CEM PERPETUAL INT	3,898.46			3,898.46		3,898.46	0.00 %
50491.00	CUST TWN BLDGS SALARIES		12,875.20		12,875.20	12,875.20		100.00 %
50491.01	REPAIR & MAIN TOWN	-2,685.68	5,000.00	2,685.68	5,000.00	5,000.00		100.00 %
50492.01	HIGHWAY MOWING/CEM MAINT		11,900.00		11,900.00	17,192.90	-5,292.90	144.47 %
Total	Cemeteries	1,212.78	29,775.20	2,685.68	33,673.66	35,068.10	-1,394.44	
60210.01	POLICE DEPART EXPENSES	392.00	15,650.00		16,042.00	15,849.33	192.67	98.79 %
60210.02	POLICE DEPART SALARIES		56,945.57		56,945.57	56,945.57		100.00 %
60210.03	BC SHERIFF CONTROL (911)	-98.60	10,225.00	98.60	10,225.00	10,426.27	-201.27	101.96 %
60220.00	FIRE DEPT/AMBUL. MAINT.	-421.29	35,446.00	421.29	35,446.00	35,297.70	148.30	99.58 %
60220.01	FIRE DEPT. SALARIES		12,350.00		12,350.00	12,350.00		100.00 %
60220.04	FIRE AMBULANCE EQUIP		22,178.88		22,178.88	22,178.88		100.00 %
60220.05	FIRE AMBULANCE TRAINING		6,780.00		6,780.00	6,780.00		100.00 %
60220.06	FIRE HOUSE RENTAL/LEGION		3,570.00		3,570.00	3,570.00		100.00 %
60220.07	FIRE HOUSE RENTAL/ROUTES7		6,120.00		6,120.00	6,120.00		100.00 %
60220.19	ALSS INTERCEPT SERVICE	2,440.88	12,000.00		14,440.88	12,743.88	1,697.00	88.24 %
60220.25	FIRE/EMS COMPENSATION		30,042.00		30,042.00	44,630.61	-14,588.61	148.56 %
60220.28	PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER		58,532.26	-26,601.48	31,930.78	31,930.78		100.00 %
60230.00	STREET LIGHTING		4,800.00		4,800.00	4,800.00		100.00 %
60291.02	EMERGENCY MAN REVOLVING	12,834.44	2,800.00		15,634.44	4,125.65	11,508.79	26.38 %
Total	Protect, Persons, & Prop	15,147.43	277,439.71	-26,081.59	266,505.55	267,748.67	-1,243.12	
70249.00	INSPECTOR ANIMALS SALARY		520.20		520.20	520.20		100.00 %
70292.00	ANIMAL CONTROL EXPENSES		1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00		100.00 %
70292.01	ANIMAL CONTROL SALARY		1,872.72		1,872.72	1,872.72		100.00 %
70433.00	SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL		42,216.00		42,216.00	42,216.00		100.00 %
70434.00	SOLID WASTE SALARY	-908.59	18,140.00	908.59	18,140.00	20,886.14	-2,746.14	115.13 %
70435.00	BOARD OF HEALTH		1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00		100.00 %
70435.01	BOARD OF HEALTH SALARIES		2,667.00		2,667.00	2,667.00		100.00 %
70522.00	PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE		2,000.00		2,000.00	2,000.00		100.00 %
70523.00	BERKSHIRE MENTAL HEALTH		450.00		450.00	450.00		100.00 %
70542.00	COMMUNITY HEALTH		1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00		100.00 %
Total	Health and Sanitation	-908.59	70,865.92	908.59	70,865.92	73,612.06	-2,746.14	
90100.00	STABILIZATION FUND APPROP		110,000.00		110,000.00	110,000.00		100.00 %
90195.00	OPER, MAINT. & REPAIR ALL		53,750.00		53,750.00	54,437.92	-687.92	101.27 %
90195.01	OPER/MAINT SALARIES		1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00		100.00 %
90195.25	VEHICLE FUEL ACCOUNT		40,700.00		40,700.00	40,700.00		100.00 %
90195.26	RECORDS STORAGE FACILITY		25,000.00		25,000.00		25,000.00	0.00 %

Town of Sandisfield

Expense Report - B&H

From 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021

01 - GENERAL FUND		Previous	Original	Budget	Revised	Actual		
Account	Description	Year's Bal	Budget	Revisions	Budget Expended		Balance	% Exp
90200.00	MEMORIAL DAY PARADE		2,000.00		2,000.00	2,000.00		100.00 %
90541.00	COUNCIL ON AGING		3,150.00		3,150.00	3,150.00		100.00 %
90541.01	ELDERLY TRANSPORTATION	2,417.00	4,930.68		7,347.68	7,347.68		100.00 %
90542.00	CULTURAL COUNCIL/TOWN		250.00		250.00	250.00		100.00 %
90544.00	HISTORICAL COMMISSION		200.00		200.00	200.00		100.00 %
90630.00	RECREATION COMMITTEE		3,500.00		3,500.00	3,511.10	-11.10	100.31 %
90700.00	CEMETERY COMMITTEE		4,500.00		4,500.00	4,300.00	200.00	95.55 %
90701.00	CEMETERY COMMITTEE SALARY		1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00		100.00 %
90910.00	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE		6,800.00		6,800.00	6,806.97	-6.97	100.10 %
90911.00	BERKSHIRE COUNTY RETIRE.		95,173.00		95,173.00	95,173.00		100.00 %
90914.00	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		123,082.09		123,082.09	123,082.09		100.00 %
90920.01	TOWN SHARE MEDICARE	-658.64	11,778.92	658.64	11,778.92	11,778.92		100.00 %
90945.00	INSURANCE AND BONDS		58,016.00		58,016.00	58,543.00	-527.00	100.90 %
95690.00	BERK. REG. PLAN. COMMISS.		750.00		750.00	750.00		100.00 %
95690.01	SO.BERK.REG.EMER.PLAN.COM		500.00		500.00	500.00		100.00 %
95781.00	RESERVE FUND		10,000.00		10,000.00	10,000.00		100.00 %
Total	Unclassified Expenses	1,758.36	556,080.69	658.64	558,497.69	534,530.68	23,967.01	
Total Fund 01		207,190.31	3,679,947.25	171,049.28	4,058,186.84	4,529,824.99	-471,638.15	
Grand Total		207,190.31	3,679,947.25	171,049.28	4,058,186.84	4,529,824.99	-471,638.15	

Town of Sandisfield
Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS ASSETS
From 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE		Assets	Liabilities
CHAPTER 291D	1604.16	570,210.36	
TOTAL FOR ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE			570,210.36
AGENCY		Assets	Liabilities
AFLAC	96090.00	344.35	
DENTAL	96092.00	4,873.55	
RETIREMENT	96095.00	1,572.77	
FEDERAL TAX	96099.00	438.99	
TOTAL FOR AGENCY			7,229.66
GRANTS		Assets	Liabilities
EMERGENCY	5004.00	2,171.59	
LIBRARY MEG GRANT	5008.01	209.76	
SMALL BRIDGE GRANT	5060.00	148,947.43	
COVID19	5080.00	3,000.03	
TOTAL FOR GRANTS			154,328.81
APPROPRIATIONS BALANCES		Assets	Liabilities
SELECTBOARD	10122.03	883.44	
LEGAL SERVICES	10122.04	5,840.03	
HIGHWAY SNOW/ICE	20421.01	4,263.24	
HIGHWAY TREE	20421.13	1,987.82	
HIGHWAY STRAP	20422.00	680,112.48	
COMPLETE STREETS	20444.00	30,825.37	
MVP GRANT	20555.00	13,499.85	
LIBRARY SALARIES	30610.03	94.40	
HIGHWAY	50492.01	5,292.90	
BC SHERIFF CONTROL	60210.03	201.27	
FIRE/EMS	60220.25	14,588.61	
SOLID WASTE SALARY	70434.00	2,746.14	
OPER, MAINT. &	90195.00	687.92	
RECREATION	90630.00	11.10	
UNEMPLOYMENT	90910.00	6.97	
INSURANCE AND	90945.00	527.00	
TOTAL FOR APPROPRIATIONS BALANCES			761,568.54
		TOTAL ASSETS	3,363,387.13

Town of Sandisfield
Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS ASSETS
From 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021

ASSETS

CASH		Assets	Liabilities
GENERAL CASH	1010.10	1,435,195.70	
TOTAL FOR CASH			1,435,195.70

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES		Assets	Liabilities
PERSONAL PROP FY14	1100.14	129.36	
PERSONAL PROPERTY	1100.15	296.86	
PERSONAL PROPERTY	1100.16	3,676.43	
PERSONAL PROPERTY	1100.17	4,739.77	
PERSONAL PROPERTY	1100.18	4,351.80	
PERSONAL PROPERTY	1100.19	1,897.20	
PERSONAL PROPERTY	1100.21	7,226.18	
TOTAL FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES			22,317.60

REAL ESTATE TAXES		Assets	Liabilities
REAL ESTATE FY13	1200.13	8,554.39	
REAL ESTATE FY14	1200.14	9,100.50	
REAL ESTATE FY15	1200.15	22,566.01	
REAL ESTATE FY16	1200.16	56,814.73	
REAL ESTATE FY17	1200.17	14,823.15	
REAL ESTATE FY18	1200.18	19,205.44	
REAL ESTATE 2019	1200.19	38,706.48	
REAL ESTATE TAXES	1200.20	85,955.69	
REAL ESTATE TAXES	1200.21	104,808.97	
TOTAL FOR REAL ESTATE TAXES			360,535.36

MOTOR VEHICLE EX TAXES		Assets	Liabilities
MOTOR VEHICLE 09	1300.09	86.25	
MOTOR VEHICLE FY 10	1300.10	45.00	
MOTOR VEHICLE FY 11	1300.11	733.96	
MOTOR VEHICLE FY12	1300.12	1,154.17	
MOTOR VEHICLE FY13	1300.13	767.27	
MOTOR VEHICLE 14	1300.14	551.25	
MOTOR VEHICLE FY15	1300.15	1,662.13	
MOTOR VEHICLE FY17	1300.17	15,636.64	
MOTOR VEHICLE FY18	1300.18	682.36	
MOTOR VEHICLE FY19	1300.19	1,718.57	
MOTOR VEHICLE 2020	1300.20	3,594.02	
MOTOR VEHICLE	1300.21	17,430.77	
TOTAL FOR MOTOR VEHICLE EX TAXES			44,062.39

TAX TITLES & POSSESSIONS		Assets	Liabilities
TAX TITLES	1562.00	7,938.71	
TOTAL FOR TAX TITLES & POSSESSIONS			7,938.71

Town of Sandisfield
Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS LIABILITIES
From 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021

LIABILITIES

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES		Assets	Liabilities
PERSONAL PROPERTY	1100.13		96.10
PERSONAL PROPERTY	1100.20		798.01
TOTAL FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES			894.11

REAL ESTATE TAXES		Assets	Liabilities
REAL ESTATE FY12	1200.12		1,069.59
TOTAL FOR REAL ESTATE TAXES			1,069.59

MOTOR VEHICLE EX TAXES		Assets	Liabilities
MOTOR VEHICLE FY08	1300.08		344.98
MOTOR VEHICLE FY16	1300.16		485.28
TOTAL FOR MOTOR VEHICLE EX TAXES			830.26

AGENCY		Assets	Liabilities
REVENUE 2022	1701.22		432,292.40
TAILINGS	3070.00		5,074.63
DEFERED COMP	96085.00		41.81
AFLAC 2	96090.01		167.05
UNION DUES	96093.00		108.54
HEALTH INSURANCE	96097.00		9,210.69
STATE TAX	96098.00		1,555.90
TOTAL FOR AGENCY			448,451.02

GRANTS		Assets	Liabilities
REPAIR OF	5000.02		8,825.00
LIBRARY STATE AID	5008.00		2,969.31
LIBRARY	5008.02		19.44
LIBRARY GIFT FUND	5008.06		2,678.62
LIBRARY WMRLS	5008.10		433.97
FIRE EQUIP.GRANT	5010.02		678.00
COMMUNITY	5020.01		1,163.13
CTR FOR TECH AND	5032.00		605.50
COUNCIL ON AGING -	5040.00		1,094.99
SENIOR SAFE GRANT	5040.02		2,055.00
GREENS COMMUNITY	5041.00		1,930.80
FACILITIES GRANT	5042.00		17,450.00
CULTURAL COUNCIL	5045.00		8,699.84
CULTURAL COUNCIL	5045.01		4.81
NURSING HOME	5050.00		365.04
RECORD STORAGE	5200.00		872.78
TOTAL FOR GRANTS			49,846.23

REVOLVING		Assets	Liabilities
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Town of Sandisfield
Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS LIABILITIES
From 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021

REVOLVING		Assets	Liabilities
TAX COLL. FEES	5514.00		32.00
DEMANDS DUE	5514.01		884.64
MUNI LIENS DUE	5514.02		5,875.28
DEPUTY COLLECTOR	5515.00		843.69
FIRE INSP REVOLVING	5519.00		453.50
PLUMBING INSP	5520.00		660.00
ELECTRICAL INSP.	5521.00		4,098.06
BUILDING INSP	5522.00		18,294.32
SANITATION	5523.00		2,345.39
GAS INSP REVOLVING	5524.00		8,343.35
GUN PERMITS	5525.00		8,435.40
BLASTING PERMITS	5526.00		100.00
DUMP STICKERS REV.	5527.00		80,428.12
OUTSIDE POLICE	5530.10		10,691.07
NEWSPAPER ADDS	5531.00		1,158.73
AMBULANCE FEES	5532.00		202,249.43
PERFOR. BOND HOLD	5540.00		2,450.00
TOWN CLERK/FEES	5545.01		9,733.22
GAS REVOLVING	5550.00		734.70
TRACTOR REVOLVING	5560.00		6,516.18
CONSERVATION FEES	5565.00		4,811.10
BOARD OF HEALTH	5570.00		791.82
TOTAL FOR REVOLVING			369,930.00

RCPTS RESVRD FOR APPROP		Assets	Liabilities
CEMETERY SALE OF	7002.00		19,415.74
WETLAND	7006.00		16,968.36
TOTAL FOR RCPTS RESVRD FOR APPROP			36,384.10

OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE		Assets	Liabilities
OVERLAY	8000.00		371,185.09
TOTAL FOR OVERLAYS RES FOR ABATE			371,185.09

REVENUE RESERVED UNTIL COL		Assets	Liabilities
MOTOR VEHICLE	9002.00		43,232.13
TAX TITLE & POSS.	9004.00		7,938.71
TOTAL FOR REVENUE RESERVED UNTIL COL			51,170.84

SURPLUS REVENUE		Assets	Liabilities
SURPLUS REVENUE	9950.00		1,743,695.50
TOTAL FOR SURPLUS REVENUE			1,743,695.50

APPROPRIATIONS BALANCES		Assets	Liabilities
TREAS/COLLECTOR	10145.07		225.90

Town of Sandisfield
Balance Sheet GENERAL ACCOUNTS LIABILITIES
From 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021

APPROPRIATIONS BALANCES	Assets	Liabilities
TOWN ACCOUNTANT	10147.02	197.97
HIGHWAY FIRE	20421.60	33,917.94
HIGHWAY CHAPTER 90	20423.00	212,943.36
REPAIR CEM	50000.03	3,898.46
POLICE DEPART	60210.01	192.67
FIRE DEPT/AMBUL.	60220.00	148.30
ALSS INTERCEPT	60220.19	1,697.00
EMERGENCY MAN	60291.02	11,508.79
RECORDS STORAGE	90195.26	25,000.00
CEMETERY	90700.00	200.00
TOTAL FOR APPROPRIATIONS BALANCES		289,930.39
		TOTAL LIABILITIES 3,363,387.13

Town of Sandisfield
Balance Sheet TRUST FUNDS ACCOUNTS
From 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021

TRUST FUNDS	Assets	Liabilities
TRUST CASH	600010.00	1,409,667.66
STABILIZATION TRUST	600015.00	697,308.37
CEMETERY CARE &	600017.00	10,294.51
YANNER PARK	600018.00	16,960.85
CAPITAL	600019.00	677,314.91
SANDISFIELD PUBLIC	600020.00	649.72
NEW SANDISFIELD	600025.00	1,685.95
WEBSTER CEMETERY	600030.00	375.32
WUORI CEMETERY	600035.00	1,486.47
DEMING CEMETERY	600040.00	1,501.19
LEONARD CEMETERY	600045.00	1,674.52
NEW BOSTON EAST	600050.00	415.85
TOTAL FOR TRUST FUNDS	1,409,667.66	1,409,667.66

THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Recapitulation (Tax Rate) process for FY2022 was completed on 09/23/2021 this was a combined effort of the Assessors, Accountant and temporary Tax Collector/ Treasurer and Town Clerk Offices.

Tax Rate Fiscal Year 2022 - **\$12.90 per thousand**

Total Valuation of Town for Fiscal Year 2022 - **\$218,919,010**

The Board Processed

- 17 Statutory Exemptions
- 12 Abatements for Real Estate & Personal Property
- Committed 6 commitments with 1337 Bills
- 32 Abatements for Motor Vehicles
- 95 Transactions from the Registry of Deeds
- 49 Building Transactions (CO & Permits) from the Building Inspector using Permit Eyes was utilized for the Building Permit applications, inserted information for New Growth
- All Chapter 61, 61 A and 61 B renewals and reviewed and voted on new admissions to program.
- Sales value Questionnaires, Form of Lists, Income and Expense and 3ABC sent and reviewed for changes

The Assessors are required by Massachusetts General Law to value or assess all real and personal property within their community, as of a January 1st tax date.

The Assessors do not determine taxes. The “levy” for property taxation is determined by the Town Meeting Budget and once voted, this plus or minus the adjustments from the state aid and local receipt from fees are totaled. The total is divided amongst the Taxpayers proportionately to their value of their property.

As we continue to live through this unprecedented COVID-19 Pandemic, this office still has to continue to perform their Massachusetts Department of Revenue Mandated Requirements. Our Team consists of the Board Members, Secretary, Principal Assessor and our Vender, Mayflower Valuation LTD there are times we are out and about checking on properties. Please be courteous to them if you see them. Our Vendor usually does knock on the door and will ask the homeowners questions. The mandated Cyclical and New Growth (new building) inspections are performed yearly by, Mayflower Valuation

LTD. This keeps our data current and keeps our town within the mandated requirements. Feel free to call the office with any questions that you may have concerning any inspections.

Town of Sandisfield s' web site: sandisfieldma.gov – hold curser on “Board and Committees” and use drop down screen to “Board of Assessors”.

As a reminder, the office will be preparing for the FY2024 REVALUATION with the assessment date of January 1, 2023. If you are mailed forms to fill out, please adhere to the requested mailing. We will need your full cooperation to complete our mandated studies and reports to the Department of Revenue.

Respectfully Submitted, The Board of Assessors

Chairperson - Bethany Perry

Member - Steven Kopiec

Member - Kathleen Burrows

Principal Assessor – MAA834 -Jacqueline Bitso

CEMETERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

We are still dealing with the Covid 19 pandemic; therefore, our meetings have been very few again this year.

If anyone is in need of cemetery services such as a burial or the purchase of a Lot, please contact Rich Atwood of A&A Cemetery Services at 413-329-3672. We are very happy that he has joined our Town and appreciate all he does for us.

We would also like to thank Brad and his crew for taking care of the roadway, and mowing the large field at Center Cemetery, as well as Matt Mc Quin for mowing all the cemeteries.

I would also like to thank our committee members: Vickie Bakunis, Laurie Foulke-Green, Brenda Larson, and Steve Harasyko

Respectfully submitted,

Kathie Burrows, Chairperson

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Conservation Commission meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 P.M. If you wish to be on the agenda, please call 413-429-1058 and speak to our chairman. We always welcome any and all involvement and support from the public.

The Conservation Commission administers the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, as well as the Massachusetts Rivers Protection Act. In that capacity, the Commission processes applications to perform work in or near wetlands, flood plains, rivers, perennial streams, banks, surface waters and other resource areas. We also act in a planning and advisory capacity with other Municipal Boards on conservation issues. If you have any questions or concerns about work in any of the protected resource areas named above, please contact a commission member or our secretary, Theresa Spohnholtz. We always prefer to work with the townspeople rather than confront problems down the road.

For the period of January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, the Commission processed 3 Requests for Determination of Applicability, 2 Notice of Intents, and 2 emergency certifications. The Commission issued 3 Determinations of Applicability, 2 Orders of Conditions, 2 emergency certifications, and 1 Certificate of Compliance. The Commission held 6 public hearings and went on multiple site visits.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Gaudette, Chair; Stephen Harasyko, Clare English, Mary Turek, and Theresa Spohnholz, members

COUNCIL ON AGING

I suppose “when the going gets tough, the tough get going” would be a good motto to remember when thinking about the past year for the Seniors in Sandisfield. We succeeded in helping to get most of our group vaccinated and boosted, and our public health provider held a flu clinic which served 50 people. We were also able to resume our quarterly “foot care clinics” at the Senior Center.

Our Chair Yoga classes were able to begin again over the summer outside, and have been continuing ever since, except for a brief period in December. These classes are very well attended and support the body and the soul

Over the summer we joined with the Recreation Committee for a wonderful picnic at York Lake. It was attended and enjoyed by people of all ages. Later in the summer, we hosted a smaller picnic at the Town Hall Annex for Seniors and Town employees. To celebrate the holiday season we hosted a delightful luncheon at Mario’s in Winsted, CT. About 20 seniors attended and the food was delicious.

As we look ahead to the upcoming year, we hope we will be able to schedule a bus trip or two, and also continue our Wednesday morning coffee hours. Members are also available for transportation help for medical visits and shopping. We can also help, if necessary, to connect seniors to various services in the area.

Anina Carr, Chair; Linda Riiska, Co-chair; Barbara Cormier, Record Keeper; Ann Wald and Shirley Spring, members

CULTURAL COUNCIL

Mission: to broaden and enhance the cultural life available to the town of Sandisfield and its residents. The council will encourage and promote all forms of cultural activities. The council will act as a bridge connecting the arts, business, government and educational institutions and help support communication and cooperation in our community.

Vision: the cultural council will serve as an advocate for the public by encouraging efforts within the local community and educating policy makers about the benefits of the arts.

Priorities: the following priorities will be considered when reviewing applications: The venue should reach a large group in the community. School children and activities related to learning are a high priority, as are activities for senior citizens. Local presenters dealing with the arts, humanities and sciences are encouraged.

The Sandisfield Cultural Council received 18 grant applications for the 2021 year. The members met virtually and reviewed all applications. The council utilized the current priorities when considering the applications. Four applications were denied as they did not meet the criteria and 14 applications were granted funding. The allotment for year 2021 was \$4,800.

We continue to try to accommodate requests for grant modifications or postponements due to the COVID-19 pandemic and hope many programs can take place in the coming year.

Our local members include Connie Canty and Rosanne Carinci-Hoekstra, co-secretaries, Ellen Croibier, Jennifer Hibbins, Barbara Kershner, Jennifer Lenzi, treasurer, and John Skrip.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Hibbins, Chair
Sandisfield Cultural Council

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The Department of Public Works would like to thank the residents of Sandisfield for their ongoing support throughout the year.

Early this spring, CH 90 money was used for West Street, West Hubbard Road, and South Sandisfield Road received chip and seal maintenance. Next came the Mass Works grant, paving on Route 57, from New Hartford Road to the New Marlborough line was completed.

The Complete Street bike racks were installed at the Town Hall Annex, Old Town Hall, Wilbur Park, and the Library, with speed limit signs to follow. Unfortunately, the poles for these speed limit signs were insufficient to support the units, and new poles had to be ordered. This has pushed the completion of the project until this coming spring.

Due to equipment issues, the DPW was unable to complete as much dirt road maintenance as anticipated. The grader was inoperable for four months, with parts for this machine being extremely difficult to find. The roller had also broken down four times throughout the year, which resulted in the need to rent a roller and grader until the appropriate repairs could be made. Additionally, issues with the two small trucks arose, including damage to the frame, cab rot, and engine malfunctions. Fortunately, the town voted at the Special Town Meeting to replace one of these trucks. The other truck will need to be replaced in the near future.

There was a shift in staff this year. Following Austin Garrett's resignation, we are happy to welcome Tony Soares to the team.

Special thanks to David McCuin, Ralph Leavensworth, Keith Larson, and Tegan Abear for their hard work and dedication to the Town of Sandisfield. The DPW is looking forward to another productive year!

Residents with any questions or concerns are welcome to call the DPW Monday through Friday, 6:30am - 5:30pm at 413-258-4711 Opt. 7 or 413-717-7627

Respectfully submitted,
Brad Curry
DPW Superintendent
Town of Sandisfield

TOWN OF SANDISFIELD
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
MAY 17, 2021

To Vote for a Person, Mark a Cross (X) in the Square at the right. X	
MODERATOR - One Year	Vote for One
DOMINIC CLARKE KONSTAM 44 Sears Rd., Caucus Nominee	157*
All Others	4
Blanks	45
SELECTMAN - Three Years	Vote for One
CHRISTOPHER W. JOYCE, 2 Dodd Rd, Nomination Papers	94
ALEXANDER K. BOWMAN, 132 New Hartford Rd, Caucus Nominee	106*
All Others	1
Blanks	5
BOARD OF ASSESSORS - Three Years	Vote for One
KATHLEEN K. BURROWS, 174 New Hartford Rd., Candidate for re-election	167*
Blanks	39
SCHOOL COMMITTEE - Three Years	Vote for One
BILLIE ANDERSON PACHULSKI, 11 Roosterville Rd., Candidate for re-election	94
CARL N. NETT, 128 Town Hill Rd., Caucus Nominee	96*
Blanks	16

To Vote for a Person, Mark a Cross (X) in the Square at the right. X	
BOARD OF HEALTH - Three Years	Vote for One
Keith Larson	6*
All Others	10
Blanks	190
PLANNING BOARD - Four Years	Vote for One
WILLIAM R. TAYLOR 7 New Hartford Rd., Caucus Nominee	136*
All Others	6
Blanks	64
PLANNING BOARD - Five Years	Vote for One
JOHN W. FIELD 38 Rood Hill Rd., Candidate for re-election	167*
Blanks	39
LIBRARY TRUSTEE - Five Years	Vote for One
KATHLEEN K. BURROWS, 174 New Hartford Rd., Candidate for re-election	175*
Blanks	31

Out of 638 registered voters 206 voted in the Annual Town Election

**ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION RESULTS
FARMINGTON RIVER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

A. Total Enrollment for In-District –Pre-K – Gr. 6: (see breakdown below) 116 Students

Enrollment by Town for Grade Pre-K through Grade 6 for FY 22

Otis	<u>61</u>
Sandisfield	<u>37</u>
From Other Towns (School Choice into FRRSD)	<u>18</u>

Total

116

FRRSD Enrollment by Grade for Otis and Sandisfield Students:

Pre-School	<u>16</u>
Kindergarten	<u>16</u>
Grade One	<u>15</u>
Grade Two	<u>13</u>
Grade Three	<u>9</u>
Grade Four	

13

Grade Five	<u>10</u>
Grade Six	<u>6</u>

Total

98

B. Total Enrollment for Out-of-District Enrollments: (see breakdown below) 48 students

Berkshire Hills Regional School District Enrollment by Town for FY 2021:

Otis School Choice for Grades K-6	<u>0</u>
Otis – Tuition for Grades 7-12	<u>28</u>
Sandisfield School Choice for Grades K-6	<u>5</u>
Sandisfield – Tuition for Grades 7-12	<u>28</u>

Lee School District Enrollment by Town for FY 2021

Otis School Choice for Grades K-6	<u>6</u>
Otis – Tuition for Grades 7-12	<u>21</u>
Sandisfield School Choice for Grades K-6	<u>0</u>
Sandisfield – Tuition for Grades 7-12	<u>9</u>

Valley West School, Chicopee – Tuition for Grades K-12

1

Lenox School District Enrollment by Town for FY 2021

Otis School Choice for Grades K-12	<u>0</u>
Sandisfield School Choice for Grades K-12	<u>2</u>

<u>SBRSD Enrollment by Town for FY 2021 (School Choice)</u>	
Otis	<u>8</u>
Sandisfield	<u>15</u>
<u>Central Berkshire District Enrollment by Town for FY 2021 (School Choice)</u>	
Otis	<u>4</u>
Sandisfield	<u>0</u>
<u>Gateway Regional School District (Otis School Choice)</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>TEC Connections Academy (Otis School Choice)</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>Westfield Public Schools (Otis Choice)</u>	<u>2</u>

TOTAL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT Pre-K through Grade 12 – both towns - FY2022: 202

184 “in-district” students plus 18 “out of district” students = **202 students in the entire FRRSD District Preschool through Grade 12 in 2021-2022 fiscal year.**

Additional Information

The Department of Education mandated all public schools to no longer provide remote services for teaching, apart from proved medical exemptions.

Total enrollment for Remote:

Sandisfield:	<u>0</u>
Otis:	<u>3</u>

Total Enrollment for Vocational Schools:

	4
<u>Pittsfield Vocational Technical High School (Sandisfield)</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School (Otis)</u>	<u>3</u>

*All vocational schools are managed through the participant’s town, not by the school district

School Committee

FRRSD School Committee is comprised of seven members:

Otis – Carol Lombardo-Chair, Jess Drenga, Arlene Tolopko, and Deb Fogel

Sandisfield – Jennifer Hibbins – vice-chair, Roger Kohler, and Carl Nett

School Administration

Thomas Nadolny, Principal/Superintendent – Full time

Michael Saporito, Director of Student Services – Full time

Eric Jesner, District Business Manager – full time

Clerical Staff

Teresa DellaGiustina, Superintendent’s Assistant – Full time

Neesha Dolan, Secretary to Principal – Full time

Paula Subklew, Business Office Assistant – Full time

Teaching Staff

Nanette Higgins – Full day Pre-school

Rebecca Hamill – Half-day Pre-school

Amy Maxton – Kindergarten

Meaghan Martin – Grade 1

Sarah Tracy – Grade 2

Katherine Graham – Grade 3

Bethany Mielke– Grade 4

Christopher Keller – Grade 5

James Foster – Grade 6

Jonina Decker – Special Education

Ellen Cotler – Special Education

Laura Catullo – Art – Part time

Michael Flower – Music – Part time

Jenna Daley – Health and Physical Education – Full time

Laurie Flower – Instructional Technology and Engineering – Full time

Terri DiGrigoli – Student Adjustment Counselor – Full time

Paraprofessionals

The District employs 8 Paraprofessionals (6 full time, 2 part time) in Grades Pre-K through 6th to address the needs of special education, disabled, and regular education students in all settings. The District employees two Paraprofessionals in “out of district” public placements to meet IEP requirements. Also employed is one full time Substitute teacher

Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Psychological Services

To address the therapeutic needs of students as defined through their Individualized Education Plans, 504 Accommodations agreements, or by other recommendations, the District engages the services of therapists, as needed, on a consultant basis.

School Nurse Denise Zuidema – Full time

Cafeteria Staff

Breakfast and lunch is served daily to students, in accordance with state and federal guidelines for healthy meals. The District also provides a low-cost, nutritious meal for Senior Citizens of both towns once a week. The Senior Citizen lunch has temporarily discontinued due to COVID-19.

Kendra Rybacki – Director of Food Services

Candy Chaffee – Assistant to the Director of Food Services

Maintenance Staff

Jeffrey Gray – Head of Maintenance

Michelle Cloran-part time evening custodian

Dakotah Meredith– part time evening custodian

Transportation Services

The District has a multi-year bus contract with Dufour, Inc. to transport District students in Grades K-12 to the Farmington River Regional School, Berkshire Hills Regional School District and Lee Public Schools. Additionally, to access students in outlying areas in both communities, the District employs its own drivers and three District vans to transport students in both towns.

School choice students are not transported out of district, but in coming out of district students can ride the bus providing they meet our transportation at an in district bus stop.

Tuition Agreements for Students in Grade 7 -12

To provide a free and appropriate public education for District students in Grades 7 – 12, the District maintains tuition agreements with Berkshire Hills Regional School District and the Lee Public Schools. These tuition agreements enable all parties to budget and plan financially, based upon these agreements.

Parent and students can choose which of these two school districts they wish to attend after they leave Grade 6 at Farmington River Regional School.

Parent Teacher Association – PTA

The PTA is highly active in many aspects of the District. They provided information on school events to all District parents. The PTA held many creative fund-raising activities, such as the Cash Calendar to raise funds for school equipment and opportunities. PTA members help with Field Day, the Holiday Shoppe, the Ski Program, and other family events. This year the PTA helped with the cost of new playground equipment for the students. They contribute tens of thousands of dollars to the students' education, enrichment and recreation opportunities that cannot be accommodated in the regular school budget. This year, an anonymous donation was given to help the Ski Program. The donation helped cover costs for all participating students, allowing students to ski with no charge.

Volunteers and Collaborations:

The Otis Cultural Council and the Sandisfield Cultural Council donates hundreds of dollars to the school for in-school enrichment programs and field trips. Some teachers have applied for field trips this year. Last year field trips were on hold due to COVID.

COLLABORATION WITH DISTRICT POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS

The school Administration works closely with State Police in the training of all staff members in lockdown and shelter-in-place procedures. Our lockdown drills continue to be successful because of this partnership. Under a state ordinance, the Otis Fire Department conducts four fire drills a year keeping the staff and students aware of the procedures in case of a fire. Otis Police Department continues to show their presence to the staff and students during dismissal times throughout the week.

Use of District Facilities

Under "normal" circumstances, the use of our facilities is available upon request to any community member or organization within the district (Otis & Sandisfield). Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 we have temporarily discontinued the use of our facilities until we feel safe enough to reopen to the public.

Respectfully submitted by:

Thomas Nadolny, Superintendent

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 93, Section 16, requires towns with a total valuation of \$1,000,000 or more to have a Finance or Advisory Committee. The Town of Sandisfield's By-Laws require that the Finance Committee review the budget presented by the Select Board and make recommendations to the Town Meeting relative to all appropriations. As such, the Finance Committee's major responsibility and focus is promoting a balanced and fiscally sound budget for the town. Additionally, the Finance Committee makes recommendations to the Town Meeting regarding appropriations to the Reserve Fund and the general and specialized stabilization funds.

In FY2022, The Finance Committee supported the Town through the personnel changes, especially those directly related to the financial activities such as the Interim and Permanent Collector/Treasurer positions. Additionally, The Finance Committee activity participated with the Town during meetings with Massachusetts Department of Revenue and Department of Local Services.

The Finance Committee meets regularly during the year, monitoring operational and capital budgets, approving transfers from the Reserve Fund and conducting reviews of town finances on the behalf of town residents.

Respectively submitted,

Roger Brown, Finance Committee Chair

Myles Reynolds, Finance Committee Member

Calvin Rodman, Finance Committee Member

Larry Dwyer, Finance Committee Member

FIRE DEPARTMENT AND AMBULANCE SQUAD

During the calendar year 2021 there were a total of 222 incidents in Sandisfield. Of this 67 were fire calls and 157 were ambulance calls. Ambulance calls were 70% of the total calls.

We need people who are interested in joining the Fire Department, and/or interested in becoming EMT'S for the Ambulance. Training for the EMT certification and required continuing education classes will be paid for by the Town.

If you can give some of your time or can help in any way, please call Chief Ralph Morrison at 413.258.4742. There is always a job opportunity for everyone.

Sandisfield, Otis, Tolland and New Marlboro FIRE and EMT personnel participated in the following in person training classes: Blood Borne Pathogens & Infectious Control, Confined Space Emergencies, Hazmat Operations, Carbon Monoxide Emergencies, AED, Lucas, and ambulance stretcher training. Also, two EMT's recertified this year.

Due to covid -19 the Annual Fire Department Steak Roast held at station#2 was a takeout event only.

The Sandisfield Fire Department Inc. held a Roadblock Fund Raiser on Rt 8 during the Columbus Day Weekend.

Any donations received will be used to purchase additional equipment for the department.

In case of an emergency, post your house numbers so they can always be visible. For any type of emergency dial 911

This has been a very difficult year for our department due to Covid-19

We would like to thank the Sandisfield Police Department, Highway Department, and Select Board as well as the Mass. State Police, DCR, and the Environmental Police for their assistance and support during the past year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ralph E. Morrison, Fire Chief

GREEN COMMITTEE

After four years of applying for a grant, planning, designing, getting approval and sending out bids, the Sandisfield Green Committee has finally received the go-ahead for its Solar Array Project. As of January 2022, the contractor selected for the installation, Grenergy, is applying for town permits and interconnections from Eversource.

The Project: The Green Committee Solar Array Project consists of two roof-mounted, solar arrays. One single-phase solar array will be placed on the Town Hall Annex and the second single-phase solar array will be placed on the Department of Public Works (DPW) Town Garage. Funding for this project is paid from the balance of the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) Green Communities Designation Grant. Once the solar arrays are installed and the Designation Grant has been exhausted, further funding will be requested through a DOER Green Communities Competitive Grant to install a heat pump system for the Town Hall Annex.

Initially in December 2020, a three-phase system was designed by Cambridge Energy Services, paid through a Municipal Energy Technical Assistance (META) 7 grant, which would have included a three-phase solar array, paired with a three-phase heat pump system for the Sandisfield Town Hall Annex. The reason the Sandisfield Green Committee had focused on a three-phase design was due to the unfortunate experience of the Town of Windsor. Windsor had installed a single-phase solar array and single-phase heat pump system for their town hall. However, they did not meet the requirements to qualify for Net-Metering. Net-Metering requires that utilities pay a consumer the retail rate for the electricity produced by their solar array. Under current rules, to qualify for Net-Metering, public buildings are limited to a 10 kW for a single-phase solar array and 25 kW for a three-phase solar array. The Town of Windsor exceeded the threshold for a single-phase system and thereby did not qualify for Net-Metering. This negated the benefits for installing their solar array and heat pump system. In order not to repeat the mistake of the Town of Windsor, the Sandisfield Green Committee focused on installing a three-phase system.

Sandisfield solicited bids from five solar contractors: Grenergy, Energy Resources, Sunbug Solar, Valley Solar and PV Squared. As the bids came in, the prices for solar arrays were less than expected. Also at this time, a new member, Jeff Bye, a retired NASA engineer, joined the Sandisfield Green Committee. Upon evaluating the bids, Jeff Bye suggested we change our design to installing two single-phase solar arrays instead of one three-phase array on the Town Hall Annex. We would then apply for a competitive grant for the heat pump system. Installing a three-phase was selected solely for the

purpose of meeting Net-Metering requirements. Also, converting the building to accept three-phase system would have absorbed a substantial amount of the grant funding and not contribute to energy reduction. Therefore, our design was changed, and the Green Committee decided to accept the recommendations of Jeff Bye.

By installing solar arrays on both town buildings, the town will be able to generate more solar energy compared to installing a single system on the Town Hall Annex. The town will be able to take advantage of Virtual Net Metering (VNM) since both buildings will be serviced by the same Eversource electrical power grid. (VNM allows multi-tenant building owners to install a single solar system to cover the electricity load of common areas.) We expect the excess energy produced by the system installed on the town DPW garage to be applied to the Town Hall Annex as the Town Hall Annex uses more energy in a calendar year.

Bids were evaluated and Grenergy was selected as the contractor to install the solar arrays. All the companies that submitted bids were very close in both performance and price. Anyone of these companies would have provided quality work and materials. Therefore, the parameters that we used to select a contractor, were based on the type of panel and the length of the warranty. The type of panel selected was REC Solar which is made in Singapore as opposed to Quantum which is made in China. Singapore has higher labor standards than in China.

Grenergy has priced the installation of both solar arrays at \$45,000 each and they will be paying prevailing wage to their workers. The savings in electricity to the town is estimated at \$231,000 over 25 years.

When the heat pump system is installed, this will increase the use of electricity, but this cost will be offset by the production of electricity from the solar arrays and the expected elimination of heating oil used for the Town Hall Annex oil burner.

The Sandisfield Green Committee members are George Riley, Nina Carr, Jeff Bye and Larry Dwyer.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Greetings to all. Victor Hryckvich, our Chairman and Town Sanitarian has completed many Title 5 inspections, Perc tests, repairs and upgrades this year. The Board has also had the opportunity to work with other BOH organizations, which has made the BOH knowledgeable of upcoming programs and training seminars.

The Board has also conducted onsite inspections of businesses that serve food and drink. At our last meeting in May, a representative from Berkshire Regional Planning Commission delivered a presentation to our board, to join with other Berkshire towns, in their new program. They presently have offices in North Adams, Pittsfield and Great Barrington. In addition, they have a mobile clinic that offers similar services that can visit towns like ours. The Harm Reduction Program encompasses education, testing, treatment, basic wound care, community syringe disposal, immunizations, flu and covid vaccinations at no cost to any participant. For addition information a copy of the program will be available at Town Hall. The Board of Health has voted unanimously to participate in this most worthwhile and beneficial program.

The Board of Health meets on the first Monday of every month. Respectfully submitted,
Victor Hryckvich Chair Kim Spring Keith Larson

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

New Boston Village Historic District. On December 8, 2021 the Massachusetts Historical Commission approved the Town of Sandisfield's application of New Boston Village for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Federal recognition by the U.S. National Park Service, the final step, is expected in the first half of 2022 whereupon the nomination will be published in the Congressional Register and then in the State Register.

National Historic District listings are prestigious and confirm that a community has retained its historic and architecturally significant character. Listing on the NRHP is strictly honorary. Property owners in the district are under no obligations or restrictions whatsoever. State approval opens the way for matching grants for improvements to municipal facilities in a listed district. The Sandisfield Public Library, which is in the New Boston Historic District, may be eligible for matching funds as available.

The Knox Trail, an 18th century "war road" which runs for five miles through Sandisfield forests continuing into Otis, was submitted for nomination to the NRHP jointly by the historical commissions of Sandisfield and Otis. The town of Otis has provided all funding and coordination to this point. The process is expected to take several years but chances of success are considered to be good.

The Old Route 8 Bridge. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers notified the Town that the 1927 iron bridge over Old Route 8, which is the northern gateway to Colebrook River Lake reservoir, will not be demolished. This decision is final. Town historical commissions have several purposes including coordinating NRHP nominations, raising awareness of the need for preservation of town character and advising Select Boards about potential threats to defined historic and architecturally significant assets. These commissions are different than *local historic district commissions* which are established by a town's bylaws with certain defined powers. There are no local historic districts in Sandisfield.

Ronald M. Bernard, Chairman

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

The year 2021 has been equally as hard as the previous year due to the corona virus pandemic. The library still managed to provide services under new conditions. We want to thank our patrons for their patience and understanding. Hopefully 2022 will be easier for everyone under very hard conditions.

Through it all we have still been purchasing all the best sellers and favorites. 756 patrons visited the library last year. 408 books were circulated to adults, 183 to children and 169 eBooks were ordered. We also purchased 212 books No matter what the circumstances people still wanted to read. The trustees would like to thank Terri Sponholz, Librarian and Kathy Burrows and Vicki Bakunis for their work. We would also want to thank Sadie O'Rourke for her years of service as Library Director. WE thank all our patrons for their patience and faithfulness.

Respectfully submitted,
Claire English, Kathy Burrows, Mary Turek

PLANNING BOARD

Over the year we worked on 3 possible bylaws and one zoning amendment (to allow shared driveways). The first bylaw to get attention was Cannabis. We created a survey to get ideas on how to change the Cannabis Bylaw which failed to pass at the May 2021 Town Meeting. Based on the survey, a joint meeting with Select Board members, public input at a few regular meetings, and a public hearing, we rewrote the bylaw. Other bylaws included a Dark Sky Bylaw which we worked on with some information sharing with the New Marlborough Planning Board. Since it turns out lighting is not a zoning issue this bylaw is being handled by the Select Board. We did pass a recommendation to provide a dark sky brochure to all special permit and building permit applicants. We approved a bylaw to allow Accessory Dwelling Units, modeled after those already law in several other Berkshire County towns. We also considered the usual driveway, Form A and other permit applications that contained Planning issues. Yet to work on is a new town plan, timely because there has not been one for a while.

Members: Roger Kohler, Chair; Bill Taylor, Secretary; Paul Gaudette; John Field. There was one vacancy.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

During Fiscal Year 21-22, the Sandisfield Police Department received over 1,000 calls for service, which is yet again an increase in requests for service.

This fiscal year, all departments were asked to level fund their operating budgets which has been done for many years. This limits what the Police Department can do for the town and its residents.

I would like to thank our officers, Ralph Morrison, Mary Bredenfoerder, Adam Gonska, and Dana Beardsley for their dedication and service to the Town of Sandisfield. Special thanks to John Burrows, who helps to keep the Department up-to-date on all of its paperwork.

If you run into any of these great people, please say hello and thank them for their service.

We can all make Sandisfield a better and safer place to live with a few crucial principles:

- See something, say something
- Post house numbers where they are clearly visible at all times

Feel free to contact the Police to Department any time.

911 for Emergencies - For non-emergencies call the Office at 413-258-4742 or 413-441-2129 for Michael Morrison's cellphone, who is readily available 24/7. Emails can be sent to PoliceChief@sandisfieldma.gov

Thank you all for your continued support of the Sandisfield Police Department.

Respectfully,

Michael Morrison, Chief of Police

RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Sandisfield Recreation Committee provides social and educational activities for the community encompassing all genders and ages. Our current group of four members have been very busy this year. We started off co-sponsoring, with the COA, a community BBQ at York Lake, followed with a mini terrarium/dish garden class in July. In August, we tapped into one of our town resident's expertise with Bugs with a very informative, educational presentation.

In October we brought you to Joshua's Farm, for a "day in the life of a small local dairy farm", followed by a Town wide trick or treat. The cooler weather was upon us, so appropriately we held a fall wreath making class. Santa Claus made his usual appearance at the Town's annual Holiday Fair, listening to all the children's hopes and wishes for Christmas, while handing out small surprises.

This year there was a new town holiday party designed also as a meet and greet, with the new employees in attendance, which we offered, partnering with the COA once again.

And let's not forget the 10% discount we obtained for those who wanted to discover "NightWood" at Edith Wharton's house in Lenox.

Our last program was offered to all the chocolate lovers in town, which had us dipping, drizzling and creating Valentine designs to share, or not.

Our future programs include a Gnome making class and an Easter surprise. We are bringing back decorating bicycles for the Memorial Day Parade with a new Memorial Wall at the American Legion. And yes, we have left the best for last, we have planned a "Magical Family Day" to be held at Looking Glass Gardens, at the end of June, with grant funds we have obtained through The Sandisfield Cultural Council.

We would like to thank all those in town who have helped in making our programs a success, and look forward to more partnerships, while delivering the bright smiles our community deserves.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Rubenstein, Chair; Anina Carr, Laura Messina, and Dawn Odell-Lemon, members

TOWN CLERK

The Town Clerk position was one of the earliest offices established in colonial towns, although the title itself may not appear in the earliest records. The settlers were well aware of the importance of keeping accurate written records of their agreements and actions including grants of land, regulations governing animals, the collection of taxes and the expenditure of town funds. Sandisfield's records date back to the first half of the 17th century. Records show a person was given the specific duty of writing down town orders and will see many entries in the record which include the words "It is ordered by the inhabitants," or something similar.

The person given the responsibility for recording these orders was also often given other duties, such as sweeping the meeting house and selling seats, warning town meetings, ringing the bell, and paying the bounty for jays and blackbirds whose heads were presented to him by the citizens.

By the middle of the 17th century, the title, town clerk, appears in the town records and that title remains in tact.

One of the earliest statutory duties imposed by the General Court on town clerks was to record births, deaths and marriages. Since that time, the General Court has formalized by statute many of the duties first delegated by vote of the town and has added myriad others. By 1692, the town clerk was required to enter and record divisions of land and orders of the selectmen as well as all town votes, orders and grants. Warrants directed to the constable for the collection of taxes were to be signed by the assessors or the town clerk. Between 1742 and 1756, the General Court made the town clerk responsible for receiving and producing, if necessary to substantiate a person's voting rights, the list of each inhabitant's property value, and the town clerk had to administer and record the oath of office taken by town officials. By 1776, the town clerk was empowered to call town meetings to elect selectmen if a majority of the selectmen had moved from the town or were absent in the service of the United States of America.

Since the Revolution, the General Court has continuously added new duties and at the present time, there are more than 73 chapters and 451 sections of the General Laws related to town clerks. In addition, in most towns, bylaws, ordinances, charter or special acts require town clerks to fulfill duties in addition to those required by the General Laws, and many town clerks are providing needed services simply by town custom and tradition, or because of their firm dedication to public service.

Today, the Town Clerk is responsible for the direction, administration, and operation of the Town Clerk's Office, including the maintenance and curating of official

town records; coordination and administration of elections; issuance of various permits and licenses; recording and reporting of vital statistics; conducting the annual census; and other duties in accordance with the Massachusetts General Laws.

This is a very demanding and comprehensive position, across all boards, committees, commissions and residents. The position is currently responsible to the electorate and remains one of Sandisfield's last bastions of true Grassroots American Democracy.

It has been my privilege to serve Sandisfield and I feel secure in the knowledge that Town Clerk Douglas Miner will always act on behalf of Sandisfield's residents, keeping their best interests paramount.

There were 4 births and 16 deaths in 2021.
There are 648 registered voters, 358 year-round households and 450 second homes.

Mary Kronholm, Temporary Town Clerk

YANNER PARK COMMITTEE

The Yanner Park Committee, begun in 2018, is tasked with recommending to the Select Board necessary improvements and maintenance for the 275-acre town-owned property. Thus far for fiscal Year 2022, Yanner Park Committee has been primarily in a phase of planning for various short and long-term projects at the park. We received the great news that the town has been awarded \$50,000 by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation through their Recreational Trails Program grant. Although not the full amount that we sought, it does allow us to move forward with having the Greenagers organization begin constructing a hiking trail that will span the property from Town Hill Road to Hammertown Road, thereby connecting to the hiking trails on Berkshire Natural Resources Council (BNRC) property at the Clam River.

We met in early fall with representatives from the Greenagers to discuss some slight alterations to our original trail construction plan to account for the reduced amount of grant funding received. The updated plan will not have the section of Universally Accessible trail that was originally included, which will allow the trail to still be constructed but at a reduced cost that will fit within the monies received. Construction of the hiking trail is slated to begin in summer of 2022 and conclude summer of 2023. The committee also applied in late summer for a grant from Massachusetts Department of Fish and Wildlife that would allow us to undertake removal of non-native invasive plant species in the meadow and forested areas that surround the parking area on Town Hill Road. This involved meeting with contractors to obtain estimates, field reconnaissance and mapping, and assisting with the grant writing but was unfortunately not successful. We plan to continue to seek other funding sources or request funds through warrant items at annual town meetings that will help us manage and maintain the native ecological diversity of the park.

Although the pandemic continues to slow our efforts somewhat, we hope to continue to make steady progress and implement some more visible improvements to the park in the near future, such as stone pillars at the entrance, repair of the stone sign that fronts Town Hill Road, split rail fencing, and tree plantings. We are also in the very early stages of planning for the design and construction of a pavilion, next to the parking lot, that will serve as a town gathering spot/outdoor event space.

The future is bright for Yanner Park and we continue to believe that it can and will become a much-loved resource for the Sandisfield community.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Brown, Chair, Jessica Cofrin, Emily Gallagher, Paul Gaudette, Kathy Jacobs, Roger Kohler and Sue Tarasuk, Secretary