



Department Head Monthly Report to the Town Administrator

March 2011

ACCOUNTING: Submitted by Joan Paquette

During the month of March, the accounting office processed nine hundred and two invoices for payment. Eight payrolls were imported from the Harper's reports. The departmental turnover sheets were verified against the revenues input by the treasurer's office and posted to the general ledger.

The assistant to the accountant printed the month-end budget reports, quarterly revenue, special articles and capital projects and distributed them to the proper departments for review. The monthly reconciliation reports are being submitted promptly by the departments with very few adjusting entries requested.

The assistant has spent numerous hours dealing with the telephone, gas and electric utility companies on the phone. Though stubs are sent with the payments, the lockboxes for the utilities are not posting correctly. She researches the payments with the various companies and authorizes adjustments to balance the accounts. This is a continuing process each month.

The tax titles, deferred taxes and foreclosure receivables were balanced to the treasurer and collector's detail.

The accountant assisted the town administrator with town meeting issues.

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER /ANIMAL SHELTER REPORT: Submitted by Debra Mueller

Calls received: 99

15--Dogs were picked up or impounded

9-Dogs returned to their owners

5-Dogs adopted out to new homes

6--Cats were picked up or impounded

4-Cats adopted out to new homes

1-Cats euthanized

1-Cats DOA

Quarantines Released: (1) cat - six month extended

Collections: Town of Kingston (fees/fines) \$275.00

Animal Care Fund (donations) \$1,650.00 Expended/\$364.76

Additionally March 1 Animal Control appeared at a scheduled hearing before the Board of Selectmen in response to Laura Wagner's 1/10/2011 "denial of grade three kennel license" and subsequent request to waive the strict compliance conditions.

ASSESSORS: Submitted by James Judge

The Assessor's office continues to gather new growth, resolve abatement applications and generally serve the citizens of the town.

BOARD OF HEALTH: Submitted by Henny Walters

- Tobacco Compliance Checks were conducted on March 16, 2011. The inspections are conducted to ensure compliance with Massachusetts and Local Regulations Regarding the Sale, Vending and Distribution of Tobacco Products. Of the 18 licensed stores that were inspected, 3 stores sold tobacco to a minor.

Hess Express, Kingston Liquors, and Empire Wine & Spirits were notified by certified mail that in the case of a first violation, the holder of the permit shall have all the employees of the establishments involved in the sale of tobacco products attend a tobacco sales educational program.

I've scheduled a training session for Wednesday, April 20, 2011, at 5:00 p.m. at the Kingston Town Hall Room 203. Mr. Robert Collett will conduct the training which will review Massachusetts and Local Tobacco Regulations.

- The Board of Health is currently distributing Potassium Iodide (KI) tablets. Potassium Iodide is not an "anti-radiation pill." KI protects only the thyroid gland from uptake of radioactive iodine and should only be taken when told to do so by public officials. Using Potassium Iodide inappropriately could have potential serious side effects, including abnormal heart rhythms, nausea, vomiting, and electrolyte abnormalities and bleeding.

Educational information, provided by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, is included with the KI tablets. Potassium Iodide is just one small element of overall emergency response plans for nuclear accidents. In the event of an accident at a nuclear power plant, the key action step is to leave the affected area.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT/INSPECTIONAL SERVICES: Submitted by Paul Armstrong

March was a busy month as people began planning and executing spring construction projects. There was also a lot of interest in commercial building use and development and time was spent with developers, designers and engineers. A bank and later on a house were struck by out of control automobiles, each occurring on clear days. There are several unoccupied dwellings in town, a sign of the economic times. We attempt to keep them secured. It is often times hard to contact a responsible party when the owner is gone and the mortgage was bought and sold several times. Reports by neighbors on changes in conditions are appreciated. Land clearing has begun on a 40B housing project off of country Club Way and town wide, general construction activity is increasing. There is too much going on to list individual activities but please feel free to call if you have

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questions about anything happening in your neighborhood or around town. Our congratulations go out Justin Warner and his grandparents Linda and Lenny Warner on his being awarded the Boy Scout Eagle Scout award.

MONTHLY RECAP MARCH 2011

BUILDING TYPE	PERMIT TO	COUNT	ESTIMATED COST
Commercial	Alter	1	800.00
Commercial	Repair	6	86,300.00
Commercial	Construct	1	2,850.00
Dwelling Units	Alter	0	0.00
Dwelling Units	Construct	4	71,745.00
Dwelling Units	Addition	4	1,128,020.00
Dwelling Units	Repairs	1	64,800.00
Garage	Any	7	32,031.00
Misc.	Any		
Other	Any	1	2,000.00
Shed/Barn	Any	4	53,000.00
Swimming Pools	Any	1	3,200.00

ALL PERMIT TYPES

Building	30	12,423.00
Cert. of Inspection	1	105.00
Electric	27	1,559.00
Gas	16	929.00
Plumbing	11	890.00
Signs	2	405.00
Zoning	0	0.00
Total Fees Collected	87	16,311.00

YEAR TO DATE TOTALS

Total fees collected to date	33,479.00
Total Est. cost of construction to date	2,537,108.00
Total dwelling units to date	7

COLLECTOR: Submitted by Priscilla Palombo

- First Commitment MV due
- Collections on 2/1/11 RE & PP tax due
- Water billing completed
- Processing tax title and bankruptcies

CONSERVATION COMMISSION: Submitted by Maureen Thomas

During March 2011 the Conservation Commission held one meeting, but received several new applications for which public hearings have been scheduled in April. As a result, the spring is shaping up to be a very busy one for review of new filings and site visits for the Commission/Agent. Other activities the Commission and staff were involved with in March are as follows:

- Attended the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions Annual Environmental Conference for worthwhile workshops on protecting buffer zones for climate adaptation, common wetland plants, new stream crossing standards, new MA Endangered Species Act regs., river restoration, stormwater recharge, shellfish restoration, etc.
- Continued working on the revisions to the Kingston Wetland Protection Regulations which are very close to completion and are scheduled for a public hearing with the Commission in May;
- Participated in a webinar for implementation of public outreach & education goals that are part of Kingston's NPDES Phase II Stormwater Management Plan;
- Finalized NPDES Phase II Town Meeting requests with Town Administrator, Superintendent of Streets, Trees & Parks, Town Planner and the Town's stormwater consultant;
- Attended a meeting with various Town staff & Assessor's mapping consultant to discuss updating the parcel data to create a more accurate datalayer for GIS;
- Attended Eagle Scout ceremony for Justin Warner who earned his badge by doing a nice improvement project at Patuxet Park, a Kingston open space property;
- Went to a workshop on Writing, Revising & Implementing Open Space & Recreation Plans;
- Met with Paul Basler and Pine DuBois to discuss stormwater remediation at Wapping Road outfalls to the Jones River in the vicinity of the dam that is scheduled for removal this coming summer;
- Commented on the Elm Street Bridge Replacement Project Water Quality Certification application to DEP;
- With Paul Basler and Gary Langenbach, Chair of the Conservation Land Review Committee (CLRC), identified locations at Camp Nekon for "No Motorized Vehicle" signage where Jeeps and ATV's are destroying the property, including wetland areas. Signage should be installed by the end of April;
- Attended the first in a four forum series on the Plymouth Carver Aquifer presented by the Plymouth Carver Aquifer Advisory Committee (PCAAC) of which the Conservation Agent is the Alternate Delegate for Kingston. The forum was well-attended and we hope for a similar turnout for the next forum on April 27th from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. at Carver Town Hall to discuss, *The Balancing Act – Preserving the Quality of Our Sole Source Aquifer*, see the Town's website for more information at: http://www.kingstonmass.org/filestorage/40/6581/PCAAC_Forum_2_4-13-11.pdf;
- Attended a meeting on the South Shore Geographic Response Plan project whose goal is to develop an Oil Spill Response Plan to protect sensitive areas from oil spill impacts within the six-town coastal region from Cohasset to Plymouth. The next group meeting is scheduled for April 28th, Plymouth Town Hall, Mayflower Room and they are looking for participation from key staff members of each town (Emergency Management, Harbormaster, Conservation, etc.) to development an appropriate plan for the region. See <http://grp.nukaresearch.com/SSgroup.htm> for more information; and
- Conducted various site visits for permitting & construction oversight on projects within Commission jurisdiction.

COUNCIL ON AGING: Submitted by Linda Felix

With each day, the Kingston Council on Aging is growing in many ways. This month we have increased serving Elder's congregate meals by approximately 40%. We now are able to provide hot meals every day (4 days OCES & COA's weekly Thursday Luncheon) at the Kingston Council on Aging. The Town of Kingston is very fortunate

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OCES chose Kingston for their nutrition site, providing additional services and saving taxpayers thousands of dollars.

I am also quite excited about the increase of participation in the variety of new programs and activities offered at the Council on Aging. Our exercise classes Tai Chi, Chair Yoga, Workout on Wheels and Get Fit with the Director are booming. In addition, next month we will be offering Line Dancing and in May we will be adding Joints in Motion to our weekly exercise classes. This month, AT&T offered an informative hands on seminar called "Cell Phones for Seniors" which was well attended. Some other programs we had in March included an Ice Cream Social, High Tea Party and a French Toast Breakfast. These programs are extraordinary because of our hard working staff/volunteers and our incredible new Senior Center.

STATISTICS FY 2011										
	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	TOTAL
FITNESS / EXERCISE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
EXERCISE W/CINDI	8	9	3	9	0	0	0		4	33
TAI CHI				18	8	11	6	20	43	106
Chair Yoga					11	11	2	24	20	68
GET FIT W/DIRECTOR								14	71	85
INTERGENERATIONAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SENIOR OLYMPICS		90								90
SALUTE TO VETERANS					62					62
CRECREATIONAL/SOCIALIZATION	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BINGO	51	0	33	92	36	23			151	386
CARDS			23	27	8	15			15	88
CRAFTY LADIES										-
ROYAL GARDEN	50									50
ROCKY NOOK / BREWSTER PARK	63	80								143
CHARLIE HORSE		68								68
BREAKFAST	51			36	31				24	142
PINOCHLE	9	6	13	12	23	17	16	26	17	139
Hand / FACIAL		5								5
PIZZA PARTY				31						31
ICE CREAM PARTY				25				33	19	77
JERRY-ATTRICS -ENTERTAINER				78						78
HIGH TEA				24	9			22	8	63
HALLOWEEN PARADE				16						16
STATE HOUSE TRIP					44					44
POT LUCK LUNCH					12					12
90+ CELEBRATION					84					84
HOLIDAY LUNCHEON @ Village at Duxbury						47				47
COA HOLIDAY LUNCHEON						150				150
NEW YEARS CELEBRATION						41				41
WHIST								20	46	66
CRIBBAGE								24	36	60
COMMUNITY EDUCATION	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LUNCH & LEARN		80			28					108
"ASK GATRA"				4						4
PLYMOUTH COUNTY JAILS THEN & NOW				78						78
MEDICARE CHANGES					31					31
COPING WITH GRIEF DURING THE HOLIDAYS						1				1
GRAND OPENING (W/AGENCIES)								700		700
Cellphone for Seniors AT & T									8	8

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CULTURAL										
BOOK CLUB	8	9	9	9	9	0	4	8	8	64
OIL PAINTING			43	45	32	0		0	46	166
QUILTING				20	22	9	13	8	16	88
Craft Class									3	3
HEALTH SCREENING										
BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC	80	140	33	86	63	61		40	82	585
PEDI-CARE	12	2	8	4	6	4	5	6	3	50
HEALTH EDUCATION										
ARTHRITIS TALK					31					31
TOTAL MONTHLY PARTICAPATION	332	489	165	614	550	390	46	945	620	

TOTAL FISCAL YEAR TO DATE	4,151
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STATISTICS FY 2011										
	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	TOTAL
TRANSPORTATION										
Van S-1										
Miles	1389	1390	1296	1352	1361	1212	1155	977	1604	11,736
Services	209	235	210	217	198	245	153	326	239	2,032
Van S-2										
Miles	1547	1357	1466	1587	1631	1589	948	1203	1755	13,083
Services	185	208	211	236	227	227	125	238	252	1,909
Refusals Due to Unavail Vans								30	15	45
FOOD SERVICES										
THURSDAY LUNCHEON	50	0	301	322	177	332	125	0	492	1,799
Bakery Items			89	325	332	280	235	300	681	2,242
OCES Congregate Meals									142	142
MEALS ON WHEELS (Duplicated Services)	567	557	610	582	617	658	562	434	690	5,277
Unduplicated people	32	36	37	34	34	36	36	30	36	311
SUPPORT SERVICES										
MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LOAN	4	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
OUTREACH / ADVOCACY										
SHINE	20	4	6	4	16	12	3	5	8	78
FUEL ASSISTANCE	10	7	3	4	5	4	3	3	1	40
CLIENT SUPPORT (ELDERS ONLY)	50	2	3	1	6			5	10	77
HOME CONSULT			1	2	0	0	2	3	3	11
FOOD STAMPS	3	2	4	4	4	1	1	1	5	25
FAMILY SUPPORT (NON-ELDERS ONLY)	4	17	2	4	2	0	10	5	5	49
Office Consult & phone										-
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES										
LEGAL ASSISTANCE	2	4	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	25
TAX CONSULTANT	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	25	52	79
REFERRAL > AGENCIES	10	16	15	17	25	12	21	0	2	118
REFERRAL < AGENCIES	2	16	14	15	2	12	0	0	0	61
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
STATE REPRESENTATIVE		0	0	0	1	0		0	0	1
VOLUNTEER										
Volunteer Hours			379	370	242	185	135.5	380	645	2,337

FIRE DEPARTMENT/ Kingston Emergency Management Agency (KEMA): Submitted by Robert Heath

1. The Offices of Senators John Kerry and Scott Brown, as well as the US Fire Administration notified the Kingston Fire Department that we are again recipients of a FIREACT Grant. This Grant is for the sum of \$20,826. The purpose of this Grant is to replace antiquated and outdated portable lighting, power

cables and ventilation equipment carried on our apparatus and used at fire incidents. This is our second such Grant in the past three fiscal years, having previously been awarded approximately \$42,000 to replace our fire hoses. As you can see, these two amounts relieve great stress from our local budget process. I would like to commend my Deputy Chief for the hard work that he did in preparation for this award.

2. As I'm sure you're all aware, open burning season is in full swing and is basically operating trouble-free this year. There have been minimal complaints from neighborhoods, and the fire permit holders have been extremely responsible in following the rules and regulations. To date there has been approximately 1,455 open burning permits issued by this Department at no cost to the citizens, which is a practice that I believe should remain free of charge for as long as open burning is permitted.
3. To reinforce to the Board the high quality of service that our personnel provides to the citizens, I would like to draw your attention to an incident that we had on April 1st. We received a 9-1-1 call for a resident in distress and upon arrival, due to the nature of his illness, he was immediately transported to the South Shore Hospital (where the definitive care for this type of illness is readily available). Please note that this care is not in place at the closest hospital, being the Jordan. Within two hours of this resident's admittance into the South Shore Hospital, I received a call from his wife, thanking us for all that we did for her husband and her family. Additionally, I received another telephone call from the Director of Emergency Medicine at South Shore Hospital who praised the abilities, skills and professionalism of our Fire Department EMS and in a nutshell, stated that this patient's life was saved because of their actions.
4. Another call to note is that on March 2nd, we were dispatched to Paradise Lane for a report of a dog and his owner who had fallen through the ice on Reed's Mill Pond. Quick efforts by members of this Department assisted the owner out of the water and while assessing her condition, other members performed an ice/water rescue of a 70 pound Golden Retriever named *Shadow*. Through the cooperative efforts of the Fire, Police and Animal Control Departments, the owner was uninjured and did not require medical attention. *Shadow* was transported to the Kingston Animal Hospital for observation and was home later that day none the worse for wear.

HARBORMASTER: Submitted by Dennis Carvalho

- March 26 first work party, paint and number channel markers.
- Paint bottoms of boats, tune up motors, and prepare for launching.

HIGHWAY (STREETS, TREES, PARKS & Solid Waste): Submitted by Paul Basler

This department added two employees in March; Shawn Turner & William Lindsey, both started the first week of March and are working out well. Per the direction of the BOS, we boarded up the Maple Ave. School to prevent any further damage to the property and to put to rest some of the neighborhoods concerns. We started to sweep the streets of the Town on the 15th and hopefully will have the entire Town completed by mid July. Crews were dispatched along many of the Town streets to pick up the tree limbs that were downed by this winter's storms. We started to construct the foundations for the new pedestrian crosswalk signs and should have them installed by April vacation in the area near the High School.

For the month of March, the residents disposed the following recyclables:

Cardboard 7.67 tons
Newspaper 13.07 tons

LIBRARY: Submitted by Sia Stewart

We are continuing to purchase books, although at a much reduced rate from what is needed for a town the size of Kingston, through the generosity of the residents of Kingston who have donated to the Kingston Public Library Foundation. The Foundation has given \$20,310 to the Library so far this fiscal year, \$19,340 of which is specifically for books and other library materials. Through the efforts of the Foundation and the generosity of the donors, we will have sufficient funds to meet the minimum book expenditure amount that constitutes one requirement for state certification.

Throughout March, many Kingston residents made use of the Library or our website to obtain tax forms and information. A limited number of forms are still available at the Library, and our website also provides links to tax forms and information. Residents who don't have computers or internet access at home, or who need guidance in using the DOR and IRS websites, can get that access and guidance at the Library.

"Foundation & Corporate Funding Advantage" is a new resource for fundraising and grantwriting information, provided courtesy of the Kingston Public Library Foundation. The Library has both a print newsletter and an online database, both of which are available to the public.

We are working on the punch-list of minor repairs to the building following the stress on the roof due to heavy snow in early February.

We are collaborating with Barnes & Noble Bookstores on this year's summer reading program, which is designed to help children keep up their reading skills over the summer. The collaboration will result in reduced costs to the Town for the program and will allow us to focus on activities for children and families to encourage reading.

We met with the Recreation Department and Council on Aging to work on collaborative programming for Kingston residents between the three departments. To start with, we are sharing information about programs in each department for better coordination of efforts as well as broader publicity for our programs.

We are continuing to meet with the Town Technology Committee to share information about the Library's computers. We worked on more efficient maintenance of the Library's computers and did significant work to improve public access to library information and services through our website.

Children's Librarian Stephanie Legg was a judge for the Massachusetts Center for the Book's book awards program. Her participation is an honor for the town and has the further benefit of adding free books to our collection.

In addition to our ongoing work with the public to answer reference questions and local history requests, provide homework help, and offer a full schedule of programs for children, teens, and adults, special events this month included an exhibit of work from local artist William Whitehill; an informational display about Kingston Scouts; a South Shore Locavores program; sessions of a six-part discussion series called Menu for the Future; a presentation about hiking the Appalachian Trail by Kingston resident Brad Cook; a reading by local mystery writer Judith Campbell; and a presentation about Butterflies of the Northeast by perennial favorite John Root.

PLANNING BOARD: Submitted by Thomas Bott

Planning Board items – please refer to the agendas and minutes available on the Town’s website – www.kingstonmass.org.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Submitted by Joseph Rebello

The police department receives numerous requests by residents for traffic enforcement. Residents may contact the department’s business phone line (781) 585 -0522 to request preventive patrols in their neighborhood. Have you ever wondered how the speed limit is determined? They just are not made up by the local town’s people or even by the police department. The establishment of speed limits must follow strict regulations and meet specific standards establish by state law. Speed limits may either be posted or not posted which are regulated by statute. The following speed regulations are posted at the Massachusetts Department of Transportation page at the Mass.gov website: <http://www.mhd.state.ma.us/default.asp?pgid=content/traffic/speedReg&sid=about>.

Speed Limit Regulations

Information on Speed Limit Regulations

Posted speed limits are established through the issuance of special speed regulations. On state highways, the Massachusetts Highway Department (MassHighway) is responsible for conducting an engineering study to establish a speed regulation, which is then jointly signed by MassHighway and the Registry of Motor Vehicles according to Chapter 90, Section 18 of the Massachusetts General Laws (MGL). On municipal roadways, the municipality, usually in conjunction with MassHighway, collects data relative to establishing a speed limit. The Traffic Engineering section reviews this data and a speed regulation is then drafted by MassHighway and returned to the municipality for approval. After the city or town approves the speed regulation, it is then returned to MassHighway and jointly signed by the Registry of Motor Vehicles and MassHighway. (MGL Ch. 90, S.18)

However, Chapter 90, Section 17 of the MGL dictates statutory speed limits in the absence of official speed postings under 90-18. In other words, if a speed limit has not been established under 90-18 (which requires the posting of speed limits according to a Special Speed Regulation which is the result of an engineering study) the roadway can be enforced according to 90-17 (no speed signs posted), which is 20mph in a school zone, 30 mph in a thickly settled or business district for a distance of 1/8 of a mile, 40mph on an undivided highway outside of a thickly settled or business district for a distance of 1/4 of a mile, and 50 mph on a divided highway outside of a thickly settled or business district for a distance of 1/4 of a mile.

To obtain speed regulation information and engineering support data, where available, an official request must be made to the Chief Counsel's office at MassHighway through the Freedom of Information Act. Please include your contact information and email address along with a brief description of the information you are inquiring about. Please contact:

Massachusetts Highway Department
Chief Counsel's Office
10 Park Plaza, Room 3510
Boston, MA 02116

MassHighway Policy on Speed Zoning

It has been the consistent objective of MassHighway over the years to provide means to promote safe and efficient traffic flow in the Commonwealth. The goal of our Speed Limit Traffic Control Program has

always been to provide appropriate and enforceable speed limits on all paved streets and highways within the Commonwealth in the best interest of the motoring public's right to use a roadway in a reasonable and proper manner. The ideal speed limit is both acceptable to the prudent driver and enforceable by our police departments.

Engineering Studies and Speed Zoning

A prerequisite to establishing speed regulations and posting speed limits is a comprehensive engineering study at each location where speed control is contemplated. The purpose of the study is to establish a speed limit that is safe, reasonable and self-enforcing.

**Crime Status Report
March 1, 2011 thru March 31, 2011**

Calls for Service logged by Dispatchers	1327
Arrests/Custody	13
Applications for Warrants	16
Investigated Motor Vehicle Crashes	20
Verbal Warnings – Motor Vehicle	114
Written Warnings/Citations Issued - MV	54
Citation Arrest	2
Citation Civil Charges	19
Citation Criminal Complaints	6
Incident Reports filed by Officers	122
Forcible Rape	1
Statutory Rape	1
Aggravated Assault	1
Simple Assault	1
Intimidation	3
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	2
Shoplifting	3
Theft from Building	4
Theft from Motor Vehicle	4
All other Larceny	5
Counterfeiting	2
False Pretense/Swindle	3
Credit Card/ATM Offense	1
Stolen Property Offenses	4
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	7
Drug Narcotic Violations	2
Disorderly Conduct	3
Driving Under the Influence	2
Trespass of Real Property	3
All other Offenses	10
Traffic Town By-law Offenses	10

RECREATION: Submitted by Susan Woodworth

FY11 INITIATIVES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Community Preservation Project(s)
 - Grady Consulting to present project plan by April 8th for the Reed Community Building Terrace/Patio
 - Continue to work in conjunction with the Permanent Building Committee regarding the Reed Patio project
- Gray's Beach Project – preliminary project plan submitted; Budget approved at Town Meeting, preparing for ballot question for Election Day

PERFORMANCE/WORKLOAD INDICATORS: Numbers through December

**Note: January – March program information to be submitted in April report.*

<u>Indicator</u>	<u>FY11 (YTD)</u>
Recreation Programs Offered	89
Participants * Note	3193
Building Use *Note	35

**Note - the building use numbers do not include the Recreation Program(s) or Council on Aging building use – the number above is for non- Recreation Program Use/other organizations*

Field Use * Note	-	2896 hours
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**Note – The number of hours reflected include the Kingston Youth Sports Organizations use through November, 2010.*

ADDITIONAL FY11 Updates

- Junior Custodian position to be vacated by Alfred Barcella on April 27th. Advertising process begun for new-hire for this position
- Summer Program Dates – July 5th – August 12: Summer Program Registration to be held on Saturday, June 11th from 8am - Noon
- Continued Field Management: Spring opening, Friday March 25th – Irrigation System Opening, Turf Management, Mowing Contractor coordination, Field Use Request, Concession Stand BOH permit in process
- Assisting as needed, and as available, to new Senior Center
- Continued Reed Building Management
- Oversee usage requests at Camp Nekon
- Budget(s) Reconciliation

SEWER COMMISSION/WASTEWATER TREATMENT: Submitted by Ken Vandal

The Wastewater Treatment Facility processed 10,056,631 gallons of wastewater during the month of March. This resulted in the production of 52,800 gallons (7.60 dry tons) of sludge.

The replacement of the aeration system in SBR #1 was completed and tested on March 23rd. We began the taking SBR #2 off line and transferring its contents to SBR #1 on March 24th. Since SBR #1 was empty, the problem of hydraulically overloading the system during the transfer was not a factor as it was when both tanks were full. We were able to complete the transfer of the water and begin the removal of the existing aeration system in SBR #2 within one week as opposed to the three weeks it took for SBR #1 to be emptied. The installation of the new aeration system in SBR #2 is estimated to be completed, tested and placed back in

operation during the week of April 11th. The upgrade of the aeration system will be completed and normal operations will resume once SBR #2 is place back on line.

The Board of Sewer Commissioners held a meeting and a Public Hearing on March 22, 2011. During the Public Hearing, the Commissioners reviewed several items including proposed changes to the Sewer Rules and Regulations, the proposed leaching field at the transfer station, Town Meeting Warrant Articles pertaining to the Sewer Department and a reduction in the sewer service charge from \$25.00 per quarter to \$15.00 per quarter. There was a question and answer period following the presentation. The meeting was well attended by the sewer users.

TOWN CLERK: Submitted by Mary Lou Murzyn

[No Report Submitted]

TREASURER: Submitted by John LaBrache

[No Report Submitted]

VETERAN'S AGENT: Submitted by William Martin

In this last month, under Chapter 115, we assisted 47 veterans/families for a total cost of \$21,519. We dropped a couple but added one.

As usual we had a number of veterans looking for assistance in obtaining health care or filing disability claims with the VA. We are beginning to see more Mid-East veterans, and it is taking longer to decide cases. The VA is scheduling Compensation exams on Saturday and early mornings to try to meet the demand. Recently I took a veteran to Jamaica Plain on Saturday afternoon for his exam, and another one to Jamaica Plain at 8am on a Friday morning. On the plus side, one single mom we were assisting with her VA claim finally won, after five years, her case and she received a back check in excess of \$35,000. She has a good job and plans to use the money to purchase a house in Kingston.

We are still appealing two Social Security cases, one which has been denied several times, but Social Security misses deadlines or paperwork. That case, dragging on for almost six years, has finally been referred to an administrative law judge for a hearing. Meanwhile we have been assisting that veteran through Chapter 115. Obviously we hope to win on appeal and let Social Security pick up the bulk of his monthly check. Another case, for Supplemental Social Security, has also been referred to an administrative law judge, on appeal, but again these appeals can take years. In the meanwhile, we need to assist the veteran or family. We do collect part of the back check, if they receive one.

A quarterly meeting of all VSO's and other stakeholders in the area of the Plymouth Career Center (read unemployment office) is scheduled for Thursday, April 14, 2011, at the Duxbury Senior Center. These meetings usually bring together various people working with unemployed, under-employed, or homeless citizens. The largest % of homeless citizens in the US is veterans who never made it when they came home. Alarmingly, with the rise in the number of female veterans, comes a significant rise in homelessness in that sector. These meetings are designed to help us share ideas and sources of assistance outside of the town.

WATER COMMISSION: Submitted by Matthew Darsch

On March 3 a site visit was held at the Elm Street Bridge to discuss the upcoming replacement of the bridge. We met again on March 24 with all interested parties, including Representative Thomas Calter to discuss various methods of supplying power across the bridge to the Elm Street Pumping Station and adjacent homes and businesses.

The March water and sewer bills were issued. Office staff continued to contact residents with estimated bills as well as those with unusually high or low usage.

Work began on our annual Consumer Confidence Report for 2010. This report, mandated by the Drinking Water Regulations will be mailed to customers with the June 2011 water sewer billing. In an effort to deliver this important information to everyone, an additional 1,000 copies will be printed and hand delivered to many public, residential and business locations in town.

Water department employees cleaned out the pump house for the old Soule's Pond Well. This well was replaced in November of 1974 when the screen collapsed. We had been using it to store old scrap metal. Employees worked over three days sorting and cleaning the metal and brought it to a reclamation company who issued a check to the water department for \$6,645.71.

We attended a seminar sponsored by Coler & Colantonio to hear a presentation by the PowerStream Company.

In addition to our regular sampling for bacteria, extensive sampling was done at the Winthrop Street Well to determine the current status of prior contamination.

Radio read equipment was installed at 22 locations as part of our on-going radio read conversion program.

Water department employees spent a week removing dead trees and cleaning brush at the pump stations.

A private leak detection company was brought in to assist us in locating the source of a significant water leak at the Ah Dee Nah parking area. Water department employees completed this repair as well as an additional six leaks during March.

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Should you have any questions regarding the foregoing, please do not hesitate to call or email the BOS/TA office or jmyers@kingstonmass.org. Thank you!