

1996 TOWN OF NELSON ANNUAL REPORT

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1996



TOWN GOVERNMENT

Selectmen (847-9043)
Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.
Old Brick Schoolhouse

Zoning Board of Adjustment (847-9082)
1st Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Old Brick Schoolhouse

Town Clerk/Tax Collector (847-9043)
Tuesdays, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Old Brick Schoolhouse

School Board Meeting
2nd Wednesday, 4:00 p.m.
Nelson School

Planning Board (847-9505)
2nd Thursday, 7:00 p.m.
Old Brick Schoolhouse

Conservation Commission (847-9705)
2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Old Brick Schoolhouse

Town Barn (847-9705)

Olivia Rodham Memorial Library (847-3214)
Monday 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon

The Library Trustees meet on the 1st Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Library

For POLICE, FIRE and/or AMBULANCE, call 911

DOG LICENSING AND RABIES CLINIC

A Rabies Clinic to vaccinate cats and dogs will be held in the Nelson Town Hall on Saturday, April 12th from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Clerks from Nelson and other area towns will also be there to license dogs. Watch for informational notices about this on the bulletin boards and in the Keene Sentinel.

HEALTH CLINICS

The following clinics will be held this year in Nelson in the downstairs of the Congregational Church. Each clinic will run from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. There will be a minimal fee requested for the screenings and flu shots to cover the cost of supplies.

Wednesday, April 30th
Wednesday, July 30th
Wednesday, October 29th

Blood pressure check, tetanus boosters
Blood pressure check, hemaglobin screening
Flu shots and blood pressure check

NELSON OLD HOME WEEK

Sunday, August 10th through Saturday, August 16th, 1997

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Town Officers

NELSON NEW HAMPSHIRE

For Year Ending December 31, 1996

FRONT COVER

Our new **Olivia Rodham Memorial Library** was dedicated and officially opened on October 26, 1996. It was a beautiful autumn day in Nelson as nearly 100 people gathered to see the ribbon cutting ceremony and hear the stirring words of Bob Struthers as he said

“God bless our new library.
God bless our beating hearts.
God bless Nelson.”

This picture was taken by Tom Newcombe from the steps leading to the original library.

INSIDE BACK COVER

The week before the library dedication, a large group of enthusiastic Nelson children and parents completed the task of moving the books and equipment from the original library to our new building. This was a happy day for Nelson as can be seen by the smiles on all faces. Thanks to these volunteers, the job was completed in one day and the new library building was quickly made ready for the dedication ceremonies on October 26. Picture courtesy of Ben Smith.

BACK COVER

The back cover shows the main roads in Nelson and some of the topographical features. The road names were approved after a public hearing in June and will serve as the basis for our Enhanced 911 system which will ensure rapid emergency response to all Nelson residents. Map courtesy Terry Mednick and Dave Birchenough.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Title</u>	<u>Town Reports</u>	<u>Page</u>
Town Officers		1
Selectmen's Report		3
Selectmen's Certificate		5
Town Warrant		6
Estimated Town Charges - Article 2		11
Budget & Comparative Statement		12
Expense Summary		18
Balance Sheet		20
Appropriated Taxes		21
Summary of Inventory Valuation		21
Schedule of Town Property		22
Summary of Tax Lien Accounts		22
Tax Collector's Report		23
Trust Funds Report		24
Town Treasurer's Report		25
Road Agent's Report		27
Highway Equipment Report		29
Conservation Commission Report		30
Cemetery Board Report		30
Sexton's Report		30
Fire Chief's Report		31
Police Chief's Report		32
Librarian's Report		33
Olivia Rodham Memorial Library		35
Library Project Report		36
Town Clerk's Report		37
Boat Agent's Report		37
Vital Statistics		38
1996 Town Meeting Minutes		39
1996 Granite Lake Village District Minutes		47
<u>School Reports</u>		
Officers, Agents & Employees		51
Compliance Statement		52
Warrant		53
Budget		55
District Treasurer's Report		61
Auditor's Report		63
School Meeting 1996 Minutes		64
Administrative Report		66
Nelson School Staff Report		67
Chairman's Report		68

The *Inventory of Ratable Property Report* is not part of this Annual Report, but will be available soon. If you require this report, please reserve your copy by adding your name to the list on the ballot box table at the Annual Meeting, or contact the Town Office at 847-9043. You may pick up your reserved *Inventory of Ratable Property Report*, on or after March 20, 1997, at the Nelson Town Office.

TOWN OFFICERS

Selectmen

David Birchenough	Term expires 1997
(appointed to fulfill the unexpired term of Matthew Tolman)	
Walter Rohr	Term expires 1998
Michael French	Term expires 1999

Town Clerk

Kathy Blaudschun

Deputy Town Clerk

Lee Trudelle (appointed)

Tax Collector

Kathy Blaudschun

Deputy Tax Collector

William R. Robertson (appointed)

Road Agent

Winston O. French

Police Chief

Richard Descoteaux

Second Officer

Roger Turcotte (appointed)

Fire Chief

Richard J. Lothrop

Emergency Management Officer

Richard J. Lothrop

Health Officer

Selectmen

Sexton

Winston H. French

Auditor

Richard J. Lothrop

Treasurer

Harold E. Gerbis
(serving one-year terms)

Moderator

Ethan C. Tolman
(two-year term expires 1998)

TOWN OFFICERS (cont'd.)

Trustees of the Trust Fund

(Members of the Cemetery Board)

Theresa M. Upton	Term expires 1997
Sylvia Wright	Term expires 1998
Roberta Wingerson	Term expires 1999

Cemetery Board

Al Struthers	Term expires 1997
Winston H. French	Term expires 1998

Trustees of the Library

Dorothy M. French	Celia Wiechert	Henry M. Fuller
Lee Trudelle		Term expires 1997
David Upton		Term expires 1999

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Richard Descoteaux	Term expires 1997
Denise Kearns	Term expires 1997
Michael Blaudschun	Term expires 1998
Robert Germeroth	Term expires 1999
Kim Rich	Term expires 1999

Planning Board

Russ Thomas	Term expires 1997
Ethan Tolman	Term expires 1997
Tom Newcombe	Term expires 1998
Marion Raynor	Term expires 1999

Road Equipment Committee

Kim Rich	Term expires 1997
Bob Jones	Term expires 1998
Barry Tolman	Term expires 1999

Supervisors of the Checklist

Rita Schillemat	Term expires 1998
Beatrice Warner	Term expires 2000
Joan M. Warner	Term expires 2002

Conservation Commission

(appointed)

Bud French	Roberta Wingerson
Barbara Fraser	James Jarvela
Frankie Brackley Tolman	

Bookkeeper

(appointed)

Donna C. Kidd

Town Officers' Assistant

(appointed)

Mary E. Davis

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Construction of our new library, begun in November of 1995, was completed last year. On October 26th, a beautiful autumn day, the official dedication and grand opening of the new Olivia Rodham Memorial Library was held. The library trustees and numerous town officials joined scores of other residents and guests at the ribbon cutting ceremony. All of Nelson can take pride in this new building, which more than doubles the space of the previous library, and provides handicapped access to both the library and Town Hall.

In light of the votes on warrant articles pertaining to maintenance responsibility for old Route 9 at last year's Town Meeting, the Selectmen decided to have town counsel file an injunction against the New Hampshire Department of Transportation, primarily on the grounds that the town's being forced to take over and maintain these sections of highway would constitute an unfunded mandate. At this writing, the court has requested more time to study the matter. Until the judge renders an opinion, the State of New Hampshire has agreed to maintain these sections of road, saving Nelson an estimated annual cost of \$13,000. It's possible that the ruling in this case may occur before Town Meeting. In any event, the situation will be discussed when articles 27 and 28 of this year's warrant are addressed.

Numerous lengthy hearings and deliberative sessions were held during 1996 by the Zoning Board of Adjustment regarding a proposed cellular communications tower. During this process, a variety of legal actions were filed against the town by the cellular company. The Zoning Board ultimately approved the application, thus allowing the Selectmen to issue a building permit for the tower facility. As a result, one of the complaints was withdrawn. However, the lawsuit prompted by the conditions of the Zoning Board approval, which are intended to maximize local awareness of and control over any proposed changes in this installation, remains. At the initial hearing on this matter, the judge concluded that the case against Nelson was not a strong one and ordered the cellular company to seek the remedy already provided in the Zoning Board's approval, which they did. However, even though their application for an additional antenna and a microwave dish for the tower were eventually approved, this suit has yet to be resolved.

There were budget overruns in several areas. Some of the major causes include the unanticipated replacement of the furnace in the Old Brick Schoolhouse; higher costs than usual for maintenance and repairs to other town furnaces and plumbing; a fuel oil contract for town buildings which required full payment in advance; a new overhead door for the Nelson Center Fire Station; and legal expenses significantly greater than forecast, due to the ongoing old Route 9 issue and cellular communications tower lawsuits. Also, the workload in the town office increased significantly, due in part to the protracted cellular communication tower situation, an increase in the number and variety of mandated programs and reports, and the longer polling hours approved by Nelson residents for state and federal elections.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT (cont'd.)

Building permits were issued for 35 projects (compared to 27 in 1995) and included 2 new homes. Nelson residents and non-resident property owners are reminded by the Board of Selectmen that building projects **must** conform to the provisions of the Nelson Zoning Ordinance, a copy of which may be obtained at the town office. Also, the Selectmen have established a policy which requires that all building permits be requested by and issued to the property owner(s) of record or an agent authorized **in writing** by said owner(s).

As mandated by federal law, a drug and alcohol policy was drafted and a company was contracted to perform all necessary testing of the town employees affected by this law.

The prospects of town-wide property revaluation and remapping were examined during the year and several preliminary proposals were considered. The Selectmen concluded that more study is needed, due to the significant expense and complexity involved. Town Meeting will include a discussion of these topics.

An advisory group has been meeting to develop a computer master plan that will address the growing need for a variety of computerized functions in the town office, including tax billing, financial records and property database information. "QuickBooks Pro" software was purchased as part of a continuing effort to streamline our routine bookkeeping activity, provide better ongoing financial review and facilitate the preparation of state-mandated reports.

Finally, the Selectmen would like to thank all the people who give so generously of their time. From the members of the various town boards and committees to the volunteers who helped paint the Nelson School and lay the sidewalks to the new Library, we are grateful for your help and support. This dedication and enthusiasm is a large part of what makes Nelson such a wonderful place to live.

Walter Rohr
Mike French
Dave Birchenough

SELECTMEN'S CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the information contained in the following reports was taken from official records and is correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

Walter H. Rohr
Michael W. French
David J. Birchenough

AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that I have examined and audited the accounts and records of the Town of Nelson for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1996.

The records and accounts include those of the Selectmen, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Town Clerk, Trustees of the Trust Funds, Cemetery Board, Library Trustees and Boat Agent.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the accounts and records of the above are true and correct.

Richard J. Lothrop
Auditor

TOWN WARRANT

TO THE INHABITANTS of the Town of Nelson, in the County of Cheshire, State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town affairs: **YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** to meet in the Town Hall in said Nelson on Tuesday, the 11th day of March, 1997, at 12:00 noon to act upon the following articles:

POLLS will open at 12:00 noon and close at 8:00 p.m.
BUSINESS MEETING will start at 7:00 p.m.

ARTICLES OF A GENERAL NATURE

1. To choose necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.
2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$97,746 to defray Town charges for the year ensuing. (The 1996 appropriation was \$91,786.)
3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 for an interior survey of the newer section of the original Nelson cemetery. This article shall be non-lapsing for a period of two years or until the project has been completed, whichever comes first. The Selectmen and the Cemetery Board recommend this article.
4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1 to be added to the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (The 1996 appropriation was \$1. The current fund balance is \$9,734.55.)
5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$850 for a municipal fax machine.
6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,761 for support of the Town Library. (The 1996 appropriation was \$13,578.)
7. Shall the Town accept the provisions of RSA 202-A:4-d, providing that any town at an annual meeting may adopt an article authorizing indefinitely, until specific rescission of such authority, the library trustees to accept without further action by the town meeting, gifts of personal property, other than money?
8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$550 as its share of operating costs for the basic services and health clinics provided by Home Health Care. (The 1996 expenditure was \$550.)
9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,121 to be given to given to Monadnock United Way for support of area social service agencies. (The three agencies which received direct contributions from the Town in 1996 were Monadnock Family Services, Home Health Care and The Community Kitchen. The total amount expended was \$1,607.)
10. (by petition) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to help support the work of The Community Kitchen, Inc., or act in any way related thereto. The Selectmen do not recommend this appropriation. (The 1996 appropriation was \$500.)

11. To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the existing Town Hall/Schoolhouse Capital Reserve Fund to a Town Buildings Capital Reserve Fund and raise and appropriate the sum of \$1 thereto. The fund's purpose shall be to assist with major expenses which may be incurred in the process of maintaining, renovating, remodeling or otherwise improving any and all municipal buildings. No withdrawals may be made from the fund except by vote of the Town. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. Two-thirds vote required. (The 1996, appropriation to the Town Hall/Schoolhouse Capital Reserve Fund was \$2,000. The current fund balance is \$4,630.02.)

12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,750 for the replacement of the Town Hall floor and authorize the withdrawal of \$4,500 from the Town Buildings Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose. The balance of \$9,250 is to come from general taxation. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,250 for the repainting of the interior of the Town Hall.

14. Shall we modify the elderly exemptions for property tax in the town of Nelson, based on assessed value for qualified taxpayers to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$10,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$15,000; for a person 80 years of age old or older, \$20,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income (including social security and pension payments) of not more than \$13,400, or if married, a combined net income of less than \$20,400; and own net assets not in excess of \$35,000 excluding the value of the person's residence.

15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 to help fund the Hotel Nelson project.

16. To see if the Town will vote to permit rent-free use of municipal buildings by the Hotel Nelson project, provided that such uses are scheduled through the Town's sexton and do not in any way interfere with income-generating rentals or planned uses by municipal and civic groups.

ARTICLES DEALING WITH PLANNING & ZONING

17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$619 as the Town's share for membership in the Southwest Regional Planning Commission. (The 1996 appropriation was \$612.70.)

18. To vote on the proposed amendments to the Nelson Zoning Ordinance (written ballot required):

The following proposed amendments to the Nelson Zoning Ordinance was written by the Nelson Planning Board, in consultation with the Nelson Zoning Board of Adjustment. This amendment was unanimously approved at the public hearing held on Thursday, December 12, 1996.

Article 2, Section 21. Districts Add the following:

Within the Lake District, the provisions of Chapter 483-B, New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated (“Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act”), as amended from time to time, shall apply. When the standards and practices established in the Chapter conflict with other local or state laws and rules, the more stringent standard shall control.

Article 2, Section 22.33 and 23.23 Restoration of Non-Conforming Structures Replace with the following:

Unless otherwise prohibited by law, and upon the granting of a special exception by the Zoning Board of Adjustment, non-conforming structures lawfully existing prior to the effective date of this Ordinance may be reconstructed, provided that the proposed reconstruction:

would not result in a non-conforming use which is new or substantially different from the structure's pre-existing use;

would conform with all other provisions of this Ordinance, and with such other Town regulations as may apply;

would be completed within three years of the date that the pre-existing structure was either destroyed (in the event of fire or other accidental or natural catastrophe) or deliberately torn down and removed.

If the Zoning Board of Adjustment determines that any of the above conditions have not been met, then any reconstruction must comply fully with all provisions of this Ordinance then in effect.

Article 2, Section 22.35 and 23.25 Changes in Non-Conforming Use Replace with the following:

Unless otherwise prohibited by law, and upon the granting of a special exception by the Zoning Board of Adjustment, one non-conforming use may be changed to another non-conforming use, if:

the proposed new use would comply to a greater extent with the provisions of this Ordinance than the pre-existing use; OR

the proposed new use would not adversely impact or diminish the value of abutting property or the neighborhood, create a hazard to individual or public health, safety, or welfare; or violate any other provision of this Ordinance.

Article 3, Section 33.1 Disturbances Add the following to the end:

“...of a temporary nature”

The resulting section would read: No use shall be allowed if it will cause sound, noise, vibration, odor or flashing perceptible without instruments more than 200 feet from the boundaries of the originating premises, except for warning devices, construction work, maintenance or other special circumstances **of a temporary nature.**

Article 5, Section 51 Administration Replace the first sentence of the third paragraph with the following:

Any person violating any of the provisions of the Ordinance may be fined an amount up to the maximum allowed by applicable state law for each offense.

ARTICLES DEALING WITH SERVICE AND PROTECTION

19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500 as a subsidy for ambulance service for the ensuing year, it being understood that residents will still be charged for individual calls. (The appropriation for 1996 was \$3,500.)

20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,600 for the proper expenses of the Police Department. (The 1996 appropriation was \$5,000.)

21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$700 for a portable radio for the Police Department.

22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,500 for the proper expenses of the Fire Department and Rescue Squad. (The 1996 appropriation was \$5,000.)

23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for two Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus units to replace older units now in use.

24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be added to the Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, it being understood that no withdrawals may be made from the fund except by vote of the Town and upon recommendation of the Fire Department. The Selectmen & the Fire Department recommend this appropriation. (The 1996 appropriation was \$10,000. The current fund balance is \$71,458.55.)

25. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the withdrawal of the balance (approximately \$7,184) from the Fire Station Capital Reserve Fund for repairs and improvements to the Nelson Center Fire Station. The Selectmen and the Fire Department recommend this article.

26. To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Fire Station Capital Reserve Fund subsequent to the completion of any work authorized by the previous article. If article 26 is approved, any funds, with accumulated interest to the date of the closing of the account, are to be transferred to the General Fund. (The 1996 appropriation to the Fire Station Capital Reserve Fund was \$1,000. The current fund balance is approximately \$7,184.)

ARTICLES DEALING WITH ROADS

27. To see if the Town will vote to accept and henceforth fully maintain the section of old Route 9 which extends from the Nelson Road intersection westerly to the intersection with the old Concord Road across from the Walter's farm, it being understood that to do so will increase the amount of article 29 by \$3,000.

28. To see if the Town will vote to henceforth undertake winter maintenance of the section of old Route 9 which extends from the intersection with the easternmost access ramp of new Route 9 easterly to the Stoddard town line, it being understood that to do so will increase the amount of article 29 by \$10,000.

29. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$135,000 for general highway expenses and labor in the maintenance of the Town's roads and bridges. (The 1996 appropriation was \$135,000.)

30. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be added to the Road Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. It is understood that no withdrawals may be made from this fund for the purchase of road equipment except by vote of the Town and upon recommendation of the Road Equipment Committee. The Selectmen and the Road Equipment Committee recommend this appropriation. (The 1996 appropriation was \$10,000. The current fund balance is \$21,728.21.)

31. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for materials for repair to bridges and box culverts. This sum is to be non-lapsing for two years or until the completion of the projects, whichever comes first. Labor shall be paid from the general highway budget (article 29). The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

32. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500 or authorize its withdrawal of from the Road Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for the purchase and modification of a used truck. This article shall be non-lapsing until the day of Town Meeting in 1998. The Selectmen and Road Equipment Committee recommend this appropriation.

33. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$17,499.40 for the 1997 payment on the International dump truck presently being leased by the Town. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (A similar article in 1996 appropriated \$17,499.40. This is the third of four annual payments.)

34. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for hazard mitigation work at the Four Corners intersection (where Murdough Hill and Henderson Roads intersect the state road). Labor for this project shall be paid from the general highway budget (article 29).

35. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for hazard mitigation work on Log Cabin Road. Labor for this project shall be paid from the general highway budget (article 29).

36. (by petition) To see if the Town will vote to designate Tolman Pond Road as a scenic road, per RSA 231:157 & 158.

OTHER ARTICLES

37. To transact any other business or discuss other warrant proposals as may legally be brought before the meeting.

Given under our hands and seals this 12th day of February in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred ninety-seven.

A true copy of the warrant, Attest:
Walter Rohr
Mike French
Dave Birchenough
Selectmen
Town of Nelson, New Hampshire

ESTIMATED TOWN CHARGES -- ARTICLE 2

	<u>1997 Approp.</u>
TOWN OFFICERS COMPENSATION	
4130 Selectman No.1	600
4130 Selectman No.2	500
4130 Selectman No.3	500
4130 Moderator	50
4130 Tax Collector, Town Clerk & Deputy	14,500
4130 Treasurer	350
4130 Police Chief	100
4130 Fire Chief	100
4130 Auditor	100
4130 Town share: SS & MC	<u>1,285</u>
<i>Subtotal</i>	18,085
TOWN OFFICERS EXPENSES	
4150 Telephone	825
4150 Assoc. Dues & Expenses	735
4150 Registry of Deeds	500
4150 Print Town Reports	600
4150 Clerical/Bookkeeping	17,000
4150 State fees	1,200
4150 Miscellaneous	4,600
4150 Town share: SS & MC	<u>1,301</u>
<i>Subtotal</i>	26,761
MISCELLANEOUS	
4140 Election Expenses	500
4152 Property Appraisal	2,250
4153 Legal Expenses	5,000
4155 Alcohol & Drug Testing	450
4191 Planning & Zoning	750
4194 Government Buildings	15,000
4195 Cemetery	2,800
4196 Insurance	20,900
4199 Sentinel Ads	800
4199 Tax Maps	750
4199 Abatements & Refunds	1,000
4316 Streetlighting	500
4442 Assistance	1,500
4589 Old Home Day	350
4583 Patriotic Purposes	<u>350</u>
<i>Subtotal</i>	52,900
TOTAL ARTICLE 2	<u>97,746</u>

BUDGET & COMPARATIVE STATEMENT

EXPENSES	wa	Carryover	Approp.	Expended	Under or	Carryover	Approp.
Item (warrant article#, 1996)	'97	to 1996	for 1996	in 1996	(Over)	to 1997	for 1997
		\$0	\$89,698	\$99,833	(\$10,135)	\$0	\$95,665
GENERAL GOVERNMENT							
Town Officers Pay	2		16,950	19,170	(2,220)		18,085
Election Expenses	2		2,000	1,913	87		500
Town Officers Expenses	2		25,535	28,913	(3,378)		26,761
Property Appraisal	2		3,000	1,995	1,005		2,250
Legal Expenses	2		2,500	5,876	(3,376)		5,000
Alcohol & Drug Testing	2		0	430	(430)		450
Planning & Zoning	2		750	1,358	(608)		750
Government Buildings	2		12,000	21,595	(9,595)		15,000
Cemetery	2		2,500	2,411	89		2,800
Insurance	2		18,000	13,538	4,462		20,900
SW Regional Planning Dues	17		613	613	0		619
Publishing Public Notices	2		600	1,053	(453)		800
Tax Maps	2		750	750	0		750
Abatements & Refunds	2		4,500	218	4,282		1,000
PUBLIC SAFETY			\$0	\$13,844	\$491	\$0	\$14,600
Police Department	20		5,000	5,182	(182)		5,600
Ambulance	19		3,500	1,626	1,874		3,500
Fire Department	22		5,000	6,222	(1,222)		5,500
Road Name Signposts (21)			835	814	21		0

EXPENSES Item (warrant article#, 1996)	wa '97	Carryover to 1996	Approp. for 1996	Expended in 1996	Under or (Over)	Carryover to 1997	Approp. for 1997
HIGHWAYS, STREETS & BRIDGES							
Old Rt 9 West	27	\$0	\$135,501	\$155,680	(\$20,179)	\$0	\$159,500
Old Rt 9 East	28		0	0	0		3,000
Roads: Combined Article	29		135,000	133,588	1,412		10,000
Roads: Flood Damage			0	21,600	(21,600)		135,000
Bridges & Culverts	31		0	0	0		0
Four Corners Project	34		0	0	0		5,000
Log Cabin Rd Project	35		0	0	0		3,000
Streetlighting	2		501	492	9		3,000
							500
HEALTH & WELFARE							
MFS (10, 1995)		\$535	\$4,357	\$2,642	\$2,250	\$0	\$4,171
MFS/HHC/CK (8,9,11)		535	0	535	0		0
Home Health Care	8		2,857	1,607	1,250		0
United Way	9		0	0	0		550
Community Kitchen	10		0	0	0		1,121
Direct Welfare Assistance	2		1,500	500	1,000		1,000
							1,500
CULTURE & RECREATION							
Library	6	\$0	\$14,278	\$13,554	\$724	\$0	\$13,961
Patriotic Purposes	2		350	266	84		350
Old Home Day	2		350	350	0		350
Hotel Nelson donation	15		0	0	0		500

EXPENSES Item (warrant article#, 1996)	wa '97	Carryover to 1996	Approp. for 1996	Expended in 1996	Under or (Over)	Carryover to 1997	Approp. for 1997
CAPITAL OUTLAY							
<i>1995 Capital Outlay</i>							
New Library (8) [Note 1]		179,389		179,879	(490)		
Two Dry Hydrants (23)		1,156		0	1,156		
4x4 Rescue Vehicle (21)		2,000		1,305	695		
Used Pickup (27)		1,567		627	940		
<i>1996 Capital Outlay</i>							
Cemetery Survey (5)			3,000	0	3,000	3,000	
Emergency Lights (18)			750	750	0		
Road Paving (26)			10,000	10,000	0		
Road Rake (27)			5,200	4,985	215		
Used Pickup (28)			7,500	0	7,500		
Truck Lease Payment (29)			17,499	17,499	0		
<i>1997 Capital Outlay</i>							
Cemetery Survey	3						1,000
Fax machine	5						850
Police Radio	21						700
Fire Dept: 2 SCBA Units	23						3,000
Fire Station Improvements	25						7,000
Buy Used Pickup	32						7,500
Dump Truck Lease Payment	33						17,499
New Town Hall Floor	12						13,750
Paint Town Hall Interior	13						3,250
			\$43,949	\$215,046	\$13,015	\$3,000	\$54,549

EXPENSES	wa	Carryover	Approp.	Expended	Under or	Carryover	Approp.
Item (warrant article#, 1996)	'97	to 1996	for 1996	in 1996	(Over)	to 1997	for 1997
CAPITAL RESERVES & TRUSTS		\$0	\$23,001	\$23,001	\$0	\$0	\$20,002
1997 Articles	4,11,24,30						20,002
1996 Articles (6,12,19,25)			23,001	23,001	0		0
OTHER EXPENSES		\$434,242	\$852,673	\$779,388	\$507,527	\$558,966	\$1,014,898
County			82,862	82,862	0		88,000
School		434,242	768,966	644,242	558,966	558,966	875,398
Granite Lake Village District			845	845	0		1,500
Tax Sale			0	51,439	(51,439)		50,000
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$618,889	\$1,177,792	\$1,302,989	\$493,693	\$561,966	\$1,377,346

[Note 1] Per 1995 article 8, the Town paid \$71,000 of costs. Additional expenses were paid by Library Trustees from funds raised.

REVENUES	WA	Carryover	Estimated	Received	Excess or	Carryover	Estimated
Item (warrant article#, 1996)	'97	to 1996	for 1996	in 1996	(Shortage)	to 1997	for 1997
TAXES		\$662	\$26,000	\$30,278	\$3,617		\$24,500
Land Use Change Tax		62	3,000	1,127	(1,935)		2,000
Timber Yield Taxes		600	5,000	9,841	4,241		7,500
Interest & Charges			18,000	19,311	1,311		15,000

REVENUES Item (warrant article#, 1996)	WA '97	Carryover to 1996	Estimated for 1996	Received in 1996	Excess or (Shortage)	Carryover to 1997	Estimated for 1997
LICENSES & PERMITS			\$49,600	\$57,913	\$8,313		\$59,750
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees			46,000	54,286	8,286		56,000
Building Permits			100	275	175		200
Dog Licenses			1,200	1,130	(71)		1,200
Permits, Filing fees, Etc			1,500	1,383	(117)		1,500
Boat Fees			800	840	40		850
INTERGOVERNMENT REVENUE			\$51,382	\$73,892	\$22,510		\$57,120
Federal Flood Grant			0	17,371	17,371		0
Shared Revenue			18,000	17,640	(360)		17,000
Highway Block Grant			24,000	29,189	5,189		31,570
State Flood Grant			0	2,784	2,784		0
Room & Meals Tax			7,000	4,500	(2,500)		6,000
Fire Department Grants			0	26	26		50
Payment in Lieu of Taxes			2,382	2,382	0		2,500
CHARGES FOR SERVICES			\$600	\$1,520	\$920		\$1,200
Income from Depts: Cemetery			600	1,400	800		1,200
Police Dept Special Detail			0	120	120		0

REVENUES	WA '97	Carryover to 1996	Estimated for 1996	Received in 1996	Excess or (Shortage)	Carryover to 1997	Estimated for 1997
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE			\$168,700	\$162,411	(\$6,289)		\$23,750
Sale of Town Property			500	0	(500)		0
Interest on Deposits: CFX			700	591	(109)		600
Interest on Deposits: NHPDIP			6,300	6,402	102		6,400
Rental of Town Property			3,000	955	(2,045)		1,500
Insurance Refunds/Dividends			6,000	5,973	(27)		13,250
Gifts/Donations			500	200	(300)		500
Cable Franchise Fee			900	960	60		1,000
Rabies Clinic			800	384	(416)		500
Library Construction			150,000	146,674	(3,326)		0
Other			0	273	273		0
CAPITAL RESERVES & TRUSTS		\$6,500	\$5,800	\$11,731	(\$569)		\$7,400
Computer & Software (6, 1995)			0	1,606	1,606		0
4x4 Rescue Vehicle (21, 1995)		2,000	0	1,319	(681)		0
Used Pickup (27, 1995)		4,500	0	3,560	(940)		0
Road Rake (27)			5,200	4,883	(317)		0
Fire Station Improvements	25		0	0	0		7,000
Cemetery Trust Fund Interest			600	363	(237)		400
SUBTOT REVENUE (less prop taxes)		\$7,162	\$302,082	\$337,745	\$28,502	\$0	\$173,720
Property Taxes		149,813	1,060,745	1,028,714		180,869	1,203,626
TOT REVENUE (incl prop taxes)		\$156,974	\$1,362,827	\$1,366,459		\$180,869	\$1,377,346

EXPENSE SUMMARY

Article #08 '95=New Library	179,878.54
Article #10 '95=Modadnock Family Services	535.00
Article #21 '95=Rescue Vehicle	1,305.45
Article #27 '95=Small Truck	627.35
Article #08 '96=Home Health Care	550.00
Article #09 '96=Monadnock Family Services	557.00
Article #11 '96=Community Kitchen	500.00
Article #13 '96=SW Regional Planning Commission	613.00
Article #18 '96=Rescue Vehicle Emergency Lighting	750.00
Article #21 '96=Road Signposts	814.24
Article #26 '96=Shim Paving	10,000.00
Article #27 '96=Replacement Road Rake	4,985.46
Article #29 '96=Dump Truck Lease	17,499.40
Ambulance Services	1,626.18
Capital Reserve Funds	23,001.00
Cemetery	2,411.00
Cheshire County	82,862.00
Election Expenses	1,913.10
Fire Department	6,222.09
General Assistance	500.00
Granite Lake Village District	845.00
Government Buildings	21,595.32

Highway Expenses

Bridges	166.15
Calcium Chloride	3,360.00
Chain Saw	44.65
Diesel Fuel	3,761.00
Gasoline	1,687.71
Gravel	5,300.30
Parts & Inventory	2,459.87
Paving	6,996.33
Phone	816.43
Rental Equipment	7,700.00
Salt	4,760.40
Sand	12,012.14
Signs	558.60
Tools & Miscellaneous	2,145.03
Vehicle, Grader	923.96
Vehicle, Heavy Duty Dump Truck	4,413.49
Vehicle, Light Duty Truck	295.28
Vehicle, Loader	975.24
Vehicle, Medium Duty Dump Truck	866.74

EXPENSE SUMMARY (cont'd.)

Highway Expenses (cont'd.)

Wages	68,659.59	
Welding	432.60	
Withholding	5,252.57	133,588.08
Flood Damage Repair		21,600.00
Insurance		13,537.51
Legal Expenses		5,876.00
Library Wages and Expenses		11,583.50
Old Home Day		350.00
Patriotic Purposes		266.40
Planning & Zoning		1,274.64
Police Department		4,876.81
Property Appraisal		1,995.00
Refunds and Abatements		218.17
School District		644,242.00
Street Lighting		491.76
Tax Maps		750.00
Tax Sale		51,439.26

Town Office Expenses

Advertising	1,053.35	
Alcohol and Drug Testing	430.00	
NH Municipal Association Expenses	725.00	
Office Supplies & Miscellaneous	5,646.32	
Permits, Licenses & Fees	1,383.55	
Phone	789.32	
Registry of Deeds	281.20	
Town Office Wages & Salaries	36,200.31	
Town Report	587.93	
Withholding	2,845.22	49,942.20
TOTAL EXPENSES		1,301,622.46

BALANCE SHEET
as of December 31, 1996

ASSETS

Cash		399,620
In hands of Treasurer	56,297	
Public Deposit Investment Pool	343,323	

Capital Reserve Funds		140,287
Road Equipment	21,728	
Dump	14,642	
School District	10,640	
Town Hall/Schoolhouse	4,630	
Fire Equipment	71,459	
Police Equipment	270	
Fire Station	7,184	
Property Appraisal	9,735	

Trust Funds (Cemetery and Library)		14,325
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Amounts Due to the Town

Unredeemed Taxes:		72,614
Levy of 1994	30,381	
Levy of 1995	42,233	

Uncollected Taxes		108,441
Levy of 1996 - Property	108,255	
Levy of 1996 - Land Use Change	100	
Levy of 1996 -Timber Yield	86	

TOTAL ASSETS		735,288
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LIABILITIES

Accounts Owed by the Town		561,966
Unexpended Balance of Special Appropriation:	3,000	
School District Tax Payable	558,966	

Capital Reserve Funds		140,287
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Trust Funds (Cemetery and Library)		14,325
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TOTAL LIABILITIES (less fund balance)		716,578
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Fund Balance - Current Surplus		18,709
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TOTAL LIABILITIES		735,288
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CHANGE IN FINANCIAL CONDITION		10,249
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Fund Balance December 31, 1995		8,460
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Fund Balance December 31, 1996		18,709
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STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATION OF TAXES ASSESSED

Total Town, School & County appropriations	1,172,447
Less estimated revenues	<u>169,873</u>
Subtotal	1,002,574
Less reimbursements: shared revenues	<u>13,372</u>
Subtotal	989,202
War Veterans Credit	3,750
Overlay	<u>17,417</u>
Subtotal	21,167
Gross Property Taxes	1,010,369
Plus Village District Commitment	865
Less Veterans Credit	<u>3,750</u>
 Net Property Tax Commitment	 1,007,484

Tax Rate per \$1,000 valuation: \$52.87 (\$53.23 for GLVD)
(Town: \$8.73 County: \$4.28 School: \$39.86 GLVD: \$.36)

SUMMARY OF INVENTORY VALUATION - 1996

Land	6,112,067
Land-Current Use	355,055
Land-Conservation Restriction Assessment	23,641
Buildings	12,336,456
Mobile Homes	25,800
Commercial / Industrial	16,400
Public Utilities	<u>291,017</u>
Total Valuations Before Exemptions	19,160,436
Less Exemptions: RSA 72:39 & 72:43A	<u>50,000</u>
Net Valuation for Tax Computation	19,110,436
 Granite Lake Village District (GLVD) Land	 1,044,887
GLVD Buildings	<u>1,358,600</u>
Net Valuation for Tax Computation	2,403,487

Kathleen F. Blaudschun
Tax Collector

SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY

DESCRIPTION		AMOUNT
City Hill (Black Top)	land	4,500
Fire Dept.	buildings	75,000
	furniture & equipment	100,000
	land	200
Hale Dam Site	land	200
Highway Dept.	land & building	135,000
	furniture & equipment	95,000
	land & building	150,000
Town Hall	furniture & equipment	5,000
	land & building	227,000
New Library & Connector	furniture & equipment	35,000
	land & building	200,000
Old Brick Schoolhouse	land & building	200,000
Old Library	land & building	75,000
	furniture & equipment	500
	Other land & buildings	23,600
School	land, building & equipment	<u>600,000</u>
TOTAL		1,725,800

SUMMARY OF TAX LIEN ACCOUNTS

Year ending December 31, 1996

Debit

Levy of:	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>
Unredeemed Tax Liens as of 1-1-96	0	37,311	22,784
New tax liens in 1996	51,439	0	0
Interest collected in 1996	919	1,485	8,131
Collection costs repaid in 1996	<u>200</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>503</u>
Total debits	52,558	38,869	31,418

Credit

Redeemed tax liens in 1996	9,206	6,653	22,784
Property Deeded to Town	0	0	0
Interest & cost collected in 1996	1,119	1,558	8,634
Unredeemed tax liens as of 12-31-96	<u>42,233</u>	<u>30,658</u>	<u>0</u>
Total credits	52,558	38,869	31,418

All figures to nearest dollar
Plus interest and costs

Kathleen F. Blaudschun
Tax Collector

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Levy of 1996 Calendar Year 1996

Debit

<u>Taxes committed to Collector</u>		
Property taxes	1,009,407	
Land use change tax	1,165	
Timber yield tax	9,327	1,019,899
Overpayments		218
Interest, fees & costs collected		<u>1,242</u>
<i>Total debits</i>		1,021,359

Credit

<u>Remittances to Treasurer</u>		
Property taxes	900,136	
Land use change tax	1,065	
Timber yield tax	9,241	
Interest, fees & costs collected	1,242	
Overpayments	<u>218</u>	911,902
Abatements of property taxes		1,021

Uncollected taxes as of 12-31-95

Property taxes	108,250	
Land use change tax	100	
Timber yield tax	<u>86</u>	<u>108,436</u>
<i>Total credits</i>		1,021,359

Levy of 1995 Calendar Year 1996

Debit

<u>Taxes committed to Collector</u>		
Property taxes	89,717	
Land use change tax	62	
Timber yield tax	600	
Overpayments	0	90,379
Interest, fees & costs collected		<u>6,763</u>
<i>Total debits</i>		97,142

Credit

<u>Remittances to Treasurer</u>		
Property taxes	89,717	
Land use change tax	62	
Timber yield tax	600	
Interest, fees & costs collected	6,763	97,142
Overpayments	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<i>Total credits</i>		97,142

All figures to nearest dollar

TRUST FUNDS REPORT - 1996

NAME OF FUND Purpose	Principal Balance		New Funds Created		Principal Expended		Principal Balance		Income Balance		Income During Year		Income Expended		Income Balance		Grand Total Principal and Income
	1-1-96	12-31-96	1-1-96	12-31-96	1-1-96	12-31-96	1-1-96	12-31-96	1-1-96	12-31-96	1-1-96	12-31-96	1-1-96	12-31-96	1-1-96	12-31-96	
CEMETERY FUNDS																	
Various Cemetery	12,925.00	13,325.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,325.00	0.00	363.04	363.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,325.00
LIBRARY FUNDS																	
Henry Melville	1,000.08	1,000.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.08	0.00	26.88	26.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.08
CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS																	
1945 Road Equipment	15,356.16	21,728.21	10,000.00	3,627.95	0.00	0.00	21,728.21	4,345.29	468.81	4,814.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	21,728.21
1972 Dump	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00	10,210.66	430.97	0.00	10,641.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14,641.63
1972 School District	5,457.01	10,457.01	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,457.01	0.00	182.81	0.00	182.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,639.82
1975 Town Hall and Brick Schoolhouse	2,555.57	4,555.57	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,555.57	0.00	74.45	0.00	74.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,630.02
1979 Fire Equipment	56,711.88	66,711.88	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	66,711.88	4,345.29	1,720.13	1,318.75	4,746.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	71,458.55
1985 Police Equipment	220.57	220.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	220.57	42.43	7.06	0.00	49.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	270.06
1988 Fire Station	5,002.00	6,002.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,002.00	1,012.51	169.64	0.00	1,182.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,184.15
1990 Revaluation	9,001.00	9,003.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,003.00	2,013.51	324.04	1,606.00	731.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,734.55
	112,229.27	137,003.32	28,402.00	3,627.95	0.00	0.00	137,003.32	25,737.52	3,767.83	8,129.46	17,608.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	154,612.07

TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT

for year ending December 31, 1996

RECEIPTS

Sexton		2,355.00
Rental of Town Buildings	955.00	
Cemetery Lots	1,400.00	
Clerk		56,740.22
Motor Vehicle Permits	54,032.00	
Motor Vehicle Titles	254.00	
Dog Licenses	1,129.50	
Dog License Penalties	217.00	
Marriage Licenses	360.00	
Candidate Filing Fees	12.00	
UCC Filing Fees	200.32	
Vital Records	62.00	
Wetland Permits	20.00	
Rabies Clinic	384.00	
Miscellaneous	69.40	
Boat Agent		839.92
Boat Fees	839.92	
Selectmen		10,650.43
Planning Board Fees	297.37	
License, Permits and Fees	12.32	
Building Permits	275.00	
Fire Training Revenue	26.21	
Cable TV Revenue	959.53	
Police Detail Reimbursement	120.00	
Sale of Town Material	25.00	
Police Dept. Report Fees	45.00	
Insurance Dividend	5,439.81	
Workers Comp Refund	533.00	
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	2,382.00	
Other AURDD	273.04	
Gifts	200.00	
Misc	62.15	
Tax Collector		1,058,992.22
1996 Property Tax	900,135.88	
1996 Property Tax Int. & Costs	1,217.37	
1996 Yield Tax	9,241.00	
1996 Land Use Change	1,065.00	
1996 Land Use Change Interest	24.64	
1995 Property Tax	89,717.06	
1995 Property Tax Int. & Costs	6,762.76	
1995 Land Use Change	61.50	
1995 Yield Tax	600.00	

TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT (cont'd.)

RECEIPTS (cont'd.)

Tax Collector (cont'd.)	
<i>1995 Tax Liens Redeemed:</i>	
Amount of Lien	9,394.44
Interest and Costs	1,125.66
<i>1994 Tax Liens Redeemed:</i>	
Amount of Lien	6,464.39
Interest and Costs	1,546.17
<i>1993 Tax Liens Redeemed:</i>	
Amount of Lien	22,784.19
Interest and Costs	8,633.99
Overpayments	218.17
Interest	
CFX Bank	591.07
Public Deposit Investment Pool	6,401.56
Trustees of Trust Funds	
Revaluation	1,606.00
Cemetery	363.04
Road Equipment	8,442.74
Library Construction	146,674.28
Fire Department Equipment	1,318.75
State of New Hampshire	
Highway Block Grant	29,189.11
Rooms and Meals Tax	4,500.47
Flood Control Reimbursement	2,784.00
Revenue Sharing (BPT)	17,639.65
Federal Grants	
FEMA Flood Grant	17,371.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	
	1,366,459.46

SUMMARY

Beginning Balance	334,716.31
Total Receipts	<u>1,366,459.46</u>
Total Available	1,701,175.77
Total Payments	<u>1,301,555.28</u>
Ending Balance	399,620.49

Prepared by Harold Gerbis, Town Treasurer, January 1997

ROAD AGENT'S REPORT

As reported in last year's Road Agent's report, extensive flood damage to town roads occurred in the fall of 1995. This damage was not declared eligible for disaster aid until January of 1996. Temporary repairs had been made in the meantime, and permanent repairs were done in the summer of 1996. These repairs exhausted our stocks of gravel. The money received from the disaster declaration was spent for the most part on replacement of the gravel reserves.

The 1996 paving project went really well. We made what's called a cold mix-in-place or a farmer's mix. The towns of Harrisville and Dublin assisted with sanding trucks, but most of the work was done in-house. Thank you to all who live on the Henderson and Center Pond Roads for your patience. This project was the conclusion of a 15 year stretch of paving projects which the town voted on every year as special articles. The follow up maintenance for these paved roads will be sealing projects to maintain surface integrity until more pavement is required.

The status of the maintenance of the Old Route 9 is still somewhat up in the air. Negotiations are on-going in court as of this writing. Articles 27 and 28 of this year's warrant are being brought before the public once again, in case the State relinquishes all maintenance to the Town. Currently the State is performing both summer and winter maintenance on old Route 9.

The new (2 years old) International (4900 series) medium duty dump truck still runs like brand new. This year's warrant article 33 is the 1997 payment on this vehicle. One more payment will be required in 1998.

Article 29 addresses the main road department budget. In 1996 it was \$135,000; this year, the request is the same. With savings on maintenance and less early 1997 overtime due to the weather (compared to this same time in 1996), we are striving to keep the budget the same as last year.

Article 30 addresses the Road Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. The importance of this article is shown on the next page in a table that outlines the existing equipment.

In 1995, an article was placed on the warrant that funded an upgrade of the light duty truck. The plan was to purchase a quality used vehicle from federal surplus and modify it for our needs (plowing, sanding, etc.) Unfortunately, a suitable vehicle never came available through the surplus system, so we made do with our current relic and the funds from the 1995 article were never expended. Article 32 this year is intended to serve this same purpose, and allows us the freedom to look throughout the year. This is the third year we have drafted such an article.

ROAD AGENT'S REPORT (cont'd)

There are three articles on the warrant this year that deal with hazard mitigation: The first is Article 31, regarding the bridge on Murdough Hill Road. The wing walls on this bridge need replacing and the guard rail system needs updating. The good news is that the deck seems to be in good shape.

The second is Article 34, regarding the 4 Corners intersection, where the Henderson Road intersects the Nelson Road. The safety issue here is the left corner as you exit the Henderson Road onto the Nelson Road, headed toward Route 9. Increased visibility of on-coming traffic is essential. Countless near misses have occurred at this location.

The third is Article 35, regarding the second hill of Log Cabin Road, near the end of the road by the old Teppema place. The hill has a very steep incline combined with a corner in the middle of the hill. We plan on decreasing the grade and taking the curve out of the corner. In addition to resolving safety issues, this project will make the hill less difficult to maintain in both summer and winter.

We participated in a federal grant program that supplied the town with a starter kit for work zone safety signs. This kit included over \$2000 worth of materials and a day long training seminar.

Brush cutting, and care of ditches and culverts are fundamental to good road maintenance for both paved and gravel roads. Clear road shoulders improve visibility and therefore improve safety. Clear road shoulders also improve drainage, reducing washouts, improving sun penetration, drying out icy or muddy situations and giving us room to push back snow in winter. Brush cutting also reduces wear and tear on snow removal equipment, by eliminating the effect of frozen branches beating against the vehicle. In 1995, thanks to our aggressive ditch maintenance program, Nelson did not suffer flood damage as severe as in some surrounding towns, but we did lose enough to qualify for Federal Disaster Relief Funds, as discussed above.

Please exercise caution and discretion during severe storms. Manpower and equipment limitations prevent us from being everywhere at once. Your updates on road conditions in your neighborhood are very welcome. If you discover a situation that needs attention, please DO call the town barn and leave a message, rather than assume we already know about it.

Much thanks for the efficient working of the Road Department is owed to Mike Tarr, whose steady hand and innovative skill keep improving the workings of the vehicles and the quality of the roads. The town is fortunate to have his abilities as part of our team. Thanks also to Lee Trudelle for her hard work and sense of humor.

Remember that winter sand is available at the Town Barn for use by Nelson residents on their own personal driveways.

Bud French
Town Barn 847-9705

HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT REPORT

This table shows the road maintenance equipment owned by the town, and gives you, the taxpayer, some idea of the usage of the Highway equipment, plus today's value and today's replacement cost.

<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Uses</u>	<u>Current Value</u>	<u>Useful Life Remaining</u>	<u>Current Cost to Replace</u>	<u>Ideal Life Expectancy</u>
1986 Grader	Plows snow, wings snow banks, shim work on pavement, ditch work, grading, cutting ice	\$65,000	9 years	\$115,000	20 years
1993 544G Loader	Loads trucks, moves equipment and snow, cleans ditches, used as a wheel barrow	\$56,000	13 years	\$80,000	15 years
1980 Light Duty Chevy Truck	Hauls brush and trash, pulls road rake, used for odd jobs	\$1,000	0 years	\$25,000	10 years
				This is a temporary vehicle. Needs to updated or reevaluated this year.	
1995 8yd. Medium Duty Dump Truck IH4900	Hauls gravel, sand, fill and hot top, plows snow, sands roads, used for other maintenance	\$64,000	13 years	\$65,000	15 years
1973 Mack Heavy Dump Truck M52A1	Extra heavy duty vehicle used to plow and wing snow, sand treacherous hills and haul gravel	\$4,500	2 years	\$80,000	20 years
John Deere 401B Tractor	Mows sides of roads, pulls road rake and roller	\$4,000	2 years	\$35,000	20 years

CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT

There were few Conservation Commission issues for the Nelson Conservation Commission (NCC) this year. All were looked into and followed through. The NCC meets in the Old Brick Schoolhouse once a month, on the second Tuesday at 7:30 in the evening.

We, the NCC, want the residents of Nelson to know that we are here to work with you and assist you with any conservation issues that you may have. Any shoreline projects, wetlands projects or other potential conservation issues should be brought before the board when they are in the conceptual stage. It is much easier to resolve problems on the local level than to have to deal with the State Wetlands Board.

The NCC is working with representatives from the Town of Stoddard in perambulating the Nelson-Stoddard town line. The RSA relative to town lines states that towns must perambulate their lines on a rotating basis every 7 years.

Bud French, Chair
Bert Wingerson

Barbara Fraser
Frankie Tolm

CEMETERY BOARD REPORT

The Cemetery Board has had a busy year. The survey work which had been planned for 1996 will be done this year and we need to do additional survey work in the new part of the old cemetery as well, to bring the map up to date.

Regular maintenance was done, with thanks to Al Struthers for his help. Thanks also go out to the Boy Scouts for their help in the raking of leaves in the fall. Brush control too is an ongoing job to keep the woods from creeping in.

Our plans for the upcoming year are many. In addition to the survey work, we will be looking at our current rules and regulations and bringing all of that up to date.

Sylvia Wright, Chair
Win French
Al Struthers

Teri Upton
Bert Wingerson

SEXTON'S REPORT

1996 concluded the new library addition, new facilities in the Town Hall/Library connector and additional meeting space in the Town Hall. You will find special warrant articles asking to replace the very worn floor and to do some interior painting for the Town Hall. The Old Brick Schoolhouse will get some badly needed exterior painting, too, thanks to funds in the Government Buildings budget. A new furnace was installed at the Old Brick Schoolhouse this past December. This was an unexpected project. George Warner, Sr. is assisting me in my sexton duties. Rental fees were down this year due to the construction.

Win French, Sexton

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

NELSON FIRE LOG - 1996

Structure — 2	Car — 2	Brush — 5	Rescue — 13
False Alarm — 6	Mutual Aid — 5	Chimney — 3	Other — 2

The Fire Station facility at the Town Barn is complete and in operation. We have worked out the details to dividing the equipment up between the two stations. Presently, the Pumper and the Forestry truck are located at the Munsonville Station. The Tanker and the Rescue truck are at the Nelson Center Station. Some of the area is being shared with the Highway Department. Members from either side of town are responding to their closest station and this seems to be working out well.

With the help of last year's article for emergency lighting, by mid-year we were able to get the Rescue vehicle operational. The vehicle has been loaded with all of the appropriate equipment, plus some newer, needed EMT supplies. We have also updated our non-transport license to operate a rescue unit from the state. This had lapsed and was needed to allow us to operate the rescue unit. We now have an EMT on the department, Karyn Lothrop, who is pulling the rescue activities together. We are looking for individuals who are interested in being an EMT (Emergency Medical Technician). We have a few First Responders, but we are really in desperate need for adding people in this area to provide a better service to the town. The department will pay for the training and will support the individuals in their activities. Anyone interested should contact the fire department.

The fire department has gone through another typical year with its operations. It has also seen the continuation of supporting local activities, especially Old Home Day. Calls, as noted in the log, have gone up this year, with the most serious one being the accident at the junction of Route 9. We need to continue to support our mutual aid system as they are very helpful with equipment and manpower when accidents like this happen. Rescue calls seem to be on a steady climb each year.

The Nelson Center Station has had a new insulated garage door added to it. At the time of construction, the building was created with the ability to add a third door and that was done. This year for special articles we are asking to use up the funds in the Fire Station Capital Reserve Fund to replace the older garage doors with new insulated ones, and put up an internal squad room that came as part of the building from the state, but was never installed. This will provide a needed area away from the vehicles to hold formal meetings and training. Also, this year sees an article with regard to SCBA (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus). Our present units need to be updated and the older ones replaced. Our last purchase of these type units was back in 1982 and they need to be updated.

To minimize chimney fires, we suggest to everyone who uses a wood stove to have the chimneys cleaned frequently and to inspect them on a regular basis during the heating season. Also, burn dry, seasoned wood to minimize creosote build up in the chimney.

I would like to thank all the active members for their continued effort and support. Remember, to report a fire or other emergency, DIAL 911 or 352-1100.

Rick Lothrop, Fire Chief

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

911 Hang-Up	7
Alarms, False	27
Animal Complaints	10
Assisting Other Agencies	18
Burglaries	3
Domestic Disputes	4
Loud Parties	4
Miscellaneous	40
Motor Vehicle Accidents	7
Motor Vehicle Breakdowns/Motorist Assistance	4
Natural or Untimely Deaths	2
Runaways/Juvenile Problems	4
Unwanted or Intoxicated Persons, removal of	3
 Total calls	 133

The Nelson Police Department requests that all owners of alarm systems continue to make sure that they are properly maintained.

If you need assistance, call 911.

Dick Descoteaux, Police Chief

FIRE PERMITS

As stated in New Hampshire state law (RSA 224:27B), "No person, firm or corporation shall kindle or cause to be kindled any fire or burn or cause to be burned any material, except when the ground is covered with snow, **without first obtaining a written fire permit from the Forest Fire Warden of the town where the burning is to be done.**"

Burning may be done before 9 a.m. or after 5 p.m. If it is necessary to burn during the day for commercial purposes, a special permit is required from the state Forest Ranger. It is also possible to burn during the day if it is raining, however, a written permit is still required. Written permission is required if an individual wishes to burn on land belonging to someone else, as well. If individuals wish to burn in an incinerator, a seasonal permit may be issued, but the burning must still be done before 9 a.m. or after 5 p.m. In Nelson, there is no charge for these permits at this time.

Permits may be obtained from:

Bob West	Murdough Hill Rd	847-9759
Rick Lothrop	Murdough Hill Rd	847-9045
Charlie Lang	Murdough Hill Rd	847-3277
Bud French	Town Barn	847-9705

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

The culminating event of this year, the opening of the new library building, was the result of years of planning. During the summer the new library and connector were built and furnished. With the organizational skills of the Friends of the Library and the help of many volunteers, the library materials were moved into the new building on October 19th. The next weekend a formal grand opening was hosted by the Friends of the Library and the Trustees. Now that the larger and more modern building is open, attendance has skyrocketed. It is up over a 200% increase. Many books, videos and magazines are circulating. As a result of this increase, there is a desperate need for volunteers.

In the technology department, the library received the donation of a new Pentium computer and printer from AVS. This has Windows 95 and Internet (a yearly donation on Monadnet was made by Beth Williams). This computer is available for use by library patrons. The CD ROM encyclopedia, given by Microsoft, updated our reference materials to ENCARTA 1996 when we participated in a program promoting computers in the library. Students often use this and the World Wide Web for research projects.

A story hour on Mondays after school has been reinstated by Betsy Street. Included are a snack, story and project. Betsy often facilitates story hour, but also coordinates guests to present a topic. Heather Bower and Rosemary Brewster did an hour on American Indians, weaving stories and yarn and nature collages; Sienna Giffin did the holiday story hour with a project of angels made from milkweed pods and sheep's wool. Anyone wishing to be part of this dynamic time is welcome.

The school holidays and warmer weather brought a lot of the younger readers to the library. The summer reading program had a goal of 65 books to be read by the kids. That's one book for each year the library was open. The younger patrons of the library more than doubled the expected goal, filling the bulletin board with names and titles. Traditionally a puppet show ends the summer program. This year the Nelson Puppeteers performed Town Mouse Country Mouse with puppets and narration designed and written by Jan Brett. Old Home Day presented an opportunity for storyteller Amelia Struthers to entertain the children in the empty new library building. Simultaneously with the Old Home day events, the Friends of the Library were hosting the annual book sale. The proceeds from the book sale enabled the purchase of reference books and a new vacuum cleaner.

Many other events filled the library year. A book discussion group was started in the spring. Susan Kershaw and the librarian alternated facilitating the discussion once a month. Some of the books read were Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant by Anne Tyler, Pigs in Heaven by Barbara Kingsolver and Stranger in the Kingdom by Frank Howard Mosher. The Cub Scouts had a computer awareness meeting with Terry Mednick adding an extra computer for the evening. On election day, the library was opened by volunteers for the community to have an opportunity to see the new facilities. 169 adults passed through and 139 kids. All of the Nelson School came to the library that day.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT (cont'd.)

The librarian attended several events to continue education in the library field. One event was the annual conference hosted by the New Hampshire Library Association. This conference featured author speakers, library product and book vendors and informational workshops. Nubanusit Library Co-op meetings were attended during the summer. A course, "Computers in the Library", at Keene State College was attended by the librarian in the fall.

The Trustees of the library had 18 meetings over the course of the year.

Thank you to volunteers who helped with day to day operation of the library. The total volunteer time for 1996 was 153 hours.

Terry Mednick -- computers
Joann Warner and Joan Warner
Johanna Mckenzie, Sarah Sousa , Andrew Tuttle, Mary Warner, Angela Descoteaux, Brian Lenox
Dave Birchenough and Rick Witsell -- graphics
Julie Rohr, Betsy Church -- cleaning
Lindy Black -- inventory
Sylvia Gleason -- general library operation
Betty Lenox -- typing
Jim Jarvella -- Recycling
John Newman
Susan Kershaw -- book discussion group
Dutch Gerbis -- general grounds and building help
Marion Raynor -- Christmas wreathes
Bert Wingerson -- for historical information and organizing of the Bemis papers.

To all who donated books, magazines, and money to the library collection.
And to everyone else that helped make your library be an important part of the Nelson community.

Volumes in the library

Total volumes in the library December 31,1995	5,361
Purchases	123
Gifts	<u>214</u>
Total Volumes December 31, 1996	5,698

Circulation from the library:

Adult non-fiction	289
Adult fiction	831
Juvenile	1,418
Periodicals	119
Audio/Visual	<u>251</u>
Total Circulation	2,908

The computer was used 382 times.

Inter-library loan items totaled 325 books and periodical articles.

Kris Finnegan, Librarian

OLIVIA RODHAM MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Report of General Fund Income and Expenditures*

January 1, 1996 to December 31, 1996

Balance forward from prior year	2,250.93
<i>Income</i>	
Interest and dividends	49.00
Donations	1,363.00
Payments and Fees	153.49
Transfer from Building Funds	4,500.00
Appropriation: Town of Nelson	<u>2,000.00</u>
Total Income	8,065.49
 <i>Expenditures</i>	
Supplies	489.44
Books	2,299.36 **
Magazines	278.28
Telephone	533.17
Dues	10.00
Miscellaneous	47.43
Librarian Education	137.58
Returned to Building Fund	965.87
Building Fund Expense	<u>3,534.13</u>
Total Expenditures	8,295.26
 Balance as of December 31, 1996	 2,021.16

*Excluding salary and utilities accounts managed by the Town

**\$1,000 of this amount paid from gift of Friends of the Library

Comparative Statement and Proposed Budget

	Expended <u>1995</u>	Expended <u>1996</u>	Proposed <u>1997</u>
Salary: Librarian	7,902.00	7,829.00	5,910.00
Salary: Assistants	198.00	980.00	1,940.00
Town portion of SS & MC	620.00	674.00	601.00
Supplies	535.00	490.00	650.00
Books	1,399.00	2,300.00 *	1,910.00
Magazines	272.00	279.00	300.00
Telephone	448.00	534.00	700.00
Dues	75.00	10.00	75.00
Librarian Education	346.00	138.00	625.00
Architect Fees	680.00	0.00	0.00
Fund Raising Expenses**	500.00	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	<u>50.00</u>	<u>35.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>
Totals	13,025.00	13,269.00	12,761.00

*\$1,000 of this amount paid from gift of Friends of the Library

**Reimbursed from Building Fund

LIBRARY PROJECT REPORT

Fundraising for the new Olivia Rodham Memorial Library continued in 1996 to meet the funding commitments made in town meeting in 1995. Pledged private contributions were sufficient to fulfill the Library share of costs.

The fund raising activity for the Library construction will close on June 1, 1997. We will continue to collect previously committed pledges after this date and new donations will be accepted for future projects including long-term expansion into the lower level of the building. We thank all those who assisted with this project from inception in late 1994, through the successful appeal activity in 1995 and 1996, and especially the more than 300 people and groups who contributed to this worthy project. God bless Nelson.

Mike French, Contributions Chairman
Dave Birchenough, Contributions Coordinator

Combined Project Cost

Contractor	197,000.00
Architect	20,064.46
Engineer	1,000.00
Misc. extras paid by Town	2,525.82
Printing and mailing	480.39
Telephone installation	75.00
Shelving	19,740.00
Architect	1,922.50
Cabinet and desk	11,725.00
Architect	1,077.50
Tables and chairs	2,832.00
Misc. interior expenses	<u>146.74</u>
Total Cost	\$258,589.41
Town's Share	<u>(\$71,000.00)</u>

Private Contributions Needed \$187,589.41

Dave Upton, Treasurer - Library Trustees

The Trustees of the Olivia Rodham Memorial Library wish to express their sincere appreciation to everyone who contributed time, money or ideas, as well as general cooperation and support to the building of our new library.

Working on this project was particularly gratifying to us because so many people participated in so many ways to assure its success.

Thanks to all of you. Please use and enjoy our new library.

Trustees of the Library

Dorothy M. French Celia Wiechert Henry M. Fuller
Lee Trudelle David Upton

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

<u>Transaction</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Receipts</u>
Vehicle registrations	794	\$54,032.00
Titles	128	254.00
Dog licenses	174	1,129.50
Dog licensing penalties	30	217.00
Marriage licenses	8	360.00
Research/copy Vital Records	6	62.00
UCC statements	12	200.32
Candidate filing fees	11	12.00
Sale of Town Materials/copies	9	69.40
Rabies Clinic	1	384.00
Wetland Permits	<u>2</u>	<u>20.00</u>
 Total Transactions	 1,175	
Total Paid to Treasurer		\$56,740.22

The annual cooperative Rabies Clinic will be held in the Nelson Town Hall on a Saturday during the month of April. Both cats and dogs may be vaccinated for rabies. Dogs must be on leashes and cats must be in carriers. Town Clerks from participating towns will be there to register dogs. Watch for informational notices about this on Town bulletin boards and in the Keene Sentinel.

State law requires that ALL local dogs are licensed by April 30th. Fees will be collected, per RSA 466:13 -- a \$25 forfeiture fee for each unregistered dog will be charged as of June 1, and per RSA 466:7 -- a \$1 late fee for each month (after June 1) that a dog remains unregistered. A current Rabies Certificate must be presented in order to get a dog license.

Kathleen F. Blaudschun, Town Clerk

BOAT AGENT'S REPORT

	<u>Receipts</u>
Number of boats registered: 29	
Total boat fees collected	\$839.92
Minus fees forwarded to the State	-590.50
 Fees retained by Town	 \$249.42

Mary E. Davis, Boat Agent

VITAL STATISTICS - 1996

BIRTHS

DATE	PLACE	NAME	PARENTS
1-9-96	Lebanon	Iva Mireille DeMartelly	Elizabeth Iva DeMartelly Michael Galwey DeMartelly
2-3-96	Peterborough	Kyle Stephen Brewster	Rosemary Gail Brewster Benjamin Otis Brewster
2-9-96	Keene	Ryan Oren French	Kelly Marie French Winston Oren French
3-2-96	Peterborough	Elijah James Mullen	Kathryn Michelle Mullen William James Mullen
4-22-96	Nelson	Julia Christopher Ebert	Ann Cary Stinson Eric Alan Ebert
9-24-96	Peterborough	Annalee Carol Parham-Brown	Holly Perkins Parham-Brown Wendell Parham-Brown

MARRIAGES

DATE	PLACE	NAME	RESIDENCE
5-11-96	Munsonville	Sara H. Shepherd Ronald W. Slayton	Nelson, New Hampshire Nelson, New Hampshire
6-22-96	Keene	Julie Consentino Marshall Andrew Davenson	Nelson, New Hampshire Nelson, New Hampshire
6-23-96	Munsonville	Elizabeth Anne Hannah Michael Alan Lyon	Kansas City, Missouri Kansas City, Missouri
8-3-96	Nelson	Rebecca Lynn DeFusco Jeffrey Daniel Grosner	Nelson, New Hampshire Nelson, New Hampshire
8-17-96	Nelson	Diane E. Jewell John Page Bennink	Monkton, Vermont Monkton, Vermont
8-24-96	Nelson	Katherine G. Collins Troy C. Tucker	Nelson, New Hampshire Nelson, New Hampshire
9-15-96	Lyme	Karine Anne Koch John Everett Asseng	Nelson, New Hampshire Nelson, New Hampshire
10-20-96	Dublin	Esther May Haskvitz Blake Gabriel Parker	Hadley, Massachusetts Nelson, New Hampshire

DEATHS

DATE	PLACE	NAME	PARENTS
5-22-96	Nelson	Earl Morton Adams	Bessie M. Shattuck Ernist H. Adams
10-13-96	Boston, MA	John E. Warner, Jr.	Mildred E. Leslie John E. Warner, Sr.
12-17-96	Nelson	Catherine B. Houck	Olive V. Boyle Joseph A. Jenny

Residents who have a birth, marriage or death in their family, need to make sure that NELSON is listed as their town of legal residence (do not use your mailing address). This is necessary to assure that documents are sent to this office for accurate record keeping of our Vital Records.

Kathleen F. Blandschun
Town Clerk

1996 TOWN MEETING MINUTES

Moderator Ethan Tolman called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm on Tuesday March 12, 1996. It was a bright sunny day without a cloud in the sky, temperatures in the high 40's. Moderator Tolman read article #1: "To choose necessary Town officers for the year ensuing" and article #14, proposed amendments to the Nelson Zoning Ordinance, they were moved and seconded. It was moved and seconded that the reading of the rest of the warrant be waived until the start of the business meeting. The motion was passed by voice vote. The polls were declared open and the voting began.

Results of the election were as follows:

Selectman - Michael French	Tax Collector - Kathleen Blaudschun
Road Agent - Winston O.(Bud) French	Police Officer - Richard Descoteaux
Sexton - Winston H. French	Fire Chief - Richard Lothrop
Town Clerk - Kathleen Blaudschun	Treasurer - Harold E. Gerbis
Moderator - Ethan C. Tolman	Library Trustee - David Upton
Road Equipment Comm.- Barry Tolman	Planning Board - Marion Raynor
Trustee of Trust Funds - Roberta Wingerson	Auditor - Richard Lothrop
Emergency Mgt. Officer - Richard Lothrop	Supervisor Checklist - Joan Warner
Zoning Board of Adjustment - Robert Germeroth & Kim Rich	

ARTICLES OF A GENERAL NATURE

Moderator Tolman opened the meeting at 7:15 pm and a motion to defer the reading of the warrant was moved and seconded. It passed by voice vote. The meeting was asked to show a preference on whether to open the polls from 11am to 7pm or 12 noon to 8pm (as they are now), the consensus seemed to be split so the polling hours will remain the same as in past years. The Moderator requested that all amendment should be made in writing to the Town Clerk. A final announcement was that the Boy Scouts will be selling refreshments at the rear of the hall.

2. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$87,286 to defray Town charges for the year ensuing." (The 1995 appropriation was \$82,675.) It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. A question was asked why the increase from last year. Selectman Terry Mednick responded that it was due to several things, salary increases, election expenses, and insurance costs. The article passed by voice vote.

3. "To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to accept, on behalf of the Town, gifts, legacies and devises made to the Town in trust for any public purpose. This authorization, in accordance with RSA 31:19, shall remain in effect until rescinded by a vote of the town." It was moved and seconded the article be accepted as read. The article passed by voice vote.

4. "To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to accept, on behalf of the Town, gifts of personal property (other than cash) to the Town for any public purpose. This authorization, in accordance with RSA 31:95-e, shall remain in effect until rescinded by a vote of the town." It was moved and seconded the article be accepted as read. The question was asked to what purpose was this article. Selectman Walter Rohr responded that this is on the warrant so the Town is in compliance with the RSA. The article passed by voice vote.

1996 TOWN MEETING MINUTES (cont'd.)

5. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for an interior survey of the new section of the Nelson Cemetery. This article shall be non-lapsing for a period of two years or until the project has been completed, whichever comes first." The Selectmen and the Cemetery Board recommend this article. It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. Selectman Mednick explained that this is part of the long range plan (the entrance last year, the survey this year, a fence next year) to prepare this addition of the cemetery for future use. Winston French, Sexton and member of the Cemetery Board, added that the Cemetery Board would like to do this in stages, instead of making a request to do the whole project all in one year, since they are planning ahead they have time to prepare the new section in this manner. Lots will not be able to be sold until all stages are complete. After some further discussion. The article passed by voice vote.

6. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1 to be added to the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund." The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (The 1995 appropriation was \$1. The current fund balance is about \$9,410.) It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. It was asked when it going to be needed. Selectman Mednick responded that we constantly look at the fairness of the tax rate and had hoped to have some software in place to help to change some numbers to make them more fair, being the waterfront properties that are out-of-whack with the rest of the town. Right now there is no plan for a revaluation on the horizon. The article passed by voice vote.

7. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,578 for support of the Town Library." (The 1994 appropriation was \$12,776.) It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. David Upton explained the items that make up the figure presented, and brief report on the status of Library Building Fund Drive. The article passed by voice vote.

8. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,800 as its share of the operating costs of the Home Health Care and Community Services." (The 1995 appropriation was \$1,800.) It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. It passed by voice vote.

9. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$557 as its share of the operating costs of Monadnock Family Services." (The 1995 appropriation was \$535.) It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. It passed by voice vote.

10. (by petition) "To see if the Town will urge our representatives to the General Court of New Hampshire and the United States Congress to pass laws reforming electoral campaign financing, thus returning the political process to the will of the people and encouraging the participation of candidates with great ability and limited means. Measures to accomplish this may include, but not be limited to, the following: 1) sharp limitations on all forms of contributions to candidates, including soft money contributions (contributions to political parties); 2) maximum spending limits per election linked to geographic and demographic makeup of each state and district, such as \$1.00 per voter; 3) sharp limitations on all forms of spending to influence elections, including independent expenditures; 4) sharp limitations on contributions to and spending by political action committees; and 5) remedies, such as free broadcast time, postal subsidies and democratic (public) financing, to balance

1996 TOWN MEETING MINUTES (cont'd.)

inequities between credible candidates, incumbent and challenger, rich and poor." The Selectmen choose not to render an opinion on this article. It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. Rep. William Riley spoke in favor of this article. Discussion followed with concern on where this would go and how it will be presented. Rep. Riley volunteered to present this to the legislature if the town passes this article. The article passed by voice vote.

11. (by petition) "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 for the providing of meals to needy Nelson residents furnished and distributed by the Community Kitchen, Inc. The total cost of providing 1,886 meals to Nelson residents during the twelve month period of 1995 was \$849.00. All towns in the Monadnock region are being requested to provide funding to The Community Kitchen to help defray the costs of serving and distributing meals in 1996." The Selectmen do not recommend this article. It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. The question was raised on why the Selectmen do not recommend this article? Selectman Mednick responded that the Selectmen had met with 4 different organizations and felt that they would recommend the 2 that the Town had supported in the past. Questions were asked on where the numbers were arrived from. Mindy Cambiar, Director of The Keene Community Kitchen asked if she would be allowed to respond to the questions. After seeing there was not objections from the meeting, Moderator Tolman allowed Mindy to answer questions. She explained the information is gathered by the people who come in fill out a form, so its on the honor system. She also explained where their funding comes from. After some further discussion the Article passed by voice vote.

12. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1 to be added to the Town Hall/Schoolhouse Capital Reserve Fund for the renovation or remodeling of the Town Hall or Old Brick Schoolhouse, it being understood that no withdrawals may be made from the fund except by vote of the Town." The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (In 1995, \$1 was appropriated. The current fund balance is about \$2,556.) It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. There was a motion to amend the article to change the dollar amount from \$1 to "\$2,000." The amendment was moved and seconded. John Wright spoke to the importance of putting monies away for future needs of the town. It helps to keep the taxes from jumping when a major project needs to be done. The article passed as amended by voice vote.

ARTICLES DEALING WITH PLANNING & ZONING

13. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$612.70 as the Town's share for membership in the Southwest Regional Planning Commission." (The 1995 appropriation was \$605.) It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. The article passed by voice vote.

14. To vote on the proposed amendment to the Nelson Zoning Ordinance (written ballot required):

The following proposed amendment to the Nelson Zoning Ordinance was written by the Nelson Planning Board, in consultation with the Nelson Zoning Board of Adjustment. This amendment was unanimously approved at the public hearing held on Thursday, January 11, 1996.

Proposed Driveway Ordinance

1. No driveway shall be constructed or altered within the right-of-way of any road under the jurisdiction of the Town of Nelson, until a written permit has been issued by the Selectmen. All permits shall include a construction plan with sufficient detail to demonstrate compliance with this Ordinance.
2. All driveway construction shall conform to the following specifications, unless a special exception is granted as provided in this Ordinance:
 - a) Driveways shall be thirty feet wide at their intersection with the road, and for a distance of at least twenty feet from that point.
 - b) Driveways shall be constructed to slope away from the road's surface at a grade of one-half inch per foot for a distance of at least ten feet back from the ditch line.
 - c) Driveways shall intersect the road at an angle of ninety degrees, unless the driveway is located at the end of a road.
 - d) In cases where the road is paved, the driveway must be paved for a distance of at least ten feet from its intersection with the road.
 - e) The landowner shall maintain unobstructed visibility from the driveway's intersection with the road for at least 250 feet in each direction along the road in all seasons of the year.
 - f) Driveways shall not interrupt the natural or ditch-line flow of water. Appropriately-sized culverts (fifteen inches minimum diameter, thirty foot maximum length) shall be installed and maintained by the landowner in locations deemed necessary by the Town. In cases where a shallow ditch line or natural drainage courses already exist, an alternative drainage plan better suited to the driveway's location may be permitted.
 - g) In a multi-lot development, or in cases where multiple dwellings occupy a single lot, common driveway entrance(s) to the road may be required in order to minimize the number of curb cuts.
3. Special exceptions to the above specifications may be approved by the Planning Board (if a new subdivision) or by the Zoning Board of Adjustment (if an existing lot):

1996 TOWN MEETING MINUTES (cont'd.)

- a) if the resulting driveway would promote proper drainage, be better suited to the topography and location, and permit a safe and controlled access to and from the road, in all seasons of the year, under projected local road and traffic conditions, OR
- b) if strict compliance would preclude access to a pre-existing lot of record.

4. In determining if the above criteria for a special exception exist, the appropriate board may require an on-site inspection and recommendation by the Nelson Road Agent and/or other qualified expert(s). Based on their findings, the appropriate board may require, as a condition of approval, that the landowner comply with such terms and conditions as may be necessary to protect public safety and preserve abutting property.

5. The terms and conditions of all special exceptions granted under this Ordinance shall be described fully on the final plat prior to subdivision approval (for new subdivisions), and on all permits.

6. Landowners failing to comply with this Ordinance, or with the conditions specified on subdivision plat or permit issued hereunder, shall be liable for all costs incurred by the Town of Nelson to correct the non-conformance and restore the road and right-of-way to their pre-existing condition.

Results of the vote: 167=Ballots Cast 87=Yes 70=No The amendment passed.

ARTICLES DEALING WITH SERVICE AND PROTECTION

15. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500 as a subsidy for ambulance service for the ensuing year, it being understood that residents will still be charged for individual calls." (The appropriation for 1995 was \$4,500.) It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. The article passed by voice vote.

16. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for the proper expenses of the Police Department." (The 1995 appropriation was \$5,000.) It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. The article passed by voice vote.

17. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for the proper expenses of the Fire Department and Rescue Squad." (The 1995 appropriation was \$5,000.) It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. The article passed by voice vote.

1996 TOWN MEETING MINUTES (cont'd.)

18. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$750 for emergency lighting for the rescue vehicle." It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. Fire Chief Richard Lothrop explained that this would make it legal for use on the road. Selectman Mednick added that this expenditure for the rescue vehicle would still bring it in under budget. The article passed by voice vote.

19. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be added to the Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, it being understood that no withdrawals may be made from the fund except by vote of the Town and upon recommendation of the Fire Department." The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (The 1995 appropriation was \$10,000. The current fund balance is about \$61,057.) It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. The article passed by voice vote.

20. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1 to be added to the Fire Station Capital Reserve Fund, it being understood that no withdrawals may be made from the fund except by vote of the Town and upon recommendation of the Fire Department." The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (The 1995 appropriation was \$1. The current fund balance is \$6,015.) It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. There was a motion to amend the article dollar amount from \$1 to "\$1,000". The amendment was moved and seconded. Selectman Mednick shared with the meeting that the selectmen have talked about pooling all the capital reserved funds for government buildings to one account, that will be discussed more and possibly presented on next years warrant. There was discussion on the pros and cons of capital reserve funds. The Moderator asked for a voice vote on the amendment, as it was unclear to him, a standing vote was called. The Moderator declared the amendment clearly passed by standing vote. The article passed as amended by voice vote.

21. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$835 for road name signposts." It was moved and seconded to accept the article as read. There was a question on the need for signs. Selectman Mednick responded that with the implementation of Enhanced 9-1-1, signs are necessary so that emergency vehicles can locate residents. He went on to say that there are 4 signs already in place, put there by Jeff Walter and fellow Scouts, as part of his Eagle Scout project. Ralph Walter, (Jeff's Dad) offered his appreciation to Bud French, Paul Giacomo, and all the other people in Town for helping Jeff with his Eagle project. A round of applause was offered in support of Jeff. He will complete the rest of the road signs with the approval of this article. The article was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLES DEALING WITH ROADS

22. "To see if the Town will vote to accept and henceforth fully maintain the section of old Route 9 which extends from the Nelson Road intersection westerly to the intersection with the old Concord Road across from the Walter's farm, it being understood that to do so will increase the amount of article 21 by \$3,000." It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. There was much discussion on where the Town stands in negotiations with the State in regards to the maintenance of the "Old Rt. 9". Issues such as whether the Town or State will do either the summer or winter maintenance or that the Town or State will take responsibility of the whole section. It was felt by many that continued negotiations need to take place with the State. The Article failed by voice vote.

23. "To see if the Town will vote to henceforth undertake winter maintenance of the section of old Route 9 which extends from the intersection with the easternmost access ramp of new Route 9 easterly to the Stoddard town line, it being understood that to do so will increase the amount of article 21 by \$10,000." It was moved and seconded to accept the article as read. The same concerns were aired as in Article #22. The Article failed by voice vote.

Moderator Tolman noting the time to be 9:10pm, and well after the hour of 8:00pm in which the polls were to close, so declared the polls closed.

24. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$135,000 for general highway expenses and labor in the maintenance of the Town's roads and bridges." (The 1995 appropriation was \$125,000.) It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. A question on why the increase? Road Agent Bud French explained that due to the numerous snow storms, it was taking additional salt, sand and labor to keep the roads plowed and treated. The article passed by voice vote.

25. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be added to the Road Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. It is understood that no withdrawals may be made from this fund for the purchase of road equipment except by vote of the Town and upon recommendation of the Road Equipment Committee." The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (The 1995 appropriation was \$10,000. The current fund balance is about \$19,702.) It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. The article passed by voice vote.

26. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for materials for shim work on certain paved sections of town roads. This sum is to be non-lapsing for two years or until the completion of the projects, whichever comes first. Labor, trucking and application shall be paid from the general highway budget "(article 20). The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (A similar article in 1995 appropriated \$10,000.) It was moved and seconded the article be accepted as read. Questions were asked on where last year's appropriation was spent and where was this years planning to go? Road Agent French answered that last years was spent on the Granite Lake side of Town and this years will go Henderson Rd/Center Pond Rd/and the Village, as stated in his Road Agents Report. The article passed by voice vote.

1996 TOWN MEETING MINUTES (cont'd.)

27. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,200 or authorize its withdrawal from the Road Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for the purchase of a replacement road rake." The Selectmen and Road Equipment Committee recommend this appropriation. It was moved and seconded to accept the article as read. Road Agent French explained the costs to repair the old rake would cost \$2000. for parts and that we've spent \$3337. on it to keep it going over the last 10 years. A motion to amend the article "to withdraw \$5200. from the Road Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for the purchase of a replacement road rake" The amendment was moved and seconded. The amendment passed by voice vote. The article passed as amended by voice vote.

28. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500 or authorize its withdrawal of from the Road Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for the purchase and modification of a used truck. This article shall be non-lapsing until the day of Town Meeting in 1997." The Selectmen and Road Equipment Committee recommend this appropriation. It was moved and seconded to accept the article as read. There was a review of what was done last year under a similar article. That a pick-up truck was purchased for \$500. and that \$3869 was spent to get it road ready. That the Town received \$3600. for the pick-up that burned last year. A motion to amend the article "To withdraw \$7500. from the Road Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for the purchase and modification of a used truck. This article shall be non-lapsing until the day of Town Meeting in 1997" The amendment passed by voice vote. The article passed as amended by voice vote.

29. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$17,499.40 for the 1996 payment on the International dump truck presently being leased by the Town. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation." (A similar article in 1995 appropriated \$20,299.40. This is the second of four annual payments.) It was moved and seconded to accept the article as read. The article passed by voice vote.

OTHER ARTICLES

30. To transact any other business or discuss other warrant proposals as may legally be brought before the meeting. Moderator Tolman recognized Selectman Walter Rohr. Selectman Rohr stated "Once again our Town of Nelson is the welcome beneficiary of a wonderful project which has resulted in a valuable new resource for the community with only limited expenditure of our tax dollars. Of course I'm speaking of our new library and connector to this Town Hall. Obviously we need to express our gratitude to the Library Committee and all who worked so diligently with the fund raising effort and the many generous contributors. A special thank you needs to be extended to Janet Seixas, and Bess and Jack Bradshaw who allowed the Town easements on their property which permitted the library project to proceed. Without their selfless generosity we would not have our wonderful new library." There was a standing ovation of appreciation as thanks to Janet, Bess and Jack.

There was a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm, at which time ballots were counted.

Kathleen F. Blaudschun, Town Clerk

GRANITE LAKE VILLAGE DISTRICT - 1996 MEETING MINUTES

The Granite Lake Village District meeting was started at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 7, 1996 at the Chapel-by-the-Lake in Munsonville.

The moderator, John Halter, opened the meeting at 4:00 p.m. to act on warrant articles including elections of Village District offices.

Article 1. To choose one commissioner for a term of three years; and to see who the inhabitants of the district will elect for the offices of clerk, moderator and treasurer, each for a one-year term.

The article was so moved by David Costin and seconded by Bob Woods. Nominations for the three-year term: David Knight; for Clerk, Sally Ripley; for moderator, John Halter; for treasurer, Thomas Yocono. The Article was opened for discussion. There was no discussion. The Article was voted. The vote was affirmative.

Article 2. To see if the district will vote to authorize the commissioners to borrow in anticipation of taxes.

The article was so moved by David Costin and seconded by Bob Woods. The Article was opened for discussion. There was no discussion. The Article was voted. The vote was affirmative.

Article 3. To see if the district will raise the sum of \$650.00 to defray Village District expenses for the ensuing year and make appropriations of the same.

The article was moved by David Costin, seconded by Bob Woods. The Article was opened for discussion. There was no discussion. The Article was voted. The vote was affirmative.

Article 4. To see if the district will raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to purchase liability insurance to cover the district.

The article was moved by Jane Kirk, seconded by Thomas Yocono. The Article was opened for discussion. There was no discussion. The Article was voted. The vote was affirmative.

Article 5. To see if the district will raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,100.00 to replace the fence at the dam.

The article was moved by Leonard Frazier, seconded by David Costin. The Article was opened for discussion. There was discussion on Article 5. Phil Hamilton asked if there could be an access hole installed in the fence to allow the fire department to draw water from the mill pond. The answer was not found on this date and the commissioners will research it with the New Hampshire Municipal Association. At this time it was also noted that the Nelson Fire Department will install a dry hydrant at the appropriate place on the lake to draw water in case of fire. This will be paid for by the Town of Nelson. Thomas Yocono read a letter from the New Hampshire Municipal Association informing the Village District to repair the fence to their specifications in order to maintain liability insurance. The Article was voted. The vote was affirmative.

GRANITE LAKE VILLAGE DISTRICT - 1996 MEETING (cont'd.)

Article 6. To see if the district will raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 to be added to the capital reserve fund for dam maintenance and repair.

The article was moved by Leonard Frazier, seconded by Bob Woods. The Article was opened for discussion. There was no discussion. The Article was voted. The vote was affirmative.

Article 7. To see whether the district will accept funds from the Granite Lake Association and from any other source for the purpose of maintaining, repairing and replacing the dam.

The article was moved by Bob Woods, seconded by Leonard Frazier. The Article was opened for discussion. There was no discussion. The Article was voted. The vote was affirmative.

Article 8. To see when the district will schedule its next annual meeting.

The article was moved by David Costin, seconded by Bob Woods. The Article was opened for discussion. There was discussion on Article 8. Phil Hamilton said that the Granite Lake Association meeting will be held on the second Sunday in July of 1997. It was agreed upon to convene the Village District meeting following the Granite Lake Association meeting on the second Sunday of July 1997 for the convenience of the voters of the Village District.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:37 p.m.

Sally Ripley, secretary
Granite Lake Village District

SCHOOL REPORTS

OFFICERS, AGENTS AND EMPLOYEES OF
THE NELSON SCHOOL DISTRICT

John B. Wright, Chair Term Expires 1998
Lewis E. Derby Term Expires 1997
Susan M. Peery Term Expires 1999

N.H. SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT 29 ADMINISTRATION

Phillip G. McCormack, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools
Richard M. Pike Assistant Superintendent for Towns
Paul L. Bartolomucci Assistant Superintendent for Keene
Deane B. Haskell Assistant Superintendent for Business
Patricia Trow Parent Manager of Personnel Services
Bruce Thielen Director of Special Education

STAFF

Christine LaClair Guidance Counselor
Amy Hathaway Kdg./Readiness/Grade 1
Cynthia Benner Grades 2-3
Nolan Kitfield Grades 3-4
Melinda Belden Grades 5-6
Dwain Hammett Art/Music
Paul Simpson Physical Education
Karen Almdale Special Education
Melissa Morin Speech/Language Pathologist
Trisha Jones Foreign Language/Nurse
Trisha Jones Secretary/Library Aide
Laraine Howard Tutor
Tara Hutchins Custodian

OFFICERS

Ethan C. Tolman Moderator
Hope Lothrop Treasurer
Carol Newcombe Clerk
Plodzick & Sanderson Auditor

TRANSPORTERS

Laidlaw Transportation
Tucker Transportation
Doris Warner

COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

This school district receives federal financial assistance. In order to continue receiving such federal financial assistance, this school district will not discriminate in their educational programs, activities or employment practices on the basis of race, language, sex, age, or handicapping condition, under the provisions of Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Complaints regarding compliance with Title IX regulations should be submitted in writing to the Title IX liaison for School Administrative Unit 29, the Personnel Manager, 34 West Street, Keene, New Hampshire.

Complaints regarding compliance with Rehabilitation Act of 1973 - Section 504 should be submitted in writing to the Director of Special Education, 34 West Street, Keene, New Hampshire.

*Phillip G. McCormack, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools*

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SCHOOL WARRANT

To the inhabitants of the school district in the Town of Nelson qualified to vote in District affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Nelson Town Hall in said District on the 7th day of March, 1997, at 3:00 O'Clock in the afternoon to bring in your votes for the election of school district officers. The polls will open not later than 3:00 p.m., and will remain open for not less than five hours.

ARTICLE 1: To choose all necessary school district officers:

- A member of the school board for the ensuing three years
- A moderator for the ensuing year
- A clerk for the ensuing year
- A treasurer for the ensuing year from July 1, 1997

Given under our hands at said Nelson, this 3rd day of February, 1997.

John B. Wright, Chair
Lewis E. Derby
Susan M. Peery

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SCHOOL WARRANT

To the inhabitants of the school district in the Town of Nelson qualified to vote in school affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Nelson Town Hall in said District on the 7th day of March, 1997, at 7:00 O'Clock in the afternoon to act upon the following warrant articles:

- ARTICLE 1: To hear the reports of agents, auditors, committees or officers chosen and to pass any vote relating thereto.
- ARTICLE 2: To see what sum of money the District will vote to raise and appropriate for the support of schools, for the salaries of school district officials and agents, and for the statutory obligations of the District, or to take any other action in relation thereto. *(The school board supports favorable action on this warrant article.)*
- ARTICLE 3: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Seven Hundred (\$3,700.00) Dollars to allow the grade five and six students of Nelson School to attend Environmental Camp, or to take any other action in relation thereto. *(The school board supports favorable action on this warrant article.)*
- ARTICLE 4: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars to be deposited in the Capital Reserve Fund established by the voters of the District at the March, 1972 District Meeting for the purpose of construction, reconstruction of buildings and/or purchase of equipment, and/or the acquisition of land for school purposes, or to take any other action in relation thereto. *(The school board supports favorable action on this warrant article.)*
- ARTICLE 5: To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting.

Given under our hands at said Nelson, this 12th day of February, 1997.

*John B. Wright, Chair
Lewis E. Derby
Susan M. Peery*

**Nelson School District
School Board's Proposed 1997-98 Budget by School – Summary**

	Actual 1995-96	Budget 1996-97	Budget 1997-98	\$ Change	% Change	% Total Budget	
Nelson School Instruction	336,797	351,714	379,868	28,154	+8.0%	41.8%	1
Nelson School Capital Needs	70,062	65,015	54,945	-10,070	-15.5%	6.0%	2
A. TOTAL NELSON SCHOOL	406,859	416,729	434,813	18,084	+4.3%	47.8%	3
Middle School - High School Regular Education	277,976	340,910	408,046	67,136	+19.7%	44.9%	4
Middle School - High School Special Education	39,946	68,774	34,324	-34,450	-50.1%	3.8%	5
B. TOTAL MIDDLE SCHOOL — HIGH SCHOOL	317,922	409,684	442,370	32,686	+8.0%	48.7%	6
C. OUT OF DISTRICT TUITION	174,594	5,005	0	-5,005	-100.0%	0.0%	7
D. ADMINISTRATION / SPEECH (SAU #29)	28,602	31,413	31,958	545	+1.7%	3.5%	8
TOTAL	927,977	862,831	909,141	46,310	+5.4%	100.0%	9

Proposed Warrant Articles:

Capital Reserve			5,000				10
Environmental Camp			3,700				11
Total Nelson School (including warrants)	406,859	416,729	443,513	26,784	+6.4%		12

Nelson School Enrollment	97-98	96-97	95-96	94-95	
Kindergarten	6	4	6	8	13
Grade 1	4	8	11	14	14
Grade 2	8	10	16	6	15
Grade 3	10	16	7	8	16
Grade 4	16	8	7	10	17
Grade 5	8	7	11	10	18
Grade 6	7	12	11	9	19
Total	59	65	69	65	20

Nelson School District
School Board's Proposed 1997-98 Budget by School – Detail

Actual 1995-96	Budget 1996-97	Budget 1997-98	\$ Change	% Change	% Total Budget
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A. NELSON SCHOOL (Grades K - 6)

INSTRUCTION

(Note 1) Teacher salaries	161,932	165,658	188,221	22,563		21
Teacher benefits	41,614	39,588	46,080	6,492		22
Staff physicals	79	348	0	-348		23
Contracted services	1,179	1,350	2,070	720		24
Summer services	0	300	864	564		25
Environmental Camp (Warrant article)	4,313	0	0	0		26
Repair equipment	414	500	310	-190		27
Supplies	10,665	10,116	9,069	-1,047		28
Textbooks	588	934	555	-379		29
Student periodicals	186	367	87	-280		30
Computer equipment	3,300	3,300	2,000	-1,300		31
New equipment	5,554	2,170	2,130	-40		32
	229,824	224,631	251,386	26,755	+11.9%	27.7%
						33

SERVICES

Attendance	25	50	50	0		34
Guidance	13,078	11,673	12,094	421		35
Health	4,463	4,511	4,396	-115		36
Psychological	1,340	10,140	10,140	0		37
	18,906	26,374	26,680	306	+1.2%	2.9%
						38

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Curriculum development	480	1,300	1,650	350		39
Benefits	48	136	0	-136		40
Course reimbursement	1,366	1,713	1,713	0		41
Staff development	783	1,200	1,200	0		42
Professional books	97	150	150	0		43
Professional periodicals	50	75	75	0		44
	2,824	4,574	4,788	214	+4.7%	0.5%
						45

(Note 1) Classroom teacher salary (5)	146,487	149,000	158,500	9,500		46
Art teacher salary	2,675	3,477	3,920	443		47
Music teacher salary	2,863	2,942	3,360	418		48
Phys Ed teacher salary	2,575	3,347	3,780	433		49
Foreign language teacher salary	232	2,970	2,916	-54		50
Tutoring	0	0	5,362	5,362		51
Speech (paid through SAU #29)	4,525	1,922	8,008	6,086		52
Reading Specialist	0	1,000	1,000	0		53
Substitutes	2,575	1,000	1,375	375		54

Actual 1995-96	Budget 1996-97	Budget 1997-98	\$ Change	% Change	% Total Budget
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MEDIA

Summer Aide	913	3,000	3,000	0		55	
Media membership	337	375	342	-33		56	
Library + media supplies	413	235	205	-30		57	
Library books	1,544	1,500	1,500	0		58	
Library periodicals	522	168	115	-53		59	
Library equipment	0	490	250	-240		60	
	3,729	5,768	5,412	-356	-6.2%	0.6%	61

SCHOOL BOARD

Salaries + benefits	884	1,213	1,181	-32		62	
School board association	1,255	1,381	1,381	0		63	
Legal	371	850	850	0		64	
Services, insurance, advertising, audit	3,144	3,544	3,508	-36		65	
	5,654	6,988	6,920	-68	-1.0%	0.8%	66

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Management stipend	6,000	6,000	6,000	0		67	
Secretary's salary	11,056	10,764	11,697	933		68	
Benefits	1,584	6,564	1,741	-4,823		69	
Management development	510	750	750	0		70	
Equipment maintenance	1,114	975	975	0		71	
Telephone, postage, supplies	2,089	2,393	2,075	-318		72	
New equipment	1,297	426	2,700	2,274		73	
	23,650	27,872	25,938	-1,934	-6.9%	2.9%	74

BUILDING SERVICES

Salaries	9,686	10,230	10,498	268		75	
Benefits	3,120	3,088	3,102	14		76	
Services	4,143	5,800	5,800	0		77	
Insurance	1,806	1,920	2,253	333		78	
Repairs/improvements	5,674	3,200	3,200	0		79	
Electricity	4,166	6,028	6,028	0		80	
Oil	1,466	1,500	1,500	0		81	
New equipment	171	0	0	0		82	
Supplies	1,433	1,200	1,200	0		83	
	31,665	32,966	33,581	615	+1.9%	3.7%	84

TRANSPORTATION

Regular elementary	9,000	10,261	11,589	1,328		85	
Feeder elementary	11,397	11,280	11,674	394		86	
SPED transportation	0	100	1,000	900		87	
Field trips	148	900	900	0		88	
	20,545	22,541	25,163	2,622	+11.6%	2.8%	89

SUBTOTAL (Nelson School Education)	336,797	351,714	379,868	28,154	+8.0%	41.8%	90
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Actual 1995-96	Budget 1996-97	Budget 1997-98	\$ Change	% Change	% Total Budget
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FUND TRANSFERS

Transfer to capital reserve	5,000	5,000	0	-5,000		91
Transfer to capital project	0	0	0	0		92
Transfer to federal projects	0	0	0	0		93
	5,000	5,000	0	-5,000	-100.0%	0.0%

CAPITAL NEEDS

Principal debt	30,000	30,000	30,000	0		95
Interest debt	29,085	27,015	24,945	-2,070		96
Interest on Catastrophic Aid	5,977	3,000	0	-3,000		97
	65,062	60,015	54,945	-5,070	-8.4%	6.0%

SUBTOTAL (Total Nelson School)	406,859	416,729	434,813	18,084	+4.3%	47.8%
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B. KEENE MIDDLE SCHOOL (KMS) — KEENE HIGH SCHOOL (KHS) (Grades 7-8, 9-12)

REGULAR INSTRUCTION

(Note 2) Tuition KMS (20 students x \$7,244)	91,719	113,976	144,880	30,904		100
Tuition KHS (32 students x \$6,770)	143,030	179,250	216,640	37,390		101
	234,749	293,226	361,520	68,294	+23.3%	39.8%

TRANSPORTATION

Regular KMS	7,500	8,846	11,589	2,743		103
Feeder KMS	11,009	11,280	11,674	394		104
Regular KHS	13,709	16,278	11,589	-4,689		105
Feeder KHS	11,009	11,280	11,674	394		106
	43,227	47,684	46,526	-1,158	-2.4%	5.1%

SUBTOTAL (Regular Education)	277,976	340,910	408,046	67,136	+19.7%	44.9%
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(Note 2) Tuition history:

	KMS	KHS	
1997-98	7,244	6,770	109
1996-97	6,332	7,170	110
1995-96	6,114	6,766	111
1994-95	5,828	6,491	112
1993-94	5,835	6,545	113

Actual 1995-96	Budget 1996-97	Budget 1997-98	\$ Change	% Change	% Total Budget
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SPECIAL EDUCATION

Tuition KMS (1 student x \$7,244)	6,115	0	7,244	7,244		114
Tuition KHS (4 students x \$6,770)	33,831	35,850	27,080	-8,770		115
Tuition KMS Collaborative	0	9,500	0	-9,500		116
Tuition KHS Collaborative	0	15,000	0	-15,000		117
Transportation	0	8,424	0	-8,424		118
	39,946	68,774	34,324	-34,450	-50.1%	3.8% 119

SUBTOTAL (Total Middle School, High School)	317,922	409,684	442,370	32,686	+8.0%	48.7% 120
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C. OUT OF DISTRICT SPECIAL EDUCATION

High School Tuition	174,594	5,005	0	-5,005	-100.0%	0.0% 121
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D. ADMINISTRATION / SPEECH

SAU #29 Administration	28,602	31,413	31,958	545	+1.7%	3.5% 122
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GRAND TOTAL	927,977	862,831	909,141	46,310	+5.4%	100.0% 123
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**Nelson School District
1997-98 Revenue Projection**

	Budget 1996-97	Budget 1997-98	% Change
Current Appropriation	862,831	909,141	
Unreserved Fund Balance (Prior year surplus)	Actual --> -81,422	-30,000	<-- Projected
Interest NOW	-1,000	-1,000	
State Building Aid	-11,443	-11,443	
AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXES	768,966	866,698	+12.7%

With Additional Warrant Articles:

Environmental Camp		3,700	
Capital Reserve		5,000	
AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXES	768,966	875,398	+13.8%

School tax rate history:	1997	45.43	<-- Projected with all warrants
	1996	39.86	
	1995	37.19	
	1994	37.55	
	1993	33.11	
	1992	35.12	
	1991	33.83	

School tax rate increase with all warrants approved:	5.57	per thousand
Impact on house assessed for \$50,000:	278.51	

Per pupil elementary school costs (1995-96):	
Nelson	4,914
Chesterfield	5,524
Westmoreland	5,562
Marlborough	5,591
Marlow	5,738
Keene	6,545
Harrisville	7,356

REPORT OF THE NELSON SCHOOL DISTRICT TREASURER

Fiscal Year July 1, 1995 to June 30, 1996

\$5,995.78

CASH ON HAND July 1, 1995

FISCAL YEAR RECEIPTS

Appropriations Received from Selectmen	\$709,242.00
Revenue from State/Federal Sources	\$236,147.60
Received from Tuitions	
Received Income from Trusts	
Received from Sale of Notes and Bonds 95-96	\$120,000.00
Received from All Other Sources	\$135,094.43

\$1,200,484.03
\$1,206,479.81

\$1,200,484.03

TOTAL RECEIPTS

TOTAL AMOUNT AVAILABLE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR

\$1,098,894.50

LESS SCHOOL BOARD ORDERS PAID

\$107,585.31

BALANCE ON HAND June 30, 1996

12, July 1996

Hope Lothrop, Treasurer

RECEIVED FROM OTHER SOURCES

DATE	FROM	SOURCE	AMOUNT
7/7/95	Agency for Developmental Serv	Adam F	\$125,053.00
7/95-6/96	Interest	Granite Bank	\$1,230.08
9/95-6/96	Judith K Sargent	Delta Dental Plan	\$156.20
9/1/95	US Treasury	F-941 Refund	\$3,055.52
10/1/95	Yankee Magazine	Language Program	\$100.00
10/1/95	Time Inc	Refund	\$23.96
7/1/95	Laidlaw	Reimbursement	\$500.00
Jan-96	Savings Bank of Walpole	Loan Overpayment	\$71.96
2/2/95	Compensation Funds of NH	Investment Income	\$2,067.90
4/96-6/96	Lynne Smyth	Window Replacement	\$465.00
6/1/96	Packersfield Club	Playground Expenses	\$2,000.00
6/1/96	Bank of Ireland	1-4-4-70-1910	\$100.81
6/1/96	Julia Rohr	Language Program Donation	\$100.00
Jun-96	Lucy Daniels	" "	\$20.00
Jun-96	John B Wright	" "	\$100.00
Jun-96	Bill & Sharon Landfair	" "	\$50.00

TOTAL OTHER SOURCES

\$135,094.43

PLODZIK & SANDERSON

Professional Association/Accountants & Auditors

193 North Main Street • Concord • New Hampshire • 03301-5063 • 603-225-6996 • FAX-224-1380

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON FINANCIAL PRESENTATION

To the Members of the School Board
Nelson School District
Nelson, New Hampshire

We have audited the accompanying general-purpose financial statements of the Nelson School District as of and for the year ended June 30, 1996. These general-purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the School District's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general-purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general-purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the general-purpose financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall general-purpose financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The general-purpose financial statements referred to above do not include the general fixed assets account group which should be included in order to conform with generally accepted accounting principles. As is the case with most municipal entities in the State of New Hampshire, the Nelson School District has not maintained historical cost records of its fixed assets. The amount that should be recorded in the general fixed assets account group is not known.

In our opinion, except for the effect on the financial statements of the omission described in the preceding paragraph, the general-purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Nelson School District, as of June 30, 1996, and the results of its operations for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general-purpose financial statements taken as a whole. The combining and individual fund financial statements listed in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general-purpose financial statements of the Nelson School District. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general-purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general-purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

*Plodzik & Sanderson
Professional Association*

November 4, 1996

NELSON SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
March 8, 1996

As the time approached for the polls to open, the Monadnock region was still in the grip of the last of a trio of winter storms. It had been snowing for the better part of three days.

A copy of the checklist was given to School District Clerk Pro Tem Mary Davis and certified by her and the supervisors of the checklist. At 3 p.m., by request of School District Moderator Ethan Tolman, Kathy Blaudschun acted as School District Moderator Pro Tem. She read the solitary article of the school district warrant pertaining to the choosing of school district officers. It was moved, seconded and unanimously voted that the reading of the rest of the warrant be waived. As such, the polls were declared open.

At 7:10 p.m., School District Moderator, Ethan Tolman called the meeting to order. He stated that the polls would be open until 8 p.m. for the election of school district officers. He then explained how the meeting would be conducted and asked that the reading of the warrant as a whole be waived. Favoring the reading of each article as it was due to be considered, it was so moved, seconded and passed by voice vote.

Personnel present from SAU 29 were asked to introduce themselves. They were Dr. Phillip McCormack, Superintendent of Schools; Richard Pike, Assistant Superintendent of Schools for Towns; and John Harper, Towns' Business Manager.

ARTICLE 1: To hear the reports of agents, auditors, committees or officers chosen and to pass any vote relating thereto.

It was moved and seconded that the reports be accepted as printed in the town's annual report. The vote was called and the article passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 2: To see what sum of money the District will vote to raise and appropriate for the support of schools, for the salaries of school district officials and agents and for the statutory obligations of the District, or to take any other action in relation thereto. *(The school board supports favorable action on the warrant article.)*

It was moved and seconded that the amount of \$856,120 be raised and appropriated for this article. The moderator recognized School Board Chairman, John B. Wright, who made sure that everyone had a copy of the proposed budget. John proceeded to guide those present through this document, explained the numbers and answering questions along the way. When John was done, the moderator asked if there was further discussion. There being none, the vote was called. The article passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,611 to expand the foreign language program at the Nelson School, or to take any other action in relation thereto. *(The school board supports favorable action on the warrant article.)*

It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. School board member Susan Peery spoke to this issue. Recent studies indicate that certain kinds of learning actually help the brain to grow. Among these are foreign language, music and geometry. At present, foreign language is only taught to 5th and 6th graders. If this article is approved, the lower four grades would get 20 minutes of instruction twice a week. A couple of residents expressed concerns that basics such as math and language skills may be being neglected and suggested that perhaps foreign language should be an elective. Another spoke in favor of the article, citing studies that indicate that foreign language is more easily learned if it's taught to students at an early age. A resident worried that, if we start so early at our school, in light of the fact that Keene elementary schools

do not currently teach foreign language to such younger students, will Nelson students be too advanced for the middle and high schools? This and some of the prior concerns were addressed by SAU 29 personnel. They offered assurances that the basics would not be neglected and that Keene's upper grades would be able to keep such students challenged in this subject, adding that Keene's elementary grades may soon be taught foreign language as well. The voice was called and the article passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be deposited in the Capital Reserve Fund established by the voters at the District meeting in March of 1972, for the purpose of construction, reconstruction of buildings and/or purchase of equipment, and/or the acquisition of land for school purposes or to take any other action in relation thereto. *(The school board supports favorable action on the warrant article.)*

It was moved and seconded that the article be accepted as read. John B. Wright spoke briefly in favor of the article, referring to it as a "rainy day fund". The vote was called for and the article passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 5: To see what sum of money the District will vote to raise and appropriate in support of the lawsuit brought against the State of New Hampshire by Claremont, Franklin, Lisbon, Pittsfield and Allenstown, or to take any other action in relation thereto. *(The school board supports favorable action on the warrant article.)*

It was moved and seconded that the amount of \$100 be raised and appropriated for this article. It was stated that this lawsuit pertained to unfunded mandates and equal funding of districts. Terry Mednick spoke of his strong opposition to this article on moral grounds. His concern was that, if the suit succeeds, the chosen source of funding would likely involve a broad-based tax. If such a tax is instituted, he presumed that a significant portion would be retained by the state for administrative costs. Acknowledging that since the majority of the school budget now depends on property tax revenues, Nelson now has local control. When non-local sources, such as revenues from a broad-based tax, contribute to school funding, local control is often lost. He also stated his view that this sort of form should originate at the legislative level with our elected representatives, rather than having a solitary person, a judge, step in and dictate what should occur. State legislator, Bill Riley, outlined the history of school-related funding. Other viewpoints, both for and against, were expressed. The vote was called. As the moderator was unclear about the result of the voice vote, he requested a standing vote. The article passed with 11 in favor and 9 against.

ARTICLE 6: To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting.

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The article passed unanimously by voice vote. The meeting was thus adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

The ballots for officers were then counted and those elected to office were:

Moderator	Ethan Tolman
Treasurer	Hope Lothrop
School Board	Susan Peery
Clerk	Carole Newcombe

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Davis, Clerk Pro Tem
Nelson School District

A True Copy Attest:

Mary E. Davis

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

The Nelson School continues on its path of quality education. This journey has been facilitated by the development of a mission statement and statement of beliefs that provide a very clear direction for the school; a curriculum that is motivational, challenging and reinforces the development of fundamental skills; a staff that is committed to quality; and a community that is very supportive of the school.

At its annual goal setting retreat with teachers, the Nelson School Board worked to develop a mission statement and belief statements that would serve as a focus for the school. The adopted mission statement is "to instill strength of spirit and ignite a love of learning." Adopted belief statements speak to things such as development of a safe and nurturing school environment, respect for the individual, establishment of high and clear expectations of performance, and fostering independent thinking. Upon my visits to the school, I have seen teachers consistently interact with students in a way that reflects these statements of belief. I compliment the teachers for their determination and ability to challenge students to reach their potential while, at the same time, never losing sight of the individual needs of the students.

Teachers at the school continue to enhance both the relevancy and content of the curriculum through the development of thematic units of study that are woven into all subject areas. I commend their commitment to the development of quality units of study and challenging learning activities. The additional time (after school hours, during school vacations and over the summer) that the teachers have devoted to curriculum work, professional training and improvements to, and organization of, the library have significantly contributed to a positive learning environment at the school.

The efforts of the staff to maintain consistency in the level and quality of instruction while two staff members were on maternity leave for the first half of the school year is noteworthy. Michelle Hittner and Stacy Ray replaced Nolan Kitfield and Melinda Belden, respectively. Based on my observations and comments from community members, I believe they did an excellent job. Their success was aided by Mrs. Kitfield's and Ms. Belden's willingness to stay involved and work with them even while on leave.

Community support and involvement continue to be factors that play a significant role in the quality of programming offered at Nelson School. Frequent communications between the school and home has proven to be highly beneficial. A willingness to become involved with various projects ranging from work in the classroom, to chaperoning field trips, to painting the school reflects a positive school-community relationship that has become characteristic of the Nelson School District.

To continue this journey down the path of excellence and quality education, we must not lose sight of those things that have gotten us to where we are now. A positive learning climate, dedicated staff, community involvement, open communication, clear expectations of quality, and a sense of purpose must be maintained. I encourage you to join the school community in its efforts to provide its students with opportunities to prepare them to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Phillip G. McCormack, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

NELSON SCHOOL

STAFF REPORT

Sixty-six students began the school year on August 28, 1996 -- seven less than last year. We were pleased to welcome Michelle Hittner and Stacy Ray as substitute teachers for Nolan Kitfield and Melinda Belden, respectively, who were on maternity leave, and who are expected back after the holiday vacation. All other positions remain staffed the same as last year.

This year, as always, we have had many reasons to appreciate the community spirit that abounds in Nelson. Community members have been extremely supportive of our school, its programs, students and teachers. The support continues to benefit our students in many ways.

The Nelson School staff, in partnership with the community, strives to create an environment which fosters lifelong learning. We continue to enjoy the challenge of new and interesting programs such as the staff management concept, inclusionary education, integrated whole-school units, and the kindergarten through grade 6 foreign language program.

*Karen Almdale
Melinda Belden
Cynthia Benner
Amy Hathaway
Nolan Kitfield*

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mission Statement

The mission of Nelson School is to instill strength of spirit and ignite a love of learning.

Statement of Beliefs

Nelson School is a community-oriented public school that prides itself in being collaborative and progressive. The purpose of the school is to create an environment where students, while developing a strong sense of individuality and respect for others, will prepare to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

We believe that quality education is a fundamental right of all children and that the education and social development of each and every Nelson student is a shared responsibility. We believe in a safe and nurturing school environment where everyone is treated as a worthwhile individual, where intellectual growth in a cooperative setting is encouraged, and where independent thinking is fostered.

Nelson School is a place where there is a strong emphasis on the basic skills, where there is excitement about learning, where there are high and clear expectations of performance, and where each student is challenged to reach full potential.

Adopted June 12, 1996

The above mission statement and statement of beliefs were developed this year to help the staff, administration, and school board focus on improving the quality of education at the school and to articulate the school's direction to parents, students, and the community. We welcome your comments!

Thanks go once again to the community for its tremendous support for the Nelson School. In this space it would be impossible to properly thank everyone who has contributed time, talent, and sweat to the school. In the past few days, the entire school visited the Landfair's pottery studio, glazed pots they had made, and watched a local industry in operation. Jon Buschbaum built a forest inside the school to teach about forestry and land use. Last summer Ron Trudelle organized a group of volunteers to paint the front of the school. Volunteers also spent many hours cataloging the library books. These are a few of many examples which occur throughout the year to make our school a special place. Forgive me for not mentioning everyone!

We welcome your input. Our meetings are open to the public. Our regular meeting is usually the second Wednesday of the month at the school at 4:00. The agenda is posted in advance at the school and at the town hall.

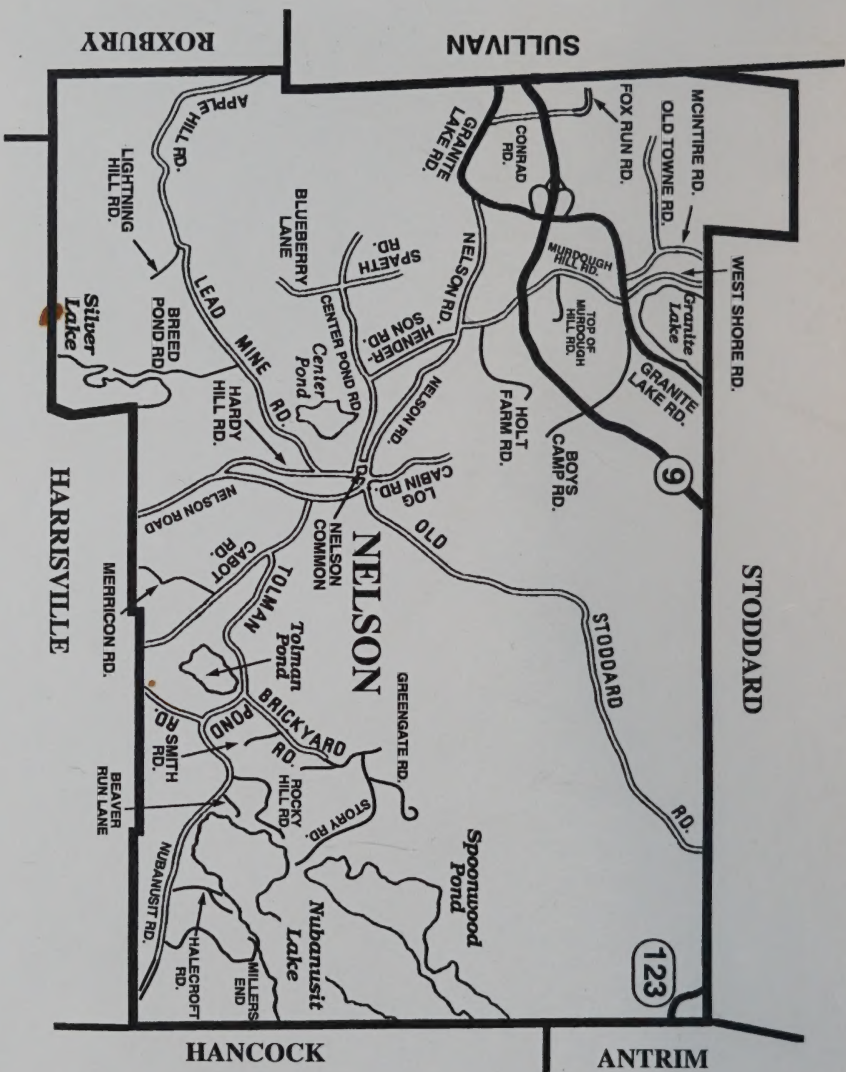
*John B. Wright, Chair
Nelson School Board*



The Library Trustees (Celia Wishert, Dave Upton, Henry Fuller, Lee Trudelle, and Dot French) pose for a group portrait at the dedication of the new Olivia Rodham Memorial Library on October 26, 1996



Nelson's finest (and some parents too) gathered on "Book Moving Day," October 19 to relocate the books and equipment from the old library to the new library.



ROXBURY

SULLIVAN

WEST SHORE RD.

STODDARD

HARRISVILLE

HANCOCK

ANTRIM